

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Allison W8

Sarah Allison

f60NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/22/14

[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 4]

State of Tennessee, White County: To wit:

On this 12th day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County of White Tennessee said John Allison, a resident of said State and County aged about Seventy years who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He entered the service for nine months in the year 1778, in the County of Orange in the State of North Carolina, under Captain William Lytle. We rendezvoused at Hillsborough; we were marched and crossed the Yadkin River at a place there called the Island Ford as well as he recollects; continuing their march they passed through Salisbury, Charlotte, Camden and crossed Santee River at Nelson's ferry; thence to Moncks Corner; thence to the Ten Mile house where we remained for a short time. From this place marched through Dogester [sic, Dorchester] and crossed a small stream at Bacon's bridge. We then marched to Purysburg where we joined Genl Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln]. This Declarant belonged to the third Regiment. Col. Archibald Lytle, Captain William Lytle's brother, was the Col. of the Regiment. We were here stationed in the winter where this Declarant was taken sick and placed in the Hospital. His brother, James Allison, then at home learning the diseased conditions of this declarant came, and procured from Genl. Lincoln a furlough and took him to his father's in Orange County here he remained sick until the troops returned--when Col. Lytle gave him a discharge. He remained with his father but how long he does not recollect, when he entered the Militia service for three months. He has forgotten the names of both his Captain and Lieutenant. His sergeant's name was William Riley. The company to which he belonged with other companies were marched to Hillsborough where we remained until the expiration of our three months. The object in calling and stationing the Militia was to protect this town against the Tories. After the three months had expired he received a discharge from his Captain and returned home. Shortly after, he volunteered but for no particular time under Captain John Whitesides. His Lieutenant's name was Joseph Allison, the brother of this declarant. Genl. Butler [John Butler] was our head commander. We were marched by Genl. Butler from Orange County down to Granville old Court House, in Granville County, where we remained some time. Some of us here obtained leave to return home for the purpose of ascertaining the situation of our relatives many of whom had suffered from the depredations of the British under the command of Lord Cornwallis, who

with his army had lain in the neighborhood of this declarant's father for two days and nights. When he arrived at his father's, he found his house stripped of furniture. They had taken a wagon and team from his father and as much corn as they could carry. This property was never regained. He remained at his father's one day and then went immediately and joined the troops of Guilford. The militia were here discharged after remaining a few days and this declarant returned again to his father's. This was shortly prior to the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He had no documentary evidence by which he can establish the foregoing; nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service.

Answers to the Questions propounded by the Court in pursuance to the instructions of the War Department.

1. He was born Eight miles North of Hillsborough in Orange County North Carolina. In the year 1762 according to the best information he has upon the subject.
2. He has no record of his age. My age was recorded in the family Bible; what has become of it he is unable to say.
3. He was living with his father in Orange County North Carolina when called into service each time as stated above.
4. After the close of the Revolutionary War he continued to reside in Orange within three miles of his fathers for a number of years. When he removed to Jackson County Tennessee where he resided one year. He then moved to the County of White Tennessee where he now lives and has lived ever since.
5. He has stated most of the regular officers with the troops where he served and the general circumstances of his service as well as he can now recollect.
6. He is not certain that he ever received but on written discharge. That was from Col. Archibald Lytle and has long since been lost. He will here state that his first tour of service was as a substitute for his brother James Allison. His second as a substitute for James Clarke. The last as a volunteer as already stated.

He states the names of the following persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution: Rev. Hezekiah Dildine, George Wilch, Esqr., William Hitchcock, Esqr., Col. Jose C. Dew & Zachariah Sullins & Barnet Kemp.

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.

S/ John Allison, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court 12 Oct. 1832

Test: S/ Jacob Adams, Clerk

By: S/ A. Asoham, D. C.

[Hezekiah Dildine, a clergyman, and Barnet Kemp gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Tennessee, White County: May 3, 1833

Personally appeared before me the undersigned is a Justice of the Peace in and for said County. John Allison who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that by reason of Old age, and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection be served not less, than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades Viz:

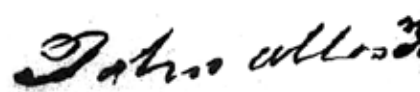
1. His first tour of duty mentioned in his declaration; was not less than nine months, and he served it out as a private soldier in which capacity he performed.
2. His second tour was for three months as stated in his Declaration with sufficient certainty.
3. His third tour, which is very vaguely stated in his Declaration, he can safely say, was no less than two months. He believes it was for a longer period, but is not certain, and therefore sets it down at two months. He repeats it, that he served as a private soldier, the whole of the time he was engaged in the service of his County.

As to the officers under whom he served, he cannot add anything to what is stated in his Declaration, having then given all the information he possible can give.

He claims a pension for Fourteen months service, sworn to and subscribed this date above written.

S/ James Cooper Justice of the peace

S/ John Allison



[p 11: On February 16, 1844 in Putnam County Tennessee, Sarah Ellison [sic], 75, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Ellison [sic], a revolutionary war pensioner; that there is no documentary evidence in support of her claim other than a Bible leaf containing the ages of her children kept by her husband in his own handwriting; that she married him April 16, 1789; that her husband died March 28, 1842. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 18: family record:

Grizzey born November 5, 1789

Martha born February 27, 1791

Francis born October 30, 1792

Sarahe or Jerahe born July 29, 1794

Mary born January 25, 1798

Joseph born December 1, 1799

James born December 21, 1801

Jinnet [?] born January 9, 1806

Neomi born March 17, 1809

Ruth born August 29, 1810

John Rolston born August 22, 1812]¹

[p 29: On November 19, 1845 in White County Tennessee, William Ellison, 65, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with John Ellison and Sarah his wife and their children; that he knew them from the time of their marriage which was in about the year 1789 until the death of John sometime in March 1842; that they lived together as man and wife.



¹ The actual image of the leaf of the Bible containing the family record appears on p 13 of the file, but the image is so dark as posted as to render it virtually illegible as posted.

[p 43]

State of North Carolina Office of Secretary of State

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina do hereby certify that it appears from an account of settlements of the claims of the Officers and Soldiers of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that John Allison was allowed by the Board of Commissioners at Halifax in 1784-5, the sum of forty pounds ten shillings and ten pence (£40.10.10) for his services in the said War as a soldier, which sum was drawn by Colonel Archibald Lytle.

Given under my hand this 11th May 1846

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$46.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year and 2 months in the North Carolina service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]