

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Johnston (Johnson) S8763

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/7/14

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia Morgan County SS

On this 26th day of April 1833, personally appeared in open Court before the Circuit Superior Court of law and Chancery for the County of Morgan, now sitting, John Johnston aged near one hundred years, 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 the 7th day of June 1832.

That he entered the militia service of the United States (the year he does not now recollect) in a company commanded by Captain John Lyle of Berkeley County, Virginia, in Battalion commanded by Major Scott, in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Morrow, he does not recollect the time when he left the Service, but is safe in stating that he served two years, he was in an expedition against the Indians, called McIntosh's Campaign his sufferings during the said expedition was very great, he was at the erection and helped to build two forts, to wit, Fort McIntosh on the bank of the Ohio River, and also Fort Laurens. He was not in any Battle, he marched from Berkeley County, Virginia, his then place of residence, to the Western parts of Virginia, and to the Western parts of Pennsylvania, and into the heart of the Indian Country, among tribes called Tuscarawas he is old and infirm in memory, his statements may be confused and unsatisfactory, he relies on his uniform good character and his confidence, that in his advanced years his country will do him Justice that he is now extremely poor, he recollects but few of those with whom he served. The only person he knew him late years, who could testify to his services, was Robert Pinkerton of Berkeley County, who was with him, but died a few years ago; he received regular discharges, but lost them, he cannot now recollect where, nor how. He is now upwards of 100 years old, he has no documentary evidence in his possession, relative to his services.

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.

Question by the Court; where, and in what year were you born?

Answer, I was born in the kingdom of Ireland, and as well as I am able to gather information in the year 1732.

Question by same, have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Answer, I have no record of my age, if I ever had any, they have been lost many years since.

Question by same, where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since, and where do you now live;

Answer, when called into service, I lived in Berkeley County Virginia & continued in that

County, until Morgan County was formed, I then fell into the latter County, and still live there.
Question by same, how were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute?

Answer. I was drafted.

By the same, State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer, I knew Colonel Morrow of Shepherdstown, who was with us, Major Scott, General McIntosh; at my present advanced age, and in perfect memory, I cannot recollect the names of others, although I once recollected a great many, whether they were regular or militia officers I do not now know & for further answer I refer to the general statement in the body of my declaration.

Question by the same, did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer: I received a discharge, but it has been lost many years since, I don't know how, or by whom it was given.

By the same, State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief in your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer. I am known to Jonathan Jones, Presiding Justice of Morgan, Henry Myers, Colonel Robert just in, John Sherrard, Jacob Ash, John Hutchinson, Isaiah Book, Samuel Abernathy, Colonel Neely, Justice of the peace for the County, Jacob Richard, Clerk of the Superior & inferior Courts of this County, and indeed to almost every Public Man in the County, William Armstrong, member of Congress for this district, Judge Pendleton, General Boyd, Charles James Falkner Esquire of Berkeley, as well a great many others, there is no clergyman residing in my neighborhood to whom I am known.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year aforesaid

S/ J. Richard, Clerk

S/ John Johnston, X his mark

[Michael Pentony, William Neely and Michael Rooney gave the standard supporting affidavit

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service.]