

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Drewry (Drury) Johnston (Johnson) R5656 Rhoda Johnston f42NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 10/28/08: rev'd 2/22/16

[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 9]

North Carolina, Orange County: SS

On this the 28th day of November 1844, personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the Court, of pleas and quarter sessions for said County, Rhoda Johnson, a resident of said County aged 82 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, maketh the declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th July 1838.

That she is the widow of the late Drewry Johnson, who during the War of the Revolution (as this Declarant has reason to believe & does believe) did serve the United States, as a private of Infantry in the Militia, after her marriage with the said Drury Johnson.

1st The said Rhoda Johnson has reason to believe and does believe that in the fall of 1778, there was a draft for five months Militia men, to serve the United States in the War of the Revolution, when this Declarant's husband, the aforesaid Drewry Johnson, was drafted to Serve in said tour, was marched from the Town of Hillsboro in the aforesaid County, to Salisbury, thence to Charlotte, thence to Rutherford's Camp in South Carolina and at the Cheraw Hills, was discharged & returned home, and in the foregoing tour was, she believes in a legally organized Corps.

2. This Declarant has reason to believe and does believe that in the fall of 1781, immediately after the Town of Hillsboro was captured by Colonel Fanning [David Fanning], September 1781 [September 12, 1781].¹ This Declarant's husband did volunteer for a Tour in the militia under Captain Hodges [George Hodge], Tinnin [Hugh Tinnen] Colonel: and Butler [John Butler] Brigadier General -- the object in raising the troops was to rescue the Governor [Thomas Burke] & the Troops which the Tories had surprised & captured in Hillsboro -- In this tour the troops were marched to near Wilmington & after remaining some time on the Cape Fear [River], returned home about Christmas following -- having been absent in the Army about three months & two weeks. When he was discharged in the Town of Hillsborough & returned home, and in said tour, was called into the Service by the proper authority.

3rd This Declarant remembers that some time in the early part of the year after the [battle of] Guilford [Court House, March 15, 1781]² her deceased husband did volunteer a three months tour under Captain Guinn [William Gwinn] & Colonel O'Neal [William O'Neal] -- Butler Brigadier General, rendezvoused in the Town of Hillsboro were marched to Randolph, Grassy Island on the ___ and to Cross Creek, now Fayetteville, thence to Pittsboro & were marched to Hillsboro and discharged by Colonel O'Neal.

In each of the foregoing tours, this Declarant has reason to believe and does believe that her husband was in legally organized Corps & called into Service by Competent authority.

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hillsborough.html

² http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_guilford_courthouse.html

That as regards her Deceased husband's discharges from his tours, she has no knowledge what has become of them.

This Declarant further states that her Deceased husband may have served in other tours; but she does not recollect them -- and as to the foregoing Tours, they are as Correctly as she is enabled to state them, from what her in perfect memory furnishes her, and was she learns from those who were companions of her husband's in the Army.

The said Rhoda Johnson, further sets forth that she was married to the aforesaid Drewry Johnson, to the best of her recollection in the year of 1785, that they were married by James Carrington Esquire in the aforesaid County of Orange as per Copy of her marriage Bond --

That her Deceased husband Drury Johnson died in the year of 1832. That she has not married since, but still remains the widow of the aforesaid Drury Johnson.

That from old age & bodily infirmity is unable to attend to court to make this Declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year first above written before me.

S/ Wm Lipscomb, JP

S/ Rhoda Johnson, X her mark

[p 2: Certified copy of marriage bond dated May 7, 1785, given in Orange County, NC, by Drury Johnston and Thomas Browen to secure the marriage of Johnson to Rody Cole. The copy indicates that the bondsman signed his name "Drury Johnson, X his mark"]

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State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 24th day of February 1845 Personally appeared before me Samuel N. Tate one of the acting justices of the peace for said County George Carrington³ a resident of the said County & State aged 93 years, an United States pensioner who being Sworn according to law deposeth and saith that in the War of the Revolution he was in the United States service as a private soldier under Captain Mebane [Robert Mebane] & General Butler [John Butler].

This deponent was well acquainted with the late Drewery [Drewry or Drury] Johnson of said County whose widow Rhoda is now applying for a pension -- Said Drewry Johnson to this Deponent's knowledge did serve the United States as much as nine months as a private Soldier and under said Officers with this deponent during which time the Battle of Lindley's Mills [September 13, 1781]⁴ was fought in the year 1781 And that this deponent remembers that the said Drewery Johnson was in the aforesaid Battle.

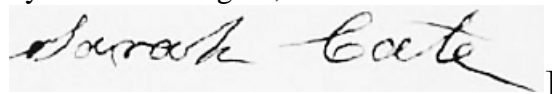
The aforesaid Drewery Johnson has been dead about twelve years and left a widow Rhoda surviving who has not since married but remains his widow.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of February 1845.

S/ Saml. N. Tate, JP

S/ George Carrigan [sic], X his mark

[p 4: On February 27, 1845, in Guilford County, NC, Sarah Cate, 75, gave testimony that she is the sister of Rhoda Johnson, widow of Drury Johnson, who resides in Orange County, NC; that her sister is the widow of Drury Johnson; that she, Sarah, was present at their marriage in 1785 by James Carrington, JP.



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³ [George Carrington S8185](#)

⁴ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_lindleys_mill.html

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this twenty first of November 1846 personally appeared before me John A. McMannen one of the acting Justices for said County George Carrington a resident of said County aged 96 years and maketh oath that he was well acquainted with Drury Johnson Deceased Husband of Rhody Johnson who is now his widow, and that he well recollects that said Drury was a soldier in the Revolution the first tour said Drury served was in the nine months Militia That this deponent's brother James Carrington was Captain & Litle [Archibald Lytle] was Colonel whether or not said Johnson served out the nine months he is unable to say with certainty he will [well] recollects that said Johnson went in another tour of Duty and is under the impression it was a six months tour and thinks that McFarland was Captain & Mebane the Colonel, and in said tour said Johnson was with him at Ramsey's Mills [March 19, 1781]⁵ on Deep River and in an engagement at Lindley's Mills N.C.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date above written.

Before me John A. McMannen, JP

S/ George Carrington, X his mark

[p 13: On February 10, 1853 in Orange County North Carolina, Irena Johnston, Phebe Jeffries and Henry Johnston executed a power of attorney by which they authorized their attorney to pursue the claim of Drury Johnston for a pension. Their relationship, if any, to the veteran and/or his widow is not stated. Each signed the document with their respective marks.]

[p 7: Power of attorney dated July 10, 1857 given in Orange County North Carolina by Reaney Johnson as the heir of "Rhody and Drury Johnson". She signed her name with her mark.]

[p 32: NC Comptroller's Certificate dated March 24, 1845 as follows:

Comptroller's Office Raleigh N.C.
I William J. Collins, Comptroller of Public Accounts, do hereby certify that it appears of record in the Military Books of my office, that Drury Johnson had the following specie Certificates issued in his favor, for military service in the Revolutionary War; one for nine pounds six shillings (£9.6^s) found in Book N 14, page 22; another for three pounds, nineteen shillings (£3.19.) found in Book A, No 11, page 4; and another for five pounds, four shillings nine pence, (£5. 4, 9) found in Book G, No 18, page 48. Given under my hand and seal this 24th day March 1845
Wm J. Collins Compt

⁵ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_ramseys_mill.html