

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Knight R6026

f25SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves rev'd 10/23/09 & 4/24/16 & 5/27/23

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of South Carolina, Laurens District: In the Common Pleas

On this the seventeenth day of April personally appeared in open Court before his Honor B. J. Earle one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting John Knight aged ninety years a resident of Laurens District South Carolina who being first sworn in due form of Law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th day June 1832 viz., That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as by him stated. That he entered first for six months under Captain Weathers [John Weathers] as a draftsman in Kershaw District South Carolina who was under the command of General Sumter [Thomas Sumter] and rendezvoused near Camden South Carolina marched thence to the Four Holes thence to Orangeburg where they joined Colonel Taylor and from thence to Edisto where he was stationed the balance of the six months and was discharged by General Sumter in writing which discharge has been lost or mislaid. Second tour he enlisted for 18 months at Camden under General Blewford [sic, possibly Alexander Buford? but highly unlikely] he thinks, marched thence to Stono and was stationed there for the remainder of the eighteen months and was there discharged which was in writing and has been lost. Third tour he enlisted at Stono for eighteen months, was stationed there the whole term lacking three months when he was carried from thence to Charleston across an arm of the sea and was thence marched to Camden under the same command thence we marched to the Waxhaw Settlements in South Carolina where they met the British and were defeated [possibly an attempt to identify the Battle of Waxhaw, May 29, 1780] and immediately afterwards they were disbanded and he went home without a discharge of any sort further than mere agreement amongst themselves to go home. Fourth tour he enlisted under General Sumter in the Waxhaw Settlement South Carolina in what year he does not know, for eighteen months, rendezvoused at Camden, was marched to Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] where he fought the British and was wounded in the breast with a bayonet, the British first left the Battleground but returned and the Americans retreated and deponent was carried off in a wagon to Hillsborough North Carolina to the hospital, where he remained six months when his term of service expired and he was discharged in writing by General Sumter or by Captain Weathers by Sumter's orders but his discharge has been lost. Fifth tour he enlisted under General Francis Marion in Kershaw District South Carolina and rendezvoused in said district & was thence marched to the lower part of the State, the term of his enlistment was eighteen months and served out the whole tour under Marion and was discharged by Marion at the Waxhaw Settlements, his discharge was in writing but has been lost. Sixth tour, he enlisted under Colonel Washington [William Washington] at Kershaw District South Carolina for eighteen months and was thence marched down to Rugeley's Fort and took said Fort [Rugeley's Mills, December 4, 1780], with

two pine logs put on wheels in imitation of cannon, consisting of five hundred prisoners amongst whom were several British officers whose names he has forgotten but that he and his party took the prisoners to Hillsborough North Carolina where they were left under guard and deponent and his party returned to South Carolina and was discharged by Colonel Washington in Kershaw District South Carolina, but the discharge has been lost. Seventh tour he enlisted under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] in Kershaw District South Carolina for eighteen months was thence marched to Camden and the British evacuated that place and went to Charleston and General Greene and his army among whom was the deponent pursued the British to Charleston and their remained at what was called the Governor's Gate until peace was made and was there discharged which has been lost.

I do hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state. Sworn to and subscribed the day aforesaid in the year of our Lord 1837.

S/ John Knight, X his mark

Sworn to in Open Court 18 April 1837

S/ John Garlington, Clerk

[Hendrick Arnold, a clergyman, and A C Jones gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 7] (Copy)¹

State of South Carolina Greenville District: To the Honorable Speaker and the other members of the House of Representatives

The petition of John Knight humble [sic] showeth that he was a regular soldier in the Revolutionary War and that he served in the said war under General Sumter and General Green and was at the battle of Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] and at the Battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] at the battle of the hangen Rock [Hanging Rock, August 6, 1780] in the said State and at the close of the war received a regular Discharge and now is eighty-three years of age and is a very poor man and very infirm and is not able to make a living for himself and his old lady Please your Honorable Body to take his case into consideration and grant him such relief as your wisdom thinks fit and in duty bound your petitioner will ever pray
S/ James Alexander, JP

S/ John Knight, X his mark

[p 8]

South Carolina Greenville District

Personally came John Rodgers being duly sworn and saith on said oath that he was well acquainted with John Knight in the Revolutionary War and that he served for State a regular soldier under General Sumter and General Green for a number of years and that he knew him to get a regular discharge at the close of the said war. Sworn to and subscribed before me the 3rd day of November 1830.

S/ James Alexander, JP

S/ John Rodgers, R his mark

[p 7]

South Carolina Greenville District: Personally came before me John Rodgers being duly sworn and saith on said oath that he knew John Knight to serve in the Revolutionary War as a regular soldier under Captain John Wathers [sic] and under Captain Benjamin Hale and that he served a

¹ The following petition can no longer be found in the South Carolina Audited Accounts file relating to "John Knight."

faithful soldier in that war and that said John Knight received a Regular Discharge at the close of said war. Sworn to and subscribed the 18th day of November 1831

(Signed) John Rodgers, R his mark

(Signed) James Alexander, JP

State of South Carolina Greenville District: Personally came before me John Knight being duly sworn and saith on oath that he knew John Rodgers to serve as a regular soldier in the Revolutionary war under Captain Benjamin Hale and also under Captain John Belt and that he served as a faithful soldier in that war and that the said Rodgers received a regular Discharge at the close of the war. Sworn to and subscribed the 18th day of November 1831

S/ James Alexander, JP

S/ John Knight, X his mark

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to John Knight pp 30
Audited Account No. 4355

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5/27/23

[Note: I believe the following documents probably relate to this claimant.]

[p 14: Voucher dated May 27, 1833 in the amount of \$60 being an one year annuity due to John Knight on 1st of March last.]

[p 15]

Petition of John Knight praying to receive a specific some in lieu of his annual Pension Pensions

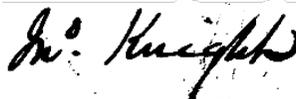
[p 16]

To the Senate & House of Representatives

The Petition of John Knight Sheweth that at the last General Assembly of your bodies he was placed on the Pension list of this State – That he is a man over Eighty years of age and having no family is desirous to remove to the State of Georgia where his only sister resides –

Your Petitioner therefore prays your bodies that he may be paid an equivalent for his annual pension & in lieu thereof a specific sum – and that he will ever pray &c

S/ Jno Knight³



[p 18]

The committee to whom was referred the Petition of John Knight praying to receive a specific some in lieu of his Annual Pension – Report & recommend the prayer thereof be rejected

² The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

³ I don't think the signature on the petition is that of the claimant since the handwriting is identical to the body of the petition and, if I am correct, this man was illiterate and unable to sign his name as demonstrated by his having made his mark on his application for a federal pension.

S/ R Richardson, Chairman

[p 19: Another voucher for \$60, this one dated June 7, 1834]

[p 20]

Petition of John Knight praying to be replaced on the pension list of this State
Pens.

[p 21]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina

The Humble Petition of John Knight Sheweth

That he was a revolutionary Pensioner of this State, and that his name was stricken from the Pension Roll under the act of the General Assembly passed the year of our Lord 1834 – that he has made application to the United States for a pension according to an act passed in Congress in the year of our Lord 1832 entitled “an Act supplementary to the Act for the relief of certain officers & soldiers of the Revolution.” And that he failed in obtaining a pension for the reason set forth in his affidavit hereunto annexed. Your Petitioner therefore Humbly prays that his name may be reinstated on the pension Roll of this State. –

And he will ever pray &c

S/ John Knight, X his mark

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The State of South Carolina

Laurens District} Before me W. R. Farley a Justice of the Peace in & for the District aforesaid, personally appears John Knight and makes oath in due form of Law; that he has made application to the United States for a pension according to an Act passed in Congress, in the year of our Lord 1832 entitled, “An Act supplementary to the Act for the relief of a certain officers & Soldiers of the Revolution.” And that he was refused a pension: on the ground that the term of service as stated & set forth in his declaration, was construed by the officers of the War department to be nine years & a half; when this deponent claimed or only intended to claim for Six years and a half Service. – That the construction put on his declaration by the department making the term of service longer than the duration of the War, he was thereby refused a pension for any time of Service. –

Sworn to before me

this 2nd day of July 1837

S/ W. R. Farley, JP

S/ John Knight, X his mark

[p 24]

The Committee on Pensions to which was referred the petition of John Knight praying to be placed on the pension Roll have had the claim under consideration and beg leave to report that it is inexpedient [?] to Legislate upon the Subject inasmuch as the petitioner is already on the pension roll.

December 1837

S/ ? C. Caldwell, Chairman