

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Y. Whitmore R11480

fn19VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/15/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia in Dinwiddie County: SS

On this thirteenth day of June 1844 personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace for the County and State aforesaid John Y Whitmore a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 97 years 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers. That early in the war he was as a militia man and entered the service as well as he can now recollect under Captain Davis Walker [perhaps David Walker] – that he served two tours under him as Captain that he Walker was afterwards made Major. That he also served two tours and he thinks three under Captain Jack Hardaway. That he served two tours under Captain William Lewis. That he served two tours under Captain Baker Pegram, that he served one tour under Captain John Eppes. That he served under Captain George Pegram one tour. That he served under Captain William Walker one tour. That it is impossible for him to call [?] the routes taken in all of his tours or the precise time or date of any. That he was frequently called out carried to Petersburg and then down the River into the lower counties on one tour he went to Norfolk soon after that town was burnt by the British. That he was frequently stationed at Petersburg, Prince George Court House, Cabin Point, Surry Court House, Smithfield in Isle of Wight and Suffolk. That he was stationed at a place called Hales old field for some weeks in Prince George. That he was stationed at City [word blotted out by an ink blot]. That he was in the battle at Petersburg and had orders if the Americans had to retreat to meet at Chesterfield Courthouse. The next day that he went there then they went to the Coal Mines . That while there information was received that the British were coming. That they were immediately paraded in a wheat field where the wheat was near heading. This fact induces him to believe that this tour was in the spring or early in the summer. That they afterwards crossed James River at a place called Tucker hoe ferry [Tuckahoe ferry?] went down to Richmond stayed there some time then went down to batsomses [?] bridge between the Henrico and New Kent counties when they were discharged he thinks this tour was at least three months if not four. That he was stationed in Surry County when the battle took place at Jamestown. That in the course of some four days they crossed over the River in the night that they had some beeves on the boat when he crossed and the men were afraid that they would upset the boat. That they stayed in Jamestown about one week when they went to Williamsburg where they stayed until Washington & Lafayette joined their forces soon after which they marched to Yorktown. That the next day he with some four others taken from his company were carried down to the landing where they were stationed until the British surrendered when he received orders to join his company again. That on his way to where he left

them he learned from an officer that his Regiment had gone to Williamsburg and that the next day after he got there they were discharged. This tour he thinks was at least four months. That he cannot recollect any of the field officers that he served under except Colonel Falkner [Faulkner?] and Major Walker. That he thinks Colonel Falkner had command of the Regiment when he went through Chesterfield, Richmond & Henrico that he always entered the service as a drafted militia man that he has no documentary evidence to support his claim neither does he know of but one person who served with him this Captain Peter Eppes¹ under him he served one tour. That there is no minister in his neighborhood that has lived there long but that he is known to Captain W. B. Thompson, Laban Reams, and many others who can testify as to his veracity.

That when he heard that the militia men were paid he made some inquiries about it that he was told that he could not get anything unless he could prove six months service by two persons who served with him that he did not know where he could prove that and therefore did not say that he was born, raised, lived during the revolutionary war and has lived the most of his life on the plantation where he now lives. That he cannot tell in which year he was born as the record of his age got destroyed some years since that he never received a written discharge from service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State or (if any) only on that of the Agency of the State of Virginia

S/ Thomas J Draper

S/ John Y Whitmore, X his mark

Personally appeared before me the undersigned Justice of the Peace John Y Whitmore who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below – he served eleven tours the longest about four months, the shortest two weeks and all occupying at least eighteen months and he thinks much more for such service I claim a pension.

S/ John Y Whitmore, X his mark

[Laban Reams, 64, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[William B Thompson a supporting affidavit as to the reputation of the veteran as a revolutionary war soldier.]

[fn p. 3]

I hereby certify that the interrogatories on the annexed printed sheet² were severally propounded by me to John Y Whitmore and that he gave the following answers to the

¹ Sic, [Peter Epps S8424](#)

² Those interrogatories would be as follows:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

interrogatories

1st That that is hard to come at as his register got destroyed some years since

To interrogatory 2nd No

To interrogatory 3rd Lives now at the same place that he was born at and has lived here all or nearly all his life.

To interrogatory 4th As a drafted militia man.

To interrogatory 5th Colonel Falkner and Major Walker Captain Walker, Captain Joel Hardaway, Captain Lewis, Captain Baker Pegram, Captain Peter Epps, Captain George Pegram, Captain William Walker. That he does not now recollect the names of any of the regiments in which he served and all of the incidents which he recollects all fully and truly set forth in his declaration.

To interrogatory 6th Know he never received a written discharge

To Interrogatory 7th That he is known to Captain William B Thompson, Laban reams, Captain Peter Epps and many others.

Sworn to this 12th day of November 1844 before me and I further certify that the 7 interrogatories on the annexed printed sheet of instructions were each severally ask and that the answers were fully and truly Whitten down on the preceding page and it is my opinion after having put the foregoing interrogatories that the applicant was a soldier of the revolutionary war and served as he states and that his claim is neither false or fraudulent.

Given under my hand the day and year above written.

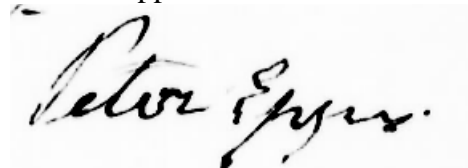
S/ C. P. Bevill, JP

[fn p. 11]

State of Virginia in Dinwiddie County: SS

Be it known that on the 26 day of April 1844 personally appeared before me James Epes [sic] a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Peter Eppes aged eighty-five years of said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following statement. That he was a Captain in the militia service during the revolutionary war. That on one occasion as well as I can now recollect in the fall of 1780 or spring of 1781, I was called to command a company to which John Y Whitmore of this County was a private. That the company stayed in Petersburg some two or three days then went to Cabin Point in Surry County and then to Smithfield in Isle of Wight County and then he thinks they went to Suffolk in Nansemond County where he thinks they were discharged. That he cannot tell as to the precise length of this tour but as nearly as he can now recollect – it was about two months. That he did not know the said John Y Whitmore to have been in service at any other time but he might have served many other tours and I not know it.

S/ Peter Eppes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter Eppes". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.