

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

Pension Application of John Alford S1744

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } Federal Court of the United States, sitting for the District of West
Davidson County } Tennessee at Nashville Sept. 1832

On the 8th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Court aforesaid John Alford a resident of the State and county aforesaid, aged seventy two on the 8th of May 1832, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7 1832.

I entered the service of the United States in the year 1778 in the County of Amherst Virginia where I then resided, on which occasion I was drafted to guard some British prisoners, who had been brought to Albemarle County Virginia for safe keeping, and I served as guard over said prisoners for one month. I served as a private drafted militia man under Captain David Shelton the other officers on this occasion I do not recollect. Capt Shelton was the highest officer in command of those who guarded the prisoners on that occasion. The place where this service was performed was about 45 miles from my residence.

In the year 1780 I was again drafted for a three months tour and marched from Amherst County to Richmond – from Richmond we marched to a place called Maubins hill near to old Jamestown, at which place (Maubins hill) we were stationed for some time, and occasionally marched from that place in various directions, untill our three months of service expired. On this tour Capt. James Pamplin was my captain, and Charles Jones Lieutenant –one Lindsay was colonel, Reuben I think was Col. Lindsay's first name but of this I am not positive [Reuben Lindsay] –

My third tour of service was in the year 1781 when I was again drafted for three months service and marched from home in Amherst County through Albemarle County, and the lower counties of virginia towards the sea board, intending to go toward Little York where Cornwallis then was, and was discharged just before the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] my three months having expired. James Barnet [James Barnett] was my Captain on this occasion. The Lieutenant's name I do not now remember. I received written discharges both from Capt Pamplin and Capt Barnet, but have long since lost them, not knowing they would ever be of any value.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to any pension except the present, or to any annuity, and declare that my name has never been on the pension roll of any state. [signed] John Alford

Question – Where and in what year were you born?

Answer – I was born in the year 1760 in Fredereck [sic: Frederick] County Va.

Question – Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Answer – I lived in Amherst County Virginia at the time I was called into service, and lived there untill 1806 when I removed to Davidson County Tennessee where I have resided ever since.

Question – Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer I have in my Bible at home which I copied from my father's Register of the ages of his children.

Question – How were you called into service were you drafted, or were you a volunteer or a substitute, and if a substitute for whom?

Answer – I was drafted each time.

Question – State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer – I do not remember that any regular officer was with us on any of the above named tours except the before mentioned Col Lindsay [sic: a Militia Colonel] – I cannot remember the name of the regiments in which I served, and have already stated the prominent circumstances of my service in my declaration.

Question – Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer – I received a discharge both from Capt. Pamplin and Capt Barnet, but do not know what has become of them.

Question – State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution?

Answer – I am acquainted with Moses Spear a Clergyman in my neighbourhood, with Maj'r. Thomas Edmondson, and Col. Robert Weakly of Davidson County, with Robert C. Foster, with John H Eaton late Secretary of War, with the Hon. John Bell who represents this district in Congress, and may other persons.

NOTE: A typed summary states that Alford died on 24 Apr 1837.