

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Thomas Donoho W9838
Transcribed by Will Graves

Keziah fn72NC
rev'd 3/9/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber— besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

[fn p. 6]

State of North Carolina, Caswell County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions July Term 1839

Be it remembered that on this the 4th day of July A.D. 1839, personally appeared before the Justices of the Court aforesaid Keziah Donoho, a resident of the County of Caswell and State of North Carolina, aged 84 years, who being first duly Sworn according to Law, doth on her Oath make the following Declaration in Order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed July 4th, 1836.

That she is the Widow of the late Major Thomas Donoho who, in the Month of April 1776 at Halifax in North Carolina volunteered and entered the War of the Revolution returning home in a short time, bearing the office and Commission of Lieutenant, he enlisted a Company of Soldiers, and in May of the year aforesaid (as well as she now recollect) he marched his Company to the Town of Wilmington N. C. and joined the Regiment Commanded by Colonel Lytle [Archibald Lytle] – in the fall of the same year he returned home on furlough, and in a short time thereafter received a Captain's Commission immediately after which he repaired to his Station at Wilmington aforesaid – said Donoho was in the Battle at Eutaw Springs South Carolina – and likewise at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse North Carolina under the Command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]. Some short time after the battle of Eutaw Springs he was promoted to the office of Major as will more fully appear by reference to the Certificate of the Secretary of State of North Carolina herewith transmitted and marked A. She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Donoho on the 3rd day of December A.D. 1774 – and that her husband the aforesaid Thomas Donoho died on the 2nd day of April A.D. 1825 – and that she has remained a Widow & be that period, as will appear a reference to the proof hereto annexed and contained in Certificates initialed B – C.

S/ Keziah Donoho, X her mark

Sworn to & subscribed on the day & year above written, before the Justices of the Court aforesaid in Open Court.

I George Williamson one of the Justices and Chairman of Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County of Caswell and State of North Carolina do certify that I have been long acquainted with Mrs. Keziah Donoho the widow of the late Major Thomas Donoho and the Mother of the late Major Sanders Donoho of the US Standing Army – who was shot at or near Pensacola by a refractory Soldier, that said Keziah Donoho is a lady of high Character – maintains an elevated standing in the Community in what she resides, and is Worthy of full Credit – Given under my hand at Yancey bill in the County aforesaid this the 4th day of July 1839.

S/ Geo Williamson, Chairman

State of North Carolina, Caswell County

This day appeared before me Keziah Donoho, who resides in the County of Caswell aforesaid

and made oath that this leaf hereto appended is the family register cut from a large family Bible which was left in my possession by my husband Thomas Donoho at his Death – which I believe to be in the handwriting of William Donoho a Brother of Thomas Donoho aforesaid. Sworn to and Subscribed before me George Williamson, a Justice of the peace for the County of Caswell aforesaid on this the 13th day of November 1839.

S/ Geo. Williamson, JP

S/ Keziah Donoho, X her mark

State of North Carolina, Caswell County

This day appeared before me John Johnston who resides in the County of Caswell aforesaid and made oath that he has been intimate with the family of Major Thomas Donoho for 40 years and that this leaf hereto appended was cut from a large family Bible which contains the births of the children of Thomas Donoho & Keziah Donoho, which was left by said Thomas Donoho at his Death in the possession of his widow Keziah Donoho. Major Thomas Donoho was an indifferent scribe. I believe the ages of the children wrote by William Donoho a Brother of Major Donoho. This Affiant further states that Major Thomas Donoho never did to his knowledge apply for a pension. Sworn to and subscribed or me George Williamson a Justice of the peace for the County of Caswell aforesaid on this the 13th day of November 1839.

S/ John Johnston

Test: S/ Geo. Williamson, JP

State of North Carolina, Caswell County

This day appeared before me Mildred Brown who resides in the County of Caswell aforesaid and made Oath that she became acquainted with the late Major Thomas Donoho years before the Revolutionary War. That she recollects to have seen said Thomas Donoho when he was on his way to be married to Keziah Sanders which was also before the War aforesaid. She was not present at the marriage – nor does he know of any person now alive who did Witness the Marriage Ceremony – but she this affiant has no doubt of the fact that said Thomas Donoho and said Keziah Sanders were legally married for it was so said and generally understood in the neighborhood that they were married on the Occasion on which she saw him on his way to be married as aforesaid. She further swears that she has known the said Major Thomas Donoho and the said Keziah his wife as aforesaid from early life until the death of said Thomas which occurred in the Spring of the year 1825 – and the said Keziah until the present time. That they have always been recognized as man and wife in their neighborhood County – and that said Keziah has remained a Widow from the death of her husband aforesaid in the year 1825 until the present time. Sworn to & Subscribed before me David Montgomery, Justice of the peace for the County of Caswell aforesaid on this the 3rd day of July 1839.

S/ Mildred Brown, X her mark

Witness

S/ D. Montgomery, JP

[Handwritten leaf from Bible]

“The age of Thomas & Kizza Donoho Children

Betsey Donoho was born the 2nd Day of September 1775

Hirum Donoh [sic] was the 7th Day of February 1777

Salley Donoho was born the [blotted out, but War Dept. transcript says “16”] Day of September 1779

Francis Donoho was born the 7th Day of December 1781

Sanders Donoho was born the 12th Day of January 1784 [last digit unclear]

Susannah Donoh [sic] was born the 26th Day of January 1787”

State of North Carolina, Caswell County

This day appeared before me Betsey Lea who resides in the County of Caswell aforesaid and made oath in due form of Law, That Keziah Donoho is the widow of the late Major Thomas Donoho.

They were married with an a few miles of me, the day and year I do not distinctly recollect, but I know that it was before our Revolutionary War. The legality of the marriage I have never heard it doubted, or called into question, it was so believed & generally understood & recognized as man and wife, they have lived together as such from that time until the Death of her husband Thomas Donoho aforesaid, which occurred in the spring of 1825. She has remained a widow ever since that period to the present time.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me David Montgomery a Justice of the peace for the County of Caswell aforesaid on the third day of July 1839.

S/ D. Montgomery, JP

S/ Betsey Lea, X her mark

State of North Carolina, Caswell County: October 4th, 1839

Be it remembered that on this the 4th day of October A.D. 1839 personally appeared before me David Montgomery a Justice of the peace, in and for the County of Caswell aforesaid, William Parker¹ a revolutionary pensioner and made Oath, in due form of law, that he was well acquainted with the late Major Thomas Donoho whose widow i.e. Keziah Donoho, is now an Applicant for a pension, that said Thomas Donoho was a Captain and then Major in the war of the Revolution, in the North Carolina Continental line, and to the best of his recollection, was of the Sixth Regiment. – This Affiant further swears that he never knew, or heard of any other officer or Soldier of the Revolution of the Same name. He further states that said Major Thomas Donoho never did to his knowledge apply for a pension – and perhaps for the reason that he was a man of good estate. This Affiant lived about two miles from said Major Thomas Donoho for forty odd years & was well acquainted with him from his Youth. Sworn to and subscribed before me David Montgomery a Justice of the peace for the County of Caswell aforesaid on this fourth day of October A.D. 1839.

S/ D. Montgomery, JP

S/ William Parker, X his mark

State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the name of Thomas Donoho does not appear on the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war but once, and that he is in the 6th Regiment, where it appears he was Captain on the 10th of September 1776, Or nature on the 13th of October 1781, Deranged [?] 1st January 1783.

Given under my hand this 7th day of October 1839.

S/ Wm Hill

State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary War, that Thomas Donoho was commissioned Captain in the 6th Regiment on the 10th day of September 1776, promoted to Major on the 13th day of October 1781, and deranged on the 1st day of January 1783.

Given under my hand at Office in Raleigh this 1st day of June 1839.

S/ Wm Hill

[Note: There is a letter dated July 25, 1839 from R. M. Saunders to the Pension Office in which reference is made by Saunders to his having reviewed the family Bible of Thomas Donoho and found no record in it of the marriage of Thomas Keziah Sanders, but that he found a record of the birth of their eldest child, Betsey. Betsey is now Betsey Waddlington or Watlington, herself a widow of John Watlington who served as a Lieut. in a Virginia regiment. The handwriting in this letter is very difficult to decipher. Those interested in its contents should review the digital image of the original at pages 55

¹ [William Parker S8936](#)

and 56 of Footnote.com's copy of the pension application herein transcribed.]

[Note 2: There is a letter dated May 31, 1851 to the Pension office asking for an increase in the pension paid Mrs. Keziah Donoho, the request being made at the direction of her grandson, Thomas D. Johnston. The letter is signed by George Little of Raleigh, NC]