

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Adams W881

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } July Term County Court 1833
Montgomery County }

On this 16 day of July in the year 1833 personally appeared in open Court John Adams a resident of Montgomery County & State of Tennessee aged Seventy four years the 13th day of Feby last who first being 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 the 7th June 1832.

He entered the services of the United State in the year 1777 [sic] as Malitiaman from the County of Mecklinberg [sic: Mecklenburg] County State of Virginia under the following named officers Capt Reubin Vaughan Lieutenant John Homes[?] from this we marched to grandvill Court house [sic: Granville County Courthouse NC] where we remained some four or five weaks, from this we were march through Saulsberry [sic: Salisbury NC] & Camblin [sic: Camden SC] on to Charlestown [Charleston] in South Carolina, we were Commanded there by General David Mason Col Lew Burrell [sic: Lewis Burwell], after we arrived at Charlestown we were put under the command of Genl Lincon [sic: Benjamin Lincoln] & Genl Pulaska [sic: Kazimierz Pulaski], after a few days stay On Sunday morning we were march to the fort on Stono River where we had a fight with the British & beat them back [see endnote]. In a day or two after the fight the British left the fort & we took possession, this was in the year 1777 [sic]. In this tour I served nine months. We were march'd back to Camden where I laid sick for two weaks & I then got my discharge & returned home. In the year 1778 [sic] I entered the servise as a Malitiaman from the same County under the Command of Capt Asa Oliver. We were then march'd to the dismal Swamp, and Col Bins Jones [sic: Binns Jones] (as he now recollects) took Command of us and marched us to a place Called Suffuks [sic: Suffolk], we were marched about here to different places without any thing happening worth notice. He would state that at the dismal swamp the British Cavaldry & our Cavaldry met on the Causeway and had a skermish, but their was no injury done. We were then discharged (But I do not recollect the point) after a servise of five months. In the year 1779 [sic] from the same County he again entered the servise under Capt Dick Whitton [Richard Whitten], and march to the poinity fork of James River [sic: Point of Fork at the junction with Rivanna River]. we were there put under the Command of General Stewbond [sic: Baron von Steuben] & Col [Robert] Lawson, at this place the British came in view of us and we retreated back to Prince Edward Courthouse [6 June 1781]. We here rallied our forces and marched down towards Port Smith [sic: Portsmouth], where we remained a short time and was discharged after a servise of three months. from the same County in the year 1781 I agan entered the servise under the Command of Capt William Roof and he marched us to little york and was then under the Command of Genl Washington at this place I was taken sick and got a permit to go in the County to my relation, and after I had recovered, and on the road to Little York I met the men returning saying that the matter was settled [19 Oct 1781]; I entered the servise for five months but did not serve more than three in this tour. He has stated evry thing that he can now recollect. In all he seved the United states twenty one months. He has no documentary evedence of his service nor has he any living Witness by whom he can prove his service. He has two relation now living that could prove that he was in the army, but they are Women and very old and not able to get to Court, they living some distance off, nor is he able from old age, & destitute situation to procure them before the Court; He has no record of his age except the register of it in his Fathers famely bible. He mooved from Virginia to this where he has lived about twenty years He hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension or anuity whatever except the present and declares that his name is not on the roll of any agency in any state or territory.

John hisXmark Adams

NOTES:

At the Battle of Stono Ferry, 20 June 1779, Lincoln failed to take the three redoubts into which British and Loyalists retired and could not be drawn out.

On 2 Oct 1839 Calarine Adams, upwards of 70 years old, applied for a pension stating that she could not remember the time of her marriage to John Adams in Mecklenburg County, but that their oldest son, David Adams, who resided in Illinois, was upwards of 50 years old. She stated that John Adams died 21 Apr 1835, but a note in the file states that he received his pension until 26 Nov 1839. Her claim was supported by Elizabeth Connell, who stated that she believed David Adams was 54 or 55.