

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Elijah Stinson W9678

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Indiana }
VanderBurgh County } SS

On the twelvth day of September in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open Court before Semmet[?] Wall President Judge and William Olmsted & John M Dunham Associate Judges of the Circuit Court in and for the County of VanderBurgh and State aforesaid now sitting, Elijah Stinson resident of the Township of Pigeon in the County of VanderBurgh aged seventy nine years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as hereinafter stated. The first period was under Capt Smith (in the militia as a volunteer) and Major Good Col. & regiment not recollected and General [Griffith] Rutherford commanded was in one small engagement near Purinsburgh [sic: Purysburg SC] on the bank of the Savannah River [spring 1779]. Served five months. Went from N. Carolina. Second tour in the militia under Captain Martain [sic: Salathiel Martin]. Served as a Sergeant three months at the Siege of Charleston [spring of 1780] and elsewhere at this time. Went each time from the County of Surry. the third time went as a volunteer under General Rutherford at the defeat of General Gates [Gen. Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] - was in the engagement - got powder burnt. Served about two months as near as he can recollect. Within about two weeks after General Gates' defeat joined the Lewis[?] known to this deponent as Captain Joel Lewis, the Major as Major William Lewis & the Col. as Micajah Lewis. Served as a spy under the before named Capt. Lewis untill the peace was made. was in an engagement at Hartz Mills under General Pickings from South Carolina as General [sic: Hart's Mill in Orange County NC under Andrew Pickens, 17 Feb 1781]. There joined said Lewis, Col. Cleaveland [sic: Benjamin Cleveland] and went over to New River & had a small engagement with the tories. That he has not at this time nor has he had for a long time any documentary evidence in his possession to prove these facts - some of which he had but has lost them & that he does not know of any person within this State whereby he can prove the same. That he hereby relinquishes every claim 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

Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court Elijah hisXmark Stinson
Whereupon the Court propounded the following interrogatories to the said Elijah Stinson who under oath made the following answers thereto viz.

1st. Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in the year 1753. I have been informed by my parents that I was born in Virginia but left that State when very young & went to South Carolina

2nd. Have you any record of your age & if so where is it?

Ans. I have no record of my age.

3rd. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. When I first entered the service I was living in Wilks [sic: Wilkes] County North Carolina was about 19 years of age. Moved from South to North Carolina about one year before entering into the service. After the close of the Revolutionary War I moved to Georgia where I resided for about five years. from there I went back to South Carolina, resided there a short time and moved from there to Kentucky where I lived about twenty years. From Kentucky I moved to this state where I now reside & have lived here for upwards of twenty years

4th. How were you called into service; were you draughted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute & if a substitute for whom

Ans. I was a volunteer in the N. C. militia as stated in the foregoing declaration. I performed other services as stated in said declaration

5th. State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service

Ans. I recollect Col. Micajah Lewis, Maj Wm Lewis Captain Joel Lewis, Gen'l [Benjamin] Lincoln Gen'l. Rutherford, Gen'l Gates & Gen'l. Pickings

6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

Ans. I received a discharge for five months service from Capt Smith, think it was signed by him. Also discharge for three months service in Charleston from Sylathael Martin under whom I served both of those discharges have long since been lost or destroyed

7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

An'r. I have been for a long time acquainted with Gen'l. Robt. M Evans, Maj. Daniel Miller, Capt James Newman & Mr. David H. Stephens who reside in Vanderburgh County State of Indiana

NOTE: On 15 Aug 1848 Rachel Stinson, 83, applied for a pension stating that Elijah Stinson was living with her father's family in Surry County during his service, that she married him early in Jan 1781, and he died 21 Mar 1835. Other documents give her maiden name as Rachel Cobb. Her application was supported by the third of their nine children, John B. Stinson, 61, and by the eighth child, Benoni Stinson, 51, both ministers of the General Baptist Church. In the file is the following family record, the first page of which is on the back of a sheet of mathematical puzzles. Identities of the children in brackets are from documents in the file.

James Stinson was born August the 13th in the year 1781 [son of Elijah and Rachel]

Elizabeth Stinson was born May the 16th in the year 1780 [wife of James; 10 children follow]

Rachel Stinson was born September the 16th in the year 1801

Sarah Stinson was born December the 3rd in the year 1802

John Stinson was born January the 25th in the year 1805

Nancy Stinson was born December the 10th in the year 1806

Lewis Stinson was born December the 21th in the year 1808

Thomas Stinson was born March the 1th in the year 1811

William Stinson was born March the 8th in the year 1813

Margaret Stinson was born August the 13th in the year 1815

James Stinson was born 9th of February 1818

Elizabeth Stinson was born November 1st 1821

[Second page; first three entries very faint]

BIRTHS

John Neel was born may 10th A.D. 1778

[Next two lines illegible, but typed summary says "in Columbia, Tyrrell County, North Carolina."]

William Neel was born January 30th 1813

[Next two lines illegible, but typed summary says "in Pidgeon Township, Vanderburgh County, Indiana."]

[Next entry illegible, but typed summary says "John Perry Neel born February 19, 1820, in Pidgeon Township, Indiana."]

James Stinson was born Aug the 13 A.D. 1781

Elizabeth Stinson was born May 16 A.D. 1780

Rachel Stinson was born September the 16 A.D. 1801

Sarah Stinson was born Dec the 3rd A.D. 1802

John Michael Stinson was born Jan. the 25 A.D. 1805

Nancy Stinson was born Dec the 10 A.D. 1806

Lewis Washington Stinson was born Dec. the 21 A.D. 1808

Thomas Jefferson Stinson was born March the 1 A.D. 1811

William Harrison Stinson was born March 8th A.D. 1813

Margaret Stinson was born Aug 13th A.D. 1815

James Wilson Stinson was born Feb 9th A.D. 1818

Elizabeth Stinson was born November 1st A.D. 1821

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MARRIAGES

John Neel and Mary Dukes[?] was married April 12th A.D. 1808

Rachel Stinson was born June 21st 1765

Elija Stinson was born May 15th 1762 and Died March 23^d 1835.

Evansvill Idia[?] Vanderburgh Sc John Henry Taiylor

Sarah Ann Hatfield was married Wednesday April 26th A.D. 1843.