

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Ebenezer Johnson R5608

PA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Capitalization partly corrected.]

Fleming County state of Kentucky} SS

On this 12th day of April 1845 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace of the aforesaid County and State Ebenezer Johnson Aged about Ninety One 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 and served as herein stated

He was drafted in Washington County Pennsylvania Rendezvoused in Fortpitt [sic: Fort Pitt at Pittsburgh] and marched in the first week in April 1779 in the Company Commanded by Phillip Ross under the command of of General Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead] Col Campbell and Major John Finley – we marched up the Alleghany [Allegheny] River against the Indians [11 Aug] We had a brush with the enemy Killed four Indians and shot many that sunk in the Alleghaney River. Also at the same time we killed one white man dressed in a ruffled shirt and wore a large three square cocked hat – we returned and I was discharged in Fortpitt my discharge was signed by Captain Phillip Ross my discharge I have long since lost

I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension except the present and I declare my name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state nor never was

The deposition of Joseph Johnson [pension application R5639] who being first duly sworn deposeth and sayeth that he was in the same company and regiment in the year 1779 commanded by Captain Phillip Ross commanded by General Broadhead and was in the same mess with said Ebenezer Johnson Given under my hand April 12th day 1845 Joseph hisXmark Johnson

I was born in the state of New Jersey and removed to state of Pennsylvania in my boyhood where I entered the service of the United States forty eight years since I moved to Kentucky where I now reside Given under my hand April 12th 1845 Ebenezer hisXmark Johnson

[On 2 Nov 1854 James Johnson stated that Joseph Johnson, “being very old, in bad health, and talking also of going to Indiana, where he died,” made the following statement regarding Ebenezer Johnson’s service, and that the statement was kept by Ebenezer Johnson’s son, Daniel Johnson.]

June 20th 1846 Fleming County Commonwealth of Ky

deposition of Joseph Johnson

Q. By the Court

What do you know respecting Ebenezer Johnston of the aforesaid County and State his services in the War of the Revolution

A I was with him when he was drafted in March 1779 in Fortpitt for six months was with him in Fortpitt at the Rendezvoused and marched the whole campaign together and was with him discharged at Fortpitt at the expiration of said time

Also we lived together at our fathers house in Washington County Pennsylvania when he inlisted for one year as a Minute man in the aforesaid County and state in the year 1780 was with him during the service and at the expiration of said service was honorably discharged with him

Also I believe him to be Ninety two years of age

sworn to the date above written

Joseph hisXmark Johnson

State of Kentucky }
County of Fleming } SS [1 Nov 1854]

Personally appeared before Greenup Pickerell a justice of the Peace in & for said county and state aforesaid, Ebenezer Johnson, who says that he does not now know his own exact age but believes that he is about 100 years old, or a little more, that his brother Joseph Johnson, was about 15 months older than himself. He states that he is now very old & that his memory is defective as to dates, and that he can not be positive as to the time, himself & brother Joseph Johnson, were drafted or joined the Revolutionary army, but his memory induces him to say positively that his brother Joseph Johnson & himself were drafted or volunteered at Fort Pitt, during the Revolutionary war, and that both himself and his brother Joseph Johnson served in the same company together for the term of six months or more and was discharged together at Fort Pitt. That the Company in which they served was a regular organized company commanded by Capt Philip Ross and Col Daniel Broadhead. He states further that the service above spoken of, was earlier than 1779 – he can not remember the year, at this time – but he remembers that himself and brother Joseph Johnson were drafted or volunteered at Fort Pitt in the very beginning of the summer, that is to say in the month of June or 1st of July – that him and his brother joined the Revolutionary army for a six months tour, and they served throughout said time and were discharged about the 15th of Dec. That during this first tour, this Company and the Reg't. was marched up Allegany river during the time, and killed a number of Indians on the Allegany river, at the place where the regt or army crossed the river. He further states that himself & his brother Joseph Johnson, afterwards enlisted as minute men under Capt Charles Reed, were spies under Capt Thomas Reed, and that him and his brother Joseph served several tours under said Reed but the length of said service he can not now remember, nor can he remember all the little facts and dates precisely, but he is very certain that his brother Joseph Johnson & himself served during the Revolutionary war, under the officers above named, and at different times, to the amount of nearly three years or more. This affiant states that at the time, he was drafted or joined the army at Fort Pitt as above stated, his brother Joseph Johnson & himself lived in Westmorland [sic: Westmoreland] Co. (now Allegany) and that at the time himself & brother enlisted as minute men under Capt Charles Reed, they were living in Washington County Pennsylvania. Soon after the Revolution this affiant & his brother Joseph Johnson removed to Bourbon County Ky and afterwards they both removed to this County, where this affiant still resides. He further states that his brother Joseph Johnson moved to Jackson County Indiana where he died in May 1852. This affiant further states that Joseph Johnson left two children only, who survived him, Avis, who was married to John Blair, but who is now a widow (John Blair having died) and Delilah who was married to James Blair of Jackson County Indiana. where Joseph Johnson died in May 1852. This affiant states that he is not a pensioner, but has made application for a pension, which is pending before the Pension Department, and this affiant states that him & his brother had several discharges which they lost shortly after the close of the Revolution, and both him and his brother did not know that they were entitled to Pensions untill some time prior to making their applications. He states that he resides about 18 miles from the County seat of Fleming County, and had not the means of information within his reach, and no one to consult, or inform him in regard to his rights. He further states that after he learned that he was entitled to pension by the Laws, he was in easy circumstances, and did not think that he would ever need it, but he is now very old, and needs something, from the hands of his country. He states that him & his brother Joseph, have had frequent conversations in regard to their services in the Revolutionary army and both of them thought that the Gov. ought to give them something, but as they had lost their discharges they had concluded they would never get anything, and not having met with any one, who could give them any information, how to proceed to get a pension they were delayed in making their application, and these are the reasons, why both this affiant and his brother Joseph Johnson, did not make their application for pensions sooner than they did. This affiant further states that he is not interested in the claim of said Joseph Johnson, nor in said Joseph Johnsons at the time he gave his Dep. [deposition] interested in the prosecution of the claim of this affiant. Said Joseph Johnson is now dead, and can not himself give the reasons why he did not apply sooner for a pension but this affiant, will state that he has had frequent conversations with his

brother Joseph as to the probability of their ever being able to get pensions, and the facts, and reasons above stated are the causes, why this affiant and his brother Joseph did not apply earlier for pensions.

Ebenezer hisXmark Johnson

State of Kentucky } Ss

County of Fleming } [1 Nov 1854]

Personally appeared before Greenbury Pickerell a justice of the peace in and for the county of Fleming and State of Kentucky Henry Razor, who says that he is about 85 years old according to his best belief – that his father George Razor moved to Washington Co. Pennsylvania, when this affiant was a very small boy, and this affiant lived both in Washington County and Westmoreland County (now Allegany) and this affiant shortly after he went to Washington Co. became acquainted with Joseph Johnson and also Ebenezer Johnson, and that he has been acquainted with them ever since. This Affiant states that in Washington County and Westmoreland County, Joseph Johnson, Ebenezer Johnson and this affiant lived close neighbors to each other, and often in the same fort together, and this affiant was well acquainted with both Joseph Johnson & Ebenezer Johnson at the time they joined the army at Fort Pitt, under Capt Philip Ross and Col Daniel Brodhead, and (living in the neighborhood of Fort Pitt) knows, both from reputation & his own observation that, said Ebenezer Johnson, and Joseph Johnson served in the Revolutionary army under Capt Philip Ross & Col. Daniel Brodhead, one tour os six months or more – and this affiant further states that they Ebenezer and Joseph Johnson, were either drafted or volunteered at Fort Pitt in the spring of the year and were discharged in December and this affiant believes that it was in the year of 1778 or 1779. This affiant states that he is at this living near Ebenezer Johnson, who has made application to obtain a pension and that with the exception of one year, this affiant has from his earliest infancy, lived a neighbor to said Ebenezer Johnson. This affiant being but a boy during the revolutionary war, can not remember all the facts & occurances of that period – but he is very positive that Joseph Johnson and Ebenezer Johnson served several tours in the Revolution and he is certain that both Joseph & Ebenezer Johnson served a tour of six months or more under Capt Philip Ross & Col. Daniel Broadhead. This affiant states that he himself rendered services in the later part of the revolutionary war, and that he is not a pensioner, but that he has made application for a pension which is now pending before the pension department, if sent on by his attorney [not found], and the reasons why he did not apply earlier than he did, were the following, to wit: This affiant lived a long distance from the residence of an attorney, & there were no one that gave him any certain information, as the manner in which he could get his pension, untill a short time prior to making his application. This affiant states that he had a discharge from Capt Stevenson the officer under whom he served. This affiant says that he volunteered in the spring of the year in or about 1780, for a six months tour, and served during said term but can not be certain as to the date when those services commenced. This affiant further says that Ebenezer Johnson signed & acknowledged the foregoing affidavit in his presence & swore to the same before Greenup Pickerell, and would further state that said Ebenezer Johnson is a man of respectability and he would believe his statements without hesitation. And this affiant would further state that he is not interested in either the claim of Joseph Johnson or Ebenezer Johnson, or in the prosecution of the same.

Henry hisXmark Razor

NOTES:

The file of Joseph Johnson (R5639) includes a letter dated 31 August (year omitted) inquiring about the status of the applications of Joseph Johnson and Ebenezer Johnson “about 108 years old.”

The reason given for rejection of Ebenezer Johnson’s claim was “For further proof and specification, and a report from the Pennsylvania Secretary of State.”