

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Moses Johnson W153 Nancy fn55NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 10/24/08

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original on footnote.com and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original.]

State of Tennessee, Hawkins County

Personally appeared on the 5th day of September 1833 before me William Babb one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions for said County & State Moses Johnson a resident of said County aged 93 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 provision made by 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 herein stated --

That this declarant sometime in the month of August in the year 1776, while living in Surry County North Carolina, joined the troops under the command of Colonel Williams of North Carolina as a volunteer under Captain Garvis [sic, Jarvis?], and marched to the Long Island of Holston River, (in Tennessee,) and at which place they formed a Junction with the Virginians under Colonel Christian, from the Long Island they were marched to the Cherokee Towns -- crossing the Holston River at the Great Island, and after remaining some days at the ample Springs on Lick Creek, they were joined by other troops from Watauga -- they afterwards crossed the French Broad River, on to the Tennessee River, then to Tamotbe [?] which they took possession of (an Indian town) from thence to the Great Island Town, and remained there about 20 days -- and then to [indecipherable name], Tellico, Chilhowee [?], which they burnt, also TusKegee [?] -- then they were marched to Chota, from thence returned to the settlements on the Holston -- having continued in service 6 months, not being discharged until sometime in February 1777 -- but whether he received a verbal or written discharge he cannot now remember.

That in the year 1780 sometime in the month of March he again volunteered for 9 months, in said County of Surry North Carolina, under a Captain Humphreys in the Regiment of militia commanded by Colonel Martin, as well as he now remembers, in the United States Service, and from Surry was marched to within a short distance of Camden South Carolina and during the battle, that took place about the middle of August -- this declarant was left guarding the baggage, -- after the defeat of General Gates this declarant was marched back to North Carolina and discharged -- in the month of December, but he does not now remember at what place -- but this he does remember that he served out his 9 months --

That again in the month of January 1781 he again entered the service of his country under Captain Patrick, as a volunteer, and was marched to the Catawba River, where he came under the command of General Davidson, who was killed (in attempting to cross a ford on that River) by the troops under Lord Cornwallis, from thence he with the troops marched to Guilford Court House -- and this declarant states that he was in the battle of Guilford, where General Greene was obliged to retreat, from Lord Cornwallis, and from the Guilford this declarant was finally marched to Ramsey's Mills and from thence he with part of his company was marched home, in Surry, which place the troops did not reach until the month of July, but the exact time he does not recollect, having served 6 months that tour. He states furthermore that he was acquainted with

General Rutherford of North Carolina while in service and with Generals Butler & Eaton -- and was General Greene who commanded at the battle of Guilford and many other officers both regular & militia whom he has now forgotten. He knows of no person, by whom he can prove his Services excepting Henry Blevins¹ & John Dodson² of Hawkins County whose certificates he will obtain, should they be living. He has no documentary proof having lost all his discharges, one sense -- He has no record of his age. He has been living in Tennessee, almost ever since the close of the revolutionary war, and still lives in said State as before stated. There is no clergyman residing in his neighborhood. He is acquainted with James Long, Milam Davis & Jacob Lifer his neighbors who have testified to his reputation. 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 to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ William Babb, JP

S/ Moses Johnson, X his mark

[James Long, Milam Davis & Jacob Lifer gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[NOTE: The following relates to someone other than the above applicant, possibly someone named Moses Johnson who lived in New York at the time of the Revolution and served there.]

The following questions were propounded by the court to the applicant

First Where, and in what year were you born

Answer was born in Schenectady New York in 1753

Second Have you any record of your age and if so where is it.

Answer Has no record of Age -- thinks his age is recorded in a family Bible at Schenectady

Third Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live

Answer When first called out he lived at John, Town then Tryon, now Montgomery County afterwards at Shawangunk, Ulster County, NY -- About 9 years ago he moved to Greene, Chenango County where he now lives....

[On March 11, 1842 in Hawkins County Tennessee, Nancy Johnson, 84, applied for a widow's pension stating that she was the widow of Moses Johnson a pensioner of the United States for his revolutionary services ; that she married him in 1779 and that he died April 9 1834 in Hawkins County [in 1839, she said she was then 92]; in 1841, Judith Liford or Leford, 52, daughter of Moses and Nancy Johnson, filed a supporting affidavit in which she states she had an unnamed older sister. In a filing dated February 12, 1841 in Hawkins County, Nancy Johnson, 83, states she married her husband in Surry County, NC in October 1769, that Sarah Stapelton now residing in Kentucky was her attendant and that her husband died May 9, 1834]

State of Tennessee, Hawkins County

On this night day of September 1833 Personally appeared before me Richard Mitchell -- a Justice of the peace in and for said County John Dodson a citizen of to Hawkins County, who being duly sworn according to law states that he is now a pensioner of the United States his name being on the Jonesborough Agency in East Tennessee. He states furthermore that he is well acquainted with Moses Johnson, whose declaration is hereto annexed, made out before

¹ [Henry Blevins \(Blevens\) W1703](#)

² FPA S2518

William Babb Esquire -- that said Johnson served as he states in his declaration, 6 months against the Indians under Captain Garvis -- this affiant was with said Johnson on the same campaign in 1776 & 1777. He furthermore states that he has understood that said Johnson served over periods during the revolutionary war, and that seems to be the opinion of all said Johnson's acquaintances and this affiant concurs in that opinion, and he has the fullest reliance on the Statement made by said Moses Johnston and the declaration hereto annexed. Sworn to and subscribed before me the date above.

S/ Richard Mitchell, JP

S/ John Dodson, X his mark

State of Tennessee, Hawkins County

Personally appeared before me Richard Mitchell a Justice of the peace in and aforesaid County Henry Blevins a citizen of Hawkins County and a Pensioner of the United States of the agency of Jonesborough who being first duly sworn states that he was acquainted with a certain Moses Johnston in a campaign against the Indians in 1776 and 1777 when the troops marched from Holston to the Indian Towns, mentioned in the said Johnson declaration hereto annexed, and he believes that the said Moses Johnson now an applicant for a pension is the same person who served in that campaign -- and from that he high standing the said Johnson has for truth and integrity this affiant would place the utmost confidence in any statement he would make & further saith not.

Sworn to & subscribed before made this night day of September 1833

S/ Richard Mitchell, JP

S/ Henry Blevins, X his mark