



Private John Childress
in Captain James Shepherd's Surry County company
of Col Benjamin Cleveland's North Carolina militia

wounded at Kings Mountain 07Oct1780
by a rifle ball in the lower belly

Born 05May1755 Cumberland County Virginia
Pensioned 25May1833 Rutherford County Tennessee
Died 09Jan1844 Rutherford County Tennessee
Married Martha Calhoon of Laurens District South Carolina

John Childress served in a small cavalry unit under Captain James Shepherd of Surry County with Colonel Benjamin Cleveland's expedition to Kings Mountain. His rifle (or musket ball) shot to the lower belly did not completely disable him, but combined with old age, restricted his activity from earning a living. He attempted to obtain a disability pension in 1830, but failed to meet the filing requirements. In his old age pension declaration in 1832, Childress named more influential character witnesses, most notable among them, Andrew Jackson.

FPA S3146

09Feb1830 Davidson Co TN In 1778 under Col William Shepperd in Surry Co NC and later under Capt James Shepperd & fought under him at the Battle of Kings Mountain, commander Col Cleveland where I was wounded by a rifle Ball in the lower part of the Belley,
S/ Will. Lytle, JP S/ John Childress

22Nov1832 Rutherford County TN, age 77

That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer under Colonel Shepherd in the month of May as he believes, 1780, at least in the May after Charleston was taken by the British, but cannot state the day of the month. He served in the company commanded by Captain James Shepherd. Joseph Winston & Davidson were Majors under Colonel Shepherd, whose Regiment of Cavalry collected at Surry County Courthouse North Carolina & from that place directed their course across the Yadkin River, through Salisbury & down a few miles where General Rutherford had headquarters. During this march applicant continued with Colonel Shepherd's troop of horse, with

which he was sent by General Rutherford against the Tories & British to the mouth of Rocky River on the PeDee. He was there in a skirmish with the British & Tories in which the Whigs lost a few men, & the enemy were entirely defeated. Colonel Rutherford soon after came on to the mouth of Rocky River & sent Colonel Shepherd (with whom he still continued) back to Surry County to reconnoiter & prevent the rising of the Tories. They there scouted after the Tories until they heard of the approach of Col Ferguson. There came a false report to Surry County that the Whig Colonel Cleveland was defeated by Ferguson. Applicant with three others under **Captain James Shepherd** voluntarily went to Wilkes County Court house to know the certainty of the report. They there volunteered under **Colonel Cleveland** & marched with him the next day towards King's Mountain. At the Cowpens on their way their spies returned & told them where Ferguson was. They hurried on their march, & fell in with Colonels Campbell], Sevier & Shelby.. The evening of the same day they had the battle of King's Mountain, **in which applicant was wounded**. After the battle was over, they marched to Colonel Walker's, where applicant remembers 9 of the prisoners were hung and Baldwin made his escape. Thence they went to Moravian town where applicant was permitted to return home, in the month of October as he believes, but cannot remember with certainty, 1780. He did not receive a written discharge.

Afterwards in November 1780, ----