

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Roberts R8867

f7VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/5/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

Note: This file does not contain a pension application. The following letter indicates what may have been in the petition that was filed:

*Honorable H L White<sup>1</sup>*

*U.S. Senate*

*April 13, 1826*

*Sir: The claim of James Roberts to a pension on account of Revolutionary service whose declaration you forwarded to this Department has been examined and I have to state that the service set forth by him does not entitle him to a pension.*

*He states that he enlisted in 1775 in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Patrick Henry of the Virginia Line. Colonel Henry was not a Continental Officer as early as 1775 and of course the claimant's enlistment under Colonel Henry could not have been on the Continental establishment. The law of the 18th of March 1818 under which Roberts claims, provides for those only who served at least nine months under an enlistment on the Continental establishment. It does not appear from the rolls in this office that any person of his name served in the Virginia Continental line. The declaration will remain on our files &c*

*[the letter is not signed]*

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<sup>1</sup> WHITE, Hugh Lawson, a Senator from Tennessee; born in Iredell County, N.C., October 30, 1773; moved with his parents in 1785 to that part of North Carolina which now is Knox County, Tenn.; participated in an expedition against the Cherokees around 1793; pursued classical studies in Philadelphia, Pa., and studied law in Lancaster, Pa.; admitted to the bar in 1796 and commenced practice in Knoxville, Tenn.; judge of the State superior court 1801-1807; member, State senate 1807-1809; appointed United States district attorney in 1808; judge of the State supreme court 1809-1815; president of the State bank; member, State senate 1817-1825; elected in 1825 as a Jacksonian to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Andrew Jackson; reelected in 1829 and then in 1835 as an Anti-Jacksonian (later Whig) and served from October 28, 1825, to January 13, 1840, when he resigned because he could not conscientiously obey the instructions of his constituents; served as President pro tempore of the Senate during the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Congresses; chairman, Committee on Indian Affairs (Twentieth through Twenty-sixth Congresses); died in Knoxville, Tenn., April 10, 1840; interment in First Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=W000376>