

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Nelson S38958

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 Aug 2014.

State of Tennessee }
Knox County } Second Judicial Circuit of Said State

On the 18th day of November 1818 Before the subscriber one of the Judges of the circuit court of said state personally appeared John Nelson aged to the best of his knowledge sixty six years last March a Citizen of and resident within the County of Overton in said State who being by me first duly sworn deposeth and then by oath states that he the said John Nelson in the latter part of the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy six or the beginning of the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven which he cannot now positively state – Entered at Colonel Samuel Wallace in the County of Botetourt now Rockbridge in the State of Virginia in the regular infantry service of the united states for twelve months in the Company of Captain Thomas Posey (since General Posey) the same being a rifle company and afterward a part of Colonel Daniel Morgans Regiment – that he continued in said company for some time until said Captain Posey being promoted or for some reason this affiant was attached to the company of Captain James Buckannon [sic: James Buchanan] which was likewise a Company of Colonel Morgans regiment and in which last mentioned Company the affiant faithfully served the united states as a private soldier the whole of said term of twelve months from which term he as before stated in the manner above stated Enlisted and at the Expiration of his term of service he was by Colonel Morgan honourably discharged from said service but at what place he was discharged he cannot now recollect that he said John Nelson was not in any General action but was in a skirmish at or near Monmouth [New Jersey] and another skirmish at Stony Point [New York] that afterwards during the war he served several Tours in the militia service — The said John Nelson also upon his oath states that he is now in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support that he is too old and feeble to labour much that whilst he was in the service of the united states he sustained an injury in one of his feet which some times disables him so much he cannot walk that he is afflicted with a rupture in his body that he has a wife and five children now living with him Dependent on him for support and that his property is by no means sufficient to furnish himself and family with the ordinary comforts of life without his his manual labour — That he has never been a Pensioner for said service and hereby releases all claim to a pension except under the provision of the late act of Congress which provides for persons who were engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war which act he prays the benefit of.

The said John Nelson further states upon oath his discharge was destroyed by mice in a Chest that he has not in his power any written evidence of his service nor does he know of any evidence now in his power of said service as he Believes Captain Posey & Buckhannan are both dead.

John hisXmark Nelson

State of Tennessee } Schedule
Overton County } July Term 1820

On the 24th day of July 1820 personally appeared in open court being a court of record (having the power of fine and imprisonment and also having been made a court of record by the laws of said state) for the said County John Nelson aged to the best of his knowledge sixty eight years last March resident in the County of Overton aforesaid who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows.

I John Nelson enlisted at Col. James Wallaces in the County of Botetourt now Rockbridge State of Virginia in the regular infantry service of the United States for twelve months, in the Company of Captain Thomas Posy (since Gen'l. Posy) the same being a rifle company, and afterwards a part of Col. Daniel Morgan's Regiment, and I continued in said company for some time until said Captain Posy being

promoted, or for some reason, I was attached to the company of Captain James Buckhannan which was likewise a company of Col. Morgan's regiment, and in which last mentioned company I faithfully served the remainder of the term of service. and I faithfully served the united states as a private soldier the whole of said term of twelve months at the expiration of which I was honorably discharged from said service by Col. Daniel Morgan – My original declaration was made on the 18th Day of November 1818. And my pension certificate is number 12769 and 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 intention thereby so to diminish it as to bring my self within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “and act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service in 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 security contract, 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 interest in any real estate except a quit claim Deed to one hundred acres of land for which I promised to pay fifty Dollars, which sum I have not yet been able to pay. the following is a list of my personal property, necessary bedding and clothing excepted.

To wit. Four sows and pigs. Two [one or two words illegible] 12 sheep. two cows, one calf, and three yearlings– 1 Barshear plow, 2 Hoes, 2 axes.– One Oven. One Kettle. One Sett plates.

The following is the amount of the debt which I owe.

One Debt of \$26.00. One of 35.00. One of 12.00. One of 10.00–

John his mark Nelson

I am by occupation a carpenter, but am now unable to labor much at any living. I am afflicted with a rupture in my body also with rheumattic fever [sic: rheumatism?] which sometimes disables me so much that I am unable to use my hands & arms. I have only three in family who now reside with me. Viz. my wife Sarah aged about sixty years who has for many years been afflicted with a breast complaint and is unable to labor. – my Daughter Rachel aged about 19 years is moderately healthy and able to labor. my son Samuel aged about 17 years is also moderately healthy and able to labor. – Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 24th day of July 1820 John his mark Nelson

NOTE: John Nelson's 1818 declaration was supported by a statement signed by his sons Matthew Nelson and David Nelson, both of Knoxville TN.