

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Glisson R4067

f24NC

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.]

State of Tennessee, County of Henry: SS

On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1834, personally appeared before the County Court of Henry County, James Glisson a resident on Tumbling Creek in the County of Henry and State of Tennessee, aged seventy-four 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 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

That he was drafted into the militia of North Carolina in May 1780, in Martin County where he then resided – his Captain's name was John Kennedy – the rendezvous was at Halifax at which place he was mustered into service – and served a three months tour of duty – was drafted again in the same County in February 1781 under Captain John Bryant – and rendezvoused again at Halifax – and served out another three months tour.

Was called out a third time in October 1781 under Captain Griffin -- & marched towards York in Virginia, but when the Corps reached Meherrin River, Winn's ferry, they received the news of Cornwallis his capture [Battle of Yorktown, October 19, 1780] & were discharged – was absent on this expedition about twenty days --

Interrogatories propounded by the Court

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

Ans: -- In Martin County, North Carolina, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1760.

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

Ans: Yes I copied it from my father's Bible into my own.

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

Ans: In Martin County North Carolina – From thence I moved to Henry County Tennessee, in the year 1825, where I have lived ever since.

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans: I was drafted into the service twice – the third time, I was merely called on by the County militia officers, as there was a general rising.

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: When I first entered the service, I was drafted in a muster in Martin County, into the company of Captain John Kennedy – we rendezvoused, as before stated, at Halifax – from thence we marched and joined head Quarters at Harrisburg – General Gates [Horatio Gates] in Command. The Regiment of militia to which I was attached was commanded by Colonel Hill [Whitmell Hill] – I recollect Brigadier General De Kalb – From Harrisburg we were marched directly to Camden – on our arrival we found General Cornwallis in possession of the town – we marched towards the town until

our vanguard & the picket guard of the enemy began to fire upon each other – when orders were given for us to halt & prepare for battle – this was about three miles north east of the town – The Regiment to which I belonged together with the rest of the Army was drawn up in line of battle & stood to their arms during the night [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] – I however was detailed to assist in guarding the baggage & particularly the powder magazine – As soon as daylight appeared the battle began – Early in the morning orders were given for the Baggage to be carried to Rugeley's Mills -- & there I went along with it as one of the guard – we had not marched more than 3 or 4 miles before we were overtaken by a party of British Dragoons, & were obliged to take to the woods – In pursuance of the orders I retired to Rugeley's Mills, where I was met by a number of my fellow militia men, both privates & officers – My term of service expired a few days after & I was discharged at Rugeley's Mills --

On my second tour I was drafted & enrolled under Captain John Bryant in February 1781 – rendezvoused at Halifax and joined head Quarters under General Butler [John Butler], in the woods on the road between Halifax in Guilford – I rather think between Harrisburg & Guilford – but am not certain – Colonel Eaton [Pinketham Eaton] commanded the Regiment to which I was attached – In a short time after joining General Butler – we marched to General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] Army & joined it between Roanoke & Guilford – a short time before the Battle at Guilford Court house [March 15, 1781] – while the Army lay at Reedy Creek, near Guilford C. house -- & a few days before the battle, six British prisoners viz. three Dragoons, & three foot soldiers, were brought into camp by some of our Horsemen & I with eleven other man, commanded by a Lieutenant, went with these prisoners to Halifax – Captain Bryant appointed me orderly Sergeant of the Guard – we delivered the Prisoners to the jailer in Halifax & the Lieutenant in pursuance of the Captain's orders, gave us furloughs to go home – our time being so nearly out that it was not considered worthwhile to go back to the Army --

On my third expedition, as before mentioned, I joined Captain Griffin in Martin County – we marched hastily across the Roanoke River to the Meherrin where we heard of the Surrender of Cornwallis -- & were disbanded

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans: -- I got a regular written discharge from my first tour – it was given to Captain Evans, who succeeded Captain Kennedy in command of the Company to which I belonged – I cannot say what has become of it, not supposing it would ever be of any service to me.

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans: I will name William C. Rodgers – William H. Tucker, Robert Hayes – Joseph L. Thompson – Thomas K. Porter – T. Cooney – James Greer

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency in any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid and Open Court

S/ B. C. Brown, D. Clk

S/ James Glisson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Glisson". The signature is written in a cursive style with some ink bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.

[Thomas Ross, a clergyman, of Weakley County Tennessee and Abram Newton of Henry County gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee, Henry County

Personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of Henry County, Thomas Ross of Weakley County, who it appears to the satisfaction of the Court is a man of veracity & respectability, & entitled to credit, & after being duly sworn deposes & saith, that he has all his life been acquainted with James Glisson who has sworn to the foregoing Declaration – that he and the said Glisson were raised in the same neighborhood & within a few hundred yards of each other in Martin County, North Carolina – that he well recollects the circumstance of said Glisson going out as a Soldier in Captain Kennedy's company of militia during the Revolutionary War – Affiant states that his brother James Ross<sup>1</sup> went out as a Soldier in the same campaign --

Given under my hand & seal at Paris this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1834.

S/ Thomas Ross {Seal}



[p 20]

Amended declaration of James Glisson in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832

State of Tennessee, Henry County

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 1842, personally appeared before the worshipful County court of Henry County & state aforesaid, holding their March Sessions, James Glisson a resident of the Western section of said County, aged about Eighty-two years old, 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 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832 – and explanation & amendment of his original declaration, now on file in the War Department at Washington City --

That he first entered the service of the United States in Martin County, State of North Carolina, in the year of 1780 – that he was drafted for three months & rendezvoused at Halifax in the month of January in the year 1780 – after remaining at Halifax about 24 hours, he marched under Captain Bryan & Colonel Eaton, to a place called Collins [?] cowpens on the dividing line between North & South Carolina – and there joined the troops of General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] and remained there & thereabouts, & routing [?] & fighting the Tories & British until the term of three months service had expired – while engaged in this service an order was issued for another reinforcement of the militia, when he took the place of his brother in law John Whitfield who sickened & was compelled to retire with the camp fever. This applicant remained at his post in the stead of his brother [sic] until orders came that the North Carolina forces were to join General Gates on his march to South Carolina which he thinks came in the latter part of June as well as he now recollects. He then left General Sumter, and under the man [?] Captain Bryan Colonel Eaton joined the Gates at a place called Harrisburg he thinks in North Carolina. He then marched with Gates towards Camden, and continued with the Army until after the battle of Camden in August 1780. He was not in the battle, but was out guarding the baggage wagons. Some short time after the battle having assembled at a place called Rugeley's Mills according to [indecipherable word], he was discharged in writing by his Captain or Colonel. The term of service for which he substituted for his brother-in-law was three months, and although it expired before the battle of Camden, yet he was kept in service by the order of his superiors-- very many applying for discharges & being refused, he did not feel disposed to do so, nor did he feel in a great inclination to back out – in this tour he served about seven months --

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1 [James Ross W5722](#) but this man did not claim to be at Gates Defeat. He did claim to have served under Capt. Kennedy and Col. Hill, but in 1781.

In his former declaration it is stated that he rendezvoused & marched to join the Army of General Gates. This was a mistake & not as he intended to state it. The gentleman who drew his declaration must have misunderstood him – He is confident that he rendezvoused in January early in the month – and he could not have marched directly to join Gates – for Gates did not pass through North Carolina until in July – all which time, however, he was in active service as above stated. This affiant states that he must have mentioned in his former declaration that he rendezvoused first in January, and of course it would have been inconsistent to say that he marched to join Gates for Gates was not then in the State. He told the gentleman who drafted his former declaration, that his Service was incorrectly stated & he had so hoped [?] that it would obtain him his pension – for much of his service was left out altogether, and the balance [indecipherable word] stated – But knowing little of the way of making declarations, or business of any kind, he was overruled by them who were transacting the matter for him – and now has to rely upon his general reputation for honesty & truthfulness to correct the error --

He will here state that from the time he rendezvoused at Halifax, up to the time he substituted for his brother-in-law was more than three months, the term for which he was originally drafted – and the reason why he had not been discharged was this -- A great many had been called into Service, who had refused to cross the South Carolina line, so that, there was some sort of law passed that prevented the service commencing until the soldiers had crossed over into South Carolina. This affiant thinks he ought to be entitled to count his service from the time he rendezvoused – but if not by the regulations of the Department of War, he instead of his having served seven, he will only have served full six months. The law or regulation just spoken of, however, he deems ought not to preclude him now from recalculating the service from his entrance into the ranks as a soldier. This service as a substitute for his brother-in-law was not mentioned in his former declaration as he supposes, but he certainly intended it – and can only say it was utter neglect on the part of the gentleman who drew it up for in speaking of his services, he has now related them otherwise – than as herein stated.

The next service for which he claims a pension was as follows – In the month of February he thinks in 1781, he was called into Service under Captain Cannady [sic] & rendezvoused at Halifax in North Carolina – joined head quarters under General Butler, who was then marching towards Guilford. He continued in service until shortly after the battle of Guilford, at which time, he was guarding some prisoners to the Halifax jail. He was called out for three months, that after the battle was permitted to go home on furlough – This affiant returned no more into Service, So that he was only in the active service for something upwards of a month. The only remaining Service he rendered during the revolution, was just before the battle of little York. This affiant was called into Service under Captain Ballard – and started to York, but learning of the surrender of Cornwallis, the soldiers was disbanded & dismissed – In this tour he served 20 or 30 days. In all the service, he was actually engaged more than eight months --

This affiant reports that his Service was not set out in his first Declaration as he knows & now states it did over – and hopes that there is sufficient particularity and above two produce correction of the error & lid to a proper adjustment of his claims upon his Country. They are not much – but he is very old, infirm & poor. He knows he served as herein stated, and can only regret, if the errors of those who assisted him in making his declaration before, should claims he honestly has upon his Country.

For answer to the necessary [?] interrogatories &c, he refers to his former declaration – This applicants name is on no pension roll of any agency in any State. He states as a reason & excuse for not having earlier made this amended declaration, that he has often applied to his acquaintances & friends, who seemed not to understand what to do, and how to do it. He has been sick & otherwise prevented from doing it heretofore. Sworn to & Subscribed in open Court the day & date above written.

S/ James Glisson

[Thomas Ross, a clergyman of Weakley County, and Wright Tyson, a clergyman, of Henry County,

gave the standard supporting affidavit. Further Ross stated: "I Ross am well acquainted with James Glisson who signed the within Declaration, that I have known him for over 70 years – that I believe him to be 80 odd years old – that I know him to have been a soldier of the revolution, having knowledge of his being mustered into Service just before the battle of Guilford – and knowing that the year before that he was absent with other young men of his neighborhood in North Carolina, who were all said to be in the Army. I know the said Glisson to be & always to have been a man of good character and a man of truth...."]