

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Johnson S15904

f46VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/3/12 rev'd 12/31/13

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

State of Virginia Isle of Wight County to wit

On this fourth day of February in the year 1833 personally appeared before Edwin Morrison, William C Edwards, William H Ballard & David Roberts, Justices composing the court of Isle of Wight aforesaid James Johnson Senior a resident of the said County of Isle of Wight and State of Virginia aged eighty-five years the 27th day of April last past who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he was called out in the Virginia militia by a draft, in the service of the United States under Captain Josiah Parker (who was afterwards a major in the Continental Army) in the year 1775, that the company he belonged to was ordered & marched to the great Bridge in Norfolk County, & got there a few days after Colonel Fordice [sic, Capt. Charles Fordyce killed at the Battle of Great Bridge, December 9, 1775] was killed, that he remained in the service on duty about three months that tour, was then permitted to return home to Isle of Wight County which is the place of his nativity & where he has always resided; that about the latter part of the year 1775 he got the commission of Lieutenant in the militia of the aforesaid State, and as Lieutenant served a tour of duty at Fort Nelson near Portsmouth and Norfolk County in the company commanded by Captain Robert Holland, that he in a few months after the last said tour had expired, he received a Captain's commission in the aforesaid militia, & to the best of his knowledge & belief he received a commission of Captain as aforesaid, in the early part of the year 1776 and from that time he was on duty with his company every other six weeks till the capture of Corn Wallace [Cornwallis, October 19, 1781] – that he served with his company one tour at Portsmouth under the immediate command of General Mullenberg [Peter Muhlenberg] – that he was sent with his company, on their several tours to all the posts, or cantonments, between Smithfield in Isle of Wight County to Portsmouth in Norfolk County, that he was several times immediately on the British lines, but did not come into action with them. He is confident that after he received the commission of Captain he was on duty considerably more than two years before the capture of Wallace – He has no documentary evidence having lost or mislaid his commission but Robert Turner & Henry Womble & Jacob Carr now present and who served under him as Captain can testify to the correctness of this declaration, as to his services while acting as Captain – he relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State – Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jas. Johnson, Senr.

James Johnson Senior

[Daniel Whitley, a clergyman, Robert Turner, Jacob Carr and Henry Womble gave the standard supporting affidavit ..." & we the said Robert Turner,¹ Joseph Carr & Henry Womble further certify that we know that the said James Johnson Senior did serve as Captain of militia in the Revolutionary War more than two years because we served in the company commanded by him at least two years during said War before the capture of Corn Wallace."

Daniel Whitley
Robert Turner
Jacob Carr
Henry Womble

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State of Virginia, Isle of Wight County (SS)

Personally appeared before me David Roberts a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Isle of Wight aforesaid James Johnson Senior who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, (as amendatory to his annexed declaration) by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length & places of his services, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades: for three months as first Sergeant in Captain Josiah Parker's company of minute men in the year 1775 – for six weeks as Lieutenant in Captain Robert Holland's company in the last of the year 1775 and first of the year 1776, – And that in February 1776 he was commissioned Captain and from that time, till the capture of Corn Wallace he served eighteen tours of six weeks each (though frequently the terms were seven weeks) under the command of Colonel John Sck. Wills [John Scarsbrook Wills]. That sometimes he was stationed at Smithfield in Isle of Wight County, sometimes at Mackie's Mills [Mackey's Mills], also in Isle of Wight, some time at Scott's old Fields, in Nansemond County, sometime at Jerico [Jericho] also in Nansemond County, and sometimes at Portsmouth in Norfolk County: that he was called into service every Tour by the order of said Colonel John Sck. Wills & Major Jesse Brown. And for his said services as Captain he claims a pension – Given under my hand and seal this 14th day of December 1832

S/ David Roberts

I am a native of Hampton in Virginia and was during the whole of the war of the Revolution in

¹ Sic, [Robin Turner S7766](#)

the lower part of the State, was frequently in Isle of Wight and Nansemond and have a perfect recollection that during the whole. From 1776 to October 1781, the militia of the Counties bordering on the Tide in that part of Virginia were constantly liable to be called out and were called out, to protect the Country against privateers & the mariners of the enemy, and to resist invasion if made which was at all times feared & expected – I am very confident that the militia of Isle of Wight was called out in 77 & 78 as well as after the invasion 1779 –
Washington February 26, 1834

S/ James Barron²

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Barron". The ink is dark and the signature is written in a fluid, connected style.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$480 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a Captain for two years in the Virginia service.]

² [James Barron W12264](#)