

Pension Application for William Johnson or Johnston

W.20213 (Widow: Catharine)

State of New York

Orange County SS.

On the twenty ninth day of May in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Orange and State of New York Catharine Johnson a resident of the town of Warwick in the County and State aforesaid aged Seventy three years the thirtieth day of July next who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed July the 4th 1836 and the acts amending and in addition thereto. That she is the widow of William Johnson who was a private in the malitia. That the said William Johnson was classed for nine months in the Spring of the year 1778 and served the sum of nine months on the Minisink frontier under Captain Westfall (1) in Colonel Hathorn's (2) Regiment as deponent has been informed by her said husband in his lifetime and which deponent believes to be true that her said husband informed her that at some time during said campain [campaign] they were scarce of provisions that he told deponent a great many occurrences that took place during said service which deponent cannot relate having forgot the particulars.

That he said husband also informed deponent that he worked at an other time for sixteen days with his team in building a fort at West Point the precise date deponent cannot state positively but she thinks it was the first fort built there after the commencement of the Revolutionary War. She cannot recollect that he told her who the officers at West Point were at that time.

She further declares that she was married to the said William Johnson the last [of] January or the first of February in the year 1793 by Elder Montonyea, a minister of Baptist persuasion at the house of said minister in the town or Warwick aforesaid in the presence of Stephen Jayne. That her husband the aforesaid William Johnson died on the eighteenth day of November 1831 as appears by the proof hereto annexed. (Signed with her mark) Catharine Johnson.

Sworn & subscribed in open court on the day and year above written. A. L. Benton, Clerk of the County of Orange.

[The rest of the lengthy pension file contents are more application by Catharine and depositions by those who confirm she was indeed married to William Johnson.]

End Notes—W.20213—William Johnson

1. Abraham Westfall was appointed Captain on April 27, 1781 in Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Albert Pawling's Regiment foNew York State Levies. In the pension application file the New York State Compstroller's' Office supplied several references to pay certificates of which several did not belong to this William Johnson. One was dated 1781, Dec'r 18, Certificate No., 6156 for £20. . 5. . 4 for service in Captain Westfall's Company in Pawling's Regiment. This is

correct for this William as Westfall never served in Colonel John Hathorn's Regiment.

2. John Hathorn was Colonel of the Fifth Regiment of Orange County Militia. There are three pay certificates for a William Johnson to wit No. 526 £___.16. . 8, no. 927 £___. . 5. . 9, and no 360 for £ _ 9 . . 7. William Johnson's name appears on the roll for service In Captain Calvin Shepherd and David McCambly, Jr.'s Companies. There could have been two William Johnson's in this regiment but this William did serve in this regiment at some time as it was raised from the Florida and Warwick District of Orange County.