

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Robison (Robinson)¹ W24798 Abigail Robison f45SC/NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

State of Tennessee McNairy County } SS

On this the 23rd day of September in the year of our Lord 1833 Personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of our Court of pleas and quarter sessions for said County now sitting John Robinson a resident of McNairy County 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 entered the service of the North Carolina Militia in McLinburgh [sic, Mecklenburg] County in the year 1780 as a volunteer soldier under Captain Alexander [William Alexander]. Sometime in the month of August does not precisely recollect the day he volunteered, it was shortly after the Battle of Camden [August 15-16, 1780] and so soon as it was ascertained in that neighborhood that General Gates [Horatio Gates] had been defeated, their being at that time a great call for persons to turn out and save their Country from the British and Tories who were then about to overrun it, he was marched towards Camden, it there being no Army able to oppose Cornwallis he was engaged in watching his movements and fighting the Tories. Colonel William Polk and Major White was his field Officers he continued in service until April 1781 at this time he served as he thinks over 7 months, but he is positive that it was not under, he therefore sets down his services as 7 months during this Tour, so soon as he quit the militia he enlisted as a mounted Dragoon which was some time in the month of April 1781 under Colonel Wade Hampton at Brown's, at Rocky River for the term of ten months and marched down into South Carolina to the Congaree [River] where we went over to the Edist [sic, Edisto] River where we took some British Prisoners and Tories thence we marched within ten miles of Charleston to a place called the ten mile house where we had a Brush with a shouting [sic, scouting] party of British and Tories thence to Cooper River where we took some Boats that were lying in the River that belonged to the enemy, thence to the Brick Church on Goose Creek where we joined General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], Marion [Francis Marion] and Colonel Lee [Henry "light horse Harry" Lee] mounted dragoons or light horse. The British had just left there we pursued them to a bridge and a place called Quinby where Colonel Lee took some prisoners, the British placed two Cannon at the bridge and Lee advised Hampton not to attempt to cross there we then turned and crossed lower down owing to the maneuver I was not in the Battle. Thence we returned to the Congaree. General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] was been wounded² he then went as one of the guard to accompany

¹ See N. A. Acc. No. 874 No. 050148 Not Half Pay John Robinson

² Thomas Sumter was wounded at the Battle of Blackstock's on November 20, 1780.

Sumter to Charlottesville [sic, Charlotte] where Sumter's family then resided, he returned to the Army and marched to Buck island, where he having served out his time was discharged, and this Tour he served ten months as a mounted Dragoon. He has no Documentary evidence nor does he know of any person by whom he can prove his services by. 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: Where and in what year were you born

Answer: I was born in Mecklenburg County North Carolina in March 1761 agreeable to the best information he has on that subject.

Question: Have you any record of your age and if so where is it.

Answer, I have never seen any register of my age nor do I know whether my parents kept any record of my age if they did I never saw it

Question, Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live,

Answer, I was living in Mecklenburg County State of North Carolina when I entered the Service, I remained in Mecklenburg County after I quit the service until the year 1802 when he moved to Tennessee where he has remained ever since, and has resided in this McNairy County for the last 4 years where he now lives

Question. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer, Or were you a substitute and if a substitute for home,

Answer, I volunteered my first Tour in the Militia and the 2nd in the Dragoon service.

Question. 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 Services

Answer, The whole of this Interrogatory is answered in the body of my Declaration,

Question 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 did not receive any written discharge for my services, does not know why he believes none of his company obtained a Discharge in writing.

Question 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 of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Answer. Parson John Gillespie and ___ are acquainted with me and can testify to my character for veracity and that it is reputed and believed by the neighborhood and by those who have long known me that I was a soldier of the Revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ W. S. Wisdom, Clerk

S/ John Robison

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Robison". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

[John Gillespie, a clergyman and Robert Tedford gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 43]

Application for a Transfer

County of Benton SS

On this twenty ninth day of May 1837 before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace for the said County of Benton personally appeared John Robinson [sic], who formally belonged to the company commanded by Capt. William Alexander in the regiment commanded by Col. Wade Hampton in the service of the United States, that his name was placed on the pension roll of the State of Tennessee from whence he removed last fall, that he now resides in the State of Arkansas where he intends to remain, and wishes his pension to be there payable in future: The following are his reasons for removing from McNairy County Tennessee to Benton County in the State of Arkansas; he is now about Seventy six years of age and laboring under the bodily infirmities peculiar to that advanced age: his John B Robinson on whom he principally relied for care and protection, has also removed from McNairy County Tennessee to Benton County Arkansas, & he considered it necessary & expedient to remove with his said Son: his wife is yet alive but old & very helpless & infirm & requires the aid & attention of some of her children to administer to her comforts & attend to her wants during the remainder of her declining years: He further states, that on his journey moving from Tennessee to this Country he was visited with a paralytic affliction, which then a great degree destroyed the use of his limbs, that his right arm & hand is so materially afflicted that instead of writing his name as he always had been in the habit of doing, previous to the above mentioned visitation, it has now become necessary for him to make his mark.

S/ John Robinson, X his mark

[p 9: On December 4, 1844 in Benton County Arkansas, Abigail Robinson, 78, filed for a widow's pension under the 1843 act stating that she is the widow of John Robinson a pensioner at the rate of \$65 per annum for his services in the revolution; that she married him in North Carolina by publication on the 3rd day of February 1784; that her husband died September 7, 1842; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 10: On December 4, 1844 in Benton County Arkansas, Jane Morrison, 57, gave an affidavit stating that she was the oldest child of John and Abigail Robinson; she verifies the family record included as part of her mother's application for a widow's pension.]

[p 12: family record]

John Robison born 7th day of March 1759

Abigail more born the 30th of October 1760³ [last 2 digits are written over and unclear]

John & Abigail Robison was married 3rd day of February 1784 by the Reverend Thomas M^call

Moses M. Robison born 21st of January 1789

Mary S. Robison born December 17th 1791

Robert A. Robison born January 13th 1794

Margaret W. Robison born the 11th of December 1796

Harriet A. Robison born the 11th of January 1799

John B. Robison born 15th of September 1801

Addeline A. Robison born 22 February 1804

Mary S. Robison born 28th of February 1806

James A. Robison born September 5th 1808

William Robison born July 17th 1812

³ The war department interpreted this as October 30, 1766

John Robison born 7 th day of March 1759 Abigail Moore born 30 th October 1766	Mary S Robison born 28 February 1806
John & Abigail Robison was married 3 rd day of February 1784 by The Reverend Thomas McAll	James A Robison born September 5 th 1808
Jane S Robison born May 16 th 1787	William Robison born July 17 th 1812
Mary M Robison born 20 th January 1789	
Mary S Robison born December 17 th 1791	
Robert A Robison born January 13 th 1794	
Margaret W Robison born 11 th December 1796	
Harriet A Robison born 11 th January 1799	
John B Robison born 15 th September 1807	
Adeline A Robison born 22 nd February 1814	

[Veteran was pension at the rate of \$65 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service for seven months in the Foot service and 10 months in the Cavalry. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[Facts in file: The veteran moved in the fall of 1836 from McNairy County Tennessee to Benton County Arkansas with his son John B. Robison; the soldier died September 7th, 1842, place not stated.]