

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Nelson¹ W8486

Ruth

f64VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/9/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

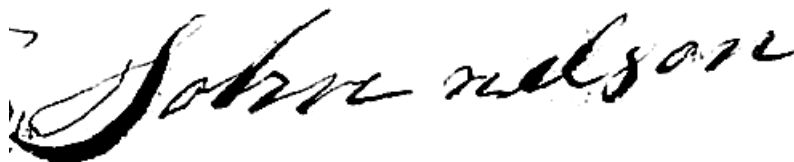
[f p. 4]

State of South Carolina Kershaw District: Personally appeared John Nelson Senior before me David G Leigh one of the Justices assigned to keep the peace in and for the District aforesaid and after having been duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, Saith that on the 5th day of September in the year 1777, he the aforesaid John Nelson Senior did Enlist in Captain William Hull's Company as a Regular Soldier in the Continental Service, in the Revolutionary War with Great Britain which Enlistment took place at the White Marsh, which said Company was attached to Woodford's [Brigadier General William Woodford's] Brigade 15th Regiment United States Army and Colonel Ennice [probably Lt. Col. James Innis] was the Commander and that the said John Nelson Senior further states that he has never received any pay or Emolument for the aforesaid services as a regular soldier –

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 7th day of October 1823

S/ D. G. Leigh, JP

S/ John Nelson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, decorative initial 'J'.

[f p. 56]

I do hereby Certify that I knew John Nelson when a Soldier in the Continental service in Captain Ferguson's Company of artillery, and Samuel Doty was the Lieutenant in said Company, they were sent on to the Southward from the main Army after the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis, and arrived in Camden South Carolina, where they remained until the troops were ordered on to the North again. Camden 3rd May 1822

S/ Zack Cantey

[f p. 7]

State of South Carolina Kershaw district

On this 15th day of May A.D. 1851 personally appeared before the Judge of the Court of Ordinary for the District and State aforesaid Mrs. Ruth Nelson, a resident of said District and State aged eighty years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by Congress passed

¹ BLWt13204-160-55

July 7th 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows" and of any other acts since passed applicable to her case that she is the widow of John Nelson, who was a private in Captain William Hulls Company of 15th Regiment of Continental troops commanded by Colonel Enniss in Woodford's Brigade and who enlisted in said company on the 5th day of September 1777 – And who was after the surrender [of] Lord Cornwallis (October 19, 1781) in the Company of artillery commanded by Captain Furguson and of which Samuel Doty² was Lieutenant, and whose first enlistment in the Company first above named took place The White Marsh. Said John served till the end of the war. That said John Nelson never received any written certificate of discharge that this Deponent knew of and that she is informed and believes that said John Nelson never received any pay for his said services. She further declares that she was married to the said John Nelson on or about the first day of June 1790, that the marriage was duly solemnized by the Reverend Joshua Palmer a Minister of the Baptist persuasion. That no record exist of said Marriage that is known to her except that in her Father's family Bible which is not now in her possession or control – and if in existence at all is in the State of Alabama. That her husband the aforesaid John Nelson died on the __ day of May 1824: That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794 to wit at the time above stated.

S/ Ruth Nelson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ruth Nelson". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat stylized.

[f p. 11: On April 20, 1855 in Kershaw County South Carolina, the widow filed for her bounty land entitlement under the 1855 act stating that her maiden name was Ruth Stratford and that her husband died May 21, 1824.]

[facts in file: The veteran and his wife were married in the home of her father, Richard Stratford in Kershaw District South Carolina; the veteran and his wife had a son William Nelson in 1792. No other family data is contained in this file.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836 for her husband service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service.]

² An officer by this name is listed as having served in a Pennsylvania artillery company under the command of Captain W Ferguson