

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Stephenson W6204

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 3 Apr 2015.

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Cabell County – Stevenson, John Jr]

To the Honourable Speaker and House of Representatives of Va

your Petitioners beg leave to Represent that John Stevenson Seignor a Citizen of Cabell Cty and State of Va is a man of Honest & good fame about 71 years of age and consequently so infirm that He is unable to obtain his liveing by labour he is a man in an indigent circumstance a very poor man indeed and according to the acompaniing affidavits was a soldier & a Regular soldier in the Revolutionary war and threfore your Petitioners pray that he may be Rec'd and Plas'd among the Number of your Pensioners

[dozens of signatures including those of John Stephenson Jr, William Stephenson, Gilbert Stephenson, Benjemin Stephenson, Aberham Stephenson, Mark Stephenson, Benjemin Stephenson Jr, and Jeremiah Stephenson.]

october the 25 day 1830

This day came David Adkins [David Atkins] before me a jetes of the peace for the county of Cabell and state of Virginia and made oath that he new John Stephenson Sienier to be in the service of the united states as a regular at henry oald court house and marcht from thare to gilford to the battle [sic: Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] and continued in the service untill the end of the war Turly Choyce [sic: Tully Choice, pension application W3774] Leutenent no capton genrel green [sic: Nathanael Greene] commander and the said Stephenson is not able to make his support
This given under my hand this 26th day of october 1830 John Wellman

November 9th 1830

This day came Daniel Davis sein [S8287] before me the under signed a justice of the peace for the County of Cabell and State of virginia who saith that he knew John Stephenson sen to serve a tower of duty under Capt. William Renfro in the old Revolutionary war in the year 1778 Given under my hand this day and year above written
Benjamin Drown

Dec 13th 1830 ref'd to Rev'y Claims/ Rejected by the Committee 4 Jan'y 1831

[The following is from the federal pension file.]

Cabell County Virginia to wit

On this 23rd day of September 1833 personally appeared before the County Court of said County John Stephenson a resident of said County aged seventy years on the 22th day of last March who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 that he entered into the service of the United States as a private soldier and as a substitute for George Griffith in the year 1778 June the 4th under the command of Capt William Rentfrow and marched from the County of Bedford in the state aforesaid up the Roanoke to Kings Fort and there remained to guard said Fort untill the fourth day of Sept at which time he received a discharge for a three months tour of duty, and this declarant further states that he again entered into the united states service as a substitute for William Griffith [undeciphered word] as a private soldier on the first of August 1779 and march from the County of Bedford to Chizzels Mines [sic: lead mines at Fort Chiswell in present Wythe County VA] on the New River under the command of Leutenant Moses Grear [sic: Moses Greer] and on the first day of the October following was discharged have served a tour of three months and thinks that Col. Charles

Lynch had the command of the Fort and this declarant further states that on the 22 of august 1780 he again entered into the service of the United States as a private soldier, and as a substitute for William Stephenson and marched from henry Courthouse in Virginia to North Carolina by the old Sury towns [probably Sauratown in present Stokes County] and from thence to Guilford Court house where he remained untill the end of three months when he was discharged he marched under Lieutenant Tuly Choice to Guilford and then was attached to Lieutenant Reamys Company and belonged to the regiment commanded by Major Henry Conway.

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid



Interrogatories by the court

1 Where and in what year was you born

Answer I was born in the County of Amherst Virginia the 28th day of march 1761

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

Answer I have none but a traditinary acount handed down from my Parents to me

3 Where were you liveing when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary, and where do you now live

Answer I lived in Henry County Virginia when called into service, since the war I have resided in the counties of Greenbrier Kanawha and Cabell, and am at this time a resident of Cabell County

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

Answer I was a substitute for 1st George Griffith 2nd for William Griffith and 3rd for William Stephenson

5 State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the troops where you served such continental and malitia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your services

Answer I recollect of no continental and malitia regiments except those commanded by Major Mims and Major Conoway [sic] who had the command the time I marched to Guilford as to the general circumstances of his service he refers the court to the foregoing declaration

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

Answer I received the discharge signed by Capt. Rentfrow & Lieutenant Moses Grear for my 1st and 2 tours but for the third tour of duty I received no written discharge I have lost both my discharges

7 State the names of persons to whom you known in your Present neighbourhood who can testify to your character for veracity and the belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution Answer Elisha McComas James McGinnis Daniel Davis John Samuels and Edmund McGinnis

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applications from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111.]

this old Gentleman was from home. had gone to Ohio on business. consequently I did not see him. my enquirey touching his Revolutionary Services were favourable to him. for example.

Parker Adkins a man of Integrity says he has known Stephenson for 30 yrs. has often head him detail his military services in the war of the Revolution both before & since the passage of the Pension law of 1832. believes from their conversation and from General repute that Stephenson served at least nine months if not more – that Stephenson is a man of good character.

Daniel Davis says that Stephenson & himself served a tour of 3 mo. together on the Rhoanoke [sic: Roanoke] river (see Davis' redeclaration) and that he has often heard Stephenson say before the passage of the Pension law of 1832 that he had served two other tours – one he thinks at Kings mountain

Mr. Samuels says from General repute in the county he believes that Stephenson did serve as alledged by him in his Declaration.

W. G Singleton August 29, 1835

NOTE: On 27 Jun 1846 in Wayne County Sally Stephenson, 72, applied for a pension stating that as Sally Morehead she married John Stephenson (frequently called John Stephens) in Greenbrier County on 28 Apr 1791, soon afterwards moved to the part of Kanawha County that later became Cabell and then Wayne County, where he died 3 Mar 1846. Her application was witnessed by Caleb N. Stephenson. In an application for bounty land dated 6 Sep 1855 her age is said to have been 82.