

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Benjamin Rodden R8272

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } S.S.

Marion County }

On this second day of January 1843 personally appeared before the worshipful justices of the County Court of the County and State aforesaid Keziah Pitman a resident of the said county and state aged ninety four 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4 1836 and the act explanatory of said act passed March 3 1837, That she was married to Benjamin Rodden, who was draughted in the company of militia commanded by Captain \_\_\_ Gatord in the army of the Revolution in Essex County State of virginia on the \_\_\_ day of November 1778 and continued in the said service from that period to the \_\_\_ day of October 1781; that he was in the engagement at Glocester in Virginia also the engagement at Hanging Rock in the state of North Carolina [see endnote]. He also assisted in guarding and conveying the prisoners taken in the engagement at Glocester to Charleston South Carolina where they were ordered; The claimant has no knowledge of the particular service performed by her husband while in the service except that she heard him and others frequently speak that he acted as Quarter Master in furnishing supplied to the troops, what period of time he performed that service claimant from the great lapse of time cannot positively state neither can she from the same cause give in detail the country through which he marched nor the names of his officers except the captain as before stated, nor has she documentary evidence in support of the claim. She further declares that she was married to the said Benjamin Rodden on the \_\_\_ day of March 1777. That her Husband the aforesaid Benjamin Rodden died on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_ 1793. That she was afterwards married to Matthew Pitman in the month of October 1804 who was a Revolutionary pensioner in Mecklenburg County State of North Carolina where he resided at the period of our marriage and remained there until the fall of the year 1815 when he died, and that she was a widow on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 1836 and still remains a widow as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before

Keziah herXmark Pitman

State of Tennessee }

Marion County }

This 30<sup>th</sup> day of November 1844 personally appeared before me David Gaines an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid James Morgan a Revolutionary Pensioner [W25729] aged about eighty six years and made oath in due form of law that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Rodden a warrant officer of the Company of Captain Gatord of Essex County State of Virginia during the Revolutionary War that said Benjamin Rodden the husband of the present Keziah Pitman removed to Mecklenburg County North Carolina that the services of said Benjamin Redden I only have an indistinct recollection but understood at the time he was employed in furnishing provisions for the Company to which he was attached. That he well recollects the present Keziah Pitman and the said Benjamin Redden lived together as husband and wife as I was well acquainted with them at the time, and the present Keziah Pitman who is an applicant for a pension for her said husbands Benjamin Roddens services in the war of the Revolution is the same person as was then acknowledged by and lived with the said Benjamin Rodden as his wife.

Sworn to and subscribed before me Nov 30, 1844

James hisXmark Morgan

NOTES:

Further details of Benjamin Rodden's service are in the statement by his half brother, Lewis

Rodden, in the file of Mathew Pitman (Pittman) transcribed by Will Graves

<<http://southerncampaign.org/pen/rnc1.pdf>>. Lewis Rodden stated that Benjamin Rodden had been a Captain, and that the maiden name of Benjamin Rodden's wife was Keziah Williamson.

The "engagement at Gloucester" probably refers to the action at Gloucester during the Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781. Prisoners were not taken from there to Charleston SC, which was under British occupation until 14 Dec 1782. There was no "engagement at Hanging Rock in the state of North Carolina," but there were several engagements at or near Hanging Rock SC. Skirmishes there on 30 July and 6 Aug 1780 did not involve Virginia troops. The Battle of Waxhaws SC on 29 May 1780, often referred to as the Battle of Hanging Rock, did involve Virginia troops.

A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse lists the following: Benj. Rodden, age 31, height 5' 7", light-brown hair, grey eyes, fair complexion, shoe maker, born and residing in Essex County where he was drafted for 18 months on 10 Apr 1781 and was sized the following day.

On 2 Jan 1843 Jackson Rodden stated that he knew Benjamin and Keziah Rodden were married. On 9 Apr 1844 Benjamin Rodden, 54 or 55-year-old son of Benjamin and Keziah Rodden, stated that what he had been told of his parents' marriage was memorable from "the fact of his grand father Rodden, and his grand mother Williams the mother of affiants mother married each other at the same time and place of which I have often heard my father speak coupling it with the marriage of himself and my mother." He also stated that he had seen a family record of the marriage in his father's handwriting, and that his parents "lived together as man and wife from my first recollection to the death of my father in about the year 1796 in perfect harmony and peace." On 18 Jan 1853 William Rodden, 73, of Jackson County AL, son of Benjamin and Keziah Rodden, stated that he had one brother who was two years and five months older than him, and that his date of birth was in his family record transcribed below. He also stated that his parents married in Essex County VA before his father's service, and that his mother died in Jackson County on 28 Oct 1850, leaving him as the only heir. On 15 Jan 1857 Gabriel Rodden, 61, of Mecklenburg County NC, stated that he and Judy Hanks were the only surviving children of Keziah Pitman and Benjamin Rodden, who "was an officer in the war of the revolution... in the Virginia state troops." He also stated that his mother's maiden name was Keziah Williamson, and that Mathew Pitman's pension was from North Carolina for wounds received at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse on 15 Mar 1781.

William Rodden Bourn Febuary 5 In the year of our lord 1779

Poly Rodden Born Aug 6<sup>th</sup> in the year of our lord 1789

Martha Lineasea Rodden Was Born 29 day of August 1835

Martha Virage Pankey Was Born May 11 day 1833.

Moli Carline Rodden was Bornd October 12<sup>th</sup>[?] in they year of our Lord 1810

Elizabeth Rodden was Bornd June 17<sup>th</sup> in they of our Lord 1813

Mary Luiza Rodden was Bornd May 1<sup>th</sup> in year of our Lord 1816

William Lee Rodden Was Bornd October 15<sup>th</sup> in year of our Lord 1818

James SH[?] Rodden was Born Deasember 9 in year of our lord 1820

Leza E Rodden was Born the 10<sup>th</sup> of June in the year of our lord 1823

Miney[?] Rodden was Born 4 of Aprile In the year of our lord 1825

Ylisa Virenar [?] Rodden was borned in the year of our Lord January 14<sup>th</sup> 1829

Julea[?] young Rodden was borned in Dec'r 10<sup>th</sup> in the year of our Lord 1831