

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

Pension Application of Joseph Collins S2142

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee

Washington County

Be it remembered that on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February 1838 The undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County & State aforesaid called at the residence of Joseph Collins who is too infirm to attend at the seat of Justice in order to make his declaration preparatory to being placed upon the Pension list. And the said Joseph being desirous of availing himself of the provisions of the act of Congress passed 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832 and made & subscribed the following declaration towit. that he is aged about ninety three years resident in Washington County. Was born in the County of Westmoreland State of Virginia in the year 1745 as the account has been handed down to him by his parents tho without haveing any record or family register thereof & being himself wholly unlettered, & on that account unable to keep any record thereof that being born in the County & State aforesaid his father removed to the County of Prince William from there to Stafford County Virginia Then to the County of Bedford state of Virginia where he was classed & drafted to perform a tour of duty during the Revolutionary war. at the time he was put under the command of Cap'n. William Leftwich, of Col Henry Blufords [sic: Henry Buford's] command & rendezvouzed at a place called new London [in present Campbell County], & was under the command of said Officers three months tour was the call, & he served out the term of time for which the regiment was called & was discharged with the other soldiers, but from age & the transactions so long gone bye he cannot state all the particulars. Again he was called upon to perform a tour of duty as a private & was enrolled in Cap'n Jonathan Leftwick [Jonathan Leftwich's?] company. Major Abraham Goad commanded. this was a call of three months & he destinctly recollects serveing more than the three months waiting for reinforcment. In addition to the two tours above, he enrolled to go to Amherst to guard pisoners & did not serve out the time there being no necessity for the service of the Company he returned home. Then the declarant removed to the then Western part of North Carolina now Tennessee & settled on the Watoga river [sic: Watauga River] where he now resides, and shorty before the Kings mountain expedition he had occasion to return to Bedford Virginia & whilst absent was drafted as a private to go to Kings mountain & when he reached home a notice had been left with his wife to rendesvous at gap creek, he accordingly borrowed a gun from his neighbour & went up with the army, joined Capn Beans [possibly Jesse Beene's] company & marched to Kings mountain, and just as they reached the place of action, they met a messenger informing them of the victory [Battle of King's Mountain SC, 7 Oct 1780] & on joining the main army acted in guarding the Priseners and saw part of the preseners hung. he was commanded by [John] Sevier & Campbell a general [Col. William Campbell, later Gen. Campbell] & served the tour & returned home. it was three months tour. That his age & want of memory forbid him from speaking of dates every thing is impressed upon his memory better than dates, & gives the following data for dates – his first service spoken of, of three months under Capn William Leftwich was A year or two before the Kings mountain expedition, the second under Jonathan Leftwick was about a year before Kings mountain & the last service was Kings mountain all of which was before the close of the war. that he has no documentary evidence of his service & gives his declaration as fully as his memory now serves him. that James White & Valentine Devatt are persons known to him & he to them by whom he can establish the reputation of his service, & he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present & states that he never has been on the roll of any agency.

Joseph hisXmark Collins

State of Tennessee  
Washington County

On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 1838 I John Longmire one of the acting Justices of the peace for said County attended at the dwelling house of Joseph Collins and after swearing him s'd Joseph on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, he deposed & stated as his reason for not makeing earlier application for pension, that he has from age & infirmity been prevented from attending Courts & public places for many years, that he did twice since the passage of the act under which he makes application, employ men to forward his claim, but being himself ignorant of the steps to be taken, & not being able to get abroad, they never gave attention to the same, & indeed now, he could not have made application but for the kindness of good neighbours (who seeing his helpless condition) interested themselves in obtaining the attendance of the magistrate & persons knowing to his reputation of service & he herein states as certified by the magistrate that he is wholly unable to attend the Court of seat of Justice, to have that or any other business done. Sworn to & subscribed this date first above written                      Joseph hisXmark Collins

NOTE: A paper in the file reads as follows: "The tour of three months at the time of the Battle of Kings mountain cannot be allowed. Those who were engaged in that service volunteerd, and were not drafted, and returned home after the battle. If the applicant served in an organized corps at the time it would have been of a few days only." Collins received a pension for six months of service.