

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Robeson (Robinson) S6017

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } S.S.

Monroe County } On this 17th day of September 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of said County now sitting John Robinson a resident of Virginia in the County of Monroe aged eighty three years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benifit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated That in the year 1780 in the month of February he was drafted as a militia out of Capt Thomas Wright's company in the County of Greenbrier Virginia for the term of twelve months for the purpose (as was said) of going to Detroit against the Indians but he was marched under the command of Captain John Wood from the said County of Greenbrier Va. by the lead mines (called Chizels mines [sic: mines at Fort Chiswell in present Wythe County]) thence to the head of Holsten [sic: Holston River] passing what was called the valey Station in Powels Valey [Powell Valley] and Cumberland mountain to Logan Station [at Stanford in Lincoln County] in Kentucky (where it was decided the troops were not to go to Detroit) he was marched to the fronteer on Salt River under the command of Capt. Thomas Armstrong who commanded during his service at McAfees Station on Salt River, that his Majr was Andrew Hamilton he does not know who was the Colo. he was discharged at McAfees Station in 1780 having served upwards of six months on this expedition against the Indians he thinks he got home about the last day of August in company with twenty eight others who had been in the same service some of whom he recollects to Wit James Allen who is dead Swift Perry who is dead Edward Cornwell who is dead William Butcher moved to Kentucky James Oharrow [probably O'Hara], John Oharrow [O'Hara] William McCarley the three last he knows nothing of and Thomas Alesberry he knows nothing of. That he knows of no person living who can testify to his service. That in consequence of being from home at the time he sustained a loss of Sixteen hundred dollars having that much in paper money and before he returned it had depreciated and that he never got any thing whatever for it. he was in no Battle during his service against the Indians he seen nor knew no officer higher than a Capt and Maj'r. there being no others near where he was stationed. 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 whatever

John Robinson

Virginia State } SS

Monroe County }

On this eleventh day of April 1834 personally appeared before me Samuel Clark one of the Commonwealth Justices of the peace for County of Monroe aforesaid John Robinson a resident of the County of Monroe and State of Virginia aforesaid aged Eighty four years on the 15th day of March last who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That in the Spring of the year 1776 the Indians were seen sculking about th settlements in the New River Country, and the settlers betook themselves to the several forts and stations, which had been erected for their defence. That he volunteered his services to guard the settlements; that as early as the first of May 1776 he engaged in company with Isaac Lorentz, Samuel Lorentz and Joseph Hunter as an Indian Spy to scout and guard Keeneys Station, on Muddy Creek one of the branches of New River and continued in service until the 15th of November following; that their Militia Captain was a Captain Givin [Given] who directed their service; that nothing of any notice occurred during that summer; that again on the first of April 1777 he volunteered as an Indian Spy and went in company with James Robinson & Thomas Wyatt to Morrisons Fort on Kenawha River [probably Fort Morris on Kanawha River opposite Campbell Creek] about eighty Miles from where he then lived, on Muddy Creek then

Botetort [sic: Botetourt], now Monroe County; that before they arrived at Morrisons Fort the Indians had killed James Flinn [James Flynn] & Edward Wyatt and James Flinns wife and children were taken prisoners; that he continued in service that tour until the 11th or 12th of August following when he returned home; that a short time after his return the persons who had not been in service during the past summer were called upon to go to the protection of Vanbibers Fort and he engaged as a substitute for James Robbinson [James Robinson] and served one month under Captain Alexander Hanley; that to the best of his recollection it was the 19th of October that they marched to Van Bibbers Fort [on Wolf Creek in Monroe County] and it was the 21st of November following that they were discharged; that he recollects John Beard, Samuel Beard and Moses Mann who are all dead were with him at Van Bibbers Fort; that during this Tour he was in no engagement; that just before they arrived at the Fort perhaps the day before one of James Grahams (or Grimes) children was killed and two were taken prisoners one of whom was the present Mrs. Stodghill of Monroe County the wife of Joel Stodghill Esqr.

That in the fall of the year 1779 he was drafted to guard the settlement on Indian Creek that he marched there in company with James McNutt (who he thinks was a seargent) Samuel Ewing, Oliver Ewing and Martin Turpin; that they marched between the 10th and 15th of October and continued in service until the first of December following; that he was under no Commissioned Officers and that the nature of his service was principally to guard the people while gathering their corn

That he was next drafted in the month of February 1780 as a Militiaman out of Captain Thomas Wrights Company for a Twelve months Tour to go as it was said to Detroit: that he was marched under the command of Captain John Woods from Greenbrier on to the lead mines commonly called chisels mills thence to the head of Holstein passing the Valley Station in Powels Valley and the Cumberland Mountains and on to Colonel Logans Station in Kentucky where they were informed they were not to go to Detroit; he was then marched on to Salt River under the command of Captain James Armstrong where they were stationed at McAfee's Station under Maj'r. Andrew Hamilton; that he does not know who was the Colonel; that he was discharged from service in the month of August 1780 whilst at McAfee's Station having served a little upwards of six months that Tour.

That he served as a volunteer Indian Spy for a term of six months and a half in spring summer and fall of the year 1781 that as early as the middle of April 1781 he entered the service and continued he thinks until the last day of October or the first of November following; that during this summer he helped to build Manns Fort at the mouth of Dunlaps Creek on Jackson River near where the Town of Covington [VA] now stands that among the persons who were in company with him this summer he remembers Michael Kimberling, John Kincaid, James Grimes, and James Davis who are all dead; that the nature of his service this summer in addition to aiding in building the aforesaid Fort was to scout and spy the country surrounding Manns Fort.

That he has been placed on the Pension Roll of the Virginia Agency at the rate of Twenty Dollars per year which has been allowed him for his services which he performed in the year 1780 when he marched to McAfee's station on Salt River; that the object of his present declaration is to obtain an increase of Pension for services which he performed during the Revolutionary War that are not detailed in his former declaration that the reason why these services were not detailed at that time was because he had understood that the act of Congress of the 7th June 1832 embraced no other Class of Revolutionary soldiers except those who had enlisted and those that were drafted and he had never seen the act himself and no one had informed him any better; that during the whole time that he was engaged in service as heretofore stated he was not engaged in any Civil pursuit. that he was born in the County of Augusta and State of Virginia on the 15th day of March 1750

that he has no record of his age although he once saw it in an old family Bible that belonged to his Father, but does not know what became of it; that when he was called and went into service he was living where he now lives in the County of Monroe

That he volunteered, was drafted and went as a substitute as before stated. that he has stated the names of all his officers which he can now recollect in the foregoing part of his declaration

That he never received any discharge in writing for any service which he rendered during the Revolutionary War. That he is known to [blank] in his present neighbourhood who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier and Indian Spy of the Revolution. That 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 except the Agency of Virginia upon which he is placed as a Revolutionary pensioner at the rate of Twenty Dollars per year

[signed] John Robeson