

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Love S8852

f38NC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

rev'd: 4/22/10 & 9/16/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

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State of North Carolina, County of Wilkes } SS

On this 30th day of October 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the County of Wilkes & State of North Carolina now sitting, John Love, a resident of the County of Wilkes & State of North Carolina, aged Seventy One 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 he was born in the year 1762 in the County of Brunswick¹ & State of Virginia, but has no record of his age to advert to (his information however is derived from a memorandum given him by his father, but which he lost before it was recorded in his family bible, which he intended doing). When he was quite small, his father removed into the County of Charlotte, in the same State, where he lived for a few years, and then removed to what is now Wilkes County North Carolina. About the month of June or July 1780 this deponent entered the service of the United States as a substitute for his father, James Love, and joined the company of Capt. Gist [sic, Moses Guest] in the said County of Wilkes, & rendezvoused at Hamblin's old store in said County, where they joined Col. Isaacs [Elijah Isaacs]. After remaining there a few days organizing and making the necessary preparations, they set out upon their march for the southern part of the State, where (and in the northern part of South Carolina) it was believed the Tories were embodying themselves. They proceeded on through Salisbury to the mouth of Rocky River in Anson County, where they were stationed for some little time. During this stay at this place, Col. Isaacs (he believes) changed his determination, and intended joining Genl. Gates [Horatio

¹ Here the veteran begins to answer the 7 interrogatories promulgated by the War Department to be put to each applicant for a pension. Those 7 interrogatories were as follows:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5th 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.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7th 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 in the revolution.

Gates]. As a good many of his troops were without arms, it being impossible to procure them, it became necessary to reorganize the troops, and in doing so the many of those who had arms were deprived of them & their arms transferred to others. The mess to which this deponent belonged being without arms, they were discharged and returned home, having been in service about one month.

About the last of August or first of September following, Col. Benjamin Cleveland issued orders for all the Whig militia within the County of Wilkes to rendezvous at the C. H. [Court House] and prepare for opposing Maj. Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson], who was said to be advancing from South Carolina with a large body of British & Tories. This deponent volunteered himself and immediately repaired himself to Wilkes County C. H. where he joined the Company of Captain Benjamin Herndon, and as soon thereafter as the necessary preparations could be made, they set out under Col Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] to meet Major Ferguson. On their march they were joined by a regiment from Virginia under Col Campbell [William Campbell], and by some other troops from North Carolina under Col McDowell [Charles McDowell] & some other officers not recollected. When they had proceeded near to Broad River, information was received that Major Ferguson was about posting himself on King's Mountain,² where it was immediately determined that all those who had horses, or could procure them, should advance forthwith to meet him. This deponent having no horse, and not being able to procure one, was necessarily left behind, with many others, and although they made rapid marches, were not able to reach King's Mountain in time to engage in the battle. It having been fought & the Americans with their prisoners being on their return before the foot men rejoined them. After rejoining the army this deponent continued with them assisting in guarding the prisoners, until they marched to the Moravian towns in the County of Stokes, where they were stationed a considerable time guarding the prisoners aforesaid until they were sent off to Virginia or somewhere—when this deponent was discharged and returned home, having been in service in this expedition near three months.

Very soon after the return home of this deponent, probably in the month of December following, some considerable disturbances were said to exist in the county watered by Deep River, in consequence of the Tories having broken out there. Col Cleveland immediately gave orders for a company to be raised, to assist in suppressing them. When this deponent again volunteered himself and joined the company of Capt. Johnson [Samuel Johnson], and rendezvoused at Hamblin's old store and marched thence as direct as they could to Herman Cox's Mills on Deep River. Upon arriving at that place, they ascertained that Col Fanning [David Fanning] who commanded the Tories had marched off and abandoned that part of the country. Much fear & apprehension existed in the neighborhood however, on account of the many persons who were supposed to be disaffected. In this situation of affairs, Capt. Johnson deemed it most prudent to scour the country round about for some time, which he accordingly did, and when the excitement and alarm had subsided, he marched back home, and discharged his troops. In this expedition this deponent believes he served three months

About the latter part of January 1782 [sic, 1781], an express brought information to the County of Wilkes, from Genl Davidson [William Lee Davidson],³ that Lord Cornwallis was approaching the State from South Carolina and urging the militia to turn out and oppose him. This deponent again volunteered himself and joined the Company of Richard Allen and set out

² https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html

³ Davidson was killed at Cowan's Ford on February 1, 1781.

https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cowans_ford.html

immediately with a view of marching to Salisbury, but before they reached that place, they understood that Lord Cornwallis had crossed the Catawba [River] & was there in Salisbury. They immediately changed the direction of their route and intended joining Genl Greene [Nathanael Greene], if possible, who was at that time supposed to be on the waters of Dan River, in the edge of Virginia. When they had advanced some distance beyond Salem in N. C. orders were received from Genl Greene directing them to return, and endeavor to form a junction with Genl Pickens [Andrew Pickens], who was supposed to be advancing by a circuitous route from South Carolina. They did return, and met with Genl Pickens at or near Maj Lewis's in the lower end of Wilkes, and not far distant from Mitchell's River. Upon joining Genl Pickens they remained with and conducted him to Salem, where they joined Col Locke [Francis Locke] with a considerable number of troops. On leaving Salem, Genl Pickens took the direct road to Hillsboro while Col Locke took a road higher up the country. This deponent was attached to the troops under Col Locke, & when they had advanced probably as far as Rockingham County, an express arrived from Genl Pickens stating that a large number of Tories were embodying themselves under Col Pyles [sic, Doctor John Pyle] (a Tory Col) and requesting him to meet him without delay at Trollinger's ford on Haw River. Col Locke with his troops immediately set out for that place, but before they reached it, information was received that Genl Pickens had engaged with the Tories and defeated them. Whereupon, Col Locke turned about and directed his course towards Genl Greene's army, which they met near the High Rock Ford on Haw River. After remaining a few days with Genl Greene, Col Locke's regiment, together with some others of the troops were discharged, and returned home, which place this deponent believes he reached sometime in March, having been in service during this expedition from five to six weeks.

This deponent performed several other short tours against the Tories, amounting in the whole he believes to as much as three months, but the precise length of each, and the officers whom they were performed, he cannot now after so a great a lapse of time and the great decay of his memory pretend to recollect.

This deponent removed to the County of Stokes N. C. shortly after the war, where he lived two or three years, and then removed back to the County of Wilkes, where he has lived ever since, and where he now lives. He never received any written discharge from the service, nor has he any documentary evidence to prove his service, but refers to the testimony of Mr. Elijah Vickers & Capt Samuel Johnson hereto annexed & who was with him most of the time, for proof of the same.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity accept the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ John Love, X his mark

S/ R. Martin, Clerk

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On the day and year aforesaid, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court aforesaid, Elijah Vicks,⁴ who being first duly sworn according to law, deposeth and saith, that he served with John Love the above applicant during the four several tours of duty mentioned in the foregoing declaration -- first under Colonel Isaacs down to the mouth of Rocky River in Anson County, (intending to proceed against the Tories) secondly under Colonel Cleveland to King's Mountain, and thence down to the Moravian Towns guarding the prisoners -- thirdly under

⁴ [Elijah Vicks \(Vicks, Vickers\) W4368](#)

Captain Johnson down to Harman Cox's Mill on Deep River after Colonel Fanning (a Tory Colonel) and fourthly under Captain Allen to Salem, where they joined Colonel Locke, and thence to the High Rock Ford on Haw River where they joined General Greene -- and further that the said several tours of duty as set forth and specified in the foregoing declaration as having been performed by the said John Love, were performed by him.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ R. Martin, Clk

S/ Elijah Vickers, X his mark

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On the day and year aforesaid personally appeared in open Court before the Court aforesaid Captain Samuel Johnson,⁵ who being first duly sworn according to law deposeth & saith that John Love the above applicant served under him during the three months tour of service performed on Deep River, at Cox's Mill in Randolph County, & the surrounding Country, and further that the said services as set forth and specified in the foregoing declaration purporting to have been performed by the said John Love at Cox's Mill aforesaid and the surrounding Country after Colonel Fanning (a Tory Colonel) were performed by him.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

The above was compared for the signature of Captain Samuel Johnson, but owing to the press of business in Court this applicant could not get his declaration attended to until after Captain Johnson had left town -- He however proves nothing but what is proven by Mr. Elijah Vickers --

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State of North Carolina Wilkes County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County & State aforesaid John Love who being duly sworn, deposes and saith, that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades -- For eleven months & seven days I served as a private -- and for such service I claim a pension --

This deponent further saith by way of amendment to the foregoing declaration, and to obviate the objections made by the War Department thereto, that he cannot conveniently procure a clergyman to certify as to his character for veracity and his belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution as there is none residing in his neighborhood, nor any of his acquaintance within a reasonable distance -- he however refers to Andrew Patterson Esquire & Mr. William Johnson as persons to whom he is well known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution --

Sworn to & subscribed before made this 14th day of May 1833.

S/ W. R. Lenoir, JP

S/ John Love, X his mark

[Andrew Patterson and William Johnson, Sr., gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum beginning March 4th, 1831, for 8 months service in the revolution.]

⁵ [Samuel Johnson W5012](#)

[This file erroneously includes on the last page thereof the bounty land record card for John Love (deceased), a private in the Maryland line warrant number 11458 for 100 acres issued July 18, 1794 to Henry Purdy, Administrator.]