Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Bounty Land Claim for William Kelly BLWt1947-100 VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 26 July 2020.

I Daniel Kelley one of the heirs at Law of William Kelley a Revolutionary Soldier dec'd do upon oath testify & declare that to the best of my knowledge & belief William Kelley did enlist about the year 1776 or 1777 either in the 9th or 11th Virginia Regiments (this affiant don't recollect which) under the command of officers not known to this affiant – he served out the tour for which he first enlisted which this affiant has been informed was for 18 months or 2 years & then reinlisted to serve during the war & that he did serve until the war was ended & he was regularly discharged. I further declare that I have never received a warrant for the Bounty Land promised to said William Kelley on the part of the United States – nor do I believe he received it or in any way whatsoever transferred his claim to it.

State of Virginia/ Accomack County/ August 2^d 1832 [signed] Daniel Kelly

The deposition of Zadok Baily [Zadock Bayley S37696] aged 76 years and now a Revolutionary pensioner of the United States who says that he was intimately acquainted with William Kelly the father of Daniel Kelly & Richard Kelly & that he the witness served in Captain (afterwards Colonel) Croppers [John Cropper W3781] company of infantry in the Revolutionary War for a long period & that said Wm Kelly served in the same Company with the Witness, and that afterwards & in 1781 he the Witness together with many others enlisted in Capt Thomas Parkers [Thomas Parker BLWt1741-300] Company for the term of during the War & that he served under Captains Parker & Coverly [Thomas Coverly S24960] till July 1783 when he was discharged at Winchester Barracks but was held liable to enter the service again if required & that the said Wm. Kelly enlisted a few days before the Witness for the term of during the War under said Parker & went with the Witness across the [Chesapeake] Bay where Thomas Coverly took command of said Packers Company – that said Kelly was a part of the time whilst at Winchester in a company of Artillery & that he was in service till July 1783 & was discharged one or two days after the witness was discharged & that he the witness & said Kelly & Richard Thorn sent for their warrants at the same time, & that he never knew but one Wm Kelly from this County in the Revolutionary War. Zadok Bayly hisXmark

State of Virginia Accomack County/ May 12: 1833

[The following data are from a table originally 14 columns wide, which is transcribed at http://www.revwarapps.org/b81.pdf]

Name: Wm. Kelly/ Age 20/ Size 5 Feet 8 inches/ Complexion Bro[wn]/ Place of Residence: State Va. County Accomack/ Where born: State Va County Accomack/ Enlisted at Accomack for War/ discharged 8th July 1783]

I certify that in a Book in this Office labelled "Papers concerning the Army of the Revolution" and upon an old manuscript book therein entitled a "Register of description of non commissioned Officers & privates at Chesterfield courthouse" appears the foregoing entry concerning Wm. Kelly. From a memorandum in the hand writing of J. H. Smith esq. the agent employed by the Executive to arrange and index various Revolutionary records recently found in the upper story of the Capitol, the aforesaid "Register" appears to contain the names of sundry soldiers & enlisted at different times from 1777 to 1783. Given under my Hand at the Auditors Office of Virginia this 22^d day of April 1833.

Jas. E. Heath Aud'r of Pub accts

[The following discharge is from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.]

War Office, 1783:

These are to certify that the bearer hereof William Kelly a private in the first artillery regiment having faithfully served the United States from the 28th March 1781 to this date and being inlisted for the war, is hereby discharged from the American army. Given at the war office the 8th July 1783. By order of the secretary at war.

B Lincoln [Gen. Benjamin Lincoln]

Jos. Carleton sec'y

Registered in the books of the regiment/ William Eskridge [W4192], Lieut & Adjut[ant] [other side]

The within certificate shall not avail the bearer as a discharge until the ratification of the definitive treaty of peace, previous to which time, and until proclamation thereof shall be made, he is to be considered on furlough.

B. Lincoln

I certify that William Kelly a soldier in the 1st regiment of artillery has received but four months pay since his inlistment.

J. Drew [John Drew BLWt981-100] Lt 1st Reg't Art'y

A Copy/ Cha. Jones Ck. A Office

NOTE: A document in the file lists the heirs of William Kelly as follows: Daniel Kelley, Richard Kelley, and Nancy Smith of Ralph Smith.