

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Josiah Johnson R5655

Susan

f50VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/2/14

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 14]

State of Virginia Pittsylvania County to wit:

On this 17 day of May 1840 [?]<sup>1</sup> personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, Susan Johnson, a resident of said County and State, aged 75 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 by the Act of Congress passed July 7<sup>th</sup> 1838, entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows –"

That she is the widow of Josiah Johnson deceased, late of the said County and State, who was a private soldier in the Continental and militia service of Virginia in the War of the Revolution – She declares, that she has no personal knowledge of the service of her late husband in the Revolutionary War, having married him long subsequent to the War – She always understood from him in his lifetime that he was a good deal in service, was engaged in many battle; that she has understood the same from others, who served with him: all of which she verily believes to be true and correct – That her late husband for the last 12 or 15 years before his death, was in a shocking state of health, laboring under stupor and mental imbecility or derangement, insomuch that he was totally incapable of taking care of himself, or what little property he had. That she pressed on him to claim a pension under the Act of June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832; but his powers of mind were so much exhausted, that he could never comprehend her reasoning [?]<sup>2</sup> – That she was ignorant until recently that any member of the family under those circumstances were competent to make a declaration for him – or the claim would have been presented in his lifetime – That herself in consequence of bodily infirmity, old age, much trouble, and the consequent loss of memory, cannot state with any degree of accuracy the particulars of his service, and therefore will rely on the public Records, and the accompanying certificates of old soldiers who served with him, for more particular information – She cannot state how long he served altogether, but confining in his statement repeatedly made to her, he must have served at least 3 years.

She further declares that she was married to the said Josiah Johnson on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 1789; that her husband, the aforesaid Josiah Johnson died on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of December 1839: that she

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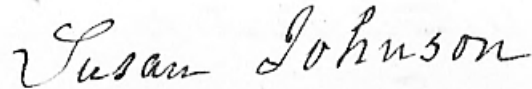
1840

2

Susanna

was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794: to wit, at the time above stated.

S/ Susan Johnson



[Attested by the clerk of court on May 20, 1841]

Of Virginia Pittsylvania County to wit

I do hereby certify that I always understood from my husband that [he] served in the revolutionary war under Captain Wilkerson in the militia and was attached to Colonel Thomas Proctor's Regiment & George Aftner was the Adjutant.

Given under my hand this the 17 of May 1841

S/ Susan Johnson

[p 23]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, 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, that a Certificate issued on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of December 1784, in the name of Josiah Johnson, as a Soldier of Infantry for £33.12.5, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to himself and was given for services prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this  
1<sup>st</sup> day of June 1841.

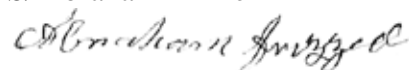
S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[p 42]

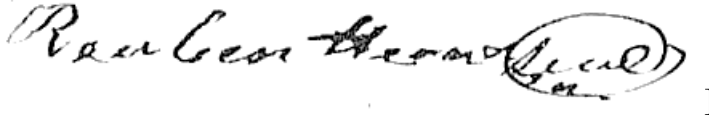
State of Virginia

On this 25<sup>th</sup> day of November A.D. 1853 personally appeared before me John D Hall a Justice of the Peace within and for the County of Pittsylvania in the State aforesaid Abraham Frizzell a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 86 years who first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he was well acquainted with Josiah Johnson deceased that he lived near neighbor to him for upwards of seven years, that he was always reputed by his neighbors and the community in which he lived to have been a revolutionary Soldier. That he was frequently in conversation with him, heard him speak of being in the revolutionary war for upwards of three years and of having served the most of the time in the State of Pennsylvania. That he was very deaf and said that his deafness was caused by the firing of cannon while he was in service in said war. That the said Josiah Johnson deceased was always regarded as a man of truth and that he verily believes from many conversations had with him in relation to his services during the said war, that he was a revolutionary soldier and that he actually served for the period above stated. He further states that Susan Johnson deceased was his widow, that they lived together as man and wife and were so recognized to be by the community in which they lived, and he swears that he is a disinterested witness.

S/ Abraham Frizzell



[p 44: On November 26, 1853 in Pittsylvania County Virginia, Reuben Herndon, 88, gave an affidavit substantially identical to that given by Abraham Frizzell and transcribed above

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[p 46]

State of Virginia Charlotte County to wit:

I William P Hamlett<sup>3</sup> do hereby testify that I was intimately acquainted with Josiah Johnson, late of Pittsylvania County, in the War of the Revolution; and recollected most distinctly that he enlisted in Charlotte, in 1776, under Captain John Brent for 3 years, and was attached to the 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Colonel Lawson [Robert Lawson] and General Stevens [Robert Stevens]. I was not attached to the same company; but know the fact of enlistment and service. The said Josiah Johnson married in the County of Charlotte a Miss Martin, who is still alive resident in the County of Pittsylvania. I am in the 82<sup>nd</sup> year of my age, and was a soldier of the Revolution. He said Johnson also served in the militia under Captain Wilkinson for some time – how long I do not know.

S/ William P Hamlett, X his mark

[Attested in Charlotte County Virginia January 12, 1842 by John Broockes, JP

[p. 48: record of marriage dated July 24, 1789 of Josiah Johnson and Susanna Martin married by the Reverend Thomas Johnston in Charlotte County Virginia.]

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<sup>3</sup> [William P. Hamlett S13305](#)