

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Johnson R5607

Delila Johnson

f30NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

[p 11]

State of Tennessee, Fentress County, on this 28th day of January 1833

This day personally appeared before the worshipful Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions for the County aforesaid now setting, which is a court of record, James Johnson a resident citizen of the County of Fentress in the state of Tennessee aged 73 years agreeable to his record as kept by his parents and himself in his bible, which is now destroyed, and after being 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 the 7th day of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in Caswell County, North Carolina a private to serve a nine month tour, the precise time as to date of entering said service not recollected, but it was the month of May and about 12 or 14 months before the Battle of Stono [June 20, 1779].¹ Applicant understood that said call of nine-months men were to be balloted for out of the different captains' companies, but when the different companies met at John Hughes in said County of Caswell the field officers nominated and appointed seven men out of the captains' company to which applicant belonged, namely William White's company, the other six men that were appointed to serve out of Captain White's company were William Allen, George Anderson, James Wadkins, John Wadkins, James Swinee [sic, Sweeney?], Thomas King, and the men that were appointed in the different captains' companies met at the house of William Prowel's in said County of Caswell and there chose Robert More [sic, Robert Moore] captain. There he was put under said captain and Col Arch Little [sic, Archibald Lytle] and Major Dixon [Henry "Hal" Dixon], his first name not recollected, and Adjutant Mikel McMullinshehe [sic ?]. They were marched from said Prowel's to Moon's Creek in said County and stationed there four or five weeks and from there to Peytonsborg, Virginia and then stationed there about two or three weeks, and returned to Moon's Creek, joined no other troops and was furloughed until the last day of the next March with an understanding that when we met that the time we had served was not to count as part of the nine months tour, but previous to the time our furlough was to expire, there was a call for militia and a great part of us nine-month men went out on that tour, but this applicant did not; and according to the stipulations of applicant's furlough he met at the house of Col William Moore's in said County of Caswell and was there put under a Major Tatum [Absalom Tatum], his first name not recollected. There was about twenty of us nine months men of Caswell County put under Major Tatum a great part of them being then out on militia tour, applicant marched off under Tatum and joined head quarters at Galphin's in South Carolina and there joined General Lincoln's [Benjamin Lincoln's] Army stationed there a few days and marched on through the country to many places under General

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html

Lincoln until the expiration of applicants tour. They marched to a place about five miles from Stono, and camped about four weeks at the camp ground before the noted Battle at Stono applicant was in said Battle on the left wing Lieutenant Charleton [William Charleton] commanded the platoon that applicant was in when he was marched into battle, said Lieutenant was shot through the belly and died. There was two of the mess of applicant killed in the Battle, to wit: Thomas Searles and Benjamin Haguewood. Applicant was of the third regiment of North Carolina Troops and being of a remnant of the nine-months men was frequently transferred from one captain to another in the regiment to supply the occasional losses that happened in different companies. McCajah Parker [Micajah Parker?] was adjutant of the regiment that the applicant served in some few days after the battle at Stono applicant was marched with the Army on to General Bull's, Staid there about two weeks and then marched to Bacon's Bridge, staid there a few days and thence to Moncks Corner and thence to Charleston and stationed there about one month and we was then marched to Sullivan's Island. Applicant and some few more about forty five in number we was then under Capt. Ramsey, staid there about one month, and marched back to Charleston and there staid until we was finally discharged on the last day of November ensuing after the Battle of Stono, the dates not remembered. Applicant received a printed discharge at the Barracks at Charleston expressing that it was for a nine months tour agreeable to an act of assembly. His discharge expressed that he was of the third Regiment and of the north Battalion we of the nine months men were called the new Levees and was not mixed with the militia but served with the regulars and when we nine months new Levees were discharged our sergeant William McCarty called us out from among the regulars and we were discharged accordingly by him for a nine months tour having served two months previous to that last tour for which he had no discharge; being all the service rendered by him in the War of the Revolution against the enemy of his country.

Applicant from the information of his parents was born the 10th day of May 1759, about eight miles from Murfreesboro in North Carolina near Virginia line, he is not certain the name of the County. Lived there until 14 years old and then moved to the place where he lived when he entered the service and continued there until three or four years after the end of the Revolution and then moved to Lawrence Co [sic, Laurens County] South Carolina, staid there about ten years thence to Pendleton County in said state, there about nine years thence to Buncombe County, North Carolina, staid there near seven years and thence to where is now Fentress County, Tennessee, where he has lived ever since. Applicant's discharge has been lost a great many years and he knows of no military evidence and knows of no person by whom he can prove his services nor any particular circumstances connected with it, further than is believed from his own tradition, applicant can prove his character as a soldier by William Smith & Daniel Spurlin and others -- they being his neighbors.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and discloses his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ James Johnson, x his mark

Sworn to in open court this 28th day of January 1833

S/ J.H. Richardson, Clk

by his deputy M Huff, D Clk

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State of Tennessee Fentress County: County Court January Session 1833 James Johnson the above named applicant for a pension makes oath that it is out of his power with any reasonable convenience to procure the testimony of a clergyman to certify his character as a Revolutionary soldier.

Sworn to in open court 28th January 1833

S/ James Johnson, X his mark

[William Smith & Daniel Spurlin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 3: On October 24, 1838 in Roane County Tennessee, Delila Johnson, 71, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she was born in Bute County North Carolina July 21, 1767; that she is the widow of James Johnson a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Granville County North Carolina [about the middle of January to the best of her recollection] in 1783 at her father' [William Bennett's] house; that she was married by James Langston, JP; that she lived within 2 miles of her husband for 6 years before their marriage near the edge of Granville and Caswell Counties; that her husband died March 30, 1838 in Roane County Tennessee at the house where she now resides. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 7: On October 24, 1838 in Roane County Tennessee, James Johnson, gave testimony that he is 29 years old as of April 4, 1837 according to a record he wrote in his own Bible in his own handwriting at the time of his marriage 9 years ago as of April 23, 1837; that he is the youngest child of his parents James and Delila Johnson; that he has always understood that his parents were married about a year after his father's last service in the revolutionary war; that his parents had 9 children; that his father died in Roane County Tennessee March 30, 1838 leaving his mother a widow.

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[p 9: On May 20, 1839 in Fentress County Tennessee, Stephen S Johnson, 45 as of August 4th last, gave testimony that he is the 5th child of his parents James and Delilah Johnson; that Joel, Sarah, Elizabeth and Nancy were the older children of his parents; that he, the affiant, has been married near 20 years having married at the age of 26 years; that his older brother Joel Johnson is upwards of 10 years older than affiant; that he has always understood that his parents were married about the year after his father's last service in the Revolutionary War. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months in the North Carolina Continental line.]