

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Knight W12051

Polly

f85VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/22/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Shelby County: SS Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County Doctor John Knight who being duly sworn saith that he is now in his seventy sixth year that he enlisted a soldier in the fall of the year 1776 in the 13th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment commanded at that time by Colonel William Crawford and was shortly afterwards appointed a Sergeant in said Regiment that about the year 1778 the said Regiment changed numerically and numbered the ninth that about the same time he the said deponent was appointed a surgeon's mate in said Regiment by Doctor McKinzie principal surgeon of the West (to wit) Pittsburgh & the Western Counties of Virginia where said Regiment remained after their return from Valley Forge in the spring of 1778 until the close of the war, he says that he remained with the said Regiment which again before the war was ended change from the ninth to the seventh Regiment and performed the duties of surgeon's mate and from July 1782 until the close of the war performed those of surgeon to the Regiment – when he was discharged or dismissed by Colonel John Gibson who then commanded the Regiment upon the arrival of Major Wm Craghn [probably William Croghan]¹ with orders to that effect. He says that he never at any time had a commission from Congress although he drew the pay and subsistence of an officer of his rank, that he had a certificate from general Irvine of the Pennsylvania line also one from his Colonel John Gibson – that in the year 1785 or 6 he applied at Richmond for his commutation certificates which he was told that he was too late that the papers & awards [?] had all been sent to New York where Congress at that time held their Sessions. That sometime afterwards he sent his Certificates on to Congress by Richard Henry Lee who informed him that nothing could be got for him that it was admitted to be an extremely hard case but that if the door was again opened it would be uncertain where it would end. Thus has he never at any time received his commutation. Those certificates which he gave to Mr. Lee he has never again received. Some few years ago he obtained a new certificate from Colonel John Gibson who was then living and sent all to Washington City by a member of Congress of this State but was afterwards informed that nothing could be obtained for him and he has not again received this last Certificate and expects it is now at Washington – he says that he received many years ago a warrant from Virginia for the quantity of land for 6 years service and at a more recent period a warrant for 444 acres additional Quantity being the amount of one years proportion making 7 years in all and he believes that the voucher on file on which this last warrant was issued will be found on file in the proper office at Richmond which will show the commencement and the

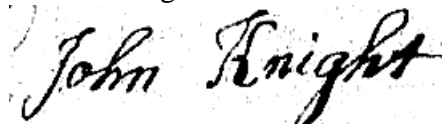
Major Wm Croghan

termination of his services. Also he says that he drew warrant No. 238 of the New Series for 300 acres from the United States and presumes also that the voucher on file at the war office in the section of Bounty lands on which this last warrant was issued will show his rank and the period of his services, lastly he says that this declaration is made for the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the Act of Congress of the last Session or the relief of certain officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution approved on 15th Me 1828.

Sworn & subscribed before me this 23rd of July 1828.

S/ B. G. Newland JP

S/ John Knight



State of Kentucky Shelby County: Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for said County General Joseph Winlock² who being duly sworn saith that he is now in the 71st year of his age that he was a Lieutenant of the Virginia line of the Army of the revolution that he commenced as a private in the fall of 1776 in the 13th Regiment commanded at that time by Colonel William Crawford, that said Regiment was afterwards changed as to No. to the 9th and afterwards to the 7th in which No. it was placed at the close of the war at which time it was commanded by Colonel John Gibson. He says that Doctor John Knight commenced in said Regiment as a private or noncommissioned officer about the first time with himself and at some time afterwards the precise time he does not now recollect the said knight was appointed surgeon's mate in the said Regiment and continued therein in that capacity until the close of the war the said Knight and himself being at all times in the same Regiment was then well and intimately acquainted with him and has been from the period to the present day, they now being in sight of each other and having married sisters and he says that the said John Knight who subscribed the foregoing deposition in his presence is the Identical person which he therein represents himself to be and that to his personal knowledge the said Knight actually perform the services by him set forth in the manner therein stated.

Sworn & subscribed before me the 23rd of July 1828

S/ B. G. Newland, JP

S/ Joseph Winlock



[f p. 35]

I do Certify that Doctor John Knight was a Surgeon's Mate in the 7th Virginia Regiment and that he acted as such in the said Regiment until the end of the War.

October 10th 1805

S/ W. Croghan, late

Major 4th Virginia Regiment

² [Joseph Winlock W3060](#)

*W. Croghan, late
Major 9th Virginia Regt.*

I do certify that Doctor John Knight was surgeon's mate in the 7th Virginia Regiment at the close of the war, Wm Taylor [William Taylor] late Major 9th Virginia Regiment

*War, Wm Taylor
late Maj. 9th Virginia Regt.*

[f p. 39]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 12th day of June 1783, in the name of John Knight, as a Surgeon's Mate for £268.13.8, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Colonel Gibson and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

To wit – pay as Surgeons Mate from 9 August 78 to 31st December 1781

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
27th day of September 1844.

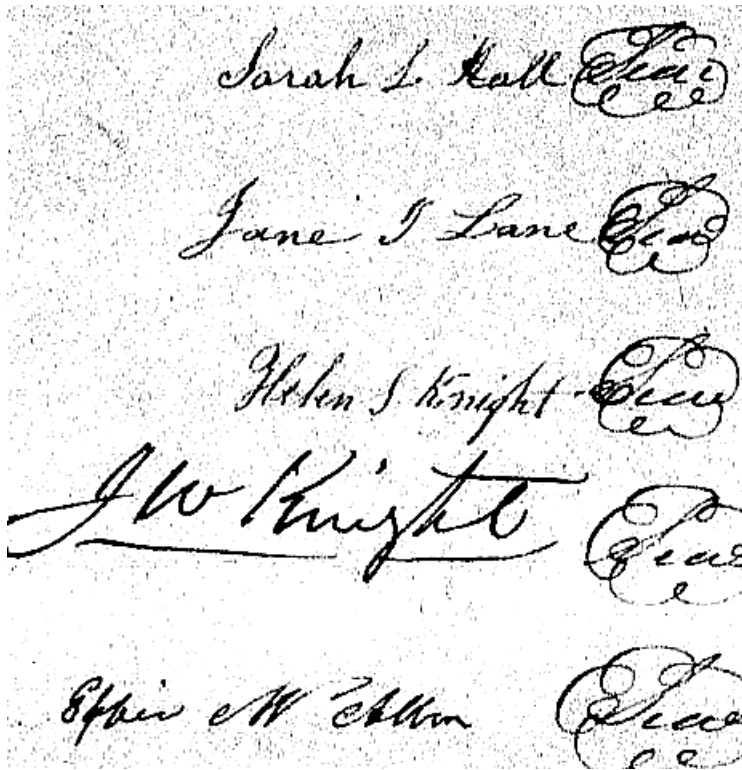
S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[f. p. 10: On September 13, 1838 in Shelby County Kentucky, Polly Knight, 70, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Knight, a surgeon's mate during the American Revolution who drew a pension under the 1828 act for his services in the revolution; that she married him October 14 1784 in Fayette County Pennsylvania; that her husband died March 12, 1838; she attached her family record of the births of her children as proof of her marriage. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 18: On June 7, 1844 in Shelby County Kentucky, Richard S Knight filed an affidavit in which he states he is one of the children of Doctor John Knight in which he seeks the pension due his father under the 1832 act; he states that his father was pension under the 1828 act; that his mother was pensioned under the 1838 act; that his father served for 4 months on the expedition of Colonel Crawford against the Indians in 1782.

Richard S Knight

[f p. 21: Sarah L. Hall, Jane J. Lane, R. S. Knight, Effie. W. Allen & Joseph W. Knight [and Helen S. Knight] filed a power of attorney dated September 11, 1851 stating that they are the heirs of Doctor John Knight.



[f p. 5: family record:

[first entry is illegible]

Polly or Mary born August 4th A.D. 1768

Effey Born March 22nd 1770

Betsy born January 14th A.D. 1773

John Knight & Polly his wife married October 14th 1784

George Beall Knight born March 14th 1787

John Alexander Knight born May 8th 1789

Richard Stephenson Knight born December 8th 1791

Joseph Winlock Knight Born April 20th 1794

Betsy Sommers Knight born February 26 1796 Mortuary Est February 5th 1809 in the 13th year
of her age

Sally Lane Knight Born 23rd April 1799 [married John Hall]

Effey Winlock Knight born 4th January 1801 [married John M. Allen]

Mary Brooke Knight born 18th October 1802

Helen Steele Knight Born 4th of January 1805

Jane [?] Isabella Knight born 27th of July 1807 [married Nov. 13, 1828, John Lane]

[appears to be and illegible entries below the above]

[Facts in file: On October 14, 1784 in Fayette County Pennsylvania, the veteran married Polly or Mary Stephenson the daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Stephenson; Polly was born August 4, 1768; see died July 31, 1839; Effey Stephenson, sister of Polly the widow, married in 1787 Joseph Winlock.]

[Veteran's heirs were awarded a pension under the 1832 act from March 4th, 1831 to March 12,

1838 at the rate of \$524.08 per annum for his service as a surgeon's mate for two years in the Virginia Continental line. His widow was pensioned in her own right for a like amount commencing March 12, 1838.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I do hereby certify that I was personally acquainted with Doctor John Knight who served in the seventh Virginia Regiment as Surgeon's Mate until the close of the War, his engagement in the service was prior to the 15th of November 1775. I entered the service at the same time and in consideration of my services I was entitled to the seventh year additional Bounty of land which [I] received.

Given under my hand this 14th January 1800

S/ Benjn Biggs [Benjamin Biggs]

Late Captain Virginia Line



The image shows a handwritten signature in cursive script. The first line of the signature reads "Benjn Biggs" and the second line reads "Late Capt Virginia Line". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and characteristic of the late 18th or early 19th century.