

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Johnson [Johnston] W9086 Elizabeth Johnson f57VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 1/1/14

[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.]

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State of Kentucky Garrard County

On this the 25th day of March 1853 Before me N. Sandifer a Justice of the Peace within and for the County aforesaid, personally appeared Mrs. Elizabeth Johnston [sic] a resident of said County aged 85 years; who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following Declination [declaration] in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Acts of Congress passed July the 7th 1838 granting pensions to certain widows of those who served in the Army of the Revolution & all other acts which may provide for her;

That she is the widow of John Johnston [sic] deceased* who was a soldier in the Army of the revolution that he entered the service of the said war in or near Orange County in the State of Virginia shortly after the commencement of said war and served as a private in the Western division of the Army of said State until the final termination of said war under the following named officers Captain Richard Clark, Captain John Bailey, Major Walls, Colonel Clark [presumably George Rogers Clark] and others not now recollected. That her said husband always said he served very near during the war

[margin note written vertically along the left margin * "that her said husband John Johnston died in Orange County State of Virginia on the 24th day of February 1820."]

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as aforesaid and was at various conflicts with the enemy but it has been so long since his death that she is not now able to state all the particulars of his service as fully as it should be, but is certain that he did serve two years and more as aforesaid. That she has never before made application for a pension being ignorant in regard to her rights in regard to that matter, that she has lived (since her husband's death) in a remote & obscures section of the County & has never been informed until recently that she was entitled to a pension for her husband's services. She was heretofore of the impression that if she ever could of obtained a pension that it had been so long since the death of her said husband the limitation would bar her claim. Further to substantiate her claim she very respectfully refers to the original rolls of the Virginia State line now on file in the pension office and the proof hereunto attached and accompanying this application. That she was married to the said John Johnston in Spotsvilinary [Spotsylvania] County Virginia by Jn. Chandler on the 9th day of March in the year 1789, that her name before her marriage was Elizabeth Dodd.

S/ Elizabeth Johnson, X her mark

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State of Indiana Recorders Office

I Joseph Bower Recorder of Deeds of Public Lands in and for the County of Clark and State of Indiana do hereby certify that it appears of Record in my Office among the payments made in Lands by the State of Virginia to sundry persons for Military Services in the Revolutionary War John Johnston a private soldier appears upon the original Military Rolls to wit the original Virginia Military Rolls in General George Rogers Clark's Regiment from the State of Virginia in the Western Illinois service from the year 1779 to November 1783, and that there is but the one man on said Revolutionary Rolls of the name of John Johnston, I further certify that he was allowed land as follows from said Record, on file in my office which is genuine and is truly Certified,

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of my office as such Recorder in Charlestown in the County of Clark and State of Indiana this 3rd day of February A.D. 1854

S/ Joseph Bower, Recorder
of Deeds Land office Charlestown Clark County Indiana

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The heirs of John Johnson a Sergeant in the Illinois service date leave to present to the Executive of Virginia their claim to Land Bounty founded on the services of their ancestor for the War. They refer in support thereof to the affidavit of Drewry Bush, the Auditors Certificate and the Report of Mr. Commissioner Smith No. 4 page 17.

This is to certify that it appears from a list in this office of such officers & 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 1st day of January 1783 in the name of John Johnson as a Sergeant of Infantry for £76.17.9 which certificate appears to have been delivered to Martin Hawkins and was given for services prior to the first January 1782.

Given under my hand at the Auditors Office, Richmond, this 11th day of July 1834

S. Jas. E. Heath, Auditor

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State of Kentucky Estill County Sct.

Personally appeared Drewry Bush¹ of said County before me the undersigned one of the Commonwealth's justices of the peace for said County (said Drewry Bush being a private soldier in the Illinois Regiment commanded by General George Rogers Clark in Captain Robert George's Company) and made oath that he was intimately acquainted with John Johnston, who also served with this affiant, in the same Battalion and that he served at the taking of the Posts of Kaskaskia & St. Vincent's [Vincennes], in the Illinois Country & other places and afterwards until the end of the War; given under my hand this 31st May 1834.

S/ Drewry Bush

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Petition for Bounty Land

¹ [Drury Bush W8170](#)

The Heirs of John Johnston Sergeant Illinois Service

A certificate issued to John Johnston November first 1783 for £76.17.9 the balance of his full pay as Sergeant of Infantry, of the State line, for services rendered before January first 1782 – which certificate was delivered to Martin Hawkins – (see auditors Certificate)

Drewry Bush, an Illinois soldier, and a credible witness, says that he was intimately acquainted with John Johnston, who served in the same Battalion with himself – that he the said Johnston served at the taking of the Post of Kaskaskia & St. Vincents & afterwards until the end of the War.

The Muster Rolls & pay rolls of Captain Bailey's Company – Lieutenant Richard Clarke's Company & Captain Thomas Quirk's Company show that John Johnston was in service as a private from November 15 1779 to 1st January 1784 – that in 1779 (November 15) he enlisted for three years or during the War – that he was discharged February 10th 83 from Captain Baileys Company & immediately (on the same day) reenlisted for the War – (see Illinois Payrolls & Muster Rolls in volume first Illinois papers).

The above & before mentioned facts are respectfully reported. I have in the printed Illinois list No. 4, said that John Johnston was entitled to land for the War

S/ John H Smith, Commissioner &c
August 4th, 1834

To. Gov. Tazewell

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