

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jonathan Johnson S31779

f12SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/18/08: rev'd 2/13/16

[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 'indecipherable' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

Georgia, Gwinnett County: Inferior Court adjourned Term October 5th, 1832

Personally appeared in open Court (it being a Court of record) now sitting Jonathan Johnson Senior a resident of said County of Gwinnett & State of Georgia aged Seventy-two years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to avail himself of the benefits of the late act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and Served as herein Stated (To wit) --

That he entered the service at Sixteen years of age in the latter part of the year 1777 as a militia soldier under Captain Lushington [Richard Lushington] Lieutenants Jacob Reid –Obryan [O'Bryan?] & Cole -- at Charleston in the State of South Carolina -- attached to the Major John Badley's [probably John Baddeley's] division of General William Moultrie's Army -- that he did Garrison duty in Charleston aforesaid until sometime in January 1778 -- when we were ordered out to Sheldon Bull under the officers aforesaid -- in Company with the light Infantry of Charleston -- and took post at Hatcher's [?] old fields -- at the ferry on the road leading to Port Royal -- from thence marched to Port Royal & took possession of the Town on the sixth of February 1778 [sic, 1779]. On the same day left Port Royal and met the enemy at the five mile House -- and had an engagement [probably the engagement at Port Royal Island, February 3, 1779]<sup>1</sup> at which General Moultrie commanded together with Major Kenlaw [Francis Kinlock?] -- and Major John Lawrence [sic, John Laurens?] with other officers under his command -- Thence we returned to Camps at Hatcher's [?] old fields, aforesaid -- and remained there without doing any other active duty until the Term of our service expired when we returned home to Charleston -- and remained employed in Garrison duty in the City -- during the above expedition he served as Corporal -- after returning to Charleston he joined the German Fusiliers commanded by Captain Shepherd -- volunteers of the first Regiment -- commanded by Colonel Morris Simmons [sic, Maurice Simons] Major Badley -- Lieutenant Colonel Smith &c -- On the Sunday ensuing before the battle of Stono [June 20, 1779]<sup>2</sup> left Charleston for James Island -- took possession of the same -- attempted to attack the enemy in the rear -- who were in possession of John's Island - - but failed on account of a storm -- this above expedition was commanded by General Moultrie -- after some days returned to Charleston and about the first of September in the year 1779 -- embarked for Savannah in the State of Georgia under the command of the above named officers

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_port\\_royal\\_island\\_2.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_port_royal_island_2.html)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_stono\\_ferry.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html)

on board 3 privateers -- landed at Cumbee ferry on Cumbee [Combahee] River -- and marched on foot from thence to Savannah -- was there at the Siege of the same and until the defeat of the US forces by the British at that place [Siege of Savannah, September 16-October 18, 1779] -- After the above defeat returned to Charleston on foot -- and again did Garrison duty -- and was engaged in the same and in defending the City while under Siege by the British until the surrender of the same sometime in May 1780 [Charleston South Carolina was surrendered to the British on May 12, 1780] -- was taken prisoner at the surrender of the City -- & remained a prisoner of war in Charleston about one year as he believes when he was exchanged and set at liberty -- that his Term of actual Service continued more than two years & was a prisoner about one year -- that he acted as Sergeant -- after Joining the Fusiliers as above until taken prisoner at the surrender of Charleston --

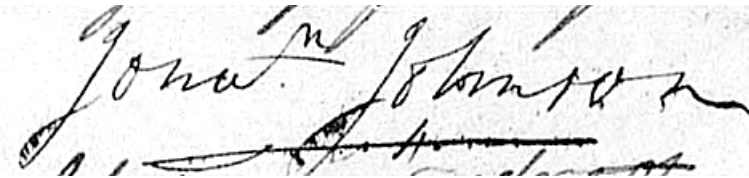
That he has no documentary evidence at hand whereby he can prove either his Services or his birth -- that after he was exchanged he went to his uncle's plantation on Santee thence after the declaration of peace he returned to Charleston and lived with his father there -- two or three years -- removed to Lawrence [sic, Laurens] County in the State of South Carolina & remained -- remained there about 41 years -- He then as he believes in the year 1826 -- removed to Gwinnett County in this State of Georgia -- where he now resides

He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to any 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 & subscribed in open Court the day & year aforesaid

Attest: S/ Wm Maltbie, Clk

S/ Jona<sup>n</sup> Johnson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jonathan Johnson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The letters are connected and fluid, with a prominent flourish at the end of the name.

[John Lawrence and Clifford Woodroof gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Georgia, Gwinnett County

Personally came before me the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace in & for said County -- Jonathan Johnson Senior and being duly sworn depose and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory -- he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his Service -- but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below -- and in the following grades -- For three months I served as a private militia soldier -- for three months I served as a Corporal in that Division of the United States Army under the command of General William Moultrie -- This was in the latter part of the year 1777 & first part of 1778. I then in June 1779 Joined a volunteer Company styled the German Fusiliers -- served in said Company in the Capacity of a private soldier for some short time perhaps one month -- was then promoted to the rank of Sergeant and served as such Sergeant in said volunteer Company 10 months -- was then taken prisoner at the Surrender of Charleston and remained a prisoner of war Fort about one year -- making in all 17 months in which he was in actual service in about one year he was a prisoner.

Deponent further states that his reasons for not having produced the Certificate of a clergyman as required by the War Department are as follows -- He was raised up & educated in the faith and worship of the Church of England there being no denomination professing the tenets of the above named Church He did not think proper to attach themselves to any

denomination of Christians -- in this County or State -- and that together with his age & infirmities prevented him from becoming acquainted with any Clergyman of his neighborhood.

To the first question prescribed by the War Department He answers -- I was born according to the best of my information on the 26th day of October 1761.

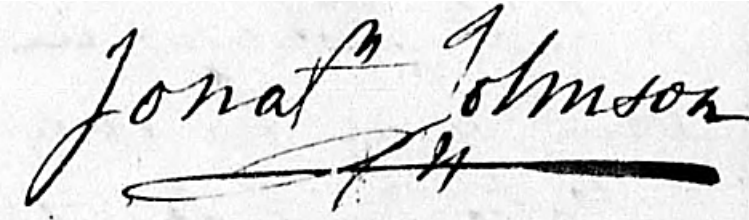
To the sixth Question he answers that in consequence of his having been taken prisoner as before stated -- he received no regular discharge having done no more service after having been exchanged as aforesaid -- He never received a commission -- having been a non-commissioned officer --

To the seventh Interrogatory he answers -- That John Lawrence & Clifford Woodroof who have certified -- and divers others of his neighbors & acquaintances can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his having served as he has stated. And for all of such foregoing stated services I claim a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 23rd day of April 1833

S/ John Mills, JP

S/ Jona<sup>n</sup> Johnson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan Johnson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The name "Jonathan" is written in a large, flowing script, and "Johnson" is written in a similar but slightly smaller script. There is a long, horizontal flourish or underline beneath the name.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$117.72 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a corporal and Sergeant in the South Carolina militia for 24 months.]