St. Clair County, Illinois

Declaration of John Primm

(1750 – 1837)

Transcribed May 2001 by R Stoy

The following was transcribed from the microfilmed document "Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files," The National Archives, Washington DC, microcopy No. 804, roll 1978, frame 0143, file no. S32458 for John Primm (Prime).

The transcription is rendered as accurately as possible, including any misspellings, with the exception of the use of the script "ps", which is transcribed as "ss".

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State of Illinois St Clair County ss on the sixth day of April 1833
Personally came and appeared in open court before the Honourable Theopplus W Smith Judge of the circuit Court of St Clair County State of Illinois Now sitting John Prim a resident of the County of St Clair Sate of Illinois aged eighty three 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 under the following named officers and served as herein stated he entered the service in Stafford County Virginia in 1776. his first service was to march to repel the Landing of an armed ship called the Roebuck? ~~which~~ the troops of which were making a descent at ?? Brants farm on the Rappahonnock They marched to this place preventing her landing followed the vessel below boyds hole & until she disappeared: in the following year he entered the service under captain Coombs in the batallion commanded by Samuel Payton Major & Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Montjoy he served in this Regiment of Militia for ?? ?? ?? active duty ?? ?? this year and served in the year of 1778 1779 1781. he was at the siege of York under Captain Sharp in the battalion commanded by Major Walsh [Welsh?] in a regiment commanded by Col Dark Virginia Militia Troops one of these Tours he served under Captain Bayles in a Batallion commanded by Major Chan. in Marching to the Seige of york from Stafford County they marched across the Rhappahennock through Fredericks burg. he thinks that the tour in 1778 he had served was a substitute. he left the service after the Battle of York and after he had guarded the prisoners surrendered by Lord Cornwallis to ?? Manchester Virginia but received no written discharge he served said tours as above stated. he was born in Stafford County in the year 1750 he brought to this country the original record of his age which was transcribed from a small bible to a Larger one which is in his possession he removed from Stafford County Virginia in the year 1801 and came to this County then Teractory of ~~Illinois~~ Indianni where he has resided ever since he never received any compensation from the United States or State of Virginia for his services

He ~~hereby relin~~ knows of no person alive by whom he can prove his services.

He hereby relinquishes any claim whatever to a pension or an 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
[signed] John Hay ck [signed] John Prim

We Hosia Riggs A clergyman residing in the County of St Clair State of Illinois and John D Hughs sending in the same County and State hereby certify that we are well acquainted with John Prim who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be eighty three years of age that he is respected and believed to be in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion
Sworn to & subscribed in open Court 6th April 1833 [signed] Hosia Riggs
[signed] John Hay Ck [signed] John D Hughes

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the Interrogatories ?? scribed by the ?? ?? that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states and the court further certifies that it appears to them that Hosia Riggs – who has ~~certified~~ signed and certified the above certificate is a clergyman resident in the County of St Clair State of Illinois and that John D Hughs – who has also signed the same is a resident in said county & State and is a creditable person and that their Statement is entitled to credit

State of Illinois
I John Hay Clerk of the Circuit Court of St Clair County State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the Said Court in the matter of the application of John Prim for a pension.

Seal

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and affixed the Seal of my Office this Sixth day of April in the Year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and thirtythree, and of the Independence of the United States of American the fifty Seventh.
[signed] John Hay

State of Illinois
St Clair County } ss

Personally appeared before we the undersigned ?? Justice of the peace in and for the county of St Clair & State of Illinois John Primm who being duly sworn according to Law deposeth & ?? that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades. for the year 1777 two weeks and in the year 1778 – 3 months in 1779 – not less than 3 months in 1780 one tour of three months in the year 1781 at Cornwallis's defeat not less than 3 months one of these tours was served by substitute I think 1778. and for such service I claim a pension. Sworn to a Subscribed this 27th day of December 1833 –
Before me
[signed] Jos Green J.P. [signed] John Prim

Robert Stoy document

There are a few pages of documentation in the pension file and two of the most significant are included here:

Maryland
John Prime of St Clair Co in the State of Illinois who was a Pv in the Company commanded by Captain Combs of the Reg^{t} commanded by Col Montjoy in the Virginia line for –
?? $ 31.55

Inscribed on the Roll of Illinois at the rate of 31 Dollars 55 Cents per annum, to commence on the 4th day of March, 1831.

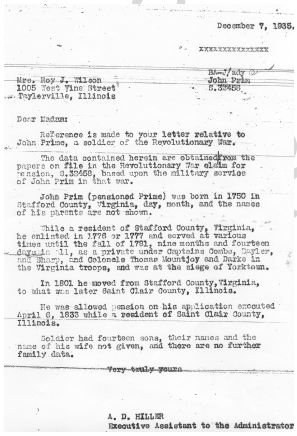
Certificate of Pension issued the 17th day of Jany 1834 and Sent to A. W. Snyder, Belleville, Ill

Arrears to the 4th of Sepr 1833 – 78.87
Semi-anl. Allowance ending 4 Mch '34 15.77
$94.65

Revolutionary Claim
Act June 7, 1832

Recorded by John ?? Clerk,
Book C Vol 8 Page 60

Image of letter in file:



December 7, 1935.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Mrs. Roy J. Wilson
1005 West Vine Street
Taylerville, Illinois

Re: Widow of
John Prim
S.32458.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to your letter relative to John Prime, a soldier of the Revolutionary War.

The data contained herein are obtained from the papers on file in the Revolutionary War claim for pension, S.32458, based upon the military service of John Prim in that war.

John Prim (pensioned Prime) was born in 1750 in Stafford County, Virginia, day, month, and the names of his parents are not shown.

While a resident of Stafford County, Virginia, he enlisted in 1776 or 1777 and served at various times until the fall of 1781, nine months and fourteen days in all, as a private under Captains Combs, Taylor, and Shaw, and Colonels Thomas Mountjoy and Dabbs in the Virginia troops, and was at the siege of Yorktown.

In 1801 he moved from Stafford County, Virginia, to what was later Saint Clair County, Illinois.

He was allowed pension on his application executed April 8, 1833 while a resident of Saint Clair County, Illinois.

Soldier had fourteen sons, their names and the name of his wife not given, and there are no further family data.

~~Very truly yours~~

A. D. HILLER
Executive Assistant to the Administrator

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