

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Johnson W10151 Margaretta Johnson f63VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 1/6/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[p 20]

State of Missouri Marion County: SS

On this 13 day of November in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before James Jamison and Daniel Hendricks two of the Judges of the County Court within and for the County of Marion in the State of Missouri now sitting William Johnson Senior a resident of Fabius Township in the said County of Marion aged seventy 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 entered the service of the United States in the first of March 1779 under Captain De. Neal with whom I volunteered. It was expected that the enemy would attempt to destroy the property of General Washington (Mount Vernon) and my Company was ordered to that place for its protection we accordingly marched to that place and were stationed there three months. Nothing important occurred during our stay except the arrival of three British Ships of War. They came up opposite the dwelling house, cast anchor and remained there a short time Then passed on up the River. They did not fire upon us or molest the premises but in a little time re-passed Down the River again – Our arms were furnished by the United States and delivered to us by order of our Captain at Mount Vernon. I know not that for this tour I ever received a regular discharge. I think I did and that it was signed by Captain De. Neal. If I ever had one it is long since lost or mislaid. The whole Company was discharged at the same time and we all returned to our homes early in the summer of this year. At the time I entered the service as stated I lived in Fairfax County Virginia and I know of no one of my companions that is now living by whom the facts can be proved.

In the month of September in the year 1780 I again entered the service of the United States under Captain William Mason of Fairfax County Virginia William Dorrell was our first Lieutenant Samuel Neisbet 2nd Lieutenant and Josiah Adams our Ensign. I was at this time also living in Fairfax County about ten miles from Mount Vernon. I volunteered at Alexandria and in a very short time rendezvoused at Colchester. I was then in the 18th year of my age. As soon as our Company was properly Organized we took up the march to join the United States Army then in the South commanded by General Green [Nathanael Greene]. From Colchester we marched to Dumfries thence to Richmond thence to Petersburg in Virginia and from thence to Hillsborough in the State of North Carolina near this place we fell in with some other troops that were from Prince William County Virginia who were commanded by Captain by the name of Britt. From this place we marched on in company with the last mentioned troops to Saulsberry

[Salisbury] Thence to Camden, thence crossing big Pedee River in South Carolina we passed down to what is called (or what was then called) the Cherraws [Cheraw Hills] at which place we joined the regular Army which was commanded by General Green.

Our march was in haste and I have now forgotten if anything important occurred on the way. We took up our quarters with Green's Army and remained in camp during the winter. During the winter we had frequent skirmishes with foraging parties and Tories but no important action took place during the winter. The Army suffered considerably (at least the militia) for want of provisions which were very scarce and of bad quality. Parched Corn was very often a luxury and those who resided in our neighborhood though we protected their lives often depredated upon their provisions. There was one man whose name I have now forgotten shot for desertion. After our early breakfast one morning the whole Army was paraded to witness the execution But on the occasion I do not recollect to have seen our General on parade.

I remained with the Army during this winter and until the spring of 1781 I was then detailed to take charge of a number of sick soldiers and ordered to proceed with them by what was called the Sand-hill road in South Carolina through South Carolina, North Carolina until I had brought them into the State of Virginia which I did. After I had disposed of the Sick I was ordered to take charge of a number of British prisoners On Dan River near the Shallow Ford in North Carolina. I guarded them on to Albemarle Barracks in Virginia. I delivered them in charge with a guard stationed there and guarding other prisoners – Having served my tour I received my discharge and returned home where I arrived in the month of June 1781 having served a little upwards of eight months. The Tour of Duty had expired and when I returned home Captain Mason and my Company had arrived I having been detained by the duties assigned me longer than they were. I obtained a written discharge from Captain Mason after my return but thinking it of no value I took no care of it and I have lost it or at least I do not know where it is. One Trammel Conn was our Quarter Master on this Tour and he accompanied us throughout.

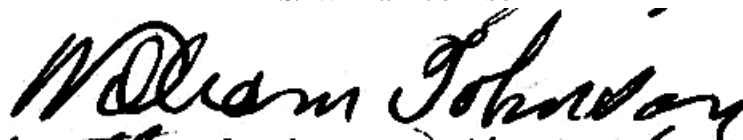
Our camp during the Winter was some considerable distance from that of the regular Army and I learned the names of very few of the regular Officers in those I have now forgotten fifty years have elapsed and the names of my General is all that I can remember.

I was born in Fairfax County in the State of Virginia in the year 1762. I have now no record of my age.

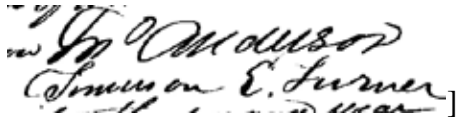
At the time I volunteered as before stated I lived in the County of Fairfax. In the year 1783 I moved to Kentucky where I continued to reside until 1829 when I removed to Marion County in the State of Missouri. I lived in several Counties in Kentucky but most of the time in Harrison County. I am known in my present neighborhood by many especially Jeremiah Taylor, Thomason E. Turner, Daniel Lake, William Carson, Moses Gill and others who can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief as to my services as a Soldier of the revolution. I know of no one now the living except Moses Gill (whose Affidavit is hereunto annexed) by whom any knowledge of my services is possessed and my Discharges as before stated are lost.

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 or the agency of any State.

S/ William Johnson

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "W".

[Tomerson E. Turner and John Anderson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]



Simon E. Turner

[p 25]

State of Missouri Marion County: SS: On this day personally came Moses Gill¹ and being first duly sworn according to law on his oath states that he was well acquainted with William Johnson the above named applicant in Fairfax County Virginia – That he lived within three miles of his residence and mustered in the same Company. That William Johnson said applicant volunteered under Captain Mason in the fall of 1780 and marched with the company to join the Army in the South and was absent until the month of June 1781 about eight months.

At that time all believed that he was during his absence above named in the Army and I myself never had any doubts of it. And further saith not.

S/ Moses Gill, X his mark

[p 54: On May 7, 1833 in Marion County Missouri Jeremiah Taylor, a clergyman, and Joshua Gentry gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 12: On October 3, 1843 in Lewis County Missouri, Margaretta Johnson, aged 73 years, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of William Johnson, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him March 2, 1793; that her husband died June 19, 1838; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 14: On October 3rd, 1843 in Lewis County Missouri, Susanna Reese gave testimony that she was a witness of the marriage of Margarita Tittle to William Johnson at the house of the bride's father in Bourbon County Kentucky in 1793 in the spring; that the ceremony was conducted by the Reverend Mr. Coleman of the Methodist Episcopal Church; that there were many witnesses to the marriage amongst them being Martin Baker of Scotland County Missouri, Polly Timberlake then of Bourbon County Kentucky, Obadiah Timberlake of the same place etc. she signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[Facts in file: The widow's father's name was Peter Tittle; the veteran and his wife were married in the part of Bourbon County Kentucky which he later became Harrison County Kentucky; the only one of their children named in the file is John C Johnson with whom the widow lived in Lewis County Missouri; the widow died prior to 1855 survived by children but they are not named in the file documents.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

¹ FPA S16823