

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of William Kelly (Kelley) W7

fn75NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Tennessee, County of McMinn

On this 6th day of June 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the County Court of said County, William Kelley a resident of said County and state, aged about 75 years, 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

1st That he entered the service of the United States in Union County in the State of South Carolina some time he thinks in the spring of the year 1775¹ as a volunteer in a foot Company to march against the Cherokee Indians his officers were Lieutenant John Davis, Captain James Steen, Colonel John Thomas and General Williamson [Andrew Williamson], marched to Keowee River in the Cherokee Nation had a skirmish with the Indians on the head waters of Keowee, we marched to an old fort on Keowee River near which place had another skirmish with the Indians then marched to a place called the Seneca Towns from thence to the head of little Tennessee River where they met with the North Carolina troops left them and marched to the head of Valley River, we met with the Indians and fought a battle with them on a Creek the name of it not recollected, marched to a place called frog town and thence returned home and was dismissed by his Captain James Steen but got no discharge after having been in service six months.

2nd Some time in the Summer or fall of the year 1776 he was drafted in Union County State of South Carolina his officers were Captain James Steen and Col. John Thomas, we marched into the frontiers of Georgia for the purpose of suppressing the Creek Indians returned into South Carolina home and was dismissed by his Captain Steen but got no discharge after having served one month and ten days.

3rd Sometime in the spring of 1779 he was drafted for three months in Union County South Carolina his officers were Captain James Steen Lieutenant Colonel William Waford [sic, William Wofford] Joined the North Carolina troops under General Lincoln marched to Stono where they had a battle with the British was dismissed by his Captain James Steen got no discharge – after having been in active Service marching through different parts of the State for three months and twenty days.

4th Some time he thinks in the fall of the year 1781 he was drafted in Rutherford County State of North Carolina his officers were Captain Jacob Vinsant and Colonel Porter was stationed on the frontiers of North Carolina where Colonel Earles took the command remained there three months guarding the frontiers and was dismissed by his officers but got no discharge.

He served four tours as above stated under the officers above named. The first tour six months, the second one month and 10 days, the third three months and 20 days, and the fourth three months all the different tours he was a private foot Soldier.

He was acquainted with General Lincoln and Williamson and Henderson [William Henderson] and with the officers he has named in his declaration above he was not acquainted with any of the regular officers never having served with any regular troops except at the battle of Stono where and when we had not time to be acquainted with the officers of the regular Line.

He was born in Ninety Six district afterward called Union County in South Carolina where he lived until after he had served three tours in the revolution then moved to Rutherford County North Carolina where he lived when he served his fourth tour after that moved to Spartanburg County S. C. and then to Pendleton S. Carolina from thence to McMinn County Tennessee where he now resides and has resided for nine years. He was born on the 11th day of July 1758. He has seen a record of his age in

1 The Cherokee Campaign described by applicant occurred in the summer and fall of 1776.

an old family Bible belonging to his father which is lost. He states that he has no documentary evidence nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service in the revolutionary War. He is not acquainted with any Clergyman (none living in his neighborhood) nor is there any living in the Country with whom he is acquainted well enough to certify as to his character for veracity and his belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. He is acquainted in his present neighborhood with Joel Kelley and Jesse Mayfield who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed the 6th day of June 1833.

S/ William KelleyS35489

[Joel Kelley and Jesse Mayfield gave the standard supporting affidavit.]