

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Kendle ¹ W7978

Elizabeth Kendle f56SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

[p 5]

State of Tennessee Sevier County:

On this 8th day of March 1833 Personally appeared at his own house before me Randal Hill one of the acting Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in and for said County William Kendle a resident of said County and State in the said County of Sevier and State of Tennessee aged eighty years who is entirely unable to attend Court by reason of old age and bodily infirmity who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of 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 herein stated. He was born [in] the town of Ladeanauth [sic, Lakenheath?] bury in the County of Suffolk in England on the 21st day of August 1752 as he has been told by his parents he never had a record of his age. He was bound to a blacksmith in the town of Fakenen [sic, Fakenham?] at which place he thinks in May 1777 he fell in company with a British Sergeant who put a shilling in his sleeve and told him he was enlisted to serve King George for three years, he refused to go, but was compelled and put on board of one of his Majesty's ships, and brought to the United States, he landed at New York, laid there all winter, then came to Philadelphia, then went on board of the fleet and coasted, and staid at different places till we landed at Charleston in South Carolina, he helped to take Charleston in May 1780. He was stationed at Adleys point [sic, Haddrell's Point?] above Charleston, at which place in the first of October 1780 as he thinks him and one William Tindle deserted in the night and went to Georgetown, there he swapped off his Regimentals for citizens clothes, staid there with a man by the name of Steward about two weeks, the Tories and British were committing outrages every day so that there was no safety but in the camp. He then volunteered under Captain William Dick in the latter end of October 1782 who immediately took him to General Marion on the high hills of Santee, he had a horse furnished him by General Marion and went into the cavalry they reconnoitered the country in search of Tories and British, they went to Singleton's Mill,² there we had a skirmish in which we totally routed the British and Tories. We marched on to the Ineerel [sic, Enoree River?] and on to Tigar River [sic, Tyger River] then to the sand pit Bridge [sic, Sampit Bridge]³ we destroyed the bridge and forced the British through the water we took no prisoners at that time. We then

¹ BLWt29025-160-55

² December 14, 1780. https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_singletons_mill.html

³ March 28, 1781.

https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/SC_Revolutionary_War_Known_Battles_Skirmishes.htm

marched through the country in different routes our company divided and we met at Snows Island we lay there some time. We then marched to Pedee [River] against the British and Tories who were very numerous, some of our men deserted, we then retreated through the country to Lynches Creek to attack the British there, the Creek was high we got to it in the night in attempting to cross we lost some horses and military supplies in consequence of which we done nothing,⁴ then we marched to Snows Island lay there several weeks. We then marched to Georgetown had a skirmish with the British whipped them, and took the town⁵ and some prisoners, the skirmish was in the night we lay there some time, then we marched to Fort Watson⁶ on a little lake, he thinks Scott's Lake, we had an engagement we took the Fort and also took a large number of Prisoners. We then marched through the country and had some skirmishes with the Tories and British we had a skirmish at Fort Motte,⁷ we burnt it and took some prisoners and one British officer and hung some Tories. We then marched through the Country on to the Congaree [River] our Company divided and our part of the Army lay at a ferry for some time to intercept the Tories on their way to Charleston and the other part of the Army lay on the road near Moncks Corner we took a number of Tories and killed some few, he was there till after the battle of Eutaw Springs.⁸ We divided into different companies and marched through the country wherever we could hear of British or Tories, we marched to Tyger River and then to the head of Broad River, routed the Tories and burnt some houses, then marched into the neighborhood of Moncks Corner and guarded the road and intercepted and took the Tories on their way to Charleston. We marched through the Country wherever we could hear of Tories doing mischief or carrying supplies to the enemy till we went on to James Island we lay there till the British surrendered Charleston and he was then honorably but verbally discharged about the middle of December 1782 he claims a pension for 2 years one month and a half. We were sometimes with General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] Colonels Baxter [probably Jacob or John Baxter] and Postle [sic, James Postell] was with us a great part of the time and Major James [John James] & Postle [sic, probably John Postell] & Colonel Lea [sic, Henry "Lighthorse Harry" Lee] was with us a part of the time. He does not recollect the names of any Continental or militia regiments who were with the troops where he served except as stated. Said Captain Dick with whom he volunteered did not continue with us but a few months. He never did receive a discharge in writing nor a commission. He is acquainted in his present neighborhood with Isaac Hill, Isaac Richards, Henry Kagle & William Keagle and Jesse Rodgers all of whom he believes would testify that he is a man of honesty and that they believe him to have been a soldier of the revolution. He has lived since the Revolution in the following places to wit he went immediately into Moore County North Carolina lived there till about 3 years ago & he then moved to said Sevier County State of Tennessee and still lives there. He has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. There is no

⁴ Leon Harris suggests this MIGHT be a reference to an action thought to have taken place circa April 8, 1781 near Willow Grove (now Lynchburg, SC) to which passing reference is made on page 309 of John C. Parker, Jr., *Parker's Guide to the Revolutionary War in South Carolina: Battles, Skirmishes and Murders; Third Edition*. Patrick, SC: Harrelson Press.

⁵ Marion took Georgetown on May 28, 1781.

https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_georgetown_7.html

⁶ Siege 16-23 April 1781. https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_watson_2.html

⁷ Siege 7-12 May 1781 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fort_motte.html

⁸ September 8, 1781. https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

clergyman living immediately in his neighborhood nor none that he can procure who can testify to the repute of his service.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ Randal Hill, Justice of the Court

S/ William Kendle, X his mark

[Isaac Hill and Isaac Richards gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 12: on April 19, 1855 in Knox County Tennessee, Elizabeth Kendle, 66, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she married William Kendle in Sevier County Tennessee in the fall 1827 and continued to live with him until he died November 18, 1834 when he died at his residence in Sevier County Tennessee; that he drew \$80 per annum for his services in the revolution; that they were married by one Mr. Hill, JP in Sevier County Tennessee; that she is still a resident of Sevier County Tennessee and a widow.]

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

[Note: I found no claim filed by this veteran in the Audited Accounts posted online by the South Carolina Archives.]