

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Johnson R5651

Phebe Johnson

f47VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/29/13

[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 '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 4]

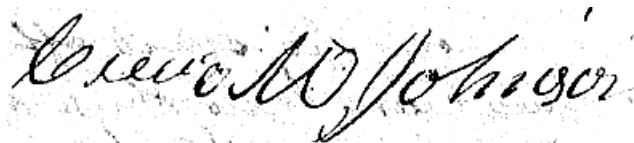
State of Tennessee Franklin County: SS

Be it known that on this 5th day of September in the year A.D. 1853 personally appeared before the subscriber an acting Justice of the Peace and Chairman of the County Court appeared in open Court Cicero M Johnson a resident of said County and being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the Laws of the United States of July 7, 1838, March 3rd 1843, and 17th June 1844. That he is the son of Benjamin Johnson who was in the Continental Service of the State of Virginia during the War of the Revolution. That his father first served as a private in said war for 2 or 3 years at the early part of said war – but the names of the officers under whom he served affiant cannot tell though he has often heard him speak of them yet he cannot now tell their names. That his father above stated was in the northern service and was at the North in his first tour of duty but under whom he served affiant cannot now tell.

Affiant would further declare that his father often told him he entered the service in the Continental Line a 2nd time and was appointed a Sergeant in said [line] and went South – was at Charleston and was in this service until the close of the war, which was about eighteen months if affiant recollects his father's statements though owing to the great length of time affiant cannot now tell under what officers his father Benjamin Johnson served – he would further declare that his father died in the year A.D. 1826 leaving a widow affiant's mother – Phebe Johnson. That his father was married to his mother above stated after his service but prior to the first January 1794. As will appear from the family record now on file in the Department and the remainder of the same accompanying this Declaration.

Affiant would further declare that his mother Phebe Johnson died on the 1st day of February 1847 leaving the following named children as her only surviving children and heirs at law viz. Dudley Johnson, Polley M Taylor [sic], Cynthia M. Baker, William W Johnson and Cicero M Johnson. Affiant makes this declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the acts of Congress of July 7th 1838, March 3rd, 1843, 17th of June 1844 – for such amount of arrearages of pension as was due his mother at the day of her death as above stated.

S/ Cicero M Johnson



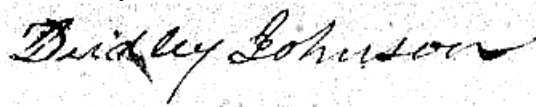
[p 7]

State of Tennessee Franklin County SS

Be it known that on this 31st day of July in the year of our Lord 1854 personally appeared before the subscriber an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State above written Dudley Johnson aged sixty-four years past and being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following affidavit. That he is the son of Benjamin Johnson deceased who was a soldier in the Virginia Continental and State Line Troops in the war of the Revolution that his father was raised in the County of Cumberland in the State of Virginia; and went from said County into the service in the Revolution; that he entered the service at an early day of said War, and went into the Northern service, this was in the Continental Line and served three years; in all under Washington at the North, though the names of the officers under whom he served affiant cannot now recollect, but must refer to the rolls of the Companies serving North, that he remembers well to have often heard his father speak of the above facts in connection with his said Revolutionary service.

Affiant would further declare that his father always told him that on returning home he again entered the service in said war, and was appointed a Sergeant of the company in which he served and served as such for a long time but the names of officers under whom he served he cannot recollect, but remembers seeing his father and Robert Clark¹ who lived a neighbor to his father speak frequently of their having served together in the Revolution the said Clark often telling affiant that he was wounded while in the service and that his affiant's father Benjamin Johnson carried him from the field where they were fighting, and waited on him while sick, that the said Clark removed from Franklin County Tennessee to Tipton County of the same State after the death of his father, and affiant has no doubt but that the said Clark drew a pension from the General Government for his said service and his papers are on file in the Department, that he has often heard them his father and Clark say that they were in the same company and mess, and thinks if his said papers were referred to they would prove the names of the officers & the length of service and the names of the officers and he thinks by this means to prove the service of his father in order to entitle the heirs of Phebe Johnson deceased to such arrearages of pension as she was entitled at her death.

S/ Dudley Johnson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dudley Johnson". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some flourishes at the end of the name.

[p 12]

This is to certify, that it appears from a list in this office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line as settled their accounts and received certificates for the balance of their full pay, according to an act of assembly, passed the November session 1781, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of said Officers and Soldiers from the first January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (see Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 10, p. 462,) that a settlement was made on the 28th day of 1783 in the name of Benjamin Johnson as Sergeant Infantry and evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him was £45.16.11, delivered to Jack Cohan but as the original settlements or copies thereof or not to be found in this office, the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated.

Given under my hand at the First Auditor's Office, Richmond, this

¹ Possibly the same man as [Robert Clark S1752](#)

24th day of March 1853.

S/ Ro Johnston

First Auditor

[No Seal of Office]

[p 13: On August 9, 1854 in Franklin County Tennessee, Nathaniel P Heath, 66, gave testimony that he knew Benjamin Johnson; that while living in North Carolina Benjamin Johnson and the affiant's father, George Heath, lived neighbors and often talked about their service in the revolution

Nathaniel P. Heath]

[p 15: On August 9th 1854 in Franklin County Tennessee, John Awalt, 64, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Johnson, a revolutionary war soldier; that affiant's father Michael Awalt² was a revolutionary pensioner and affiant has often heard his father and Johnson speak together of their service, suffering etc.; affiant's father was convinced that Benjamin Johnson did serve in the revolution; affiant also often heard Robert Clark a messmate of Benjamin Johnson and a pensioner speak of their service in the revolution.

John Awalt]

[p 17: On August 9, 1854, in Franklin County Tennessee Lemuel Brandon, 63, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Johnson; that affiant's father [not named] served in the revolution and drew a pension; that he has often heard his father and Johnson speak of their service as a revolutionary soldiers.

Lemuel Brandon]

[p 25: In August 1854 in Franklin County Tennessee, John Handley gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Johnson and that said Johnson was regarded by his neighbors as being a revolutionary war soldier; that his neighbors included affiant's father Samuel Handley³ who was a revolutionary war pensioner.

Samuel Handley]

[p 43: On March 19, 1853 in Franklin County Tennessee, Jacob Awalt, 63, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Johnson reputed to be a revolutionary war soldier; that Benjamin Johnson and affiant's father lived neighbors; affiant's father [unnamed] and Benjamin Johnson often spoke of their services during the revolution

² [Michael Awalt \(Await\) W326](#)

³ [Samuel Handly S1911](#)

Sac of A Watt,

[p 45: On March 29, 1853 in Franklin County Tennessee, Zachariah H Murrell gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Johnson who was a soldier of the revolution; that he has often heard Johnson speak of his privation's and hardships during the revolution serving as both a private and Sergeant; that the affiant has often heard his father [not named] and James Lewis⁴ discussed their service with Johnson as fellow soldiers

Zachariah H Murrell]

[pp 2-3]

Family Record

Births

Benjamin Johnson was born August the 2nd 1758
Pheby Johnson his wife was born February 24, 1765
Nancy Johnson their daughter was born June 28, 1783
Elizabeth Johnson was born February 14, 1785
Rebecka Johnson was born February 10, 1787
Dudley Johnson was born November 6, 1789
Polly M. Johnson was born May 1, 1793
Cynthia S.[?] Johnson was born October 2, 1794
Lucy M Johnson was born January 25, 1797
William W Johnson was born August 31, 1799
Cicero M Johnson was born January 1, 1803
Robert B G Johnson was born January 27th 1805
Nancy Bryan was born February 8th 1805
Nancy M Johnson Daughter of William & Lucy Johnson was born July 29th 1825
Martha E Johnson was born June 14 A.D. 1828
Lucy Mannen Johnson daughter of Cicero and Marthy J. Johnson was born the 11th of June 1831
Mary Jane Johnson born February 12th A.D. 1834
Pheby Ann Johnson born December the 2nd A.D. 1835
Nancy Jamima Johnson born July 29th A.D. 1838
Julet Lavina Johnson born January 28th 1841
Martha J Johnson wife of C. Johnson was born February 19th 1805

Deaths

Lucy M Johnson departed this life April 9th 1840
Mary Jane Johnson departed this life April the 8th A.D. 1840

⁴ Probably the same man as [James Lewis W303](#)