Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Johnston S36654 Transcribed by Will Graves

f10VA 1/8/14

[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.]

State of Kentucky Jefferson County & Circuit Sct.

On this thirteenth day of May 1819 before me John P Oldham Circuit Judge in and for the fifth Judicial district of the State aforesaid and sole Judge of the Jefferson Circuit Court in the said district personally appeared Joseph Johnston a resident of the County of Henry in the State of Kentucky who being duly sworn according to law made on his oath following statement and declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress entitled "an Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war." That the said Joseph Johnston on the 1st day of January 1782 entered the Army as a private soldier in the service of the United States in the Second Virginia Regiment the officers of the Company to which he was attached were Captain William Johnston, Lieutenants Coverly & Clark – the Regiment was commanded by Colonel Wood [James Wood] be Brigade by Brigadier General Peter Mulenburgh [Peter Muhlenberg] that he continued in the said Regiment until the ___ day of October 1782. That previously he had been in the service of the United States the period of eighteen months under Captain Robert Powell & Colonel Heath [William Heth] who was killed at Charleston¹ – & part of this period was under the command of General Scott [Charles Scott] late Governor of Kentucky – that he entered the regular service on or about the first of August 1780 – for the aforesaid period of eighteen months and duly served out that term – that he thinks upon calculating all the time he bore arms in the most zealous and efficient manner within his power he could say that the period would amount to two years and six months there being frequently sudden calls for small parties of men arising from a desultory state of warfare carried on in various parts of the Country. In many instances there was no regularly commissioned officers or established Corps but each man took up arms in defense of the land that gave him birth. That he the said Johnston is aged and infirm and from his reduced circumstances and needs the assistance of his country for support: that he has never received any pension under any law whatever and that he has no other evidence now within his power to obtain then the annexed affidavit of Alexander Roberts.

Given under my hand

S/ Jno. P. Oldham

Also Alexander Roberts appeared before me and declared on oath that he knew personally the above mentioned Joseph Johnston since the year 1780, that he knew him in the United States Service as a faithful soldier for at least ten or eleven months – that he saw him at Winchester

¹ William Heth was not killed at Charleston, nor was Robert Powell.

Virginia and occasionally at different places of note notoriety during the above mentioned period. He is now before him and he knows him to be the same man.

Given under my hand the date first written.

S/ Jno. P. Oldham

[Note: The veteran died March 17, 1820. There is no family data in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing May 13, 1819, for service as a private for 18 months in the Virginia Continental line.]