

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Cave Johnson S8767

f32VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/29/13

[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.]

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State of Kentucky Scott County Sct.: September 16th 1833

On this day personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of Scott County Court now sitting Cave Johnson a Resident of an adjoining County (but his witnesses in this County) aged 72 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 June 7th 1832.

That in the year 1778 in the month of September day he cannot recollect he volunteered his services under Lieutenant Samuel French of the regular Army to serve in supplying the Soldiers with tobacco & other necessities, that he was engaged in Orange County Virginia & marched to White Plains in New York & went with the Army from this point to West Point on the Hudson River – & after remaining with the Army at this point a considerable time & having accomplished the object thus [?] said Lieutenant Samuel French he returned to Orange Virginia after having served as aforesaid at least two months.

That in the month of April 1779 the said Cave Johnson removed to Kentucky & was placed under the command of Captain Robert Johnson & the said applicant was among those who built the first houses in Bryans Station [Bryant's Station] & remained stationed at said Bryans Station till the close of the Revolutionary War in 1783 & after & during the whole Period, although he was not in active service yet he was either in & about said Fort to guard & protect it, or he was scouting & protecting the Frontier that when the Indians would come in & steal horses or kill people he with others were always ordered & required to pursue said Indians which service was always severe & perilous – that the said Fort of Bryans Station was often left very weak & destitute of men to guard it – he recollects that he said Cave Johnson was left with very few others to guard said Fort with a very few men to protect the women & children viz. when Colonel Boman [sic, probably Bowman] commanded an expedition against the Shawnee towns in 1779 & the other under General Clark [George Rogers Clark] in 1780 & this service of guarding the Fort was as perilous & as severe as the service of an active Campaign that in this kind of hard, actual, perilous & dangerous service from the month of April 1778 to the close of the War in 1783, this affiant served at least two years – besides a tour of six weeks as Ensign in the company of Lieutenant Robert Johnson his Brother & Brother of Colonel R. M. Johnson under General George Rogers Clark in the year 1782 in the fall of the year commencing in September of that year & marched to Pickaway in now Ohio against the Shawnees that this applicant could detail his Services in Scouts & as Spies & Skirmishes with the Indians during this Service at Bryans Stationed & its vicinity as aforesaid but he is advised that he has been

sufficiently explicit.

That he is not on the Pension Roll of any State & he relinquishes all claims to a Pension except under the Act of 7th June 1832.

S/ Cave Johnson



[Richard M Johnson and John Bryce, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.



I do Certify that Colonel Cave Johnson who has this day made a declaration in open Court in Scott County to obtain a Pension is my uncle. I have known him all my life & I have drawn up for him his declaration & from tradition, the whole of it is familiar to me as far as his services in Kentucky from my earliest infancy & youth when Boys begin to take notice of such events & I believe the statement as much from the tradition as if I had been an eyewitness to it all Uncle Cave Johnson has been for about 45 years a member of a Baptist church & I hazard nothing in saying that he stands as high as any man in our State for honor, honesty & veracity. I will agree to take for him the full pension of a soldier, although he served part of the time, as Ensign.

Georgetown Ky

S/ Rh. M. Johnson
16th September 1833

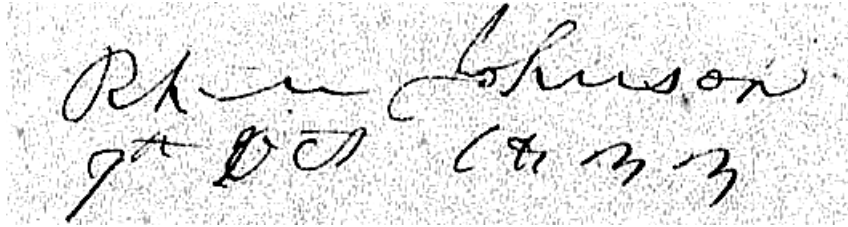
[p 3]

I have been deeply mortified at your declining to pass favorably in the case of my uncle, Colonel Cave Johnson. If you cannot allow the \$80 to which I really cannot see either danger or bad example give him \$60 per annum & if you cannot give \$60 give \$40. If there is a Service in the world entitled to a preference it is the kind set forth by Colonel Cave Johnson who can read his papers & not be convinced of the truth? What more? You know such services were performed in this country from 1775 till '83 & no pay – that me know &c yours respectfully

S/ Rh M. Johnson¹

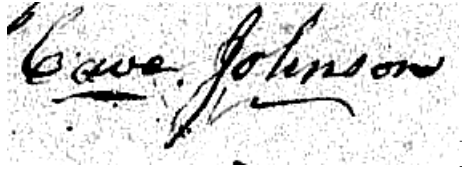
¹ JOHNSON, Richard Mentor, (brother of James Johnson [1774-1826] and John Telemachus Johnson, and uncle of Robert Ward Johnson), a Representative and a Senator from Kentucky and a Vice President of the United States; born at "Beargrass," Jefferson County, Ky., near the present site of Louisville, October 17, 1780; attended the common schools and Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky.; studied law; admitted to the bar in 1802 and commenced practice in Great Crossings, Ky.; member, State house of representatives 1804-1806 and again in 1819; elected as a Democratic Republican to the Tenth and to the five succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1807-March 3, 1819); chairman, Committee on Claims (Eleventh Congress), Committee on Expenditures in the Department of War (Fifteenth Congress); commissioned colonel of Kentucky Volunteers and commanded a regiment in engagements against the British in lower Canada in 1813; elected as a Democratic Republican to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John J. Crittenden; reelected as a Jackson Republican (and later Jacksonian) and served from December 10, 1819, to March 3, 1829; unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1829; chairman, Committee on Post Office and Post Roads (Nineteenth and Twentieth Congresses); elected to the Twenty-first and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1829-March 3, 1837); chairman, Committee on Post Office and Post Roads (Twenty-first and Twenty-second Congresses), Committee on Military Affairs (Twenty-second through Twenty-fourth Congresses); was chosen Vice President of the United States by the Senate on February 8, 1837, no candidate having received a majority of the electoral vote, and served under President Martin Van Buren

7th Oct. 1833



Philip Johnson
7th Oct 1833

[p 15: On June 7, 1847 in Boone County Kentucky, the veteran identified himself as the recipient of a pension at the rate of \$40 per annum; he states that he now lives in Boone County Kentucky where he intends to remain and would like to have his pension payable at the city of Cincinnati in Ohio.



Cave Johnson]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one-year in the Virginia service.]