

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Grant Knowlton W10185 Francis [sic, Frances] Knowlton f36SC
Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves 10/24/09: rev'd 4/28/16 & 5/29/23

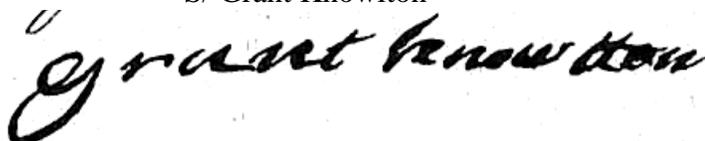
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[p 5]

South Carolina Williamsburgh District

Grant Knowlton personally appeared before me Langdon Cheves one of the Associate Judges of the said State, who being duly sworn made oath that some time about the month of July 1775 he entered a soldier under Captain Mason [William Mason] in the Second Regiment South Carolina Continental Troops, then commanded by Colonel William Moultrie -- That he served in said Regiment during the said year and until the year 1777 when he was regularly discharge by Colonel Isaac Moote [sic, Isaac Motte] who succeeded Moultrie in the command of said Regiment -- That he was stationed nearly the whole of that time in the vicinity of Charleston and was in Fort Moultrie at the time of the attack upon that Fort [June 28, 1776]¹ -- That after his discharge he joined Marion's [Francis Marion's] Brigade & during his service in said Brigade he lost the discharge which he received from Colonel Motte -- That he is 64 years of age & infirm, & obliged to support himself by his own personal labor & that he stands greatly in need of assistance from his Country.

S/ Grant Knowlton



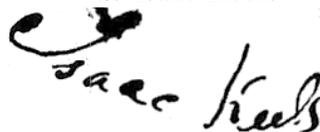
Sworn to before me this 22nd of October 1818

S/ Langdon Cheves

[p 6]

South Carolina Williamsburgh District: Isaac Keels personally appeared before me who being duly sworn made oath that he served as a soldier with the within named Grant Knowlton as within stated -- that he fully believes all of the within stated facts to be true.

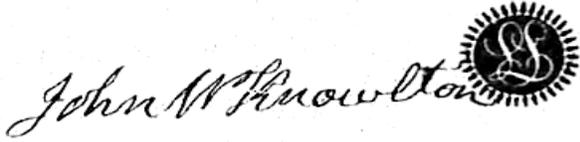
S/ Isaac Keels



¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_ft_moultrie_1.html

[Moses Mathews, Sheriff of Williamsburg District, vouched for the credibility of Isaac Keels]

[p 16: in a power of attorney dated October 31, 1853 filed in Sumter District South Carolina, John W. Knowlton stated that he was the only surviving child of Grant and Frances Knowlton.


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[p 17: Josiah Ming testified October 11 1853 in Sumter District South Carolina that Grant Knowlton was a soldier in the regular Army from 1776 to the close of the war; that he married miss Frances Evans in 1789 and that he had three sons, William, Ephraim and John Withers; that William and Ephraim are dead leaving John W. Knowlton as the only surviving child; that Grant Knowlton died in 1820 and that Mrs. Frances Knowlton, never having remarried, died January 14 1844.]

[p 18: On October 11, 1853 in Sumter District South Carolina Mary Evans, aged 78, and John Herrington, aged 76, gave essentially the same affidavit except they refer to the surviving child as John Witherspoon Knowlton. They state that the veteran died in 1820 leaving Francis his widow; that Francis died January 14, 1844. Both signed with their respective marks.]

[p 19]

State of South Carolina Sumter District: Court of Ordinary in Session November term 1853

On this 12th day of November 1853 before the said Court now in Session personally came John W. Knowlton who being duly sworn according to law upon his oath makes the following declaration for the purpose of obtaining for himself the pension due to his mother Frances Knowlton deceased that her deceased under the acts of 7th of July 1838.

That he is the son of the said Frances Knowlton who was the widow of Grant Knowlton late of Sumter district South Carolina deceased. That his father the said Grant Knowlton was a Revolutionary Soldier during the whole war from the commencement to the termination thereof, as he has often heard his father relate the many battles he was in and being wounded in the knee, head and arm after he came to South Carolina at Camden where he was taken prisoner and released by the Surprise of General Marion and afterwards at Eutaw Springs and previous to come into Carolina was at Bunker's Hill, Saratoga, Flatbush and Brandywine under Colonel Morgan and General Gates; that he entered the Army at Boston and discharged in South Carolina: that his said father and mother were married in said district and State in the year 1789 and that his mother's maiden name was Frances Evans. He further states that his said father died on the 21st April 1820 [last digit written over and indecipherable] leaving the said Frances Knowlton his widow, who did not again marry, but remained his widow until the 14th day of January 1844 and she died leaving the declarant and a Brother William who is since dead; The declarant further says he believes it was under Colonel Williams his father fought at Camden and subsequently was under Captain Withers -- Captain Mayson and Captain Horry in General Marion and General Sumter's Brigades: That he further declares he was born on 3rd day of November 1800 being the youngest of many children of his father and Mother a number of whom died in infancy and were not christened: That his said father Grant Knowlton proved his Services in the Army by Isaac Kiells and John Keills two of his fellow Soldiers who are now

dead some 15 years ago and that his said father received a pension at the rate of eight dollars per month up to the date of his last draw before death in 1820 as before declared.

S/ John W. Knowlton

[p 11]

South Carolina Sumter District: Personally appeared before me the undersigned and depose on oath that he recollects distinctly that his father Grant Knowlton had a record kept in his family Bible of their marriage and births of all his children, but old age and hard usage, had made it go into oblivion just before it departure when I was a boy the Bible Society presented my father with a new Bible, he then took and set down correctly their marriage and births of his children, after the death of his father Grant Knowlton, his mother broke up housekeeping and lived amongst her relations and in going from place to place, that Bible is misplaced or lost but recollect well of setting down his father's marriage in 1789.

Sworn to before me this 7th day of January 1854.

S/ John W. Knowlton

[p 13 family record]

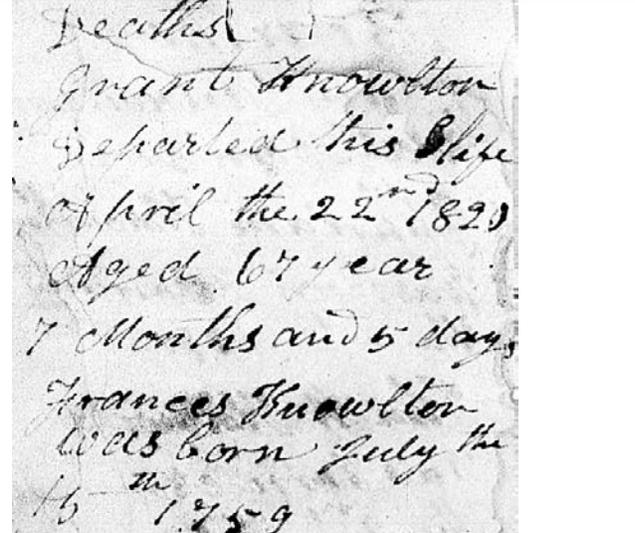
Bearths [sic, Births]

Wm G. Knowlton
was Born Decer. 30th
1791

Ephraim Knowlton
was Born February
the 4th 1794

John W. Knowlton
was born November
the 3rd 1800

Births
Wm. G. Knowlton
was Born Decer 30th
1791
Ephraim Knowlton
was Born February
the 4th 1794
John W. Knowlton
was born November
the 3rd 1800

<p>Deaths Grant Knowlton Departed this life April the 22nd 1823 Ages 67 year 7 months and 5 days</p> <p>Frances Knowlton was born July the 15th 1759</p>	 <p>Deaths Grant Knowlton departed this life April the 22nd 1823 Aged 67 year 7 months and 5 days Frances Knowlton was born July the 15th 1759</p>
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[p 9]

State of South Carolina Sumter District: Personally appeared before me one of the Justices assigned to keep the Peace, for said District, the undersigned and depose on oath, that he has been long and personally acquainted with the Grant Knowlton and his wife Francis Knowlton. He did not see them married in consequence of their having to go to a magistrate some 10 or 15 miles off across a large swamp. On their return back next day to the neighborhood, they lived as husband and wife in peace and quietness and the fear of God, from 1789, to his death in 1823, also depose that William Knowlton was born December 31, 1791 -- which had he been living would be now 63 years of age. He also depose that he was well acquainted with the record kept by Grant Knowlton in his family Bible which has long since been lost, the above is an accurate statement, as I am willing to testify this 7th day of January 1854

S/ J. B. Evans

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing October 22nd, 1818, for service as a private for 2 years in the South Carolina Continental line. His widow's Ayers received a pension in a like amount by right of her having survived her husband and qualified for a pension which she never claimed for herself.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to Grant Knowlton
Audited Account No. 4364

pp 52

[p 2]

[No. 821] [Book] Y No. 96 31 December 85 [1785]

Grant Knowlton 4 500 days Duty as a Private in General Marion's Brigade from 1st November 1780 to 10 December 1782 alternately

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.

Charged Sterling £37.10
deduct less, the duty
being at 10/³ as private 1/6 1.15.8
Stg. £35.14.3 ¼

Ex^d. J. M^c. A. G. [Examined by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 3: Restatement of the veteran's claim as set forth above except in a slightly different format]

Personally came before me, Grant Knowlton who maketh Oath, that the above account of Thirty seven pounds Ten Shillings is Just & true

Sworn Before me

this 14th September 1785

S/ John Dickey, JP

[p 4]

Rec'd 31st December 1785 full Satisfaction for the Within in an indent No. 821 4 grant Knowlton by and Order

S/ Jno. Robinson [John Robinson]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Robinson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background and includes a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

[p 5]

To the Commissioners of the Treasury
Gentlemen

Blk River 27 Nov. 1785

Please to deliver my Indent to John Robinson or Order & you'll
much oblige

Yours &c

S/ Grant Nolton, X his mark

I Certify the above Order

S/ John Dickey, JP

[p 6]

To the Honorable the President & other Members of the Senate of South Carolina –

The humble petition of Grant Knowlton of Salem County⁴ Sheweth

That your Petitioner in the year 1779 Enlisted in the service of this State in the regiment commanded by Col. Daniel Horry – that in defense of his Country's rights he was wounded near Camden in the Battle in which Gates [Horatio Gates] was defeated [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]⁵ by Lord Cornwallis – one wound in the knee by a musket ball – Another in the arm by a Bayonet – That he afterwards served under Genl. Marion to the end of the War – that in consequence of the injury he received by the wounds aforesaid, he is unable to make a living as

³ 10 shillings old South Carolina currency, it being the pay rate for a militia man serving on foot

⁴ Salem County South Carolina was created in 1791 from Clarendon and Claremont counties and lasted until absorbed in Sumter District in this 1800. Why the petitioner would be referring to it as late as 1817 is a mystery.

⁵ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html

heretofore or to support a wife & their children – That he has not a Negro nor a tract of land – Therefore prays your Honorable body to take his case into consideration and grant him a Pension & your Petitioner will ever pray.

S/Grant Knowlton



November 20th 1817

[p 7]

The Petition of Grant Knowlton Praying a Pension
“Pensions”

Granted

Vouchers & papers in the hands of Colonel Bubow [?]

[p 9]

December 5, 1817

The Committee on Pensions

To whom was referred the petition of Grant Knowlton praying to be placed on the pension list Report

That [they] have had the same under consideration, and being convinced of the truth of the facts set forth in the petition, Recommend that the said Grant Knowlton, be placed on the pension list [word obliterated] that he be allowed Sixty Dollars per annum from December Inst. [Instant] – [word obliterated] life – Your Committee further Recommend: that the Grant Knowlton be allowed the sum of five pounds per annum from the first day of December 1787 to the first of December Inst. or arrears of pension

S/ [illegible signature]

[p 11]

The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the petition of Grant Knowlton praying a pension

Report

that they have taken the same into consideration & find the facts set forth in the petition to be true they therefore recommend that he be placed on the pension list, & be allowed to draw or arrears of pension from the year 1787 inclusive and that provision be made in the appropriation act for the same

S/ John Hopkins, Chairman, C. P.

December 1817

[p 19]

South Carolina

To the Honorable the Speaker and the other Members of the House of Representatives

The Petition of Frances Knowlton widow of Grant Knowlton a Pensioner of this State Sheweth – That your Petitioner’s husband received his Annuity in February 1819 for that year and that his pension for 1820 & 1821 are still due as arrears by the Certificate of the Treasurer of the lower division hereto annexed – your Petitioner begs leave to state to your Honorable House

that she is old and indigent and unable to support herself: – She therefore prays your Honorable House to make an appropriation of one hundred & twenty dollars for the years 1820 and 1821 & that she may for the remainder of her life be placed on the Pension list in the place of her deceased husband; and, as in duty bound, she will ever pray
Salem, SC November [illegible] 1831

S/ Frances Knowlton



[p 20]

I do hereby certify that I have none Grant Knowlton for a number of years (who was a pensioner on the Pension list of this State) to have been an honest industrious Man who Departed this life about the 22nd day of April last possessed over little or no property he has left a Widow and hold infirm Woman not able to maintain herself by her own exertions.
Certified by loss the 20th of November 1821

S/ William McIntosh, QM

S/ J. C. Fullwood QU



[p 24]

Treasury Office

Charleston 12 October 1821

I do hereby Certify that the last pension paid in the lower division (of Sixty Dollars) to Grant Knowlton was in February 1819 for the pension of that year & That it would therefore seem by the books of the Treasury that there remains unpaid the pension for the said Knowlton due in the early part of 1820 & 1821

S/ Lyon Levi

[Note: The widow was placed on the pension list]

[p 43]

To the Honorable President and members of the State Senate of South Carolina

The Humble petition of John W Knowlton of Clarendon County Sumter District respectfully Sheweth that whereas his Mother Mrs. Frances Knowlton of Salem County Sumter District who was a widow and a pensioner of the State of South Carolina – who died on the 3rd of January in the year of our Lord 1842 and that She drew an annual Pension of the sum of Sixty Dollars – That She received her pay up to the 1st March 1840 or 41 your petitioner is not Certain which but a reference to the Pension books of the Treasure Department will Prove the time of the Last payment and that your Petitioner did not petition to receive the amount due her at her death and your petitioner prayeth that your Honorable body will order the amount Due her by the State at the time of her death to be paid to him and your Petitioner will Ever pray

Dated in Clarendon County Sumter District November the 18th in the year of our Lord
1845

Signed in presence of

S/ [illegible signature]

S John W Knowlton

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John W Knowlton". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 44]

State of South Carolina Sumter District

Personally appeared before me Stephen Evans, Daniel Evans & Josiah Flemming who being duly sworn says under their own knowledge that John W Knowlton was the only son & heir of Frances Knowlton and that she died the 3rd January 1842 and Salem County Sumter District November 18th 1845

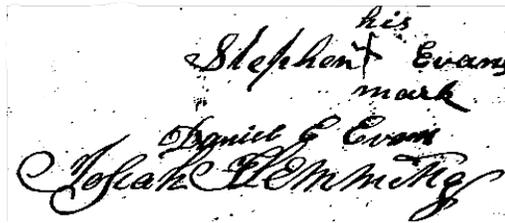
Sworn before me

S/ Henry Hudnow, Mag.

S/ Stephen Evans, X his mark

S/ Daniel E Evans

S/ Josiah Flemming

A rectangular box containing three handwritten signatures in cursive script. The top signature is "Stephen Evans" with "his" written above the "t" and "mark" written below it. The middle signature is "Daniel E Evans". The bottom signature is "Josiah Flemming".

[Note: John W Knowlton was paid the arrears in pension due to his mother at the time of her death.]