

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ellis Johnson¹ W7941

Mary Johnson

f57VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/30/13

[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 9]

State of South Carolina Spartanburg District: SS

On this 4th day of October 1833, personally appeared before the Honorable Josiah J Evans Esquire the presiding Judge of the Court of Sessions & Common Pleas held at Spartanburg Courthouse in open Court, Ellis Johnson a resident of the District & State above named aged seventy-three 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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered as a private in the Army of the Revolutionary War on the 1st of April 1775 in Mecklenburg County State of Virginia, in the State troops, under the command of Lieutenant Samuel Malone and Captain John Ballard for the Term of twelve months. He was marched from Mecklenburg Court house to Hampton where he remained four months. He was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Minnaweathers [probably Thomas Meriwether]. From Hampton he was marched to Portsmouth at which place he remained four months – still commanded by Captain Ballard & Colonel Meriwether. From Portsmouth he was marched back to Mecklenburg Courthouse Virginia where he was discharged by Captain Ballard verbally on the 22nd of December 1775, having served eight months and twenty-two days. – On the 10th of January 1781, to the best of his knowledge & recollection, he substituted for the term of three months in Mecklenburg County Virginia as a private in the Militia under the command of Asa Oliver, he cannot recollect the name of the Gentlemen for whom he substituted. From Mecklenburg Court House he was marched to Cabin Point from thence to Suffolk where he was attached to the Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Alexder Dick [Alexander Dick] – He was marched from Suffolk to Prince George [County] where he was verbally discharged on the 10th of April 1781 to the best of his knowledge & recollection: but this deponent cannot say by what officer he was discharged – He served out the term of three months. – On or about the last of June 1781, to the best of his knowledge and recollection, he was drafted as a private in the Militia in the County of Mecklenburg Virginia for the term of three months in the Company commanded by Captain Richard Whitten [Richard Whiten]. I was marched from Mecklenburg Court house to Prince Edward Court house, from thence to Carter's Ferry on James River; from thence to Point Fork on James River, from there back to Carter's Ferry from thence to Morbin Hills [Malvern Hills]. The Regiment was commanded by Colonel Tucker. I was discharged at Morbin Hills on or about the 10th of October

¹ BLWt26767-160-55

1781 having served three months & ten days. I cannot now say by whom I received my discharge: it was verbal. In my first tour I served eight months & twenty-two days. In my second I served three months & in my third tour I served three months & ten days, making an aggregate of fifteen months & two days. By reason of old age & consequent loss of memory I may be mistaken as to the time of the commencement or ending of my tours: but as to the duration of each I am confident I have made a correct statement. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any State. I have no documentary evidence.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ E. Bomar, Clk

S/ Ellis Johnson, X his mark

In answer to the 1st Interrogatory I was born in Brunswick County Virginia. I cannot say as to the date when I was born.

Answer to 2nd. I have no record of my age.

Answer to 3rd. When called into service I lived in Mecklenburg County Virginia. Since the Revolutionary war I have resided in Mecklenburg Virginia & in Spartanburg South Carolina. I now live in the last mentioned place.

Answer to 4th. In my first tour I enlisted in the Virginia State Troops. In my 2nd I substituted but cannot now say for whom in consequence of old age & loss of memory – In my 3rd tour I was drafted. –

Answer to 5th. I was with Colonel Alexander Dick, Generals Mullenburgh [Peter Muhlenberg] & Lafayette. – And Colonel Minniweathers and Colonel Tucker

Answer 6th. I did not receive a written discharge.

Answer 7th. I refer to Howell Johnson who was with me & knowing to my 2 first tours & John Vaughan who served with me in my last Campaign. And to the Reverend Andrew Gramling to whom I am known in my neighborhood & who, together with Messrs. Johnson & Vaughan [Andrew Gramling, a clergyman, and Howell Johnson and John Vaughan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

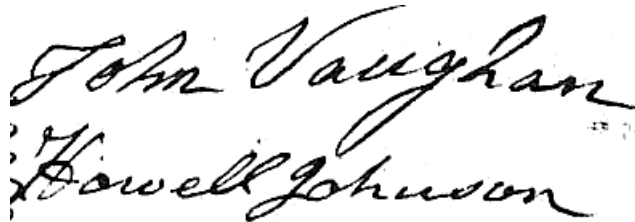
Howell Johnson upon being duly sworn deposeseth & saith that he served in the first & second Campaigns with Ellis Johnson above named & knows that the services stated in the foregoing declaration as having been performed in the two first Campaigns, were rendered by the said Ellis Johnson. John Vaughan upon being duly sworn deposeseth & saith that he served with Ellis Johnson above named in his third Campaign & knows the services therein stated to have been rendered in the Revolutionary War by the said Ellis Johnson and were by him performed as stated in his declaration.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the 4th day of October 1833

S/ E. Bomar, Clk.

S/ John Vaughan²

S/ Howell Johnson³

The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive ink. The top signature is 'John Vaughan' and the bottom signature is 'Howell Johnson'. Both signatures are written in a fluid, slanted cursive style.

² [John Vaughan S7788](#)

³ FPA W4468

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This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 8th day of December 1785, in the name of Ellis Johnson, as a Soldier of Infantry for £54.7.6, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Mr. Pettus and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
19th day of April 1834.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[p 14: On July 9, 1853 in Spartanburg District South Carolina, Mary Johnson, 78, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Ellis Johnson, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him March 28, 1816; that Ellis Johnson died September 12, 1840. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 6: On April 10th, 1855 in Spartanburg District South Carolina, Mary Johnson, 80, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Ellis Johnson; that she married him on the first day of March 1816; that her maiden name was Mary Brice; that her husband died in Spartanburg District South Carolina September 12, 1840. She signed this document with her mark.]

[Facts in file: the veteran and his wife were married in the home of Joseph McMillen in Spartanburg district South Carolina. In 1854, Joseph McMillan was 79 years of age and was married to Sally McMillen, then 74 years of age; the relationship of Joseph and Sally McMillen to the veteran and/or his wife is not stated.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50.22 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months and 2 days in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

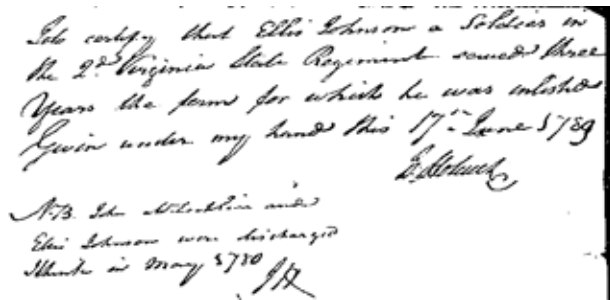
[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I do certify that Ellis Johnson a Soldier in the 2nd Virginia State Regiment served 3 years voted term for which he was enlisted. Given under my hand this 17th June 1789

S/ I. Holmes [Isaac Holmes]

N. B. John McLochlin and Ellis Johnson was discharged I think in May 1780

S/ J. H.



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