

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Andrew Kennedy W161
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn110NC

This is to certify that on the first day of August 1780 when a soldier in Captain Penny's Company under the command of General Rutherford in the revolutionary war on our way to where General Gates was defeated, General Rutherford called on Captain Penny to take three men to go as spies to find out where the British had retreated to when they left the Cheraw Hills. I was one of them. We went on to Black creek within 3 quarters of a mile of the British camp; we were informed that there was four British at a house about half a mile off the road. We concluded to go and take them by surprise; accordingly we did so, we took them prisoners and made the best of our way back. We went on till about 10 o'clock at night. We came to Thompson's Creek in the State of South Carolina where we were fired upon by a party of Tories; nine balls struck me, one went through my arm, one cut across the back of my hand, one went through my thigh, three grazed my side leaving about an inch or two betwixt where the balls went in and came out; the other three went into the hollow of my body which has rendered me incapable of getting my living by manual labor; Likewise I certify that I am not on any pension list. The reasons that I did not make application sooner are; First I did not know of pensions being given for some years after I was wounded; when I heard of it I thought that it looked too much like begging. Some people were making light of it. I thought that as I made out through the worst I could still make out without being an expense to the United States. I got along some way or other till of my children left me; my son also died therefore have been obliged to apply to government in the 67th year of my age. My residence is in Blount County about 12 miles from Knoxville.

S/ Andw. Kennedy

The foregoing statement or certificate was sworn to by the above named Andrew Kennedy at Knoxville in the State of Tennessee this 10th day of October 1820 before me.

S/ James Park, Justice of the Peace

[The following documents appears to be an account given by Andrew Kennedy of his services during the Revolutionary War, but not given before a court. William Williamson purports to authenticate the writing saying he knew Andrew Kennedy and that the document is in Kennedy's handwriting –see affidavit of Williamson on p. 97 of the Footnote.com version of the application.]

When the Revolutionary war began I then lived in the State of North Carolina in Rowan County under the Command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and Captain Dixon's Company, the first Campaign was against the Tories in South Carolina the time that Colonel North was wounded in the shoulder we surrounded the Tories and took 300 prisoners was out three months, the second [tour] was against the Scotch about Fayetteville was out three months came home, the third [tour] was against the Cherokees on Tennessee & Hiwassee, came home had only two scrimmages with them was out three months then came home and the fourth [tour] was in State of South Carolina against the British on Savony [sic, Savannah] River the British on the Georgia side and the Americans on the South Carolina side was out three months. The fifth was at Blufort [sic, Beaufort] Island was there till the Battle we defeated the British there was a good many killed and wounded on the British side. The sixth [tour] was about the time of Ramsour's Battle in North Carolina where there was a good many killed and wounded on both sides, the seventh [tour] was about the time of Gates defeat we went from Ramsour's to assist General Davidson which was [illegible word, appears to start "wat..." and end "ing"] the British Captain Penny was ordered to take his light horse company to go to his assistance of General Davidson I was in Penny's Company the battle was over the day before we got there, Davidson was badly wounded General Rutherford came on in a few days the British retreated to the Cheraw Hill we pursued them they retreated from the Hill we went on to the Hill ground, Gates had not got to the Hill

but was expected every day, General Rutherford ordered Captain Penny to take two or three men to go and Spy out where the British had retreated to we started soon next morning and went on about 20 miles through a poor Sandy Country and got no information what was become of the British at last we came to a mill the Miller told us that we were within one mile of the Camp, we got half a bushel of Corn to feed our horses and started back, we had not been more than a mile till we came to a path that led to the Road, came to a house where some women and children were, we fed our horses, about the time we was ready to start, some children from another house [came] and told us that there was four British Soldiers at their house not more than half a mile from that place eating watermelons, we agreed to go and surprise and take them, went very slow until we came within 50 yards of them they gave up their arms we took every of us a watermelon and went on to head quarters, night came on we had no provisions when we went about 10 miles we agreed to stop and get our dinners got our horses fed dinner at last got ready we sat down to eat there was a certain gilaspys [sic, Gillespie] that had been sick he said that he would stand sentry till we would eat before the last of us have set down we was sitting around with our guns standing betwixt our thighs before I had a one eat one bite Gillespie came running to the door and said that the British were was within 50 yards I was sitting next to the door I was out and saw a number of them I called who comes there five or six of [them] fired on me and struck me with seven balls five of which went through and two is in me yet.

S/ Andrew Kennedy

[Exhibit A: Marriage bond of Andrew Kennedy to Rachel Penny dated November 17, 1784, State of NC, Rowan County.]

[Tennessee, Blount County, January 5, 1839, Rachel Kennedy, 78, filed for a widow's pension stating that she married Andrew on November 18, 1885; that Andrew died on May 5, 1834

A Declaration in order to obtain arrears of Pension Due Andrew Kenidy [sic, Kennedy] under the Act of Congress of 7 June 1832

State of Tennessee, Blount County

On this third day of November 1845 Personally appeared in open court now sitting Alexander Kennedy who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the pension due Andrew Kennedy under the act of Congress of the 7th June 1832, that he is the son of the said Andrew Kennedy who was an invalid Pensioner of the State of Tennessee and a resident citizen of the County of Blount was placed on the Pension roll on the 16th day of September 1822 was of the North Carolina militia and died on the fifth day of May 1834 leaving his widow Rachel Kennedy who was since been placed on the Pension Roll at the Rate of \$25 per annum by producing the certificate of the Comptroller of North Carolina as to the Services of her husband the said Andrew Kennedy and the following named children, heirs of the said Andrew Kennedy: Esther Rhea, Nancy Kennedy, Polly Means and Alexander Kennedy who has this day made the foregoing declaration in order to obtain the about of pension due from the 4th of March 1831 up to the death of the said Andrew Kennedy which was on the 5th of May 1834. Sworn to in open court on this the 3rd day of November 1845.

S/ Alexander Kenney {Seal}

I William Lowry, Clerk of the County Court for the County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that satisfactory evidence has this day been exhibited to said court that Andrew Kennedy late of said County an invalid pensioner of the United States died in the County of Blount and State of Tennessee on the fifth day of May 1834, and that Rachel Kennedy, his widow was placed on the Pension roll of the United States for the Agency of Tennessee under the acts of Congress of the seventh of July 1838 and of the third of March 1843, and of the 17th of June 1844 at the rate of \$25 per annum; that she said Rachel Kennedy died on the 23rd day of October 1845; and that Alexander Kennedy, the above

declarant, and Esther Rhea, Nancy Kennedy and Polly Means are heirs at law of the said Andrew Kennedy & of his wife, Rachel Kennedy.

Given under my hand and the seal of the said County, at office in Maryville this fourth day of November 1845.

S/ Will Lowry, Clk by Jas. R. Love, D. C.

A memorandum of my children's age

Peggy was born on the 16th of November 1787

Ginsey was born on the 7th of June 1790

Esther was born on the 25th of December 1792

Arthur was born on the 25th of March 1794

Polly was born on the second of June 1797

Nancy was born on the 27 of September 1799

Alexander was born on the 5 of September 1801

Betsy was born on the 25th of August 1804

State of Tennessee, Knox County District of East Tennessee

In pursuance of the commission addressed to us by the Honorable John McNairy Judge of the United States District of East Tennessee we James Dardis and James Park two of the Justices of the peace for the County of Knox have proceeded to take the Deposition of John Milford and John Finley on behalf of Andrew Kennedy of the County Blount and District of East Tennessee an applicant for a pension on account of wounds and disabilities received in the Revolutionary War.

This is to certify that we John Milford and John Finley by order of General Rutherford was left with Andrew Kennedy when he was wounded which was on the second day of August 1780 we attended on him and dressed his wounds two months he was wounded at Thompson's Creek in the State of South Carolina about 10 miles from the Cheraw Hill. Said Kennedy was wounded with nine balls or bullets three went into the hollow of his Body one went through his thigh one through his arm one cut across the Back of his hand the other three grazed his side leaving about one or 2 inches from where the balls went in and where they came out about two months after we brought him home we was then his near neighbors and has been acquainted with him ever since he never was able to get his living by labor his relations assisted him for some years until his children grew up he always supported the character of an honest man and a good friend to his [illegible word]. We were both soldiers in Captain Penny's Company under the command of General Rutherford on our way to join General Gates in the Revolutionary war. Given under our hands this seventh day of May 1821.

S/ John Milford

S/ John Findley

Sworn and And subscribed at Knoxville and District aforesaid this seventh day of May 1821 before us.

S/ James Dardis

S/ James Park

State of Tennessee Knox County and District East Tennessee

In pursuance of the enclosed the commission of the United States District Court for the District of East Tennessee we James parks and James Dardis two of the Justices of Knox County in the And state aforesaid had proceeded to take the Depositions of William Then he and William Carrigan on behalf of Andrew Kennedy of the County of Blount and District of East Tennessee an applicant for a pension on account of Wounds and Disabilities Received in the Revolutionary War.

William Penny first – this is to certify that on the first day of August 1780 that Andrew Kennedy a soldier in my Company of light horse volunteered under the Command of Brigadier General Rutherford in the Revolutionary war when on our way to where General Gates was afterwards

Defeated when we arrived at the Cheraw Hill in South Carolina I was ordered to take three men to go as spies to find out where the British had retreated to when they left the Cheraw Hill we went on till we were informed that we were within 1 mile of the British Camp we took four British soldiers Prisoners at that place then we made the best of our way back about 10 o'clock at night we had got to Thompson's Creek about 10 miles from the Cheraw Hill we were fired upon by a party of Tories at which time and place said Kennedy was struck with nine Balls one went through his thigh one through his arm one cut across the back of his hand three went into the hollow of his Body the other three through his side leaving an inch or two between where the Balls went in and where they came out which wounds has rendered him incapable of getting his living by manual Labor this was the eighth campaign that he had served in the militia service.

By me S/ William Penny, Captain

Sworn to and Subscribed at Knoxville in the District aforesaid this seventh day of May 1821 before us.

S/ James Dardis

S/ James Park

This is to certify that Andrew Kennedy and myself William Carrigan was Soldiers in Captain Penny's Company of light horse volunteers in the militia service under the Command of Brigadier General Rutherford in the Revolutionary War & on our way to where General Gates was afterwards defeated where we arrived at the Cheraw hills Captain Penny was ordered to take three men to go as spies to find where the British had retreated to when they left the Cheraw Hill in the State of South Carolina we went on till we were informed that we were within 1 mile of the British Camp we took four Soldiers prisoners and then made the best of our way back about 10 o'clock at night he got to Thompson's Creek about 10 miles from the Cheraw Hill at which place we were fired upon by a party of Tories at which time and place said Kennedy was struck with nine Balls one went through his thigh one went through his arm one cut across the back of his hand three he went into the hollow of his Body and three went through his side leaving one or 2 inches between where the balls went in and where they came out I was within 10 feet of him when he was wounded and sat behind him and held him up the balance of that night which wounds have rendered him unable to get his living by manual Labor likewise he has always supported the character of an honest man and a good friend to his Country.

S/ William Carrigan

And sworn to and subscribed as optional in the District aforesaid this seventh day of Of may 1821 before us.

S/ James Dardis

S/ James Park

State of Tennessee Knox County October 10, 1820 in pursuance of a commission from the Honorable John McNairy to examine Andrew Kennedy touching wounds which he says he received in the revolutionary war – we the undersigned Physicians of the town of Knoxville do certify on oath that we have examined the said Andrew Kennedy and find him to have been Sever Wounded in the following places Viz. Through the left arm on the back of the left hand and the right thigh and several wounds on the breast and three on the right side all of which appear to have been done by a musket balls or buck shot those on the breast appear to have penetrated into the cavity of the thorax those on the right side appeared to have passed through the external muscular parts one on the arm must have fractured the Radins Ulna which appears to have been the only bones fractured wound on the thigh must have been a deep flesh wound having the appearance of a ball had passed through the upper part of the thigh near the bone --

Considering all the wounds which the said Kennedy seems to have received and now being old and infirm we should suppose him to be wholly incapable of procuring a substance by manual labor.
Given under our hands

S/ Joseph C. Strong

S/ James King

The following was sworn to and subscribed at Knoxville in the And state of Tennessee by the above named Joseph C. Strong and James King this 12th day of October 1820.

S/ James Dardis, Justice of the peace

[Thomas Hunter¹ gives an affidavit that he was with Andrew Kennedy 'at the time of General Gates' defeat and that the before named Andrew Kennedy was wounded."]