

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Johnston S22336

PA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Punctuation and capitalization partly corrected.]

Western District of Pennsylvania } Ss  
Westmoreland County }

On this nineteenth day of February A.D. eighteen hundred and thirty three personally appeared before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Westmoreland county, in the state aforesaid John Johnston a resident of Allegheny township in the County and State aforesaid aged eighty four years who being duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed the seventh day of June 1832 that he enlisted in the Army of the United States with Captain William Rippey and served in the sixth regiment of the Pennsylvania line under the following named officers viz Colonel William Irwin [sic: William Irvine] & Lieutenant Colonel Hartly [sic: thomas Hartley]. Colonel Irwin Commanded said regiment, our regiment was marched towards quebec. We proceeded under the command Colonel Irwin until within about fifty miles of Quebec where we were attacked by the British and defeated in what was called the battle of the three rivers [Trois Rivieres, 8 Jun 1776] at which Place General [William] Thompson, and Colonel Irwin were both taken Prisoners. We then under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Hartly returned to crown point in the month of June 1776 where we remained the remainder of the summer during which time we heard of the declaration of Independence, during that winter and in the time of a deep snow we removed up to ticonderoga, from thence to Carlisle in the state of Pennsylvania, where I received a discharge but from whom I do not now recollect as it has been lost for a number of years, at the time I received said discharge the term of my Enlistment which was for one year had expired. In the spring of the year 1777 I again enlisted in the town of Carlisle under Capt. Alexander Parker for the term of three years or during the war and served in the seventh regiment Pennsylvania line. I do not recollect the name of the Colonel commandant. Major [Samuel] Hay commanded the Battalion in which I was. We were soon afterwards marched to Philadelphia and from thence to Trenton in the state of N. Jersey, and from thence to Morristown, and from thence to New Brunswick where we remained for some time. We run out of provisions at this place and could not get our pay to furnish ourselves with clothing of which we were almost destitute on this account a number of the Pennsylvania line revolted and refused to stay and serve any longer. Those who had enlisted for three years received a discharge, and those who had enlisted during the war received a furlough for sixty days. I got a furlough at that time for sixty days and returned to Carlisle. In the Spring following the regiment to which I belonged was reorganised at Carlisle Pennsylvania I think under the command of Major Hand. We were ordered to march to join General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene; see endnote] in South Carolina. Our division proceeded under the command of General Anthony Wayne. We met with General Lafayette [near Raccoon Ford in VA, 10 Jun 1781] before we arrived at a place called the Green Springs in Virginia. We then marched to said Green Spring where we attacked the British under the command of Cornwallis [Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul 1781]. We were defeated in the engagement and forced to retreat through a swamp. The British in this engagement succeeded in taking our cannon – we joined Lafayette [sic: Lafayette] and marched to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg], and from thence to York in Virginia and was at the taking of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]. Afterwards we were marched to Charlestown [sic: vicinity of Charleston] South Carolina and joined General Green where we remained to the conclusion of the war, when we were put on board of a vessel and brought to Philadelphia where I with the rest of the regiment to which I belonged was discharge by Major Moor [Moore?] the commandant. This declarant states that after he had enlisted the second time, before they proceeded to Philadelphia that he was at the Battle of Germantown [4 Oct 1777], he was on that occasion under the command of General Stevenson [probably Adam Stephen] and that this declarant was at the Battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777]. I recollect that we marched the day before the Battle from

the Valley forge under the command of General Wayne. This declarant has marched through many places and been under the command of many officers which he does not now recollect owing to the loss of memory by age. The discharge which he received at the close of the war from Major Moor was delivered by this declarant to James Ross Esq of the City of Pittsburgh for the purpose of obtaining some land for this declarant, and the said discharge has never been returned or has he obtained the land. When I first enlisted I lived in Paxton township Lancaster County, where I was born. My residence was in the same place when I enlisted the second time.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any state, only on that of the Agency in the state of Pennsylvania. this declarant served upwards of six years altogether during the revolution

John hisXmark Johnston

NOTES:

The immediate order was for the Pennsylvania Continentals to reenforce Lafayette in Virginia. The order to join Greene came after the surrender of Cornwallis.

On 11 Feb 1853 James Johnston and Agness Shannon, wife of Joseph Shannon, stated that their father, John Johnston, received a pension under the act of 1832 until his death on 12 March 1843, and that he ought to have received full pay for five years under the act of 1828. They stated that their mother died on 26 Jan 1851.