

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph White W11809 Penelope White VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 8 Oct 2014.

Virginia:

County of Bedford Sct.

On this 11th day of September in the year 1832 personally appeared before us Henry Brown and Sam'l Mitchell justices of the peace in and for the said county in the state aforesaid Joseph White a resident of the county and state aforesaid, aged upwards of eighty years and unable by reason of bodily infirmity to appear in court, 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 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of his country under the following named officers and served as herein after stated. That in the year [blank] he enlisted under Captain [Thomas] Buford and went against the Indians and fought at the Battle of Point Pleasant [10 Oct 1774], but what was the length of the tour he does not remember but he believes it was three months. He was born in the county of Amelia in the state of Virginia, and has no register of his age but according to the best of his recollection from what he was told in his youth he is now about eighty years of age. During the revolutionary war, but at what precise period he cannot recollect, he was drafted as a militia man from the county of Bedford, where he then resided to go against the British who were then at Portsmouth in the state aforesaid. He served a three month's tour mostly in the neighbourhood of the British fort and was in several skirmishes with them. Captain John Trigg commanded the company in which he served and he remembers the names of some of the Field officers to wit: Col Parker, Col [Everard] Meade and Col Merriwether [probably Thomas Meriwether], but he has forgotten all further particulars about the names or rank of the officers. He was afterwards called upon, in the year [blank] and went down under the command of a serjeant to the army and served shortly before the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]. the applicant supposes adding all his time together he served seven months –

He has no documentary evidence of his services and if he ever had any written discharges they are lost or mislaid. He can prove some of his services by John Hudnall [pension application W25806] and Captain Samuel Wilkes [R11553] whose affidavits are hereunto annexed. He hereby relinquishes all claim to any pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state
Joseph hisXmate White

Bedford County Towitt

This day Samuel Wilks a creditable man came before me David W. Quarles a Justice of the peace for the county aforesaid & made oath that Joseph White served a tour of three months in the militia under Cap'n. John Trigg during the said tour he was with him the said White given under my hand this 22nd day of September 1832

Bedford County Towitt This day John Hudnall a creditable man came before me David W. Quarles a Justice of the peace for the affore s'd county & made oath that Joseph White serv'd a Tower 3 months in the Militia under Capt. John Trigg dureing the s'd Tower he was with him the said white given under my hand this 24th day of Sept. 1832

State of Virginia Bedford County SS [3 Jan 1834]

personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County of Bedford in the State of Virginia, Joseph White who being duly sworn deposeth & sayeth that by reason of old age & consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise period of the War in which he served but recollects the first Tour he served against the Indians was near the beginning of the revolutionary war, the other Tours stated in his declaration, he has also Forgot at what period of the war

he serv'd. but thinks it was in the Latter part of the War, – to the best of his recollection, and belief his services added together amounts to seven months in all his services he serv'd. as a common soldier & claims a pension for 7 months
Joseph hisXmark White

NOTES:

White received a pension for seven months service in the Revolutionary War even though his first tour of three months occurred before the beginning of the Revolutionary War (19 April 1775).

On 18 Feb 1853 Penelope White, 84, applied for a pension stating that as Penelope Taylor she was married by John Scott, a Methodist minister, in Bedford County to Joseph White on 26 March 1826, and her husband died on 26 March 1844. On 23 May 1853 Paschal W. Nance, 57, stated that Penelope White's maiden name was Penelope Angel and that her first husband was Alsop Taylor. The file includes a copy of the minister's return showing the date of marriage as 14 March 1826. On 3 April 1855 Penelope White applied for bounty land, still giving her age as 84.

On 28 July 1856 Penelope White, said to be 77, applied for the amount of pension still owed to her husband before his death, stating that they were married on 14 March 1826, and her husband died on 31 Aug 1845. She stated that Octavus Austin, a pension agent, had obtained the money and not given it to her. Correspondence in the file states that Austin was convicted of fraud and sent to prison.

On 10 My 1866 Penelope White, thought to be 98, applied for restoration of her pension, which had been suspended during the Civil War, during which time she lived with friends and relatives and subsisted on "a small stipend from her husband's estate, but mostly on the charity and kindness of her relatives." Her statement was witnessed by Ellis and Margaret Angel, who stated that she was "very feeble and infirm both in mind and body from old age, being unable to get out of the house, and requires the constant attention of her friends to take care of her."