

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Kennedy ¹ W490

Transcribed by Will Graves

Mary Eliza Kennedy

f65SC

10/15/09: rev'd 4/4/16 & 10/17/21

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 6]

State of South Carolina City of Charleston

For the purpose of obtaining in Virtue of my deceased husband Captain James Kennedy the benefits of an Act, entitled an Act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution approved on the 15th of May 1828, I, Mary Eliza Kennedy of Charleston in the State aforesaid, do declare, according to the best of my knowledge and belief, he the said James Kennedy was an officer in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution, and served as such, to the end of the War, that he received land from the United States as a Captain, but never received pay for life or Certificate in lieu thereof commonly called commutation certificates -- and that he never received anything from the United States as a pension since the 3rd day of March 1826.

Witness my hand and seal this 7th day of January 1833.

S/ Mary Eliza Kennedy

[p 41]

The State of South Carolina Charleston District: SS

On this First day of September in the year 1853 before me Edward Frost one of the associate Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina, the highest Court of Record of the said State, personally appeared Mary Eliza Kennedy, a resident of the City of Charleston, in the district of Charleston in the State of South Carolina aged Sixty Seven years, who first being duly sworn according to Law, doth on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed on the 3rd day of February 1853 granting pensions to widows of persons who served during the Revolutionary War; that she is the widow of James Kennedy, who was Second Lieutenant in the First Continental Regiment of the State of South Carolina by a commission under the hand of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, Colonel of the said Regiment, dated the 23rd day of December 1779 – the original of which Commission is now produced before me, and a true copy whereof is hereto annexed – and that said James Kennedy was afterwards a Lieutenant in the first South Carolina Regiment, in the Army of the United States, taking rank as such from the 21st day of November

¹ BLWt1216-200 Lieut. Issued May 10, 1796, No papers. The reason there are no surviving papers relating to this bounty land claim is that the offices of the War Department along with the papers filed there were destroyed by fire in 1800 and all pension and bounty land records predating that fire were destroyed.

1781, by a commission under the hand of John Hanson President of the Congress of the United States of America, dated at Philadelphia, the 12th day of April 1782 Countersigned By order of Congress by B. Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln], Secretary at War – the original of which Commission is now produced before me, and a true copy whereof is hereto annexed. She further declares that she has often heard her said husband James Kennedy say, and she has good reason to believe and truly doth believe his statements to be true, that he first entered the Army at or near Philadelphia at the commencement of the Revolutionary War, and that his native place was New Lincoln Township, Chester County, in the State of Pennsylvania – and that he was sent to the South with General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] Army – that he left college to join the Army – that the said James Kennedy often spoke of different Battles he was in, in the Southern States – and as she thinks he was in the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777]. She has heard him say he was sent on from the South during the War, in a Pilot Boat to Pennsylvania to bring on money to pay the troops – and that he performed that Service, and returned with a very large amount of money to Charleston, South Carolina – that when the British evacuated Charleston [in December 1782] he was with the Army of the United States, and marched in with it to the City of Charleston – that she knows both from himself and others that he served in the Revolutionary Army under the Commissions aforesaid till the end of the War – that she cannot say when or where he entered the Army, but her reason to believe it was at, or near Philadelphia, and at the very commencement of the war – that from what he stated to her, he returned to the State of Pennsylvania after the close of the War, and resumed his collegiate course and took his degree of Bachelor of Arts – She further produces before me, two papers hereto annexed marked respectively Schedule A and Schedule B, given under the hand of W. F. Arthur, for the Comptroller General of the State of South Carolina showing that the said James Kennedy was recognized by the said State, as an officer in its military Service in the Revolutionary War, and received pay and compensation from the said State, for such Service.

She further declares, that the said James Kennedy never in his lifetime, so far as she is informed and believes, applied for, or received, any pension for his military services in the War of the Revolution. She further declares that she was married to the said James Kennedy, by the Reverend Mr. Pogson on Tuesday the 1st day of May A.D. 1804 – that the Reverend Mr. Pogson has been dead for many years – and that no public Record was ever made of the said marriage so far as she knows and can learn – but the same was entered in the family Bible of the said James Kennedy now in the possession of this deponent, in the proper handwriting of the said James Kennedy, as follows to wit: "James Kennedy and Mary Eliza Glover, daughter of Sanders Glover, were married by the Reverend Mr. Pogson on Tuesday the 1st day of May A.D. 1804" – which said Bible with the original entry of her Marriage therein as aforesaid, she now produces for the Honorable Edward Frost the Judge before whom she makes this declaration.

She further declares that she had by her marriage with the said James Kennedy, Six children to wit Four Sons and two daughters – that they are all dead with the exception of one daughter, named Leocadie, who was born on the 25th day of September 1807, and intermarried with Horton W Hamner, on the 7th day of October 1835 and that the said Horton W Hamner died on the 3rd day of August 1847 – that the said Leocadine Hamner is now a widow, residing in the City of Charleston in the State of South Carolina – and that there is no issue of her said marriage living. That this declarant's five children, who have died as before mentioned, all died in tender years, and in their minority, under the age of twenty-one years, unmarried and without having any issue surviving them. That her said husband James Kennedy died at the City of Charleston aforesaid on the 15th day of July 1826; that she was not married to him prior to the 2nd of January

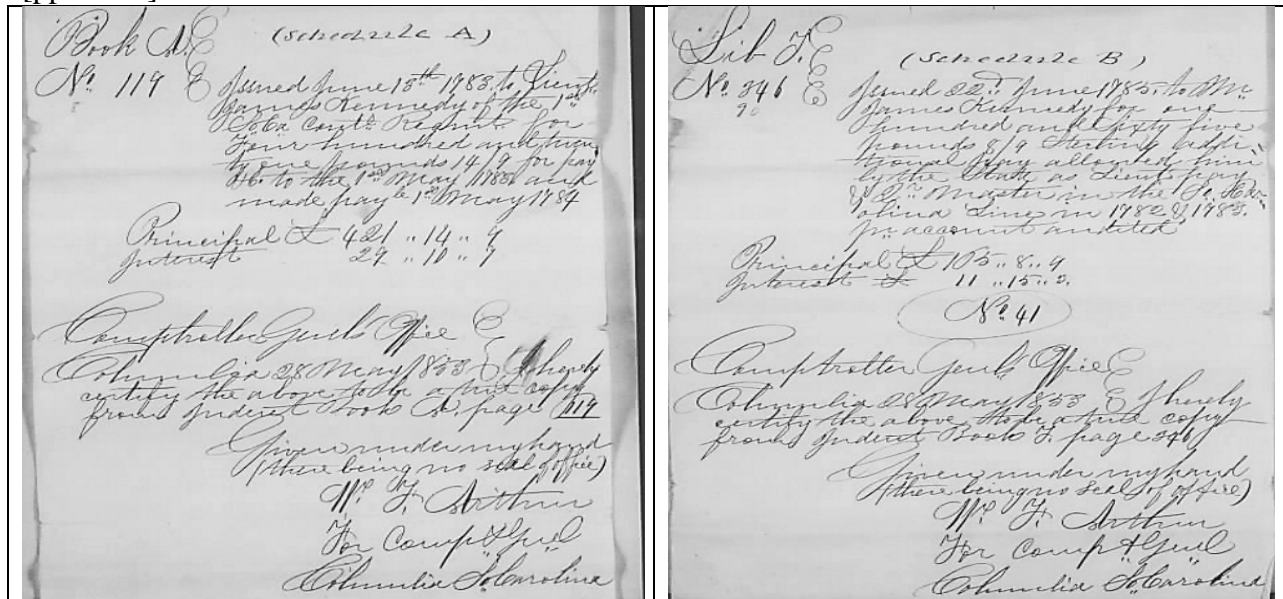
1800, but at the time above stated to wit on the 1st day of May 1804. She further declares that she is now a widow having never married since the death of her said husband – And that from her feeble and infirm State of health and by reason of bodily infirmity, She is unable to appear in Court to make this declaration, and now under the Act of Congress in such case made and provided, makes the said declaration, before the Honorable Edward Frost, one of the associate Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina, the highest Court of Record of the said State, in the City of Charleston in the district of Charleston in the State of South Carolina where this declarant resides. And the said Edward Frost Judge as aforesaid, do hereby certify that the two commissions, copies whereof are hereto annexed, signed by Charles Cotesworth Pinckney as Colonel, and by John Hanson President of the Congress of the United States of America – as also the Schedule A and B hereto annexed and the family Bible of the said James Kennedy, containing the entry of the marriage of the said James Kennedy with the said declarant, said by her as above to be in the proper handwriting of said James Kennedy, and duly produced by her before me on her making this her declaration – and that the said Copies of the said Commissions and the entry of the marriage of the said James Kennedy with the said declarant are true copies of said original Commissions, and of the said entry in the said Bible so produced. I further certify that I have reason to believe that the said Schedules A and B are true and authentic extracts from the records of the Office of the Comptroller General of the State of South Carolina in Columbia the Capital of the said State.

Certified by me and sworn to and Subscribed by the said declarant on the day and in the year 1st above written

S/ Edward Frost

S/ Mary Eliza Kennedy

[pp 48-49]



[pp 50-51 & 61-63: copies of the commissions]

[p 8]

State of South Carolina District of Charleston

On this Nineteenth day of April A.D. 1855, personally appeared before me, Henry Goldsmith, Notary Public, within and for the District and State aforesaid, Mary E. Kennedy aged 69 years, a resident of Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, who being duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the Widow of James Kennedy deceased, who was a Lieutenant in the First Continental Regiment of South Carolina, commanded by Charles Coatsworth Pinckney [sic, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney] in the war with Great Britain in the Revolution that her said husband was commissioned at Charleston the 23rd day of December A.D. 1779 for the term of the War, and continued in actual service in said war until the termination of the same and was honorably discharged at Charleston on the close of the said War.

She further states that she was married to the said James Kennedy in Charleston District on the first day of May A.D. 1804, by one Milwood Pogson, an Episcopalian Minister, and that her name before her marriage was Mary Glover; that her said husband died at Charleston South Carolina on the 15th day of July A.D. 1826 and that she is now a widow.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which she may be entitled under the "act approved Marched 3, 1855."

S/ M. E. Kennedy

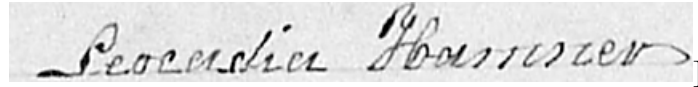


We Ann T. Duffus, M. E. Kennedy and Ann P. Allender, upon our oaths, declare that the foregoing declaration was signed and acknowledged by M. E. Kennedy in our presence; and that we believe, from the appearance and statements of the applicant, that she is the identical person she represents herself to be.

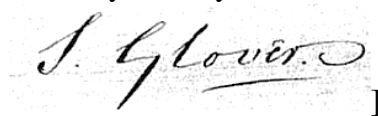
S/ Ann T. Duffes

S/ Ann P. Allender

[Facts in file: Veteran was born in New London Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania; he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant on December 23, 1779 and commissioned a Lieutenant on November 21, 1781; the widow was the daughter of Sanders Glover; the veteran and his wife had six children, only 2 of whom survived the soldier, Lionel H. Kennedy, who died prior to 1855 leaving children whose names are not given, and Leocadia, born September 25, 1807; she married Horton W. Hamner on October 7, 1835; he died August 3, 1847.



[p 59: affidavit given in Orangeburg district South Carolina on March 21, 1853 by Sanders Glover stating that he was present at the marriage of his sister Mary Eliza Glover to James Kennedy on May 1, 1804.



[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$320 per annum commencing February 3rd, 1853, for her husband service as a Lieutenant in the South Carolina Continental line.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to James Kennedy
Audited Account No. 4234
Transcribed by Will Graves

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[p 11]

Sir/

August 13th 1782

Please to advance to Lieut. James Kennedy of the first Continental Regiment of South Carolina
Seventy Guineas for the Recruiting service, and for which he is to be accountable.

S/ Charles Cotesworth Pinckney

to His Excellency Governor Mathews

Received 13 August 1782 of His Excellency Governor Mathews Seventy Guineas for the
Recruiting service, agreeable to the above order

S/ James Kennedy, Lieut.

1st Continental & Regiment So. Car^a

Sir *August 13th 1782 -*
Please to advance to Lieut. James Kennedy
of the first Continental Regiment of South Carolina
Seventy Guineas for the Recruiting service, and
for which he is to be accountable
Charles Cotesworth Pinckney
to His Excellency Gov^r Mathews

Received 13 August 1782 of His Excellency Gov^r Mathews
Seventy Guineas for the Recruiting service, agreeable to
the above Order -
James Kennedy Lieut
1st Cont^l Regt So. Car^a

² The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.