

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Priestly W981

Polly Priestly

f85SC

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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 74]

State of Tennessee Morgan County

On this 30th day of October 1832 personally appeared before me Thomas Jack a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and one of the Justices of the Court of pleas and quarter sessions for the County aforesaid, it being a court of record and having the power of fine & imprisonment, Charles Priestly (a resident in the County aforesaid) and at the house of his the said Charles Priestly and in the State & County of aforesaid, the said Charles being a very aged man, blind and infirm and not able to get to a court of record, he the said Charles supposes himself to be 85 or 90 years of age who being first duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832, that he was born in Richmond County State of North Carolina but does not know what date but remembers when Braddock's defeat was as he was a boy between 7 and 10 years of age at that time & remembers well hearing his parents and others talk of the defeat when it took place, he lived in Cashaw [sic, Kershaw] County South Carolina the year after the snowy campaign and was drafted and entered the United States service in said year, the date of which he does not now recollect, but remembers that it was the year after the winter that was called the snowy campaign, he entered the service under Lieutenant Cook, his Captain's name he cannot now recollect, he was drafted & entered the service as a militia soldier as aforesaid for the term of 3 months and was marched to Charleston and was there stationed until his 3 months Expired he then substituted for 3 months longer in the room and stead of John Priestly he was still stationed there until his 3 months expired again when he still substituted for 3 months longer in the room & stead of Andrew Priestly and at the Expiration of which time he enlisted (for 5 months) & entered the service of the United States under Captain John Hampton, Colonel Williamson, his other officers he does not now recollect their names, he was marched under his aforesaid officers to Keewee was stationed at Keewee about 6 weeks, they then marched across the mountains against the Indians they marched to Wando [?] a Indian town called Middle Town and about 20 miles before they reached said Town they were met by the Indian forces about Ten O'clock in the morning when the battle commenced and lasted until one hour by Sun in the evening they defeated the Indians with the loss of about 20 men killed and a number wounded but the Indians sustained much greater a loss, they then marched to Middle Town burnt and destroyed the same they then marched to Savannah Town which had been destroyed by the North Army then marched back to Keewee, where they was honorably but verbally discharged having served his 5 months for which he enlisted, he again enlisted (for 9

months) and entered the service of the United States the date of which year he cannot now recollect but he enlisted in about sixteen miles of Charlotte North Carolina but it was in the summer time, he entered the service under Colonel Polk & Major Armstrong his Captain & Lieutenant's name he cannot now are recollect, they marched through Salisbury on then to Moons Creek on Dan River, was stationed there 3 months, was then furloughed home, as minute man & was called into service again a little before Christmas in the same year, then marched to ten mile house, within ten miles of Charlestown, rendezvoused and joined the Main Army under General Lincoln marched under General Lincoln to Purrysburg on the Savannah River was stationed there 2 or 3 months, was there when General Ash [sic, John Ashe] was defeated, at the mouth of Brier Creek, this applicant together with about 300 other soldiers was detached to go to reinforce and aid General Ashe but could not reach General Ashe to be of any benefit returned back to Purrysburg and then marched under General Lincoln to Stono, was in the Battle at Stono, General Lincoln retreated with his troops, from the Battle ground, then marched to Bacon's Bridge, was stationed there a short time took the fever, was then sent to Charleston by water, lying 3 months in the hospital also then hauled home by his friends while sick, he remained at home about 2 years, he then again enlisted for 10 months and entered the service of the United States a light horseman, under the command of Captain John Foster his other officers' names not now recollected he was marched to a point on the Congaree River opposite to where the British Army was stationed he was under the command of General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], that he was stationed at the point aforesaid until the British having moved down the River, General Sumter or sued the British Army down the River and still continued to annoy the British Army until they took shipping at some port on the Savannah River, but never had any Battle, & having served out the 10 months his time of enlistment he was honorably discharged by General Sumter which discharge being evidence of a reward & bounty coming to him, he sold the same to Daniel Winchester, this applicant has no Documentary evidence whereby he can prove his services aforesaid nor is there any person living whose testimony he can procure by whom he can prove the same, he has served ever since the revolutionary War, in the State of South Carolina North Carolina & Tennessee 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, and further declares that he has never had any record of his age.

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

S/ Thomas Jack, JP

S/ Charles Priestly, X his mark

[Point Bargar and Allen Bargar gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Morgan County

On this 25th day of May 1833 personally appeared before me Thomas Jack a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid & one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas & quarter sessions for said County Charles Priestly the applicant named in the foregoing amended declaration for a pension, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amendment to the foregoing annexed declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1833, that from old age and consequent loss of memory, he cannot now recollect the dates of the year when he entered the service of the United States but he was drafted for 3 months was when drafted living in the State of South Carolina Cashaw [sic, Kershaw] County, he entered the service under Lieutenant William Cook, his Captain's name he cannot now recollect as he was a stranger to him before he was drafted & put

under his command, he believes that the Colonel who commanded at Charleston in the Regiment which he was in, was by the name of Little, his Major's name who commanded at the Battle he does not now recollect but he well recollects Lieutenant Cook's name because he was an acquaintance to him and a neighbor to him before they went into the service, he recollects his Captain to have a man of fair complexion & of common size the two tours that he substituted for to wit 3 months for John Priestly & 3 months for Andrew Priestly he was at Charleston both times when he substituted and one was a continued service after the other, applicant was not out of the militia service from the time he was drafted when living in Kershaw County South Carolina until he enlisted for 5 months under Captain Hampton & Colonel Williamson and the whole of which service was rendered in the Barracks at Charleston and was that of a private and did not follow any civil pursuit bore arms the whole time and [?] was both time times of his substitution under the officers that he was under when he served his drafted service he does not know the Chartered limits of the State of South Carolina but supposes that most of his marches when he was out of 5 months of his enlisted service to have been in the State of South Carolina he well recollects the several places to which he was marched, as set out in his original declaration to wit, from Charleston to Keewee, from Keewee across the mountain to Middletown, from Middletown to Savannah town, & from Savannah Town back to Keewee --

His 2nd Enlistment was a regular was for 9 months, as set out in his original declaration that from old age & consequent loss of memory he cannot now recollect the precise length of time from the time he enlisted near Charlotte North Carolina, until he was furloughed home as a minute man from Moon's Creek on Dan River, but according to the best of his recollection it was not less than 3 months and that from the time he entered the service (after being furloughed home as aforesaid) and rendezvoused at the ten mile house, until he was discharged at Bacon's Bridge was not less than 6 months, that on his march from ten mile house & between that & Purrysburg, he was transferred from under the command of Major Armstrong to Colonel Polk & placed under the command of Captain Gooden Lieutenant Hilton Adjutant Allcorn, Colonel Lytle, who he continued under the command of Purrysburg & from there to the mouth of Brier Creek or near there, when they went to aid General Ash [sic, John Ashe], but did not reach him in time, & then to Stono was commanded by his last aforesaid officers in the Bible at Stono, and was then marched under them to Bacon's Bridge, that during all of the last aforesaid service he was a private & followed no civil pursuit.

That at the time of making the original declaration until now there was no clergyman residing in his neighborhood with whom he was acquainted with it was then out of his power & still is out of his power to obtain the testimony of a clergyman to his character for veracity and soldier of the revolution

quest 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born.

Answer. I do not know the year but from information I was born in Richmond County State of North Carolina.

quest 2<sup>nd</sup> have you any record of your age and if so where is it.

Answer. I never ahead any record of my age.

quest 3 Where were you living when called into service and where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live

Answer. I lived in the State of South Carolina Kershaw County when I was drafted and was at Charleston when I substituted and was at Charleston when I enlisted for 5 months and went after the Indians I lived in North Carolina and in about 16 miles of Charlotte when I enlisted for 9 months, and I lived at the last aforesaid place win enlisted for the 10 months, I have since the

revolutionary war the have been the State of South Carolina North Carolina Tennessee now in Morgan County Tennessee.

Question 4. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Answer. I was drafted for 3 months substituted 3 months for John Presley & substituted 3 months again for Andrew Presley then enlisted for 5 months & then enlisted for 9 months & then enlisted for 10 months --

quest 5 State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect and the General circumstances of your services

Answer I was acquainted with Captain John Hampton Captain Edward Hampton Captain Davis Colonel Williamson Major Armstrong Colonel Polk General Lincoln Captain Gooden Lieutenant Hilton Adjutant Allcorn, Colonel Little & General Sumter -- I was first drafted taken to Charleston had no Battle, Substituted to 3 months tours, was stationed at Charleston in the barracks the whole of the time, enlisted at Charleston & was marched against the Indians to Keewee Indian town, we left our horses there and marched over the mountain to Middletown had an engagement with the Indians before we reached Middletown & defeated the Indians then marched to Savannah town & then marched back to Keewee. When I enlisted in the State of North Carolina I also marched through Salisbury & then through Guilford, & then on to Moons Creek on Dan River & was stationed there, while there furloughed home as a minute man, was then called on a little before Christmas and rendezvoused at the 10 mile house, then marched to Purrysburg, then marched to aid General Ashe at the mouth of Briar Creek but did not reach him in time & then marched to & was in the Battle at Stono then was marched to Bacon's Bridge & was there taken sick with the fever. I enlisted for 10 months as a light horseman, was marched under General Sumter to Columbia on the Congaree River opposite to where the British Army lay, when the British Army moved down the Country General Sumter pursued them, & continued to annoy them but never had any Battle with them, & when the British Army took shipping General Sumter returned up the country.

quest 6 did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it

Answer I received but one & that was signed by General Sumter and that I sold to Daniel Winchester

quest 7 State the names of the persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution

answer I am known to Hiram Cromwell John Duncan Jacob Ragon Allen Bargan, Point Bargan, Hiring Bargan, & Thomas Scott

S/ Charles Priestly, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid

S/ Thomas Jack, Justice of the peace

[p 18: On April 1, 1840 in Bledsoe County Tennessee, Polly Priestly, 80 years old, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the Charles Priestly, that she married him she thinks in the year 1783; that they were married by a Presbyterian minister whose names he cannot recollect; that her husband died in Bledsoe County Tennessee on January 19 1835; that she and her husband had 8 children, John, Nancy, Betsey, Patsey, William, Charles, Keziah and

David; that she has no record of their ages but by her best calculation John Priestly the oldest child is 55 years old; and that William Priestly, her 5th child was 44 years old on December 11 1839.]

[p 29 and again p. 66-67, John Narramore<sup>1</sup> gave a supporting affidavit as to the fact that Charles Priestly and Polly Priestly (whose maiden name was Polly Kiziah) lived together as man and wife near Camden in Kershaw district South Carolina.]

[Facts in file: The widow died December 26, 1844; John Narramore testifies that the widow's maiden name was Kiziah [probably Keziah]]

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<sup>1</sup> [John Narramore S4598](#) John Narramore's Family Bible record is set out in pp. 45-46 of Charles Priestly's file.