

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Johnson W7939

Patsey Johnson

f79VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/4/14 supp'd 1/15/15

[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' 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 69]

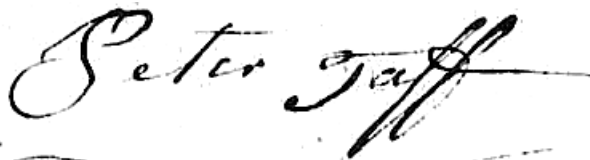
Saml Johnson of Essex County in the State of Virginia aged fifty-nine years deposeth and saith that he enlisted in January or February 1776 with Captain John Webb in the 7th Virginia Regiment on Continental Establishment as a Drummer for two years, that he afterwards acted as Drum Major in the same Regiment, being appointed thereto in Philadelphia, and that he the Deponent served the term of his said enlistment and was honorably discharged by General Woodford at the Valley Forge which discharge he the deponent hath lost many years – and that from his reduced circumstances being now imprisoned for debt he needs the assistance of his country for support, this declaration made in conformity to an Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War, passed by Congress the 18th day of March in the year 1818

[Attested by the clerk of Essex County Superior Court May 13, 1818

[p 39]

I the subscriber do hereby certify that Samuel Johnson Senior served in the Revolutionary War with me the time of 2 years he enlisted under Captain John Webb of Essex County in the year 1776 – as Drummer in the 7 Virginia Regiment & in General Woodford's brigade also the said Johnson was appointed Drum Major & served his time faithfully with me to the end of the 2 years & was discharged at the Valley Forge in Pennsylvania by General Woodford himself.

S/ Peter Taff¹



[attested in Essex County Virginia May 5, 1818]

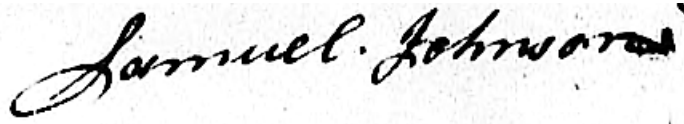
[p 10]

Be it known that on this __ day of __ 1823 personally appeared Samuel Johnson in open Court, that is to say before the County Court of Essex (being a Court of Record) aged sixty-four years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818, and the first

¹ [Peter Taff S38423](#)

May 1820, that he the said Samuel Johnson enlisted under Captain John Webb on the ___ day of January 1776 in the 7th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel McClanachan [Alexander McClanachan] in General Woodford's [William Woodford's] Brigade in General Stevens' [Robert Stevens'] division in the line of the State of Virginia, on Continental establishment for the term of two years, that he continued to serve in the said Corps during the term of his enlistment when he was discharged from the said service by General Woodford at the Valley Forge in Pennsylvania, that he was appointed Drum Major in Philadelphia by Colonel McClanachan & was in the Battles of Brandy Wine [Brandywine, September 11, 1777], German Town [Germantown, October 4, 1777] and many others, and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed distinguished by letters A B and also subscribed by John Tribble and Peter Tribble, and I do further swear that my family consists of my wife, who was born in the year 1764, and 3 children Lawson a son aged about 27 and to single daughters upwards of 20 years of age, – having heretofore made a declaration of according to the provisions of the Act of the 18th March 1818 I have received my pension up to the 4th of March 1820 & I do further swear that I am by occupation a farmer.

S/ Samuel Johnson



[p 11]

At the request of Mr. Samuel Johnson we had made a schedule of his property and valued it as follows, to wit

97 ½ Acres of land at \$3 33 1/3 cents per acre	324.99 1/3
Bond due to Richard Corbin now deceased or his representatives for \$399.30 do 5 th of June 1818 and interest thereon until 5 th April 1823	<u>515.08</u>
Balance due on said Bond – this debts secured by Deed of trust upon the said Land	190.08 2/3

Schedule continued to wit

1 Desk \$10	10.00
2 Chests at 25 Cents	.50
1 Safe \$.50	.50
1 Trunk \$.50	.50
6 Windsor Chairs at 50 Cts	3.00
1 Table 50 Cts	.50
2 Fish Barrels at 25 Cts	.50
1 Yearling	5.00
1 pair Cart Wheels \$10	10.00
1 Cary plough 75 Cts	.75
1 Spinning Wheel 25 Cts	.25

1 Dutch Oven and hooks	.25
1 Saddle and bridle	1.25
3 Old hoes and 2 frows	.75
1 pair Tongs	.25
1 Grind Stone	.25
1 pair Hames and Trace chains & Swingle tree Irons	1.00
2 Axes	.50
2 pewter Disher \$1	1.00
6 Spoons, knives & forks	.50
1 Box and Jugg 33 1/3 Cts	.33
2 Barrels 50 Cts	.50
1 pair Steelyards, hand Saw and drawing knife	.75
2 Iron Pots	1.50
1 Maple Table	.25
3 Hogs	5.50
3 Mobley Stands	1.50
1 pair Gigg Wheels and Axle tree \$8	<u>8.00</u>
	\$134.25 2/3
Bond due to William L Waring \$8.49	8.49
Due to A. Newhall	12.00
Do to Benjamin Blake	75.64
Do to Robt. Weir	32.65
Do to Hubbard Minor	<u>12.17</u>
	\$275.20 2/3

[next page]

Amount brought over	\$275. 20 2/3
Due to Austin Brockenbrough \$21. 42	21.42
Do to George M. Hundley	21.98
Do to Henry Dunn	4.91 1/3
Do to Susanna and Polly Hardy	<u>28.00</u>
Amt. Debts due from Saml. Johnson	\$351.52

The above debts appear to be justly due from Samuel Johnson as we have seen Certificates under the hands of the Auditors.

Given under eye hand this 12th day of April 1823

S/ Jas. Tribble

S/ P. E. Park, JBLE [?]

The foregoing Schedule contains every description of property that I possess

S/ Samuel Johnson

[p 41]

Essex County to wit

This day Peter Taff personally appeared before me a justice of the peace for said County and made oath that Samuel Johnson Senior served in the revolutionary War with him for the term of 2 years, and that he enlisted under Captain John Webb in Essex County as Drummer in the year 1776 in the month of January in the 7th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel MacClanaham [sic] in General Woodford's Brigade and in General Stevenson's Division and

fought in the Battles at Brandy Wine and at German Town, and was discharged at the Valley Forge in Pennsylvania by General Woodford. Given under my hand this 25th day of April 1823
S/ Thomas Jesse, JP

[p 75: yet another pension application filed by the veteran on May 5th, 1826 in Essex County Superior Court in which he restates his service as set forth in the foregoing documents and he adds that he lives on a tract of very poor land 97 ½ acres formerly owned by him but now owned by William Fisher and: "that he works as a farmer on said land, when able, but that he is very infirm and crippled and is not able to support himself by his work, or the prophets of said land; that his family consist of his wife, aged 62 years; of a son aged 32 years, who works on the said land for the support of himself, his parents & sisters; of 2 daughters one aged 39 years and the other 34 years, who work in the house for the support of the family, but are weakly women."]

[p 7: On June 14, 1837, in Essex County Virginia, Patsey Johnson, 74 as of January 13 next, made application for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Samuel Johnson, a drummer in the revolutionary war and a pensioner for his services there he and; that she married him February 5, 1780; that her husband died February 11th, 1830 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 6: On June 14, 1837 in Essex County Virginia, Lawson D Johnson gave testimony that he is the son of Samuel and Patsey Johnson of Essex County; that his mother has remained a widow since the death of her husband; that his parents oldest son, Philip Johnson, if living would be upwards of 56 years of age.]

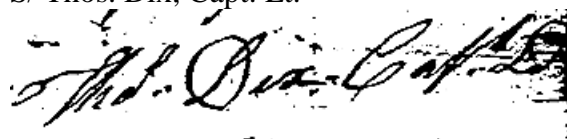
[p 73: Finding by the Essex County court dated December 16, 1850 that Patsey Johnson the widow of Samuel Johnson a revolutionary war pensioner died on the 30th of June 1850 leaving two grandchildren to wit Robert Johnson and Isabella Johnson and one great grandchild Catharine Carter her only heirs at law.]

[Veteran was initially pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing May 13, 1818, for two-year service as a drummer in the Virginia Continental line. Veteran was struck from the pension list for failure to comply with the requirements of the 1820 act. Veteran was reinstated to the pension list at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 24, 1826. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836.]

[From [pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I do hereby certify that Samuel Johnson Senior served as a regular Soldier with me in the Revolutionary War. He enlisted in 1776 under Captain John Webb of Essex County as Drummer and was shortly appointed Drum Major. He served faithfully to the end of the War.

S/ Thos. Dix, Capt. Lt.



Attested in Essex County Virginia March 24, 1818]

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

[Note: claim for bounty land; file contains a very poor image of an affidavit given by Carter Croxton, Sr.² in which the affiant appears to say that Samuel Johnson served from Essex County in the company of Captain John Webb as a Drum Major in the Continental line in the year 1777 or 1778.



From [pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

[Note: 44-page file which contains very poorly copied images of what appears to be a state pension granted to Samuel Johnson, Drum Major, for \$50 per annum starting in 1820 or so and carried on in favor of his widow through 1830.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Essex County Legislative Petitions

Gentlemen, your humble petitioner begs leave to address your Honorable body, & is truly sorry that imperious Circumstances compel him to the painful necessity of imploring your bounty, & charity, – I am unable by my labor to support myself in consequence of my decrepitude by a fall from my Horse, which dislocated my ankle, & has rendered me so lame that it is with much difficulty I can move about on crutches; & there is no hope of my ever being restored, as five years have elapsed since the accident. Your petitioner begs leave further to state that he has done all in his power to serve his country, entering into the service in the Revolutionary War in 76. He served faithfully two years, & was in the Battles of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth as a Regular, & then was the greater part of his time in service until the close of the War – I have since that time labored honestly for a scanty support, & have taught my Sons to be excellent Musicians & they were allowed (by General Hungerford Colonel Parker & Major Brigade Inspector Robertson) to be the best Drum & Fife Majors in the Army during the last War. I have attended on Major Robertson for twelve years with my Sons until that accident prevented me from serving my country – I hope your honors will take it into consideration & afford that relief by granting him a small pension which is desired by your humble Servant.

S/ Samuel Johnson

I do hereby certify that some years since, I attended Mister Samuel Johnston [sic] for the relief of a dislocated ankle Joint; which terminated in a large abscess, and a Caries [?] of the bones of the part – He has now an Anchylosis what may be better understood, a stiff immovable ankle Joint

S/ Thos. B. W. Gray [Thomas B. W. Gray]

December 2, 1817

² [Carter Croxton S9250](#)

[Reverse]

Samuel Johnson's Petition

December 11, 1817

Referred to Claims

Reasonable

January 4, 1818

Reported

January 7, 1818

to lie

Bill drawn

Registered