



None of the casualties from the Burke County Militia commanded by Joseph McDowell are mentioned on the monuments at Kings Mountain. Ezekiel is one of those. Evidence of his plight comes primarily from the sworn statement of his brother Enoch Berry before the court in Warren County Tennessee on October 3, 1832. It was corroborated by Charles O'Neill (O'Neal) who was a teenager on the Catawba who witnessed the return of McDowell's troops from Kings Mountain.

You may see the transcription at <http://www.revwarapps.org/w8128.pdf> or a picture of the original at Fold3.com. Below is an excerpt from the pertinent paragraph.

In Aug 1780, Berry volunteered for 2 mo. under Capt. Samuel Wood. Joseph McDowell took the command, only a battalion of us. This campaign was intended for King's Mountain. March across the mountain and joined Cols Campbell, Sevier, & Shelby who were then on their way to King's Mountain. McDowell's battalion marched on with them and participated in the Battle. Berry, his father & brother were all engaged in the battle. His father was killed and his brother wounded, who died of his wounds shortly after he returned home. The declarant was again marched back to Morganton and discharged.

After the battle, the patriots camped at Colonel Felix Walker's plantation on 09Oct1780. They were at Biggerstaff's on 11Oct1780. The march back to Morganton was about 13Oct1780. We might guess that Ezekiel expired a week after the battle on 14Oct1780.

In 1778, Ezekiel was a chain carrier for the survey of 640 acres on Drowning Creek in Burke County NC for William Berry. Depending on the surveyor, qualifications to be a chain carrier varied. In general they were representatives of the owners on both sides of the line. Typically they were young men between teen age and thirties who were physically fit for tromping the fields and hills. Usually they were competent adults whose witness to the survey would be valid in court.

At Burke County Court in March 1781 William Moore was appointed to assist Elizabeth Montgomery Berry in the estate settlement of William Berry who was killed at Kings Mountain. In November 1781, Moore received a revolutionary war voucher for £32.13.0 for sundry supplies furnished by the Berry's. As was true for many plantation owners, the Berry family provided support for the militia. Of significance in the court records is the absence of Ezekiel Berry. This indicates first that he owned no land (his father had thousands of acres). It also indicates that he left no wife and children who required an estate settlement so that neighbors could settle debts and accounts and that possessions could be divided among heirs.

A Burt Moore was also a Kings Mountain veteran in Captain Samuel Woods' company. It is possible that William Moore was also in McDowell's militia. With two other William Moore patriots at Kings Mountain, it would be easier to overlook a third William Moore.

Brothers and sisters of Ezekiel Berry as gleaned from scattered records:

Joseph

William

Abigail, 1757 m. David Hunter

Ann, 1758 m. James S. Young

Ezekiel ca. 1760

James Malcolm

Enoch 11Dec1763

Lott

Lucy

John