

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

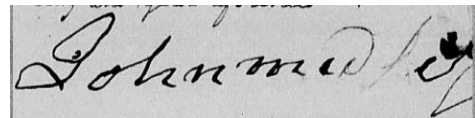
Pension Application of John Midkiff (Medcalf, Medkiff) W3852 Mary Midkiff VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 24 July 2014.

State of Virginia & County of Patrick Ss.

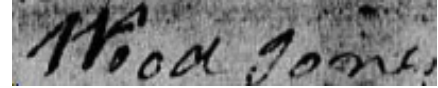
On this 11th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Patrick now sitting, John Midkiff a resident of the County of Patrick, and State of Virginia aged seventy years the 11th day of March 1832 who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as hereinafter stated. He was drafted under Captain Spencer Shelton for a three months tour he thinks in August 1780 he being then a resident of Pittsylvania County Virginia and march'd in that company as soon as it was organized to Halifax Courthouse Virginia and stayed there some time waiting for further orders, and afterwards was marched into Granville or Caswell County of the State of North Carolina, and after remaining there some time he was discharged. the precise time he was in actual service during this tour he does not remember. In January 1781 he volunteered in the company of Riflemen commanded by Captain Thomas Smith in the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia That he immediately marched in the said company and joined the Continental army in the State of North Carolina, and was attached to the Infantry in the corps of Col. Henry Lee, that he was engaged in a battle with the enemy at a place called Whitsals Mills [sic: Wetzel's Mill NC, 6 Mar 1781] on Haw river. Colo. Campbell from Holstein Virginia [sic: William Campbell from Holston River in Washington County VA] and Colo. Williams of North Carolina [sic: Otho Holland Williams of Maryland] commanded. Also Colo. Morgan [sic: see endnote] & Colo. [William] Washington of the Continental Army. The Americans retreated with some inconsiderable loss. How long he remain'd in service during that tour he does not exactly recollect (having lost his discharge) but is under the impression that he returned home some time in the month of March in that year –

Some time in the month of August 1781 he was drafted in the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia in a Company commanded by Capt. Charles Hudgins and immediately marched in this said Company to Yorktown Virginia, and joined the Continental troops, Capt Hudgins then returned home, and he was put under the command of Captain William Dix and attached to the Regiment commanded by Colo. Field Mereweather [Field Meriwether?]. and remained here during the siege [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and after the taking of Lord CornWallace [sic: Cornwallis] he was detached to the Regiment who had charge of the prisoners and marched as far as Williamsburg Virginia and was there discharged on account of bad health by Maj'r. Wood Jones. which discharge is herewith exhibited and bears the date the 24th Oct 1781. He had no personal acquaintance with any of the Continental officers commanding at York Town, but frequently saw General Washington and Gen'l. Lafayette who were pointed out to him by some persons who knew them, and he frequently saw many other officers of the Continental line but does not now remember their names. He cannot say the precise time he served in all but believes it was not less that eight months. He has no documentary evidence, save the discharge abovementioned, or verbal evidence within his reach to prove his services. He was born in the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia according to the Register of his parents on the 11th day of March 1762 and resided in that County till April 1823 when he removed to the County of Patrick where he now lives
He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State ~

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "John Midkiff". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

John Midkiff by Sickness being Rendrd Incapable of duty is hereby discharged from his tower of duty.
October the 24th 1781 Wood Jones Majr
Com'dt. 2^d Reg't.

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in dark ink on a light-colored, textured background. The signature appears to read "Wood Jones" in a cursive script.

NOTES:

“Col. Morgan” evidently refers to Gen. Daniel Morgan, who was not present at the skirmish at Wetzel’s Mill.

On 16 May 1841 Mary Midkiff, 77, applied for a pension stating that she married John Midkiff on 10 Sep 1782, and he died on 18 July 1839. In the file is a copy of the record of the marriage of John Midkiff and Mary Parsons officiated by John Bailey in Pittsylvania County. On 4 Nov 1841 Elisha Jones (pension application S5633) stated that when John Midkiff and Mary Parsons were married “he went in company with the balance of the guard and Prisoner in the evening to the house of Joseph Parsons (Father of Mary Parsons),” but the marriage ceremony had already occurred. On 23 Nov 1845 Mary Midkiff was said to be 83.