

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Gibbs W2729

Hannah Gibbs

f50NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 8/12/15

[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 'indcipherable' 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 Tennessee, Bedford County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions

On this 12th day of November 1832, personally appeared in open court before Samuel Phillips, John L. Neill, and John B. Armstrong, Esquires Justices appointed to hold the Court of Pleas and Quarters Sessions for the County aforesaid now sitting John Gibbs a resident of Bedford County in the State of Tennessee, age about Seventy-six years - who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declarations in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: He was born in Pittsylvania County, State of Virginia, but the year of his birth he cannot recollect positively but he is certain that he will be Seventy six years of age sometime in December next (1832). His parents died when he was very young and he was bound out as an apprentice in Halifax County, Virginia. He states that he entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War some time in the Spring or Summer of the year 1777, but the particular month he cannot now recollect, as a volunteer under Colonel Peter Rogers in Halifax County, Virginia, for a term of three months, the name of his captain he does not remember. As soon as he volunteered, his company marched to Portsmouth, Virginia to guard and defend that place against the British. He remained stationed at that place until the expiration of his three months term of service when he was verbally discharged by his Captain. He states that he then remained at home until the latter part of August or the first of September of 1778, when he again entered the service as a substitute for a man by the name of ~~John Farrar~~ Edmond Kelly for nine months in the Militia in Granville County, North Carolina. But before they done any service his company was discharged for a few months on furlough, but in a few weeks after they were discharged upon their furlough an express came for them to meet at Hillsboro, North Carolina and offering all of them who would agree to serve before their furlough expired, pay for what time they had been on furlough agreeable to this express. This applicant and a large number of the company to which he belonged which was commanded by Captain ~~Edmond Kelly~~ John Farrar met at Hillsboro about the first of October 1779 as well as he recollects. When after remaining there a short time, probably a week or two, for the purpose of organizing themselves and making necessary preparations for marching, they marched under the command of Captain Farrar and Colonel Henry Dixon, and Colonel Lytle [Archibald Lytle] to a place called the ten mile spring, or ten mile house, within ten miles of Charleston, South Carolina. They arrived at this place shortly before Christmas and spent their Christmas there. They then took up their line of march to go to the assistance of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] on the Savannah River between South Carolina and Georgia. They arrived at a place called Purysburg [Purrysburg] some time in

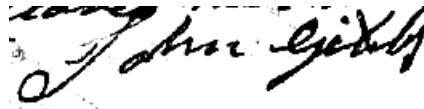
January 1779 at which place Lincoln's army was stationed. Shortly after their arrival at this place, this applicant with others of his company were placed under the command of Captain High, Major Thomas Donaho [sic, Thomas Donoho], and Major Armstrong, regular officers of General Lincoln's army and sent in a detachment up the Savannah River to Black Swamp where General Lincoln had an encampment. At the same time some of Captain Farrar's company were sent to Briar Creek to assist General Ash [John Ashe] against the British. After remaining at Black Swamp a short time, this applicant was sent in a detachment under the above named officers, still higher up the Savannah to Golfans Mills [Galphin's Mills]. From this place the detachment to which he belonged was ordered to march under the same officers to Charleston, South Carolina to defend that place against the British. They arrived at Charleston some time in the latter part of the spring, as well as this applicant recollects. It was in the month of May, shortly after they got into Charleston, they had a little engagement with the British under General Provost [Augustine Prevost]. This was the first engagement that this applicant was in during the war. Shortly after this engagement, General Provost abandoned his attempt to take Charleston and marched his forces, or part of them, into the country. This applicant was then marched out of Charleston to Stono Ferry under the command of Major Armstrong where they fought a battle [Battle of Stono Ferry, June 20, 1779] with the British under the command of General Provost. This was as well as he recollects in the month of June in 1779. He was then marched to Willtown, between Stono and the Savannah River where he was discharged, his nine months term of service having terminated shortly before or about this time. When discharged, they were ordered to meet at Moncks Corner to receive their discharges, at which place this applicant states he received a written one from Major Armstrong. He states that while he was in Charleston he saw and conversed with Count Pulaski, a foreigner who he believes commanded the Light House on a company of them at that place. He then remained at home until a short time before the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] in North Carolina when he volunteered under Captain Bird Walls [Byrd Wall] in Halifax County, Virginia and marched under him into Guilford County, North Carolina. He states that Captain Wall's company arrived at Guilford Court House during the battle at that place between General Greene [Nathanael Greene] who commanded the American's and Cornwallis who commanded the British, in time to take part in it. In this battle the British had rather the advantage and compelled the forces under Greene to retreat. This battle, he thinks, was fought early in the Spring of 1781. After the battle, part of the Americans pursued Cornwallis to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River where they took fifteen prisoners. At this place this applicant was discharged by Captain Walls, verbally, having served this tour about ten weeks. Several months afterwards he entered the service in the Militia in Halifax County, Virginia under Captain Long, for three months as a substitute for a man by the name of Ervin Brannan. He marched under Captain Long to Yorktown to aid General Washington against the British under the command of Lord Cornwallis. This applicants company arrived at Yorktown some two or three weeks as well as he recollects, before the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]. When they arrived, they found General Washington there and they were immediately set at work, digging and throwing up entrenchments for the purpose of besieging Cornwallis' army, then in possession of the town. This applicant states that he saw General Washington frequently at this place and on one occasion, while he was at work, he recollects that General Washington took his axe and worked a little while with it. He states that he was in the battle of Yorktown but he took sick and left that place the day after the battle was fought and before the British marched out of the town. Shortly after the surrender of Cornwallis, this applicants three months term of service expired and he was verbally discharged by Captain Long. This applicant states that he served his country in the Revolutionary War, including the different towns above stated, about seventeen

months. He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his service, nor does he know any person now living by whom he can make any proof of it. He never received any written discharges but the one above mentioned from Major Armstrong, which is lost or mislaid. He was acquainted with all the American officers mentioned in this declaration except General Greene. He cannot recollect the names of any regular or Militia Regiments that he was in or acquainted with during his service. He states that he has no record of his age. He recollects that he was informed that he was fifteen when bound out as before stated and he has kept his age from memory every since. After the Revolutionary War he moved from Virginia to North Carolina, from North Carolina to York County, South Carolina, then he moved back to the waters of the Yadkin, North Carolina, from thence to Kentucky, from thence to Bedford County, Tennessee where he has lived upwards of seven years and now living. He is acquainted with Major William Guy, Mayor William Murphree, Robert Clark, and William Vancleave, all of whom will testify as to his character and to their belief of his services as a Revolutionary soldier. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity whatever, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to in open Court & Subscribed 12 Nov. 1832

S/ Jas McKisick Clk

S/ John Gibbs



We, William Murphree, Robert Clark, and William Vancleave, residing in Bedford County, Tennessee, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with, and have been for a number of years, John Gibbs, who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration. We believe him to be seventy six years of age or near that age as he states. He is a man of strict honesty and veracity and has always sustained that character since we become acquainted with him. He is respected and believed to have been in the neighborhood where he resides, a Revolutionary War soldier and we fully concur in that opinion.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Murphree

S/ Jas McKisick, Clk

S/ Robert Clark

S/ William Vancleave

[p 43: On June 9th, 1843 in Breathitt County Kentucky, the veteran gave testimony that he is the same person who draws a pension at the rate of \$54.66 since per annum for service in the revolution; that he has resided in Breathitt County 7 months last past having previously lived in Bedford County Tennessee. He signed this document with his mark.]

[p 13]

State of Tennessee Bedford County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid John Gibbs who being duly sworn depose and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the whole length of his services but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the following periods – during the first period or tour of service mentioned in the foregoing declaration he served as a private soldier three months. The second tour of service mentioned in said declaration, he served as a

private nine months. The third tour of service mentioned in said declaration he served at least six weeks. The third [sic, fourth] & last term of service mentioned in said declaration he served three months as a private soldier – and for such service I claim a pension – he further states that at the time the foregoing declaration was made he could not obtain the certificate of a clergyman respecting his age and the general belief in the neighborhood relative to his revolutionary services because there was no one living in his neighborhood, or anywhere near him with whom this applicant was acquainted, or who knew anything about his revolutionary services or the belief in his neighborhood relative to them.

S/ John Gibbs

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 7 May 1833

S/ Wm McClure [?], JP

[p 17]

State of Kentucky, Morgan County: Sct.

On this 29th day of March One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty personally appeared before the undersigned Caleb Kash a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Hannah Gibbs a resident of Morgan County, Kentucky, aged Ninety five years, who being 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 the 29th day of July 1848.

John Gibbs (formerly of the State of Tennessee) who was a private of infantry in the army of the Revolution was entitled to receive a pension of fifty four dollars and sixty six cents per annum during his natural life commencing on the 4th day of March 1831, according to an original certificate given at the War office of the United States on the 14th day of August 1833 and recorded in the pension office, book E, vol 7, page 79.

She further declares that she was married to the said John Gibbs on the 22nd day of January seventeen hundred and eighty two, that her husband the aforesaid John Gibbs died on the 18th day of October 1848, that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the second of January Eighteen Hundred Viz; at the time above stated.

She further swears that she is now a widow and that she has never before made any application for a pension.

S/ Hannah Gibbs, X her mark

[p 39]

State of Kentucky Morgan County: Sct.

An additional declaration by Hannah Gibbs this day taken before me Andrew S. Nickell a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Morgan & State aforesaid the said Hannah Gibbs this day personally appeared before me & made the following statement to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 29th day of July 1848 granting to certain widows pensions on account of services in the Revolutionary war of their deceased husbands: States that she was married in the County of Guilford & State of North Carolina on the 22nd day of January 1783, that she has no record of her marriage, that the same was recorded in a family Bible & the same together with the age of her children has been torn out of the same, that about twelve years back she lost her eyesight & has been blind ever since, that she lives about 15 miles from the County seat & is not able to attend Court for the purpose of making her declaration in open court, she further states as in her original declaration that she still continues the widow of the said John Gibbs that it has been over thirty years since she left the State of North Carolina & does not now

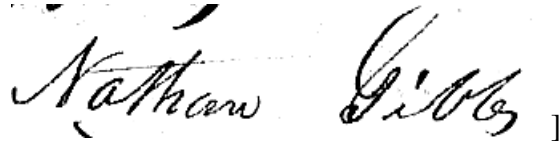
know of any person living by whom he can prove her marriage but that she can prove it by reputation. Sworn to & subscribed this 3rd day of August 1850

Attest

S/ Andrew S Nickell, JP

S/ Hannah Gibbs, X her mark

[p 40: On August 3, 1850, Nathan Gibbs gave testimony that he is the son of Hannah Gibbs; that he is 56 years of age the 12th day of October last according to the record of his age which is now lost.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan Gibbs". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. The first name "Nathan" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and the last name "Gibbs" is written in a slightly smaller, more compact script. The signature is followed by a small, faint mark that appears to be a closing bracket or a flourish.

[p 15: Court order dated May 8, 1852 issued in Morgan County Kentucky finding that Hannah Gibbs, and applicant for a revolutionary war pension, died September 17, 1850 survived by the following legal heirs, to wit, John Gibbs, Sally Woods (Late Sally Gibbs) & Nathan Gibbs.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$54.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 16 months and 12 days in the North Carolina and Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]