

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Johnston W7942  
Transcribed by Susan K. Zimmerman and R. Neil Vance

### Declaration

Of Martha Johnston [maiden name, Allison] widow & relic of John Johnston deceased in order to obtain the benefits of the acts of Congress passed for the relief of the surviving widows of the deceased Officers & Soldiers of the War of the War [sic] of the Revolution.

State of Tennessee; Maury County, S.S. On the 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 1841 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record holden at the Court house in the town of Columbia being the Circuit Court for the County of Maury aforesaid the Honorable Edmund Dillahunty Judge &c presiding, Martha Johnston widow & relic of John Johnston deceased, a resident Citizen of the County of Maury aforesaid aged 83 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declarations in Order to obtain the benefit of the Acts of the Congress of the United States of America passed for the benefit of the surviving Officer's & soldiers' widows & relics of the War of the Revolution -- Affiant & the said John Johnston were lawfully married in the City of Baltimore in the State of Maryland in the Summer of 1774, that shortly after their marriage they removed to York District in the State of South Carolina, where they resided until after the close of the War of the Revolution -- that her said husband the said John Johnston was drafted several times during the War of the Revolution in the said York District in So. Ca. & served four or five Campaigns under Captain John Moffitt [Moffett] as a Sargaent of the Militia Companies Commanded by said Capt Moffett, and was most of his time under the Command of Colonel Watson [Samuel Watson] & General Sumpter. Affiant has often heard her said husband speak of being in a Battle at the Indian towns at the Hanging Rock & Kings Mountain. Affiant is old & infirm & her said husband has been dead since the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 1818 & she has forgotten much of the accounts so often detailed to her by her said husband in his life time of his arduous services in the War of the Revolution, but she knows he was a true Whig and rendered his Country important services in the perilous times of the War of the Revolution, she cannot now recollect the dates in which her husband was in the actual service of his country, but respectfully refers the Honorable the Secretary of War the Certificates from the Hon. William E. Haynes Comptroller General of Columbia South Carolina hereto and marked Exhibits A and prayed to be taken as part of this her declaration which is record evidence of the services of her said husband. Affiant was in hearing of the firing at the Battle of Kings Mountain and assisted in preparing & packing provisions for the poor starving soldiers after the battle at Kings Mountain. The said John Johnston served as many as four tours as a Sargent in the Militia Company Commanded by Captain Moffitt. her said husband was in actual service according to the annexed certificates 299 days, but she feels assured that he was in actual service more than twelve months, her said husband the said John Johnston was honorably discharged from the service after the Battle at Kings Mountain, but his discharges have been lost or destroyed. Affiant has no record of her age, the age of her husband, or children or of their marriage, her oldest child was born about 12 months after their marriage and is now about 62 years of age, her youngest child is about 41 years of age she cannot recollect the names of any other of the Officers under whom & with whom her husband served in the War of the Revolution except Capt Moffitt, Col Watson & Genl Sumpter, she states positively that she & the said John Johnston were lawfully married before the first day of January 1794. After the close of the War; her then husband & family removed to Davidson County Tennessee & from there to Maury County Tennessee, & she has resided in Maury County ever since they came to Tennessee about the year 1807. The said John Johnston died in 1818. Affiant knows no person by whom she can prove the services of the said John Johnston in the War of the Revolution, & relies upon the annexed Certificates from the Comptroller General of South Carolina of the record evidence of his services. Affiant was born in the State of Maryland Nottingham County in the year 1758 according to her recollections. She resided in South Carolina & Tennessee since the War of the Revolution, her & her husband resided in York District in South Carolina when he was called into service & served as a Sargant in the War of the Revolution, she cannot recollect the Regiments in which her husband served, nor can she recollect any more of the circumstances of his services than as above detailed. She is well known in the neighborhood in which she lives by Nimrod Porter, James Love, Joseph Payton, Jacob Biffle, Allen Pillow & large circle of friends & acquaintances, She has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for about 40 years in good

standing, she is old, infirm & poor, She would have applied sooner for a pension, but was ignorant of her right until some time last year, since which time she has had the kind aid of a friend in preparing her papers --- She hereby relinquishes all claim or claims for a pension or annuity except the present & declares that her name is not on the pension roll of any agency in the United States & now humbly prays to be placed on the agency at Nashville Tennessee. her

Sworn to in open Court & subscribed before me Martha (X) Johnston  
this 13<sup>th</sup> of January 1841 mark

(signed) P Nelson Clerk

State of Tennessee Maury County Circuit Court January term A.D. 1841

This day personally appeared in Open Court being a Court of Record before the Honorable Edmund Dillahunty Judge of the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of the Circuit Court for the State of Tennessee presiding at Columbia for the County of Maury aforesaid this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January 1841 Allen Pillow aged 72 years & John A. Johnson aged 71 years and make oath in due form of law, that the said John Johnston died in 1818 and that the said John Johnston & Martha Johnston were married before the first day of January 1794, that they have a daughter born in lawful wedlock about 62 years of age. Affiants are well acquainted with Mrs. Martha Johnston who has subscribed & sworn to the foregoing declaration, she is the widow & relic of John Johnston decd. and is a lady of good moral character and entitled to full credit on her oath in a Court of Justice

Sworn to & Subscribed before me in open (signed) Allen Pillow  
Court this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January 1841. (signed) John A. Johnston

(signed) P. Nelson Clerk of the Circuit Court of Maury County Tennessee

Nimrod Porter also makes oath that he is well acquainted with Mrs. Martha Johnston who has subscribed & sworn to the foregoing affidavit or declaration & has known for many years, he knows her to be the widow of John Johnston decd. that she is a lady of good moral character and her statements on oath are entitled to full credit in a court of justice

Sworn to & subscribed before me in open (signed) Nimrod Porter  
Court this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January 1841

(signed) P. Nelson Clerk of the Circuit Court of Maury County Tennessee

No. 1 [label in margin]

Indent Book L

No. 94

Issued the 24<sup>th</sup> Septm. 1784 to Mr. John Johnston for ten pounds Seventeen Shillings and ten No pence farthing for one hundred and twenty-two days duty in the Militia at a Sergeant as pr. acct. audited.

Sterling £10. 17. 10 1/4

No. 2 [label in margin]

The State of South Carolina

To John Johnston (?Dr.?)

For 122 days duty in the Militia in (no date) amounting in Currency to £ 76. 0: 5

Sterling £ 10 :17. 10 ¼

Comptroller Genl. Office

Columbia SoCa. 24 Sept. 1840

I do hereby certify that the above memorandum marked No. 1 in red Ink, is a true copy taken from the Margin of Indent Book L No. 94 – deposited in this office, and that No. 2 is a true copy of the account referred to in the Said Memorandum.

W. Ed Hayne

Com Genl

pr. B. Hart

No. 1 [label in margin]

Indent Book V

No. 129

Issued 22d July 1785 to Mr. John Johnston for Eighteen --- pounds Sixteen shillings and three No farthings for One hundred and Seventy-seven days Militia duty as a Seargeant in 1781 and 82.  
Pr. acct. audited. £ 18. 16. 0 ¾

No.2 [label in margin]  
State of So Carolina

To John Johnston D<sup>r</sup>

1781	42 days Sergeant of Horse on an Expedition to Congaree Sumter <sup>s</sup> Brigade at 12/6 pr day	£ 47. 5. 0
1782	60 days as Sergeant on foot on Exp. to Orangeburgh in Sumter Brigade @12/6	37.10 --
	40 days do. do. Expn. to four holes	25. 0. 0
	<u>35</u> " " " " Edisto	<u>21. 7. 6</u>
	177	131. 2. 6
		Currency 18. 14. 7 ¾
		Sterling 1. 5
		Add <u>1. 5</u>
		£ 18.16. 0¾

Comptroller Genl. Office  
Columbia 24 Sept<sup>r</sup>. 1840

I do hereby certify that the above Memorandum marked No. 1 in red ink is a true copy taken from the margin of Indent Book V No. 129 deposited in this Office and that No. 2 is a true copy of the Audited Account to which the Said Memorandum refers.

Willm. Ed. Hayne  
Com. Genl  
pr. B. Hart

Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the third Section of the act of Congress of the 4<sup>th</sup> July 1836.

State of Tennessee, Maury County

On this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 1841 personally appeared before me Hugh A. McMackin an acting Justice of the peace in & for the County of Maury aforesaid Martha Johnston a resident Citizen of Maury County aforesaid aged 83 years who being first duly Sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 4, 1836 -- That she is the widow of John Johnston who was sergeant in the War of the Revolution and served as specified in the Certificate of the Comptroller General of the State of South Carolina heretofore filed with her papers now on file in Pension Offices of the United States as suspended. She cannot give a more detailed account of the services performed by her said husband than she has heretofore given, she is so old & her memory so treacherous she relies upon the certificate of W.E. Haynes Comptroller General (?). She further declared that she was married to the said John Johnston on the (blank) day of (blank) 1774 in the city of Baltimore in the State of Maryland, that her husband aforesaid John Johnston died on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 1818 and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will appear more fully by reference to the proof hereto annexed by the affidavits of Mrs. Stephenson and the proofs accompanying her former declaration owing to bodily infirmities she is unable to appear in open court & makes this application before a JP.

Sworn to & Subscribed on the day her  
& year above written before me (signed) Martha (X) Johnston  
mark

(signed) Hugh A. McMacken JP (seal) Justice of the Peace of Maury County Tennessee

State of Tennessee

Maury County

This day personally appeared before me Isaac A. Duncan an acting Justice of the Peace in & for the County of Maury aforesaid Rosannah Stephenson widow of James Stephenson decd & now a pensioner a resident citizen of Williamson County in the State of Tennessee makes Oath in due form of law, that she knows of her own knowledge that John Johnston & Martha Johnston his widow who is the foregoing applicant for a Pension were Married in the City of Baltimore in the State of Maryland before the day of our Lord 1774. The precise day of the month or year she cannot now recollect she knows that John Johnston was a soldier in the War of the Revolution but cannot specify his particular services, Affiant knows of her own personal knowledge that said John Johnston & Martha Johnston his widow were married before the year 1782 & she would give full credit to any Statement made on Oath by Mrs. Martha Johnston. Said Rosanna Stephenson is aged about Seventy Six years & draws a Pension for the Services of her husband James Stephenson decd.

Sworn to & Subscribed before me  
this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 1841  
(signed) Isaac A. Duncan JP (seal)

her  
(signed) Rosanna (X) Stephenson  
mark  
Justice of the Peace for Maury County Tennessee

[Note: Rosannah Stephenson, maiden name Allison, is the widow of James Stephenson W596]

State of Tennessee

Maury County

This day personally appeared before me Hugh A. McMackin an acting Justice of the peace for said County of Maury Martha Johnston widow of John Johnston decd aged about eighty three years & made oath in due form of law that she has no record of the date of the marriage of John Johnston & herself, nor has She the record of the ages of any of her children the Bible containing the records has long since been lost or destroyed. She refers to her former declaration & proof filed in this case.

Sworn to & Subscribed before  
me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 1841  
(signed) Hugh A. McMackin (seal)  
for Maury County Tenn

her  
(signed) Martha (X) Johnston  
mark

State of Tennessee

Maury County

Personally appeared Rosannah Stephenson a pensioner & widow of James Stephenson decd before me I. A. Duncan an acting Justice of the peace for said County of Maury who being first duly sworn on her Oath says that she knows of her own knowledge that John Johnston & Martha Johnston were married in Baltimore in the State of Maryland before the year 1782 Affiant was living with the father of said Martha at the time of the marriage and from her own age & her recollection of the Commencement of the War of the revolution & the declaration of independence, She thinks the marriage was contracted & celebrated about the time of the declaration of independence. Affiant knows it full well that said John & Martha were married before the year 1782. Affiant is aged about (blank) years & has heretofore given her deposition in this case.

Sworn to & subscribed before me  
this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 1841  
(signed) I. A. Duncan  
for Maury County

her  
Rosannah (X) Stephenson  
mark