

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of John G. Simpkins R9592

Margaret Simpkins f78VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/14/13: rev'd 5/26/21

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of Illinois Franklin County: Sct.

On this 19th day of September in the year while Lord 1826, personally appeared in open court, to wit, the Circuit Court in and for the County of Franklin and State of Illinois (being a court of record, made so by the Legislative authority of said State) John G Simpkins, a resident of said County, aged about seventy years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress of the 18th day of March 1818 and the 1st May 1820, that he the said Simpkins enlisted for the term of three years on the __ day of October 1777 in the State of New York, in the company commanded by Captain John Rodolph [John Rudolph] of Colonel Henry Lee's Light Horse, commonly called "The Legion" in the line of the State of Virginia on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said troop until the __ day of __ 1781, when he was discharged from the service in the State of South Carolina. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present. That his name is not on the roll of any State and that the following all the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension viz.: "That together with his little property and labor he has heretofore been able to subsist himself, but that through misfortune and personal the debility he is now reduced to the necessity of asking his Country's aid" –

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

Schedule of John G Simpkins' property

viz.:	one sorrel mare of the value of	\$30.00
	Debt due to me in Tennessee	50.00
	Debt due to me in Tennessee	14.00
	One Lot of hogs of the value of	25.00
	Household furniture of the value of	<u>50.00</u>
		\$169.00

S/ John S Simpkins, X his mark

[table showing the disposition of property which he owned as of March 18 1818 has been omitted] I am a farmer by occupation, but am now unable to pursue it from bodily infirmities. I have in family my wife of 61 years of age who is too infirm to do anything for a support, and one daughter of the age of about 18 years who is able to subsist herself, by her labor. Sworn to and subscribed in open court on the 19th day of September A.D. 1826 before me James Hall Judge of the 4th judicial Circuit of the State of Illinois and presiding Judge of the circuit Court in and for the County of Franklin and said State of Illinois

S/ James Hall

[p. 7: On August 3, 1839 in Franklin County Illinois, the veteran applied for the transfer of his pension benefit back to the Illinois agency from the Indiana agency stating as his reason for moving back to Franklin County Illinois as being that his daughter Isabella Norris promised to find him and his family provision in the first winter after they moved to Vigo Indiana, but then she refused to do so. He elected to move back to Franklin County Illinois.]

[p 19: On September 7, 1844 in Williamson County Illinois, Margaret Simpkins, 78, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John G Simpkins, who was a pensioner for his service in the revolution at the time of his death; that she married him December 11, 1785 in Lancaster District South Carolina; that her husband died July 22, 1843; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p. 22: On April 17, 1854 in Williamson County Illinois, James Simpkins, 54, filed a declaration seeking a pension under the 1836 act stating that he is the heir at law and son of John G Simpkins and Margaret Simpkins both now deceased; that his father was a revolutionary war pensioner during his lifetime; that his father died July 22, 1844; that Margaret Simpkins remained his widow until her death in Williamson County Illinois June 17, 1848; that he makes this application as well for his sister Margaret Gully; that he does not know whether Sally and Iby Norris or yet living or not; that affiant is the 7th child of his parents. He signed his application with his mark.]

[Facts in file: Veteran married December 11, 1785 in Lancaster District South Carolina Margaret Moor, who was born August 26, 1766; it is stated that the veteran had 9 children of whom James Simpkins was the 7th; the following are the only names which appear in the papers in this file:

William Moore Simpkins born June 3, 1793

Sarah Simpkins born September 7, 1795

John Simpkins born November 23, 1797

Luthera rita Simpkins born July 1801

James Simpkins born July 10, 1805

Margaret (Polley) Simpkins born April 24, 1809

Isabella (Iby) Norris]

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State of Illinois Franklin County: Sct.

This 19th day of September 1826, personally appeared before me William Ferris an acting [justice] of the peace in and for said County of Franklin Samuel Gardner, and made oath that John G Simpkins, who is about to apply for a pension as a Revolutionary Soldier, was personally

known to me as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, on Continental establishment between the year 1777 and 1779. That the said Simpkins enlisted for the period of 3 years on the ___ day of October 1777 in the State of New York in the company commanded by Captain John Rudolph of Colonel Lee's Light Horse commonly called "The Legion" in the line of the State of Virginia, on Continental establishment and was honorably discharged from said service in the state of South Carolina in the year 1781. He further states that he knew the said Simpkins in the service aforesaid at Valley Forge, Fort Montgomery &c.

S/ Samuel Gardner



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State of Illinois Polk County Sct.

This 15th day of September 1826, personally appeared before me Robert Hancock an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County of Pope, at my dwelling house David McNeely¹ and made oath that John G Simpkins who is about to apply for a pension as a Revolutionary Soldier was personally known to me as a soldier in the Revolutionary war on Continental establishment between the year 1777 and 1779 – that said Simpkins enlisted for the period of 3 years on the ___ day of October 1777 in the State of New York, in the company commanded by Captain John Rudolph of Colonel Lee's Light Horse, commonly called "the Legion" in the line of the State of Virginia, on the Continental establishment; and was honorably discharged from said service in the State of South Carolina, in the year 1781. He further states that he knew the said Simpkins in the service aforesaid at Valley Forge, Fort Montgomery &c.

S/ David McNeely



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing September 20, 1826, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental service.]

Addendum to John G. Simpkins R9592

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 25 May 2021.

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#). The file also contains a copy of the federal pension application.]

State of Illinois Williamson County S.S.

Be it known that before me John T. Davis a Justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid personally appeared John G Simpkins and made oath That he enlisted in the service of the united states under Captain John Rudolph at Bedford New purchase Township in the State of New York

¹ [David McNeely S35524](#)

some time in the month of October in 1777 and that he served from that time until the 19th of March 1781 in Lee's Legion and was discharged at the Horse [undeciphered word] South Carolina on the 19th day of March AD 1781

Sworn and subscribed this 7th day of March 1841

John hisXmark Simpkins

Before me John T. Davis J.P.

Treasury Department/ Third Auditor's Office/ 29th July 1841

Sir [William H Richardson Esq'r/ Secy of Com. of Va./ Richmond]

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th Inst. stating that a claim for Land Bounty in the name of John Simpkins or John S. Simpkins [sic] a pensioner has been filed, that He states he was enlisted in the State of N York in Captain Rudolph's Co. attached to Lee's Legion and that the Acting Governor desires to be informed if the Books of my office will shew whether he was, or was not Credited to the state of Virginia as part of her quota.

In reply I have to state that the name of John Simpkins or John S Simpkins is not found returned for Land or gratuity in Lee's Legion.

Very Respectfully/ Your Obt. Svt.

Peter Hanger Aud

NOTE: If Simpkins was discharged from Lee's Legion on 19 March 1781 it is likely to have been in North Carolina rather than South Carolina.