

Edmund Keeling applied for a pension in Abbeville District SC on 14Apr1834 at age 71.

When Harrison Sullivan was training his horse to jump in Charlotte County VA in the spring of 1780, he had an accident and was badly injured. Unable to take his turn in the cavalry, Edmund Keeling took his place with the Virginia mounted militia in June 1780. His horse company under Captain Edmund Reed joined Colonel William Washington's light dragoons in South Carolina. After some maneuvering around South Carolina, Washington's horsemen joined General Daniel Morgan's little army and several militia companies near the **Cowpens**. In the 17Jan1781 battle, they wiped most of Colonel Banastre Tarleton's regiment off the map. **Edmund Keeling was injured** and taken out of service for a few months.

In the spring of 1781, Keeling was in Captain Friend's local Charlotte County militia while he rehabilitated. In the summer they deployed around James River, joined General Robert Lawson's men, then marched down to Hanover CH and met up with General Anthony Wayne's detachment to battle the British on 06Jul1781. General Lafayette dismissed the Charlotte County company, but they were soon recalled under Captain Collier. His regiment went to Yorktown where Keeling served at the surrender of Cornwallis. Keeling's final duty was guarding the British prisoners from Yorktown to Winchester where they were imprisoned in Frederick County, VA.

Edmund's military record is concise and certain. His family records are scattered and uncertain. Keeling family descendants record inconsistent records of "Edmund sightings." There were apparently multiple contemporaneous Edward and Edmund Keelings in south central Virginia some of whom migrated in the next generations to western Kentucky. Of these we may dismiss the Edmund Keeling who married Nancy Francis 09Jul1799 in Halifax Co VA as a different person..

<http://www.keeland.com/genealogy/getperson.php?personID=I265&>
http://www.genfiles.com/hendrick-files/1790_Hendrick_Chronology.pdf

Our Virginia Cavalry private was born about 1763 to an Edward Keeling. He became involved with young members of a Hendrick family and disputes over their inheritances. Perhaps he married a Barbara Hendrick and moved to Wilkes County GA with some of her siblings. Edmund and Barbara had as many as five children. Then Edmund moved to Edgefield District SC, took up with a Lettie and had as many as ten more children.

Greenville Presbyterian Church of Donalds, SC lists a grave marker at plot E-830 for Edmund Keeling. It shows date of birth precisely 71 years before his pension declaration at age 71. It shows his death on 02May1844.