

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Doss S38669

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 9 Nov 2013.

State of Tennessee

Marion County. Circuit Court. April Term 1825.

On this 8th April 1825 personally appeared in open Court John Doss of the County of Marion & State aforesaid aged about 76 who having been duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the pension made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 & 1st May 1820. That he enlisted as a private soldier in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War for and during the term of two years on the 17th day of March in the year of 1777 in the County of Pittsylvania [sic: Pittsylvania; see endnote] in the State of Virginia in Col. Thomas Dillard's Company which he Dillard was a Captain & Joseph Roberts was Lieutenant. Terley Choice [sic: Tully Choice, pension application W3774] Ensign in the 2 Regiment of Virginia Continental Regulars [see endnote] 2 Regiment Commanded by Col. [Haynes] Morgan. marched to Petersburg then to Cabin point [on James River in Surry County] thence to old James Town, thence to Gwynn Island [sic: Gwynn Island, 8-10 Jul 1776] where we fought Governor Dunmore, from thence to Portsmouth from thence to the long Bridge [probably Great Bridge] from thence we marched through the Wilderness 600 miles across the Mississippi down to Illinois Town from thence Back to Virginia, discharged March 20th 1779 I have lost my discharge in moving down the River, the Boat sunk and all my papers lost. And in pursuance of an act of Congress of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. I have no real Estate: By occupation a Hatter My family consists of myself and wife and of children my children are grown and have all left me. My wife & me are now alone. My wife is 66 years of age. I have long been diseased & my wife also. I am entirely dependent on my two sons who are also poor. I am entirely unable to work or maintain myself & wife & am now compelled to call on my County for assistance. I would have done so before this time, but knew not of the provisions made by Congress for continental soldiers.

Schedule	one Bed & furniture	\$15.00
	& old Cow & Calf	7.00
	Cupboard furniture	1.00
	Pails, Piggins & pots	3.00
	Fowls	<u>1.50</u>
		\$27.50

Sworn to by declarant in open Court April 8th 1825

John hisXmark Doss

State of Tennessee }

Marion County } August Term 1826

On the 21st day of August 1826 personally appeared in open Court John Doss of the County & State aforesaid who having been duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration as an amended one to the one filed by him in the Circuit Court of this County in April 1825 to obtain a pension. This affiant states that the reason why he did not apply for a pension sooner is that he being Ignorant did not know whom to apply for it that he made frequent inquiries but Could not get any person to do it for him until April 1825 That he was poor and unable to Employ Lawyers to do it & he

did not know what provisions had been made for old Soldiers or how to obtain that provision and further that he was so much afflicted since 1819 Untill the year 1825 that he could not assist himself & that he could not frequently rise without help & could not walk but with crutches & that he is now much afflicted & entirely unable to support himself and has no person to do it for him

the account of my property on the 8th March 1818 and since will appear in the following page

Description of property	names of persons to whom disposed of	Times of Sales	Amts Rec'd. in Return
one horse worth \$20	Swapted with James Doss	in 1819 in the winter	a mare which died in 1821
two Cows 20	sold one to Joel Doss	in 1820	came & meet[?] & worked for me

The other cow I kept to give milk untill 1825 When I imployd a man to fatten her & kill her and I paid him a part of her for it

One hog or pet pig which I eat in 1824 my son Give to me

The cow mentioned in my Schedule of April 1825 was a calf that I raised from the cow last mentioned above

That the amount of property that I now have you will see in Riffirance to my Declaration of April 1825 Which is one bed and furniture \$15.00 old cow & calf

	15.00
	\$7.00
Cupboard and furniture	\$1.00
pail pigins & pots	3 00
Fowls	<u>1 50</u>
	27.50

The Fowls as we Raise them we eat them

I have sometimes Received some charity from the Religious people but verry little & more of late because I think they are tired of helping me & they think & say my Country ought to pay me or give me support my wife is much afflicted & unable to do any thing for a support

The above Schedule is true as to the property Owned by me Soled me or in any manner disposed of or Retained.

John hisXmark Doss

NOTES:

The officers under whom Doss served were actually in the militia of the part of Pittsylvania County that became Henry County in 1776. Only service in the Continental Line qualified for a pension under the acts of 1818 and 1820. According to Tully Choice, the service claimed by Doss lasted only eight months and did not include an expedition west of the Mississippi..

On 4 Aug 1826 William Doss of Wayne County KY certified the service of John Doss, with whom he had been long acquainted. Frederick Miller, 77, of the same county made a similar statement.