

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Franklin S39541

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia First Judicial Circuit. SS

On the first day of May 1818, before me, the subscriber, one of the Judges of the General Court of Virginia for the said district, personally appeared John Franklin aged then 69 years, resident in Stafford County in the said district, who, being by me first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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:" That he, the said John Franklin enlisted for the war on the [blank] day of April in the year 1780 in [blank] in the state of South Carolina in the company commanded by Captain Churchill Jones of the Regiment commanded by Colonel George Baylor in the line of the State of Virginia on the Continental Establishment; that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States, until the latter part of the year 1783, when he was discharged from service at [illegible] state of Virginia that he was in the battles of Camden [Battle of Hobkirk Hill near Camden SC, 25 Apr 1781] – Ninety Six [Siege of Ninety Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781] – Cowpens [17 Jan 1781] and Eutaw [Eutaw Springs SC, 8 Sep 1781] where he was wounded and that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services than that hereto annexed.

this 13th day April 1818 I hereby Certify that in the year 1779 I inlisted John Franklin for Eighteen months in my Class [see endnote] and had him swornd in before Colo Wm Garrard [William Garrard, Lieutenant in the Stafford County Militia] and am well assured that he served from that time to the end of the War Given under my Hand this date above Written

Geo Burroughs [George Burroughs, Captain of Stafford County Militia]

I do certify that John Franklin was a Souldier in the 3 Reg't. of Light Dragoons, Commanded by Colo. George Baylor; that he was appointed a Corporal in said Reg't. in June 1781 & that he served to the end of the war – I was an officer in said Reg't. dureing the time that Franklin served in it.

May 1st 1818

Churchill Jones

Virginia Fauquier Court towit

On this 27th day of November 1820, in open court being a Court of Record made so by Law, personally appeared John Franklin aged about seventy two years, resident in Fauquier County, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows. In the third Regiment of Light Dragoons under Colo. George Baylor, and that the number of his certificate of pension which commenced the first day of May 1818, is 12,495. 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 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 person 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, necessary Bedding & Clothing excepted, towit; One Cow, two Chairs, two Spoons three knives & forks & three Bowls one house pig. one bed &c four pewter plates & one pewter dish. one small pot – one dutch oven & one chest – Valued by the Court at

twenty seven dollars & ninety five cents. He also makes Oath that his occupation is that of a common labourer, without much ability owing to his age & the debility consequent thereon: – he has no other family than his wife Elizabeth Franklin aged sixty eight years who is scarcely able to work John Franklin

NOTE: By state law county militias were divided into classes of 15 men each, from which one was drafted into Continental service for 18 months. Many such 18-months men were processed at Chesterfield Courthouse in Sep 1780. A size roll compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse includes the following: Jn'o. Franklin/ age 33/ height 5 5³/₄/ farmer/ born and residing in Stafford County/ dark-brown hair/ hazel eyes/ fair complexion/ enlisted 20 Sep 1780 for 18 months.