

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Johns R5593

Mary Johns

f35VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/28/13

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky County of Russell: SS

On this eleventh day of July 1837 personally appeared before me a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid Mary Johns a resident of the County of Russell State of Kentucky aged 87 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made the act of Congress passed July 4, 1836.

That she is the widow of James Johns who was a Lieutenant in the Army of the revolution. The name of his Captain was William Johns his Major Thomas Jones his Colonel William Lewis and his General __ Lawson [probably Robert Lawson]. Her husband entered the service in the spring of the year 1777 and left the service after the capture of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]. He never served under any other officers than those before mentioned and never was at home but three times during the war.* Her husband resided in the County of Buckingham State of Virginia when he entered the service. He was drafted in all his services. – He was engaged in one or more battles in one of which he was wounded with shot which he carried to his grave but she has forgotten the names of the Battles if she ever knew. He entered the service in Buckingham and marched off towards Richmond. I have heard him in his lifetime speak of being at Williamsburg, Norfolk and Little York, But what Country that is in I do not know. She states that she is unable to refer to any further particulars unless she would merely give his history of his services and the time has passed so long and she is so old that she is unwilling to confide in a memory which is proving treacherous. She states that her husband had a final discharge from the service which he brought home from the siege of York and kept it while he lived But which was burned by Mr. John Akers among a great many other of his papers as a worthless piece of paper as she nor anyone kin to

*and the whole length of his service greatly exceeded 2 years as she is enabled distinctly to state her never expected to derive any benefit from it after he was dead.

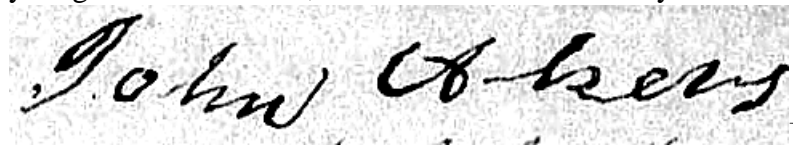
She further declares that she was married to the said James Johns on the 25th day of December 1765 by old Parson Peasley. That her husband died on the __ day of October 1817 and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

S/ Mary Johns, X her Mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th July 1837

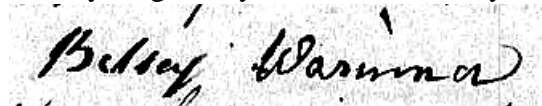
S/ A. Jackman, JP BC

[p 3: On July 11, 1837 in Russell County Kentucky, John Akers, 55, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with the veteran and his wife; that he often heard the veteran speak of his services in the revolutionary war; that the veteran stated he was nearly 4 years in the service as a Lieutenant; that he was wounded with a shot in a battle; that deponent has often seen the wounded area; that the veteran left his papers to the deponent among which papers was a discharge as a Lieutenant and which deponent disposed of as useless; that the veteran and his widow raised a large family of children the oldest of whom would be about 70 years old and the youngest now about 40; that the veteran died in Fayette County Kentucky in October 1817.



John Akers

[p 12: On July 18, 1837 in Pulaski County Kentucky, Betsey Warriner[?]¹ gave testimony that she is the oldest child of James and Mary Johns; that she knows of no family register of the children of her parents; that she has a distinct recollection of the time of the revolution and of her father leaving home to serve as a soldier; that she distinctly remembers her father leaving home and returning on one occasion "the circumstance is stamped more indelibly upon her memory from a circumstance which she will narrate – Her mother and the children lived by themselves while her father was gone and they were in continual apprehension from the Tories and Negroes – and when her father came home it was in the night. He knocked at the door and asked to be admitted. Her mother refused, believing it was a Tory or Negro that one he to get in when she told her mother that it was her father for she knew his voice. She had some difficulty in making her mother believe it. But she finally opened the door and her father came in. He was very dirty and ragged. She has often heard her father many years ago speak of his services and the troubles and dangers of the war;" that she has heard her parents speak of being married in Buckingham County Virginia by old Parson Peasely.



Betsey Warriner

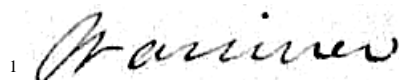
[looks like "Betsey Warinner" to me]

[p 12: James Warinner, husband of Betsey, gave testimony that he married Betsey Johns in Buckingham County Virginia 44 years ago last March; that at the time of his marriage he was in the 20th year of his age and his wife was said to be older than him but how much was unknown as the family had no record of her age; that he often heard James Johns speak of his service in the revolutionary war; that James John departed this life in the fall of 1817.



James Warinner

[p 34]



Warriner

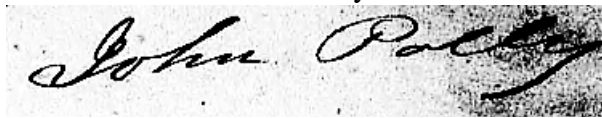
¹ In a summary of the contents of the file, the person making that summary interpreted her last name as Warriner.

² He was still alive and living in Russell County Kentucky in October 1852 when he gave another supporting affidavit in which he states that he is 79 years old.

The affidavit of John Polly

This affiant states he is a pensioner on the roll for the Kentucky agency – That he was in the Army for 15 months and 49 months of that time he was a regular soldier upon the Continental line. That when he first entered into the regular service he knew a certain James Johns of the County of Buckingham and that said James Johns remained in the service while this affiant remained but how much longer he cannot pretend to say. The said James Johns held the rank of Lieutenant in the service while this affiant knew him. – And further he saith not.

S/ John Polly³

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Polly". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured surface.

[Attested in Russell County Kentucky May 19, 1838]

[p 6: On October 8, 1852 in Russell County Kentucky, Susannah Acres, 70, gave testimony that she is the only surviving child of James and Mary Johns; that her father died in Fayette County Kentucky upwards of 30 years ago leaving Mary Johns his widow who survived him and remained a widow until her death in Russell County Kentucky on March 2, 1845 at the age of about 85 years; at the time of her mother's death, the deponent was the only child of her parents still living; that her parents were married in Cumberland or Buckingham County Virginia about the year 1772; that her mother before her marriage was Mary Gannaway. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 10: finding by the court of Russell County Kentucky in November term 1852 that Mary Johns widow of James Johns died March 2, 1845 survived by Mrs. Susannah Acres and William Johns of Allen or Barren County Kentucky and that William Johns has since died leaving children – names not known.]

³ Probably the same man as [John Polly \(Polley\) W3036](#)