

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Johnson R5672

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/5/14

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

State of Virginia County of Monroe: SS

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October 1836 personally appeared before James A. Dunlap a justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid William Johnson aged seventy-six years and a resident of said County of Monroe and State aforesaid 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated – that he resided in the County of Prince William in the year 1777 when a draft was called for and that he with many others volunteered to supply the draft and that he volunteered at Fauquier Court House in the State of Virginia as well as he now recollects in the month of August 1777 under Captain Benjamin Harris as he was called but thinks the name was spelled Harrison [Benjamin Harrison] for the term of three months and marched directly from Fauquier Court House to the neighborhood of Philadelphia passing by Fredericktown in Maryland and Lancaster in Pennsylvania and joined the main Army under General Washington the day after the Battle of Germantown [October 4, 1777] near the Penny Mills on the Skip back road about 16 miles from Philadelphia where they encamped for several days and then marched towards Philadelphia to the White Marsh where they remained for the full term for which he volunteered and was then marched back to Virginia by his Captain and discharged that whilst he was in the Army under General Washington he was attached to the Old Virginia 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment and was commanded by a Major Picket and that during the time they were encamped at the White Marsh the British Magazine Ship was blown up in the Delaware River a few days after which circumstance the company to which he was attached left the Army and returned to Virginia and that after he returned home he married in the County of Prince William and moved in the spring of 1780 to the Falls of Ohio (on the now Kentucky side) and was drafted there in the same year he thinks in the month of August at the Fort where he has since understood the town of Louisville has been erected and was attached to the company commanded by Captain John Erskine and to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Logan [Benjamin Logan] and General George Rogers Clark that they remained a short time at the Fort after he was drafted and then marched up the Ohio River (some of the men in Boats but most of them by land[]) to near the mouth of Licking the Army then left the River and marched to the Chillicothe town but when they reached that place the Indians had set fire to the town and left it but it was still burning that after destroying the Corn in the fields at that place they marched on to the Pickaway towns where they had a battle with the Indians which lasted about 3 hours and in which we were victorious after the battle we destroyed the corn in the fields at that place and were marched back to the

falls of Ohio and discharged – that as well as he now recollects this last draft was for three months but he cannot be certain but he well recollects that he was either one or two days over or one or two days under three months in this last tour of duty and that he is well satisfied he served the full term of six months in the two trips, that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. That he never received any written discharge for any of the service which he performed, that he received his pay for the first tour of duty and that he received a certificate of the last tour but never received anything for his service but his certificate has been lost long since, that he has no record of his age nor ever had only as it has been handed down to him by his father – he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State that he now resides in the County of Monroe Virginia and has resided there since the year 1781 at that time the County of Greenbrier.

S/ William Johnson, X his mark

[Edwin W Woodson, a clergyman, and Robert Guinn gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I William Johnson of the County of Monroe and State of Virginia do hereby make the following statements in addition to the statements contained in my declaration sent to the War Department for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an Act of Congress passed 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832 and in answer to a letter from the Commissioner of Pensions dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 1836. I would represent to the War Department that the fortifications at the falls of Ohio erected by Colonel Clark in the spring of 1780 required but little work and indeed were never completed and the work done there at that time was principally performed by the Militia as Colonel Clark had only about 7 or 8 men (as this applicant understood) when he arrived there. The work was apportioned amongst the men and each man's share laid off to him, my share was laid off for me but as well as I now recollect I had not commenced it, the whole time employed at work at said fortifications I do not believe exceeded 10 days until it was ascertained that there was no danger of an attack at that place when the work was entirely abandon and preparations were commenced for marching against the Indians I would also state that I was some time engaged in making Cartridge Blocks for a six pounder, in making canoes and such other work as was required the precise time I cannot state but I am well satisfied that it was not less than 15 or 20 days for which service I never received any pay and which I did not take into the estimate when I stated in my declaration that I was about 3 months engaged in the Campaign in which if added to the time they are stated I am well satisfied would make more than 3 months. I would further state that to the best of my knowledge I served about 10 days longer in the tour near Philadelphia then stated in my declaration although 3 months was the time for which I was drafted. I would also state that so far as I know at this time it will be impossible for me to furnish any other proof of my service than my own oath as to the reason why I have so long delayed applying for a pension I would state that I have been 6 years confined to my own house and yard and that in a remote part of the Country and although I heard of persons getting pensions I thought it was only the regular Soldiers and was entirely ignorant that the Militia and those who fought against the Indians had any claim whatever to a pension given under my hand this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January 1837

S/ Wm Johnson