

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

Pension Application of John Blackwell S30873

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } SS {

Shelby County } {

On this 6 day of December 1833 personally appeared before me Matthew Husman one of the Justices of the peace in and for Shelby Cty and one of the Judges of the Court for said county John Blackwell aged 75 years 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832

This declarant states that he entered the service of the United States and served as herein stated that some time in the year of 1780 about the month of April as well as he now remembers he was living in Culpeper County State of Virginia when a draft was orderd and his father James Blackwell was drafted for a tour of three months, it being inconvenient for him to leave home he propped to this declarant to substitute in his place and serve out his tour of three months accordingly for a certain consideration he the said John Blackwell did agree to substitute and release the aforesaid James Blackwell from his tour of three months; and accordingly he the said declarant was presented to Capt John Warr and by him examined and received in the room and stead of the the aforesaid James Blackwell; the Company then rendezvoused at Culpeper Court House and under the Command of Coln Slaughter, Major Dillon, and Capt Warr was marched to Hunters forge on the Rappahannock River about one and half miles above Falmouth where the Regiments under the Command of Coln James Slaughter remained for some time waiting for orders from the commander of the main army where to march about this time Cornwallis was making inroads into the country [see endnote] and it was thought advisable that Coln Slaughter's regiment should remain at Hunter's forge to arrest them should they attempt to ascend the river This declarant states that he and the ballance of Coln Slaughter's regiment remaind at the aforesaid encampment untill the three months for which he had subsitute expired when he was discharged by his said Capt John Warr. Some time in the month of July. Some time in the month of Sept of the same year (1780) another draft took place in Culpepe County when a Mr Henry Coons was drafted for three months. he the said Coons did agree with the aforesaid John Blackwell that if he would substitute in his place that he the said Henry Coons would pay him five hundred dollars in Continental paper, accordingly this declarant states he did agree and did serve out the three months for which he the said Henry Coons was drafted under Capt Brown, Major Welsh, and Coln [John] Green, the Regiment was then marched to Jeremanna on the south Branch of the rappahannock [sic: Germanna on Rapidan River] after remaining there sometime the regiment then marched Fredericksburg on the Rappahannock River where they remained for one week waiting for orders where to march the regiment was then marched to Bowling green, thence to Richmond thence across the river to Manchester where they were stationed in the town of Manchester, thence they marched to norfolk On arriving at Norfolk Cornwallis's army marched in to the Country and Coln Green Regiment being two week had to retreat as high up as Richmond, when he was discharged by his said Capt Brown – Sometime in the month of October as well as he now remembers. This declarant stats that some time in the month of March 1781 that a draft was ordered when he was drafted for a tour of thee months and served under the following officers General Edward Stevens, Major Hardiman and Capt Gabriel Green. he states that they thence marched to Fredericksburg, thence to Richmond, thence to Norfolk, thence to Camp Cabin point [on James River in Surry County], thence to Sandy point thence to Carters Ferry [at present Cartersville] thence, thence to Richmond, thence to Camp Mobin Hills [sic: Malvern Hill, 15 mi SE of Richmond]. during our different marches, we were pursued by Cornwallis's army and being overpowered it was thought more advisable to retrea than to go into an unqual combat, and after having seved out the time for which he was drafted

he was honourably discharged by said Capt Gabriel Green at Camp Moben Hills  
Upon receiving his discharge he stats that the prospects of the american army began to brighten from reinforcements fresh drafts and volunteers when I was prevailed upon to volunteer for another tour accordingly on the last of June 1781 he states that he did volunteer for a tour of six months under Capt. Edmunds of Faqueir [sic: Fauquier] County State of Virginia and marched from Camp Mobin Hills to Chickahomany Swamp [sic: Chickahominy Swamp] this declarent states that at this time the British army marched up into the state of Virginia as high as pogue's mills the american army retreated as far as Albemarl [sic: Albemarle] Courthouse where they were stationed for a short period, thence they were marched to the Raccoon ford [on Rapidan River] and joined General Wayne [Anthony Wayne, 10 Jun 1781]. thence under the command of General Wayne they were marche to Fredericksburg, and after remaining there some time, thence to Richmond, thence to James Town thence to York where he remained until after Cornwallis surrendered his army to General Washington [19 Oct]. he state that he under the command of Cap Edmunds guarded the prisoners that were surrendered to the american army as high Faquer Courthouse on their way to wenchester [sic: Winchester] when he was discharged in [illegible word] by his said Capt Edmunds having served out his time for which he volunteered he states that from old age and bodily infirmity that he is unable to appear in open Court to make his declaration he states that he has no documentary evidence of his service and knows of no living witness by whom he can prove said service, 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

John hisXmark Blackwell

Interrogatories put by the magistrate

- Ques. Where and in what year were you born  
Ans I was born on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year 1758
- Ques. Have you any record of your age  
Ans I have taken from my fathers family register
- Ques. How were yo called into the service, were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom  
Ans The first Tour I substituted for James Blackwell. The second Tour I substituted for Henry Coons. The third tour I was drafted. The fourth Tour I Volunteered
- Ques Where were you living when called into the service. Where have you lived since the revolution and where do you now live  
Ans I was living in Culpper County State of Virginia when I was called into the service I remained in the state of Virginia until the year 1794. I then moved to Kentucky and I now live in Shelby County State of Kentucky
- Ques State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served and such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect.  
Ans General George Washington Gen'l. Wayne & Gen'l LaFayette, and in the militia were General [Peter] Muhlenberg Gen'l Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] Col. Allcock and Col. James Slaughter and Col. John Greene.
- Ques. Did you ever receive a discharge and by whom was it given  
Ans I received verbal discharges from Captains Warr, Greene and Edmunds  
State the names of some of the persons in your neighborhood with whom you are acquainted who can testify to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution  
Ans I will name Ellis Roney James Moss John W Clayton,

NOTE: Cornwallis did not enter Virginia until May 1781.