

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Francis Gilley R4035

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 19]

The State of South Carolina Pickens District

On this 5<sup>th</sup> of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judge of Pickens District Francis Gilley Resident of the State and District aforesaid aged Ninety 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 the Seventh of June 1832 that he entered the service of the United States as a Regular Soldier when he was about twenty years of age under the following Officers and served as herein stated. My first Tower [tour] was in North Carolina under Captain William Nole [William Nall] commanding a Company of Horse Men for near Two years Martin Gambrell Lieutenant of said Company, under Colonel Arthur Cammel [author Campbell of Virginia] an Irishman while under them was in the Battle of Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781] then was marched to Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781], State of North Carolina from Eutaw Springs was marched to Kings Mountain, North Carolina [sic South Carolina] – and there and at the other two mentioned places was in the Engagements [the Battle of Kings Mountain was fought on October 7, 1780] at all of them places – I was then Discharged to go home = to my Residence in the State of North Carolina = when on our Return Colonel Cammel<sup>1</sup> was killed by the Tories = &c During the said Tour I was in some other Scrimmages and under the same Officers but do not Recollect the particular places at this time by this time Drew near the close of the war for which services I never got a written discharge on account of my Colonel being killed on our return home from the Service as stated and I do not know of no documentary Evidence or Persons living who can testify to my Service afore stated. And I hereby relinquish Every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the Present and Declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State to my knowledge =

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born

In the State of Virginia, the year as I recollect 1759

2. Have you any Record of your age

None that I can come at, my age as well as I can recollect was in record in my mother's Bible which was in his hands in North Carolina =

3. Where were you living when called into Service where have you Lived Since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now Live =

I lived \_\_ North Carolina when I went into the Service & Remained in that State a few years after the war was ended I then moved to the State of South Carolina in which I now Live =

4. How were you called into Service were you Drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute.

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel Arthur Campbell of Virginia died in 1811, not during the course of the Revolutionary War. Arthur Campbell was not at the battle of Kings Mountain but Colonel William Campbell was in command of the Whig forces engaged in that battle. Colonel William Campbell died August 22, 1781.

I was first a volunteer and then an enlisted Soldier and [indecipherable word]<sup>2</sup> a Substitute =

5. State the names of Some of your Officers who were with the Troops where he you served, such Continental and Militia as you can Recollect and the General Circumstances

General's name is not recollected – Colonel Cammel Captain William Nole Lieutenant Gambrell I was in three Engagements the first at Guilford Court House North Carolina, the second at the Eutaw Springs North Carolina [sic South Carolina] and the third at Kings Mountain in the State of North Carolina [sic, South Carolina] in the County of \_\_\_

6. Did you Ever receive a Discharge and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.

I never Received any written Discharge

Sworn to and Subscribed in Open Court

S/ William L Keith, Clerk

S/ Francis Gilley, X his mark

[Thomas Morgan, a clergyman, and Colonel David McKinney gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 2]

State of Alabama, County of Walker: SS

On this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December A. D. 1840 personally appeared before John E. Clancey Judge of the County Court of said County (it being a court of record) Francis Gilley a resident of the County of Jefferson and State of Alabama aged one hundred and five 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 with \_\_\_\_\_ and served as a private in the \_\_\_\_ Regiment of the North Carolina line under the following named officers, viz: Colonel William Campbell in the company commanded by Captain William Hall, Lieutenant \_\_\_\_ ; was under Colonel Benjamin Cleveland at the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] (being very old my memory has almost entirely failed me) that I cannot state with precision the names of the officers I served under at each particular engagement or term of service but these are some of the officers I did serve under in the period of my tours of service for I was out several times, four times as a private and served but a short period each time – at length after these four tours had expired, on my return home enlisted men were being called out and I then enlisted for the term of three years but peace was concluded before this enlisted term had expired, suffice it to say, to be as nigh correct that I served in the last tour as I have mentioned, for five years in all. I enlisted on the\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 1776 and quit the service on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 1782 as nearly as I can now recollect. I never got that I know of a written discharge for this or either of the former terms of voluntary service that I have mentioned. At the time when I first went out in the service I lived in \_\_\_\_\_ County Virginia. I was engaged in the battles of Kings Mountain, Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781], at Ramsour's Mills [June 20, 1780] (if I recollect the pronunciation of this last name) beside was the greater part of the time engaged in what was called scouring or scouting parties annoying & whipping the Tories where we had innumerable engagements of this character, the country through which I marched was mostly in the State of North Carolina; we did scour a part of South Carolina and Virginia adjoining the State of North Carolina, the following are some of the noted places we were at war through which we passed, \_\_\_\_\_

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Questions propounded agreeable to orders from the War Department, viz.:

Question 1st-- Where and in what year were you born

Answer 1<sup>st</sup> – does not exactly know he thinks in the year 1735

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<sup>2</sup> *Divice*

Questions 2<sup>nd</sup> – Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it

Answer 2<sup>nd</sup> – There was a record of my age in my Bible but it is lost

Question 3<sup>rd</sup> – Where were you living when you were called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live

Answer 3<sup>rd</sup> -- on the New River in the State of Virginia; I have since lived in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; I now live in Jefferson County Alabama

Question 4<sup>th</sup> – How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a Substitute and if a substitute for whom

Answer 4<sup>th</sup> – I was drafted and then volunteered

Question 5<sup>th</sup> – State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of the your Service

Answer 5<sup>th</sup> – General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], Colonel Cleveland, Colonel Campbell, Captain Edmundson. I do not recollect any material facts that occurred more than what is before stated

Additional question, viz.: Why do you make your Declaration & proof before the Judge of Walker County Alabama, you residing in Jefferson County

Answer – Because I live nearest to Walker Court house near the line & can get the Judge of Walker County to come in the neighborhood to where I can meet him for I am unable to either walk [sic] or

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Jefferson County [words obliterated] the Judge

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 the for me.

S/ John E. Clancey, Judge

S/ Francis Gilley [sic], X his mark

[Solomon Perkins gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 5]

The State of Alabama County of Walker

Personally came before me one of the Justices of the peace in and for said [County] viz. Thomas Lovelady and Simeon Lovelady who being duly qualified & sworn on their oath deposeth and saith that in the year 1776 Francis Gilley who signed and subscribed the foregoing declaration entered the Service of the United States against the common enemy of the United Colonies that at that time he & we lived in \_\_ County Virginia on what was then called New River – that to the best of deponents' recollection said Francis Gilley served [paper damaged and text illegible] months and returned home that he soon entered the service a second time deponents do not recollect the length of this term of service but believe it to be longer than the first after a stay of few months at home he again entered on a third tour and deponents do [paper damaged and text rendered illegible] that said Francis Gilley ever returned [paper damaged and text rendered illegible] from the service of the United States until about the close of the war. That deponents were engaged in driving Supplies of beef cattle to the Army and frequently saw said Francis Gilley in lines and on duty having [been] raised near him [, they] were well acquainted with him and know him the said Francis to be the same that signed and subscribed the foregoing Declaration. [Paper damaged and text rendered illegible] said Gilley to the best of our [paper damaged and text rendered illegible] over one hundred years old that we have frequently heard him say (when asked why he did not apply for a pension) said that as long as he could live without the aid of his Country he would not ask it, that he is reduced to extreme poverty and is unable to take care of himself is in our knowledge and we are fully of the belief that news the aid [paper damaged and text rendered illegible] and further deponents [document ends here]