

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Allison S16309

f12NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/5/07 rev'd 7/23/14

[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 '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 Kentucky, Nicholas County

On this 22nd day of October 1832, personally appeared in open Court, being a court of record, before John Edward, R. Edwards and Samuel Arnett, Esquires, Justices, constituting the Court of and for the County of Nicholas and the State aforesaid, now sitting, John Alison [sic], a resident of the County aforesaid, aged about 73 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to attain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That in the spring of the year 1776, he thinks in May, there was a call for men; and under this call I entered the service of the United States in the County of Rowan and State of North Carolina, for a term of three months, as a volunteer, under Captain John Brandon, commanded by Col. Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and Lieutenant Colonel Locke [Francis Locke], -- marched immediately to the Lower part of North Carolina, against the Scotch Tories, to a place called Cross Creek, the Tories had collected to a very considerable number, and were marching to join the British Army at Wilmington; but before we came up with them, they were met by the American forces under General Caswell [Richard Caswell], who commanded in the lower part of N. C., and were defeated: We continued in that section a considerable time reconnoitering the Country, and was marched back to Rowan County aforesaid, and was there regularly discharged; but thinks it some few days before the said Term of three months had expired, how long, he cannot precisely recollect, received a discharge, given, he believes, by Captain John Brandon but which is lost.

In, I believe, the first of February 1778, another call for men was ordered for a term of five months, and under that call, I again entered the service of the US in the said Rowan County, N. C. for the said term of five months – and drove a wagon & Team under James [illegible last named, looks like, perhaps, "Magalion"]¹ who acted as wagon Master – the troops was commanded by General Rutherford, Colonel Locke, and Lieutenant Colonel Brevard, and forthwith marched into South Carolina, about 20 miles, I believe, above Savannah, to Purrysburg – there we joined General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln], a regular Officer who commanded the South Carolina troops, and who, a short time before, had been driven before the British, and retreated to Purrysburg on the Savannah River: we continued there and in the adjacent country the whole term of that engagement – reconnoitering the country bordering on said River, where we had frequent skirmishes with the British, who then

¹ James Magalion

had possession of Georgia: I was then discharged – I received a discharge, which is lost, given I think, by Lieutenant Colonel Brevard, after a tour of about four months service.

In March 1780, there came another call for men, for a term of three months; and under this call I again entered the Service of the U.S. in said Rowan County N. C. for the term of three months, under Captain Locke [John Locke] (nephew of Colonel Locke), Lieutenant J. Cather [sic, Cathey?], Ensign Thomas Gillaspie; and immediately marched into South Carolina, and joined General Euger [Isaac Huger], at Moncks Corner, where, I was, on about the 14th of April 1780, taken prisoner by the British – and I was, with the other prisoners, taken to Stono River or Ferry, where the British shipping lay, and was there put on board a prison Ship where I remained until after the surrender of Charleston, about the middle of May 1780 [May 12, 1780], when a capitulation was entered into, by which I, with a number of other prisoners, was permitted to return home as a prisoner on parole; and in September 1781, I believe it was, a general exchange of prisoners took place, and I was included, and exchanged: But even while on parole, I volunteered and entered the Service, and marched to a place in North Carolina called RamSours [sic, Ramsour's Mill, June 20, 1780]], or some such name, where we had a pretty warm engagement with the Tories – and was on several other expeditions against the Tories, while on parole, and before I was exchanged in September 1781, as above stated.

In the same month, September 1781, I was again called out, and entered the Service of the United States, for a term of three months, under Captain James Cathe [James Cathey]. (In this service I belonged to the Light Horse) and marched under the command of General Rutherford threw a large country of Scotch Tories and eventually arrived at Wilmington – from which point I was detached with a party to go down the River to watch the motion of the British, about 20 miles below, on this excursion I was absent several days: we remained in that region of country some considerable time: and from Wilmington returned home, and our three months service having expired, we were discharged. I received a discharge given, I believe, by Captain Cathey; but which is lost. He states that he was born in Rowan County, North Carolina, in December 1759 – as recorded in his father's Bible.

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. Sworn to and Subscribed in Open Court 22nd Oct. 1832

S/ John Alison [sic]



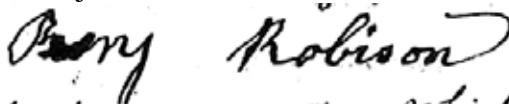
Att. S/ J. G. Parks, CClk

[Solomon G Ward, a clergyman, and John Campbell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The applicant then introduced Benjamin Robison, of the County of Montgomery and State of Kentucky – aged 76 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, in open court this ___ day of ___ 1832, made and subscribed the following statement, to wit: That he was born and raised in the County of Rowan and State of North Carolina, and that he lived a close neighbor to the above named John Allison (who also resided in said Rowan County) during the War of the revolution; and knows that said John Allison was a soldier of the revolution; served as he states, because this affiant was well acquainted with him at that time – and served with said Allison in the revolutionary war, in the same company in every campaign except the last three

months which said Allison charges to have served in his declaration, which affiant has heard.; and recollects that said Allison was absent from home about the time stated on his last three months service and was, at the time, said to be in the revolutionary service; and that he was so engaged this affiant has no doubt.

S/ Benj. Robison

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Benj. Robison". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat stylized.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court Oct. 22nd 1832

S/ J. G. Parks, C Clk

The Court then propounded to the applicant, John Allison, the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department – to which he answers

1st I was born in the County of Rowan in the State of North Carolina, and the month of December 1759.

2nd My age was recorded in the Bible of my Father, but, where it at present is, I am unable to say.

3rd When called into service, I was living in Rowan County, State of North Carolina – sometime after the revolutionary, I moved from said County (where I had continued to reside) to the State of Kentucky, where I at present reside in Nicholas County.

4th I entered the Service as a volunteer, in this way – When we first volunteered, our companies were divided into four classes – and served in rotation – a call for men sometimes requiring more than one class, sometimes not quite as many.

5th The Court has just heard, in my declaration, the circumstances of my Service: Colonel Rutherford (who was afterwards promoted) and Lieutenant Colonel Locke were with the troops where I served in the lower part of North Carolina – General Rutherford, Colonel Locke and Lieutenant Colonel Brevard and General Lincoln (who commanded the South Carolina troops) in South Carolina – General Huger, at Moncks Corner; and General Rutherford at and about Wilmington.

6th I received a discharge for each service – except the one in which I was taken prisoner – which was given, to the best of my recollection, by the persons just stated to the Court in my declaration; but which are all lost.

7th Colonel James Blair, John Campbell, John Hill, Alexander Blair and Alexander Caldwell can testify to my character for veracity &c.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the North Carolina militia.]