

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

Pension Application of John C. Aleshite S17816

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia

Page County towit:

Be it remembered that on this 27 day of August 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before Abraham Strickler, Jacob Strole, Abraham Spitler & Ja's. Botts Gentlemen Justices composing the said County Court of Page, now sitting, John C. Aleshite, a resident in the said County of Page and State of Virginia, aged about 76 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 7 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States and served as herein stated. He was born on Smiths Creek in the County of Shen'd. [Shenandoah County, formed as Dunmore County from Frederick County in 1772] on the 23<sup>d</sup>. day of December 1755, though he is not positively certain as to date, but he thinks that he is now about 76 years of age. He was drafted for a tour of duty of 3 months and marched about April 1777 under Captain Rowsch [probably John Roush]. We marched from Millerstown (now Woodstock) to Reading in Pennsylvania. We arrived at this place about four days before the battle of Germantown [4 Oct 1777] – we heard the firing of the Cannon very distinctly. Capt. Rowsch and the ensign from company, Jacob Pennywit [sic: Jacob Pennyweight] and some of our men, returned from this place, the remainder of the Company was then commanded by Lieut. Abraham Bird. From Reading we marched under Lieut. Bird to Germantown and joined the main army under Washington. He was engaged in driving back a detachment of Hessians who had come out of Philadelphia. We then returned to Germantown, and his term of service having expired, he received a regular written discharge.

He deems it proper to remark that when we joined the main army, with Lieut. Bird, there were so few of us, that we were put with a Company of regulars. He remained so short a time in the service, that the names of the Captain and Colonel, who last commanded him in this tour, he does not now recollect. Col. A. Bowman [Abraham Bowman] commanded the militia Regt. to which he was at first attached.

About two years, he thinks after this first tour of duty, he was again drafted for a tour of 3 months against the Indians. He marched under Capt. John Denton to Staunton, and there rendezvoused, and remained, together with the militia from Frederick County, untill our time had nearly expired; when we rec'd. orders to march below the Ridge, and join the army against the British. We accordingly marched to Lehewtown (now Front Royal) and from there to Stevenstown, where out Captain discharged us, out time of service having expired; so that we did not join the main army in this instance at all. There was no field officer in command during this last service – each company remained under its own Captain independent of the rest.

He was again drafted in the Militia under Captain George Prince, for a 3 months tour, and marched from the County of Shenandoah to the Town of Newcastle [now Old Church] on the Pamunkey River in Va. Capt. Prince was not thought fit for the service, in some way or other, and was discharged at Newcastle – we were then commanded by Copt. Lynchfield Sharp, during the remainder of that tour. We then marched to Ruffin's Ferry – and from thence to Williamsburg – and from thence to the Siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and he was engaged in the duties and toils of that siege. His term of service expired before the surrender of Cornwallis, but he was not discharged untill some time after that event. When discharged, he returned home to procure horses, to bring some of his sick companions who had been discharged also. His Regt. during this last tour, was commanded by Col. Elias. Edmonds, and the Brigade was commanded by Gen'l. Edward Stevens. His brother Henry Aleshite [or Henry Aleshidt, pension application S29579], was drafted with him in this last tour of duty, and they served together until his brother Henry marched with the prisoners taken at York. All the discharges which he rec'd. form these

three tours of duty, have long since been lost or destroyed, and he does not recollect the dates when he entered on these several tours, with sufficient accuracy to state them. He does not know of any living witness by whom he could prove these services or any portion of them, except George Prince, who is about 90 years of age, and is too infirm to be moved at all. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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 and year aforesaid.

John C. hisXmark Aleshite

Page County towit

This day Henry Aleshite personally appeared before the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, and, being duly sworn, says that John C Aleshite, whose application for a pension is hereto annexed, marched from Miller's Town (now Woodstock) in the service of the United States about the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> of September 1777 under Capt. Rowsch, and was absent nearly four months. He farther states that in the year 1780 the said John C Aleshite was again drafted for a tour of 3 months against the Indians and marched from Millers Town (now Woodstock) under Capt. John Denton about the month of September in that year. He farther states that the said John C Aleshite was again drafted in the militia under Capt. George Prince for a tour of 3 months and marched from the County of Shenandoah (now Page) on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August 1781 and continued in the service some time longer than the period for which he was drafted.

Given under my hand this 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1833

Wm. M Robertson

Virginia:

Page County - to wit:

Personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the said county, John C. Aleshite, who, being duly sworn, deposeth & saith, that by reason of old age, & the consequent loss & decay of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served three tours making together between ten & an half & eleven months as a common soldier, & for said service he claims a pension

Given under my hand this 17<sup>th</sup> Feby. 1834

John J. Thompson