

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Kernes (Kerns)¹ W7965 Sarah Kernes f79VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 11/18/13

[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' 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.]

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The Commonwealth of Kentucky Bath County, Sct.

On this __ day of June 1819 before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Circuit Court in and for the state aforesaid, personally appeared William Kernes aged sixty-two years; – who being by me first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following statement and declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war;" that he is a citizen of the state of Kentucky, and resident in the County of Bath; that he was enlisted for three years at Fauquier County in the State of Virginia on or about the __ day of November or December 1776, '7 by one Captain William Blackwell and served in the company commanded by Captain William Blackwell of the Battalion of the 11th Regiment Virginia Line on Continental Service, commanded by General Woodford & Colonel Febecker [Christian Febiger] that he continued to serve in said Corps, or in the service of the United States in the Continental Army, against the common enemy, until about November 1779, '80 – being three years when he was honorably discharged from service at __ in the state of Jersey by General Woodford; that he was in service three years and was in the battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], Germantown [October 4, 1777], Monmouth [June 28, 1778], and Siege of York [October 19, 1781] & also Tarleton's Defeat [Battle of Cowpens, January 17, 1781]

and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support and that he has lost his discharge and has no evidence in his power of his services and discharge, other than that which is here transmitted.

Sworn and declared before me the day and year aforesaid

William Snelling states on oath that he has known William Kernes from a boy & lived within a mile of him when he enlisted, that he served at least nine months in the Continental service as he has stated in his declaration; that he knew the officer Captain Blackwell under whom he enlisted but does not know the Regiment to which he belonged. That he is poor with a few slaves it is true, but two of them are so old they have to be supported by him – That he has two hired hands to plow for him & go to Mill, in the hold he is poor and he is in indigent circumstances & needs the assistance of his government

[Attested by Eli Shortridge, Judge]

¹ BLWt38512-160-55

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For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of "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 William Kearns of__ in the County of Bath and State of Kentucky do hereby declare that I enlisted in the Continental line of the Army of the revolution and continued in its service and was in its service until the termination at which period I was a private in Captain John Martial [John Marshall] Company in the 11th Regiment of the Virginia line – the Circumstance of my Certificate is forgotten – and further I declare I was not on the 15th May of March [sic] 1828 on the pension list of the United States.

S/ WM Kernes



[Attested October 13th, 1828]

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Revolutionary Claims

Treasury Department, 11 November 1828

William Kernes of __ in the County of Bath in the State of Kentucky has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that he enlisted in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued until its termination, at which period he was a Private in Captain Martin's Company, in the __ regiment of the Virginia line; and that he received a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars, provided by the resolve of the 15th of May, 1778; and further, that he was not on the 15th of May, 1828, on the pension list of the United States, and that he has received as a pensioner since the 3rd of March, 1826, nothing

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his Office.

By order of the Secretary

S/ F. A. Dickins

Treasury Department,
Third Auditor's Office,
November 13, 1828

It does not appears by the records of this office, that a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars has been issued to William Kernes in the Virginia Line

It further appears that William Kernes is not now on the pension list of any agency, and has not been so since the 3rd March 1826—~~at the rate of __ dollars per month.~~

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

General Land Office 6th of February 1829

It appears from the List of Warrants issued by the Register of the Land Office at Richmond Virginia that William Kernes is stated to have been a Soldier for 3 years and as such a Warrant for 100 acres of land was issued in his name

S/ G. W. Graham, Commissioner

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Revolutionary Claim

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the 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 Williams in the County of Bath in the State of Kentucky do hereby declare that I enlisted in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution in the Company commanded by Captain Chief Justice John Marshall for three years at the expiration of which time I enlisted for and during the War and continued in its service until its termination at which period I was a private in Captain bells Company (No. of Regiment not recollected) Virginia line and I also declare that I afterwards received certificates for the reward of \$80 to which I was entitled under a resolve of Congress passed the 15th of May 1778 and I further declare I was on the 15th of May 1828 nor on the 3rd of March 1826 on the pension List of the United States.
Witness my hand this 14th day of December 1829

S/ William Kearns, X his mark

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Bath County Kentucky June 23, 1830

The deposition of John Allin [John Allen] taken the Day and date above written

Q. When did you become acquainted with William Kerns the applicant in this present case

A. We were raised boys together and Fauquier County Virginia

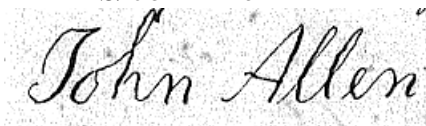
Q. Did you ever see William Kerns in the Army of the Revolution or know of his services as a soldier of the Revolutionary War.

A. I have always understood by him and others that he was a regular soldier in the Continental line (Virginia)

Q. Did you ever see him in the regular Service of the United States

A. I was at the White Plains (New York) in the regular service where I stayed 2 days in Company with William Kerns thence I marched with Colonel Morgan to New Albany at said time and place to wit (White Plains) I saw said Kerns perform Regular Duty and he told me he Enlisted for during the War. Moreover I have been well acquainted with him ever since. And further this deponent says not

S/ John Allen²

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Allen". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

State of Kentucky Bath County: Sct.

On this 11th day of November 1833 personally appeared before the County Court of Bath County William Kerns a resident of Bath County and State of Kentucky aged seventy-six years last May who being 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 enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1775 or '76 with Captain William Blackwell and served in the 11th Regiment of the Virginia line under the following named Officers Colonel Febacker [Christian Febiger] he does not recollect the name of the Lieutenant Colonel or Major but thinks the Major was named Day, he enlisted for three years and served out

² [John Allen S30818](#)

the time and was discharged by General Woodford [William Woodford] which is lost. The latter part of his time he served in the company commanded by Captain John Marshall³ and was with him at the battle of Germantown [October 4, 1777] when he said Marshall was wounded in the hand & belonged to his Company at the time of his discharge. At the time of his enlistment he resided in Fauquier County Virginia and now resides in Bath County Kentucky. He was placed on the pension roll under the Act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and struck from the same on account of property. His first Application was made in the year 1818 he thinks and his pension certificate was returned to the Secretary of War about 3 or 4 years since on a 2nd Application for a pension. Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

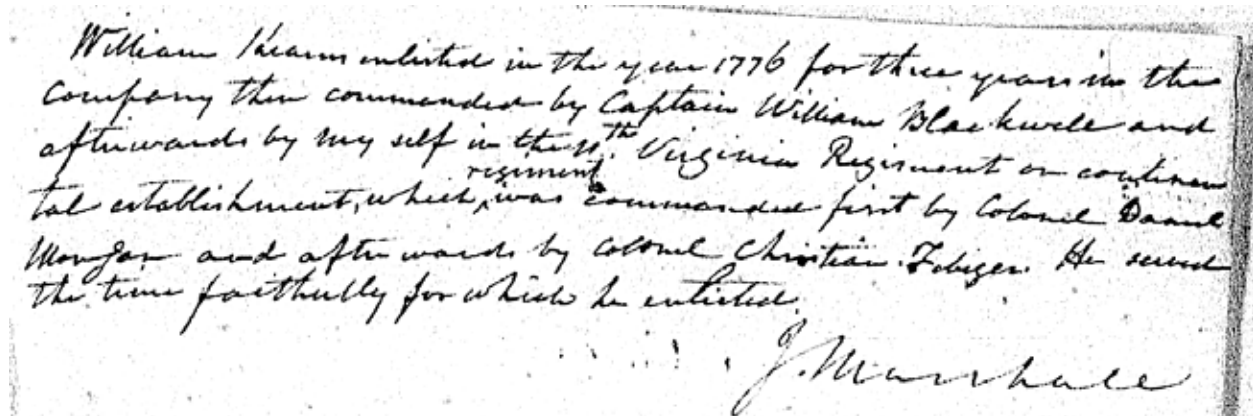
S/ Wm Kernes



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William Kearns [sic] enlisted in the year 1776 for 3 years in the Company then commanded by Captain William Blackwell and afterwards by myself in the 11th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, which Regiment was commanded first by Colonel Daniel Morgan and afterwards by Colonel Christian Febiger. He served the time faithfully for which he enlisted.

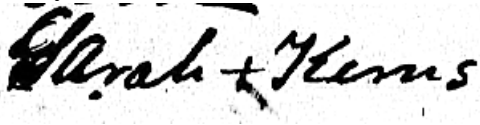
S/ J. Marshall



William Kearns enlisted in the year 1776 for three years in the Company then commanded by Captain William Blackwell and afterwards by myself in the 11th Virginia Regiment on continental establishment, which ^{regiment} was commanded first by Colonel Daniel Morgan and afterwards by Colonel Christian Febiger. He served the time faithfully for which he enlisted.

J. Marshall

[p 11: On October 9, 1854 in Bath County Kentucky, Sarah Kerns, 46, filed for a widow's pension under the 1848 act stating that she is the widow of William Kerns who was inscribed on the pension list at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831; that she married him February 25, 1829 and that her husband died August 20, 1842.



Sarah Kerns]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia Continental line. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

³ Later Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court