

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Knight R6028

f38NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/25/16

[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' 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.]

[p 6]

State of North Carolina Richmond County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions January Court
1833

On this 25th day of January 1833, Personally appeared in open Court Moses Knight before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now Sitting, Aged Sixty Eight 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 the 7th 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States as a volunteer in April 1779 in the County of Richmond N. C. that he was under the command of Captain John Speed who was under Colonel Crawford [Thomas Crawford] that he actually Served Sixteen Months as he before stated in his declaration¹ under said Captain Speed, that they were always and during the whole time engaged in keeping down and aweing into Subjection the Tories, that he was in two Battles at Bettys Bridge[Beatties Bridge] which took place he thinks in 1781, that the Tories were commanded by Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] & Colonel McNeil [Hector McNeill] and the Americans by Colonel Wade [Thomas Wade], Colonel Love and Colonel Crawford, that in one of the engagements the Whigs were flogged in the other engagement they got the better of the fight [Beatties Bridge August 4, 1781],² that he was hired as a Substitute in 1782 to take the place of John Wilson of South Carolina – that he Served two months was in an engagement which took place at Wasinbeaw [Wambaw Bridge, February 24, 1782]³ a Creek falling into Santee River from the West Side, that he was as he before set forth under the command of General Marion [Frances Marion] after his Service in North Carolina – that he was drafted at different times to Serve two months which he did but does not know how many, he distinctly recollects of being at the Battle at Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781]⁴ in the State of South Carolina. That he was under the immediate command of Captain Claudius Pigeus [Claudius Pegues] but was commanded in Person by General Marion at the engagement at Eutaw Springs which took place __ that at this time he belonged to the South Carolina Militia for Serving near the line he was first in one State and then in the other then was however in part of the North Carolina Militia at this Battle Commanded by General Marion who commanded the N. & So. Carolina Militia the whole was under the Command of General Green [Nathanael Greene] the British forces he thinks under command of a Colonel Stewart (of this however he is not certain) but well knows that the Americans gained the

¹ This seems to imply that the veteran made an earlier application but, if so, that application is not among the papers in this file.

² http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_beattis_bridge.html

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wambaw_bridge.html

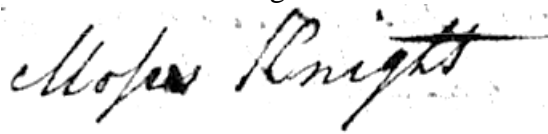
⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

day, he cannot tell the precise length of Service, his memory is bad in consequence of declining health, but has not and existing doubt but that he Served two years (he thinks more) but will fix that as the time for Greater Certainty. That he has a discharge at home from Colonel Oree [Lt. Col. Peter Horry]⁵ who commanded at Wambaw a Creek falling into Santee River that he has not brought the discharge with him but living at some distance it is now too late for the present Court to procure it, but he will do so and forward it on, that he has no other documentary Evidence and knows of no Person living who can prove his whole Service but he can produce divers Persons who know him to be a true Whig and were with him at different Engagements among the rest he would mention Walter Leak Senior,⁶ John McAlister,⁷ Charles Hinson⁸ of the County of Anson and William Johnson⁹ of the same County.

He hereby relinquishes his all & every claim whatever to a Pension or Annuity, except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State. Sworn to & Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Test: S/ M. P. Crawford, Clerk

S/ Moses Knight



[Mastin D. Crawford, a clergyman, and Elias Gardner gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Interrogatories by the Court

1st Interrogatory

Where and in what year were you Born

Answer, I was Born the 27th of August 1763 in Brunswick County Virginia

2nd – have you any record of your Age, if so where is it

Answer, I have a family Bible at Home.

3rd – where were you living when called into Service, where have you lived since the revolution, and where do you now live –

Answer, I was living near South Carolina line in South Carolina but volunteered in North Carolina I have [lived] in Richmond since the Revolution and live here now

4th – were you called into Service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a Substitute and if a Substitute for whom

Answer, I volunteered at the commencement but after was hired for three months as a Substitute in the place of John Wilson of Marlborough district South Carolina with this Exception I always Volunteered –

5th State the names of some of the officers who were with the troops where you Served, such of the Continental & Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the General Circumstances of your Service

Answer, Colonel Wade, Colonel Childs, Colonel Crawford & Lieutenant Williams of North Carolina. In South Carolina I was under General Marion, Colonel Loyd – Colonel Benton [Lemuel Benton] and at the Battle of Eutaw, I was with General Green who commanded and with General Sumner, the other circumstances connected with my Service I do not recollect I got

⁵ Horry, however, became ill prior to the engagement at Wambaw Bridge and surrendered command of the forces at that engagement to Colonel Archibald McDonald.

⁶ [Walter Leak S7136](#)

⁷ [John McAlister W1887](#)

⁸ [Charles Hinson S7014](#)

⁹ [William Johnson S2661](#)

a discharge from Captain Claudius Pegues and think I now have it among my old Papers at home (of this I am not certain) I have not in existing doubt that I served two years and I believe on my oath longer but will fix that period as the time of Service –

6th Interrogatory

did you ever receive a discharge from the Service, if so, what has become of it.

Answer, I did receive a discharge and think it is among my old Papers at Home

7th Interrogatory,

State the names of the Persons to whom you are known in your neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your Services as a soldier of the Revolution

Answer,

Walter Leak Senior, John McAlister, William Thomas & others

State of North Carolina Richmond County: We Walter Leak, John McAlister & William Thomas were well acquainted with Moses Knight who has sworn to and Qualified as to the above declaration that we believe him to be a Whig and friend to his Country and we have no doubt of the truth of his Statement.

Sworn and Subscribed in open Court this 25th of January 1833

Test: M. D. Crawford, Clerk

S/ William Thomas

S/ Walter Leak

S/ J. McAlister

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State of North Carolina Richmond County

Personally appeared this the 2nd day of May 1833 before the undersigned a Justice of the peace and one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions Moses Knight who being duly sworn deposed & saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise length of service, neither can he furnished the war department with any other data than what he has set forth in his declaration (viz.) that he entered the service in 1779 as a volunteer and served 16 months, that in 1782 he was hired as a Substitute for John Wilson of the State of South Carolina and served 2 months, he cannot say at this remote period how many times he was drafted afterwards, to serve 2 months but upon his oath states that it was at least twice and verily believes more but will fix on that for greater certainty, making in all 22 months as the length of Service, and for this he claims a pension.

He further states that on examining his papers that he cannot find the discharge which he obtained from Captain Pegues, that it has not been long since he saw it, but being old & penniless he is driven to the necessity of living from House to House and supposes that in this way he has lost the discharge, he further states that he knows of no person now living by whom he can prove the length of service, that he had supposed that he has already proven by the oath of Walter Leak Senior, William Thomas and John McAlister, all soldiers of the revolution and 2 of whom are now drawing pensions, that they were acquainted with him in the revolutionary war and that he was a Whig.

He further states that the Persons before alluded to were with him in one or more Battles, and that he never knew until his papers were returned but that he had proven that fact by them, but he intends to obtain their affidavits or those that are convenient and Ford them on to the Department.

S/ J. C. Knight, JP

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State of North Carolina Richmond County

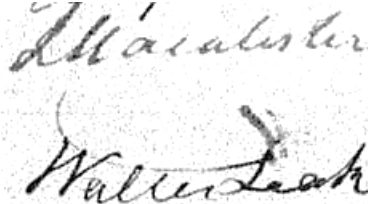
This day personally appeared before me Jn. C. Knight one of the Justices of the Court aforesaid Walter Leak Senior & John McAlister who being duly sworn depose & saith that they were acquainted with Moses Knight (the applicant) in the Revolutionary War, knew him to have been a friend of his Country and were with him at the Battle at Beatties Bridge, that they know nothing of the length of his service for that Moses Knight was employed first in North Carolina and then in South Carolina, but that whenever they saw him during the war, he was uniformly and at all times with the Whigs'

Sworn to before me May 2nd, 1833

S/ J. C. Knight, JP

S/ J. macalister

S/ Walter Leak



Two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The top signature reads "J. Macalister" and the bottom signature reads "Walter Leak".

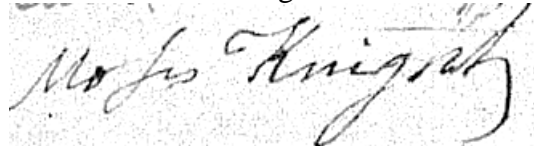
[p 23]

State of North Carolina Richmond County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions July Term 1833

This day personally appeared in open Court Moses Knight who being duly sworn according to law depose & saith that neither in his Original nor amended declaration did he intend to convey the idea that he was out in one continuous service as much as 16 months but all the idea he wished to convey was that from the time he volunteered in April 1779 up to the [sic] 1782 when he hired as a substitute for John Wilson that his whole service together was 16 months & that in 1782 he served 6 months in all 22 months.

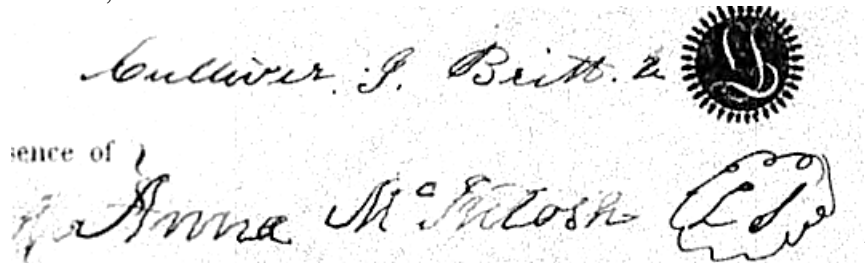
Sworn to & subscribed in open court the 18th of July 1833

S/ Moses Knight



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Moses Knight".

[p 3: On April 28, 1853 in Richmond County North Carolina, Culliver J. Britt, Jr., son-in-law of the veteran, and Anna McIntosh, widow of David McIntosh, one of the daughters of the veteran, filed a power of attorney by which they authorized their attorney to pursue the pension due the veteran, now deceased.



Two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The top signature reads "Culliver J. Britt, Jr." and the bottom signature reads "Anna McIntosh". To the right of each signature is a circular notary seal. The word "presence of" is written to the left of the bottom signature.

[p 14: On April 28, 1853 in Richmond County North Carolina Harriet Smith (wife of James M Smith of Richmond County North Carolina) and Daniel B Skipper (of Marlborough District South Carolina) gave testimony as follows: Harriet Smith gave testimony that on May 6, 1828 she sat up with the corpse of Frances Knight wife of Moses Knight; that Frances had died earlier

on that same day; Daniel B Skipper gave testimony that Moses Knight died on or about October 1, 1836.]

[p 5: Finding dated May 26, 1853 by the Clerk of court of Richmond County North Carolina that the veteran, Moses Knight died in Richmond County October 1, 1836 leaving four surviving children namely Anna McIntosh, John A. Knight, Elizabeth Curtis (wife of Caleb Curtis) and Frances Britt (wife of Culliver J. Britt, Jr.)

[another version]

Pension Application of Moses Knight, Natl Archives Microseries M804, Roll 1503, Application #R6028

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

Richmond County, NC, January 25th, 1833, Moses Knight, aged 68 years:

“That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in **April 1779** in the county of Richmond, NC. That he was under the command of Captain John Speed who was under Colonel Crawford. That he actually served sixteen months as he before stated in his declaration under ?law? Captain Speed. That they were always and during the whole time engaged in keeping down and awing into subjugation, the Tories. That he was in two battles at Betti’s Bridge which took place, he thinks in **1781**. That the Tories were commanded by Colonel Fanning and Colonel McNeil and the Americans by Colonel Wade, Colonel Love and Colonel Crawford. That in one of the engagements the Whigs were flogged. In the other engagement, they got the better of the fight.”

“That he was hired as a substitute in **1782** to take the place of John Wilson of South Carolina. That he served two months. Was in an engagement which took place at Wambaw Creek [*per Heitman, February 14th, 1782*] falling into Santee River from the west side. That he was as he before set forth, under the command of General Marion after his service in North Carolina. That he was drafted at different times to serve two months which he did but does not know how many. He distinctly recollects of being at the Battle at Eutaw Springs [*per Heitman, Sept. 8, 1781*] in the state of South Carolina. That he was under the immediate command of Captain Claudius Pegues but was commanded in person by General Marion at the engagement at Eutaw Springs which took place _____” [*left blank.*]

That at the time he belonged to the South Carolina militia for living near the line he was first in one state and then in the other. There was however, in part of the North Carolina militia at this battle commanded by General Marion who commanded the North and South Carolina militia. The whole was under the command of General Greene. The British forces he thinks were commanded by a General Stuart. Of this, however, he is not certain, but well knows that the Americans gained the day. He cannot tell the precise lengths of service...That he has a discharge at home from Colonel Oree [*Horry*] who commanded at Wambaw Creek falling into Santee River.”

“That he can procure diverse persons who know him to be a true Whig and were with him at different engagements among the rest. He would mention Walter Leak, Senior, John McAlister, Charles Hinson of the County of Anson, and William Johnson of the same county.”

Interrogatory:

“Colonel Wade, Colonel Childe, Colonel Crawford and Lieutenant Williams of North Carolina. In South Carolina I was under General Marion, Colonel Loyd [*Lide or Lyde*], Colonel Benton and at the Battle of Eutaw, I was with General Greene who commanded and with General Sumner...I got a discharge from Captain Claudius Pegues and think I now have it among my old papers at home.”