

SERVICE

NUMBER

Va

P  
Prewitt, Joshua  
Berkshire, Maria

W. 27643

B.L.M. 110265-160-5

CONTENTS

Formed widow

Kentucky 1832  
John Powell  
in the State of  
who was a  
by Captain  
for

Inscribed on the Roll of  
at the rate of Dollars  
to commence on the 1st day of March, 1831.

Certificate of Pension issued the 11th day of  
and

appears to the List of  
Permanent allowance pending

Recorded by  
Book 2 Vol. Page  
Revolutionary Claim,  
Oct. June 7, 1832.  
Clerk.

Let to Hon. G. B. Stone D. C.  
Dec 28 1832

1870 Aug 15 - Bandy  
Land granted  
to the Widow

Maria Pickens

Claim for Pension

Not allowed  
Bounty Land No. 110265-160-55

F  
R

State of Kentucky }  
Jury County } 89 On the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 1831, you  
- Sonarsy appeared in open Court before John Collins  
James Ireland and Wm. Hammon Judges of  
the County Court of Henry County now sitting. I called  
Prewitt aged 19 years who being duly sworn according  
to law doth on this oath make the following declaration  
in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress  
of a date the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832

The deponent states  
that he was born in Bedford County State of Virginia  
in the year of 1765 when he remained until after he  
arrived to the age of thirteen years when his father  
married a second wife. He being unwilling to  
come under the government of a step Mother  
deserted his father and in company with a fam-  
- ily of Moores came to Kentucky, after being in  
Kentucky about six months he went to the garrison  
at Louisville and in the month of March 1779 he  
the said John Prewitt did enlist under one Capt  
George of the Artillery for a period of five years and  
was attached to Genl George Progers black's reg-  
- iment, he states that the day after he entered the  
regiment under the command of Genl Black  
left the garrison and marched below the falls  
and got aboard some boats that had been prepa-  
- red by Genl Black, they then descended the Ohio  
River as low as its Junction with the Mississippi  
when Genl Black determined to ascend the Mis-  
- sissippi in pursuit of some Indians that had  
- been created up the river after having done some  
- mischief in Kentucky. Now he states they had  
to leave some boats such as were not considered  
for going up stream with the current of the  
- Craft such as Hell boats Skiffs &c. They proceed-  
- ed if the Mississippi as high as its Junction

with the Missions on arriving at that place, Gen  
Clark advised the regiment as above and proceeded  
after the Indians in the State that after spending  
some time in a fruitless pursuit after these Indians  
Gen Clark ordered the regiment back to the  
landing they then got aboard of their boats  
and descended the Mississippi some seven  
miles below the mouth of the Ohio River where  
they landed their boats, and by order of Gen  
Clark went a short way on the East side of the  
Mississippi River, here the decisive battle took  
place Gen Clark ordered the erection of a fort and some  
block houses. The regiment arrived under the direction  
of Gen Clark proceeded to build a fort and two  
block houses and sometime in the month of July  
1780. the fort was attacked by a numerous tribe of  
Indians he thinks that the number of Indians  
was about the same as many as block houses in  
the fort, they demanded a surrender of the fort  
Clark sent out Capt Helm and an interpreter  
to learn the terms upon which they they  
demanded the surrender, Helm was informed  
by the interpreter that the women and children  
that were in the fort should be spared (but  
that officers and soldiers should be put to death  
Helm through the interpreter replied that should  
not would all together and returned with the  
flag to the fort. Gen Clark approving of  
Capt Helm's reply ordered the fort to be prepared  
for a defence in a short time the Indians  
made an attack upon the fort. By firing  
upon the East side of the fort the fire was  
returned from the fort which was kept up for

the space of two days and nights with but little  
intermission when the Shawanun finding their  
attack to be of little effect retreated. During  
the engagement he killed three or four  
in the fort killed and some few wounded. How  
many he does not now remember. He states  
that when the Shawanun attacked the fort that  
the hunters were out in pursuit of Commanche for  
the Regiment and that many of them were  
killed before they reached the fort - after  
the Shawanun left the fort Gen Black raised  
a party and in the pursuit he states they  
discovered that some of the Shawanun had been  
killed and appeared, more that the  
Shawanun had some wounded amongst them.  
He states that after pursuing the Shawanun  
a short time they returned to the fort where they  
remained until the fall of the year Gen  
Black then ordered that the Regiment should  
go up the Ohio River as high as Louisville  
accordingly they loaded their boats and some  
time later in the fall they reached Louisville  
Gen Black then ordered that they should  
proceed to build a fort for their security  
and such buildings as would add to their  
comfort during the winter season and after  
some time spent in laboring they erected a  
fort block house &c. then he states they  
remained until the summer of 1781 - Gen  
Black then ordered Capt Craig to take his Com-  
pany of artillery and build a fort and go  
up the Ohio River in view to give security to  
those that had settled near the river and  
to afford some safety those that were moving

now said was accordingly Capt George with his  
Company of Artillery Boats, said Boats and  
and ascended the Ohio River as high as the Mouth  
of the Big Kentucky and in order to reach the  
Indians he states that Capt George would frequent-  
ly have his Cannon discharged he states they  
were alternately ascending and descending the  
Ohio River until the month of 1781 when they  
went into the fort at Louisville and continued  
with the balance of Black's Regiment  
On the summer of 1782 he states that Gen. Clark  
and his Regiment up the Ohio River when a part  
of said Regiment went a board of the boats  
and a part went by land he states they  
wintered on the Ohio River where he recollects  
now stands the the accounts state they  
built a block house and deposited some baggage  
and left some sick Indians Gen. Clark then  
led his Regiment to the upper Chickasaw towns  
on arriving at said towns the Indians made some  
defense in which engagement the Indians had  
12 or 14 killed and some taken prisoner Gen.  
Clark remained at said towns until his  
assistance that the Indians had refused,  
he then made a return to the block house  
after reaching the block house it <sup>was</sup> destroyed  
Gen. Clark then the Regiment proceed to the  
fort which they had built at Louisville accord-  
ingly some of the stores went a board of  
the boats and some with some horse went by  
land he states that he was on that road  
with his horse and some of the Regiment  
at Louisville in late in fall of 1782

The account further states that the Regiment  
under the command of Genl Clark was stationed  
at the fort at Louisville and that the men  
were frequently put in small companies to their  
different posts in Ky for their duties, he states  
that he remained in Capt George Boufford's  
of artillery discharging his duty as a faithful  
soldier until the month of March 1784  
when he the said Robert D Russell was  
charged in writing which discharge he then  
was signed by the said Capt George

He states that he has no documentary  
evidence of his service and independent of  
respectable testimony evidence which he  
will now offer to the Court that he can  
procure by respectable witnesses that he was  
under the service as alleged in the  
foregoing declaration. He hereby ren-  
ounces any claim whatever to a pension or  
annuity except the present one and claims  
that the same is not on the pension  
roll of the agency of any State or Territory

Subscribed and sworn to in open  
Court before Judges of the County of  
Kent of Ky on this date and year  
affidavit

John D. Russell  
John Clatter  
Sand. Sulist  
Wm. W. Sowers

Interrogatories put by the Court

Ques Where and in what year were you born

Ans I was born in Bedford County Va on the 17th 1745

Ques Have you any recollection of your age and of  
so where it

ans I have no written record of my age

Ques Where you being when called into the service

When has you lived since the Revolutionary  
war and where do you now live

Ans When I entered the service I was traveling through

Vy since the Revolution I have lived at various  
places in Va and I now live in Maryland Ky

Ques How were you called into the service

Ans I entered for four years

Ques State the names of some of the Regular Officers

and who were with the troops when you were

and such Continental and Militia Regiments

as you can recollect and the general Circu-  
mstances of your service

Ans of the regular officers there were Genl. Clark, Genl.

George Plafington, Col. Comstock, Major Scott

Major Capt. Terhune, Capt. Baily, Capt. Miller

Capt. Benjamin Roberts and Capt. George  
of the Artillery

Ques Did you ever receive an exchange and if when

was it signed and what was the amount

Ans I did receive an exchange for four years from

Virginia by Capt. George by order of Genl. Clark

My exchange I kept until Col. Broadhead was

appointed paymaster I then gave him my

exchange to draw my pay which exchange  
he kept and pay likewise if he got any

Ques How the names of persons with whom you are acquainted in your present neighbourhood who can testify to your character for industry and their belief of you pursued as a trading the Protestation

Ans I will name William Smith and Richard W. Shockney

A We William Smith & Rich<sup>d</sup> W. Shockney residing in the neighbourhood of Joshua Hewitt, Taylor are well acquainted with him we believe him to be 69 years of age he is reputed in this neighbourhood to be a man of industry and a trader of the unticketed sort we concur in the opinion of the Magistrate

William Smith  
Rust of Shockney

Sworn and subscribed  
this 24th day of June 1791  
before

John Gillon  
Saml. Sulam  
M. Abner

I Benjamin Hazard aged 75 years do certify that I was a witness of the protestation and a part of my service was performed under John George Clayton, Clerk and as far as Joshua Pauer - at the afore applicant has stated in his deposition respecting this service upon the 14th of this instant I certify it corrects the time expressed upon the deposition I think was about two months Benjamin Hazard

Sworn and signed this 24th day of June 1791  
Benjamin Hazard  
John Gillon  
Saml. Sulam  
M. Abner

326.221 Ad. Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1855

E. J. M.

Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> 1870

265  
Sept 1870

Maria Berkshire <sup>former</sup> widow of

Joshua Prewitt

Capt. George Private

Refer to pension papers on file

Allowed to army

W. E. Frank

Aug 15 1870

Revolutionary War

C. H. Barkley

La Grange

Oldham Co.

Ky.

37

Revolutionary War Receipt

(2-232)

No. 7360

Maria Bennett - Berkshire  
formerly Widow

27693

Joshua Bennett  
Rank, Private

Company, Capt. Seager  
Regiment, 1st Mass

Rate per month, \$6.

Commencing July 27<sup>th</sup> 1860

Ending per m<sup>o</sup>. for Dec 19<sup>th</sup> 1860

Certificate dated June 30<sup>th</sup> 1860

and sent July 12<sup>th</sup> 1860

Payable at Greenville Agency

Free Now

State of Kentucky

Henry County, Va.

J. B. P. Thomas Clerk of the  
Henry County Court hereby declare the following Certificate  
is on the Records of my Office in the Book prepared  
for that purpose.

"This day married by Mrs. Joshua Prewitt  
" & Mariah Gagon July 12 1829

Jonathan Redwell

W. Goffett

And I do hereby certify that said Jonathan  
Redwell was on the 12 July 1829 duly authorized  
to celebrate the Rites of Matrimony.

W. Goffett W. Goffett  
of the County of Henry  
this 27. Oct. 1869

J. B. P. Thomas  
Clerk of the Court

The United States of America

Frisible County Kentucky

I Maria Berkshin of said County  
resident aged nearly 61 years, State on my  
oath that I was formerly wife and widow of  
Joshua Brewitt now deceased formerly of Henry  
County Kentucky, partly of this County, and who  
died in this County on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of January  
1843 (Eighteen Hundred and forty three) and  
who at the time of his death was @ Revolun-  
-tionary pensioner of the United States - under  
Act of June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 on Kentucky Agency  
at rate of Eighty dollars per year.

I was married to said Joshua Brewitt in Henry  
County Kentucky on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of July  
1829 by one Jonathan Kidwell @ preacher  
and my name before I was so married was

Maria Yager daughter of Lewis Yager

After the death of said Joshua Brewitt I remained  
his widow until on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 1845

when in this County I married Jeremiah Berkshin

we being married by Jeremiah Brothman @ preacher

My last husband the said Jeremiah Berkshin died  
in this County on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 1868 (Eighteen  
hundred and sixty eight) leaving me again

@ widow and I have never married again  
since his death but remain @ widow

I was never engaged in nor did I ever

in any way aid or abet the late rebellion  
in the United States

My Post Office address is Milton Kentucky  
My residence is five miles from Milton and  
nine miles from Bedford on the road leading  
from Bedford over County Seat to Hunter's

Bottom on Ohio River in Carroll County Kentucky

Our old Family Record of Prentiss family got  
destroyed - I have no family record of

the death of Jeremiah Perkins my late husband

I bought the shroud for his burial of John Hollstein  
at Milton Kentucky and his Coffin was

furnished by C. Nail of Madison  
Indiana and therefore the statements of

these two persons are the best and only evi-  
dence known to me of date of said husband's

death - I was never able to write my name

I make this declaration for the purpose of  
applying for the benefit of Act of February 7<sup>th</sup>

1853 July 1866 - or any and all other  
Acts or laws of Congress that may be

applicable to the facts of my case

I am not a pensioner of the United  
States under either of the above named

or any other Act of Congress neither am I  
an applicant therefor except as herein

above claimed - I hereby appoint and  
constitute C. H. Barkley for a power of attorney

my true and lawful Attorney in this behalf  
and request that my certificate when issued  
and all communications relating to my  
claim be sent to his address -

*[A large, stylized handwritten flourish or signature mark, possibly a large 'S' or 'M', is written across the middle of the page.]*

This 8th day of November 1869 -

Mine <sup>new</sup> ~~X~~ <sup>York</sup> ~~Ed~~  
*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Faint handwritten text above the signature]*  
Samuel Musdock  
186, Old Lyssom

926221

The United States of America

Trimbull County Kentucky etc

I Maria Berkshire of said County aged  
nearly 61 years state on my oath that I was  
formerly wife and widow of Joshua Prosser  
now deceased and who in his lifetime

was @ Restorationary Pensioner of the United  
States on Kentucky Agency under Act of  
June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 at \$80 @ year -

My said former husband died in this  
County on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 1843  
leaving me @ widow which I remained  
until on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 1845  
when in this County I was married to  
Jesse Berkshire who died in this County  
on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 1868 leaving me  
again @ widow which I have ever  
since remained -

I make this declaration for the purpose  
of applying for Bounty Land under Act  
of March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1855 and May 14<sup>th</sup> 1856  
as former widow of said Joshua Prosser

I have never heretofore received or applied  
for the benefit of any Bounty Land Act  
of Congress and neither did my said  
former husband so far as I now remember  
ever hearing - or if he did it must have  
been on account of his Revolutionary

Service, for which he was pensioned as that  
was the only Military Service ever performed  
by him, so far as I now remember ever  
having - Of even date herewith I make  
an application for Revolutionary Pension  
as former widow of said under Act of  
February 3 1853 etc. etc. and I refer for full  
particulars and details to the paper of said  
application - for date of my marriage to said  
Perritt and all other particulars

My Post Office address is Milton Kentucky  
The Commissioner of Pensions will please  
send my Land Warrant when found  
to Mr. Barker in Orange Kentucky  
to whom also he will please address  
all communications relating thereto  
I was never engaged in nor did I in any way  
ever aid or abet the late rebellion in  
the United States

This 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 1869

Maria <sup>for</sup> Berkshire  
Mark.

Attest Jno. W. Nease  
Daniel M. M. M.  
H. M. Garrison

September 16, 1935

Joshua Prewett-W. 27643  
BA-J/ATF *am*

Mrs. Allen Gay Jones  
Winchester  
Kentucky

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information relative to Joshua Prewett, soldier of the Revolutionary War, and pensioner from Henry County, Kentucky.

The data furnished herein were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, W. 27643, based upon the service of Joshua Prewett in the War of the Revolution.

Joshua Prewett was born in the year 1765 in Bedford County, Virginia, names of his parents not stated. He lived in Bedford County, Virginia until about thirteen years of age "when his father married a second wife", and he left home and went to Kentucky. The names of his father's second wife not shown.

Joshua Prewett enlisted in Louisville, Kentucky (which was then Virginia), sometime in March, 1779, served in Captain George's company of Artillery under General George Rogers Clark, descended the Ohio River to the junction with the Mississippi River, then up the Mississippi to the junction of the Missouri River in pursuit of Indians, then returned and assisted in erecting a fort and block houses and the east side of the Mississippi, in July, 1780, were attacked by a "numerous tribe of Indians" and in the fall of returned to Louisville, there built a fort where they stayed until the summer of 1781; they went up the Ohio River in pur-

suit of Indians and in the fall of 1781 returned to Louisville, and in the summer of 1782 assisted in building a fort on the Ohio River, was in the battle at the Chillicothe Towns, and continued to serve until in March, 1784.

Joshua Prewett was allowed pension on his application executed May 5, 1834, at which time he was a resident of Henry County, Kentucky.

This soldier, married July 12, 1829 in Henry County, Kentucky, Maria Yager, daughter of Lewis Yager; the name of her mother is not given. Joshua Prewett died in Trimble County, Kentucky, January 27, 1843.

The widow married September 11, 1845, Jeremiah Berkshire, who died May 8 or 9, 1869 in Trimble County, Kentucky.

The widow, Maria Berkshire, was allowed pension on account of the service of her husband, Joshua Prewett, on her application executed November 8, 1869, then a resident of Trimble County, Kentucky, and aged "nearly sixty-one years". She was living in 1875 in said Trimble County, and in 1886 her postoffice address was Milton, Trimble County, Kentucky.

There is no reference to children.

Very truly yours

A. D. HILLER  
Executive Assistant to the Administrator