

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Gabriel Philips (Phillips) R8208

Milly

f75VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/17/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

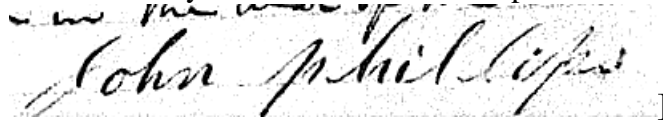
State of Tennessee Hawkins County SS

On this 27th day of April 1846 personally appeared before me Nicholas Beckman a Justice of the Peace in and for said County, Milly Philips, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged seventy-nine years, who after being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Acts of Congress passed 7th of July 1838, 3rd of March 1843 and 17th June 1844, viz.: That she is the widow of Gabriel Philips, who was a soldier of the Virginia Line during the War of the revolution. As to the particulars of his service, she states that she knows nothing, except what she has heard her husband say after they were married – viz. – that the said Gabriel Philips enlisted in Loudoun County Virginia by a man or officer whose name was Joseph Baylie. That she has often heard her husband speak of Major Lindsay, as one of his officers; also General Lincoln – name of his Captain & Colonel forgotten – that immediately after his enlistment he marched to the South, and was at the siege of Charleston, where he was taken prisoner by the British, that while he was a prisoner, propositions were made to him to take the oath of allegiance, which he refused – that after being held as a prisoner for some time he made his escape by swimming the River, and finally joined a Corps of Americans – one of the officers then gave him a permit or furlough to return home – She does not know how long he served, but supposes that he served several years as a Private. She judges so from the fact that he always said that there was a considerable amount of money due on account of his wages, and that he claimed about two hundred acres of Land, on account of his services none of which he ever received to her knowledge. That in order to obtain said wages & Land, he went from Tennessee to Georgia, to establish his service by a fellow soldier named Walter Parry or Perry, who was his brother-in-law, but who had died some time previous to said journey. That he had a discharge showing his service in the war of the Revolution, which he said was lost or destroyed. She is fully satisfied that he served his country a considerable length of time in the war of the Revolution, but she is unable to prove it – and she hereby request that the Commissioner of Pensions, will cause a thorough search of the Virginia rolls to be made for his name and services – She further declares that she was married to the said Gabriel Philips in Henry County State of Virginia, by the publication of Bans, in the month of July 1783. She is positive as to this fact from the fact that she was married in the year that closed the war, also from the fact that her oldest child Sarah was born four years after the marriage, which she states, stands correctly recorded in her Bible now in her possession, and shows that she was born in July 1787. She further states, that there was no license issued from the clerk's office for the marriage – but that she was married in said County of Henry by William Lovel a clergyman of the Baptist Church after publication – for proof as to the marriage she refers the Department to the accompanying papers. She further declares that her husband the aforesaid

Gabriel Phillips died in the County of Hawkins State of Tennessee in the fall of 1812 and that she has not intermarried, but still remains his widow – that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794 viz. at the time above mentioned.

S/ Milly Philips, X her mark

[f p. 6: On April 27, 1846 in Hawkins County Tennessee, John Phillips, 55, testified that he is the son of Milley and Gabriel Philips; that according to the family register he is 55 years of age as of the 20th day of May 1845; that his father died in November 1812; that he recalls his father speaking of his service in the revolution having enlisted in Loudoun County Virginia when very young for the term of 5 years; that his father was taken prisoner and carried to a place he thinks called Sunbury where he made his escape and returned to the Americans.



John Phillips

[f p. 2 family record:

Sarah Philips was Born first Day of July 1787

John Phillips was Born ye Twentieth of May 1790

Mary Phillips was Born ye tenth of August 1792

Elizabeth Phillips was Born ye twelfth of October 1794

Rebekah Philips was Born nineteenth day of July 28, 1797

Meliah Phillips was Born ye 21st day of May 1799

Thomas Philips born July 28, 1801

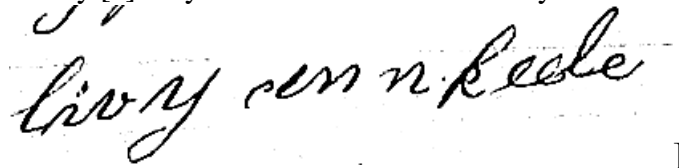
[illegible] 1803

William Philips was Born ye 9th Day of November 1805

Gabriel Philips was Born 18th [?] day of February [?] 1810

James Philips]

[f p. 7: on April 27, 1846 in Hawkins County Tennessee, Livyann Keele, 68, gave testimony that she was acquainted with Milly and Gabriel Philips; that she, affiant, was married to William Keele in Washington County Tennessee in July 1793 which date she knows because her oldest child Sarah Keele was born about 14 months after her marriage and Sarah's birth is recorded in a family Bible as being November 6, 1794; that she is certain that Gabriel and Milly Philips were living together as man and wife before her marriage; that it was generally understood and believe that Gabriel Philips served as a soldier in the revolution; that she often heard her father Anthony Bewly [?] Say that Gabriel had served 5 years

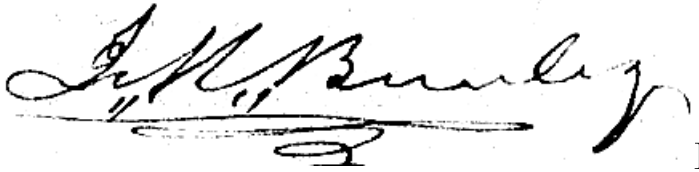


Livyann Keele

[f p. 8: : April 27, 1846 in Hawkins County Tennessee, William Keele, 76, gave testimony that he was present at the marriage of Gabriel and Milly Philips in Henry County Virginia; at the time of their marriage he, affiant, was 12 or 13 years old; that Gabriel Phillips died in the fall of 1812; that it was generally understood in the neighborhood that Gabriel Philips had served as a regular

soldier in the Virginia line for 5 years. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[f p. 12: On August 31, 1853 in Greene County, TN, Jacob M. Bewley, 55, resident of Jefferson County, TN, gave testimony that he personally knew Gabriel and Milly Philips of Hawkins County; that some 20 years ago he, the affiant, acted as a justice of the peace in taking testimony from his father Anthony Bewley concerning the service of Gabriel Phillips in the war of the revolution; that his father stated in that affidavit that Phillips was a resident of Loudoun County Virginia during the war of the revolution and served 5 years in the Continental Army; that the affiant's father tried to get Gabriel Philips released from service because of his minority but was unsuccessful; that Phillips was taken prisoner at the fall of Charleston; that Anthony Bewley was a man of good character and high respectability; that he was a brother-in-law of Gabriel Philips having married his sister Sally Phillips.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jacob M. Bewley". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. Below the signature, there is a horizontal line and a small mark that looks like a stylized flourish or a small signature.

[f p. 35]

Being called on to make a Statement under oath relative to the enlistment and service of Gabriel Philips late of Hawkins County Tennessee, deceased, in the war of the revolution, I hereby State: – that I was born in January 1773 in Loudoun County and State of Virginia. The above named Gabriel Phillips was my brother, and was eleven years older than myself we were living with my father in Loudoun County Virginia at the commencement of the revolutionary war in 1775, my brother Gabriel was out from home: on some errand, and while absent from home enlisted as a regular as a Continental soldier: The person who enlisted Gabriel was by the name of Joseph Baylie but I do not remember his grade as an officer, nor do I now remember with certainty the length of the term of his enlistment, I am well satisfied, however that it was not for a less time than three years and I am confident that he was absent from home longer than three years, and with the American Army as I fully believe; Gabriel enlisted in Loudoun County Virginia in the winter of 1776 or 1777, for I cannot be positive which.

I am confident of the truth of the above statement I know that Gabriel did enlist in Loudoun County Virginia, I know it from memory as the circumstances of his enlistment, made deep and lasting impression upon my mind. I know it from the fact that our family was much grieved at his loss, I know it from the fact that my father and Anthony Bewly who afterwards married my sister, went to see Gabriel's officers to get him released on the plea that he was under age and failed, I know it from the fact that my father succeeded in getting Baylie to take the Bounty money back and that he (Baylie) made his return with Gabriel's name still on the roll, and compelled my brother to march with the company, I know it from the fact that he sent a file of men to my father's Barn, where Gabriel was thrashing wheat and compelled him to go and I know it from the fact that Gabriel marched with his company northward.

At this late day I do not remember the Regiment in which Gabriel served, nor the names of any of his officers except Baylie the enlisting officer, And I think was under the command of General Morgan at first, but afterwards served under General Greene or someone of the Continental Generals who served in the South – Gabriel as well as I can remember, belonged to the Virginia Rifle; in stated after he came home that he served part of the time under Colonel Daniel Morgan as a foot Soldier, Gabriel returned home to my father's house in the latter part of

the summer of 1781 or 82 after an absence of near four years. He said that he was direct from Charlestown in South Carolina and had been with the Army the whole time – that he was marched to the defense of the South and was under the command of General Lincoln or Greene, that he was present at the Siege of an capitulation of Charlestown and was included in the surrender of General Lincoln at that place, that he with many others was closely confined by the British as a prisoner on a prison Ship, and was required by the British to take the oath to not bear arms against the King of Great Britain, that in consequence of his refusal to do so, he was threatened with severe punishments and transportation.

That after much suffering and being nearly starved to death on the prison ship and fearing transportation to a foreign country, he with others reluctantly took the required oath, and was released from close confinement, but not at liberty to return home, that a short time thereafter he, with six other Soldiers contrived to make their escape from the British, into the country, and presented themselves at the American camp, but were discharged from further service in consequence of the oath they had taken, and that he then came home to Virginia.

A short time after Gabriel's return home he was arrested by some Americans and taken before General Morgan as a deserter. General Morgan's headquarters was then, as well as I can remember in Frederick County Virginia. This was in the spring of 1781 or 82, General Morgan released Gabriel and reprimanded the Americans for arresting a discharged Soldier. I also arrive at the date of his return from the Army by the same process of calculation. Gabriel afterwards married Milly Keel in the County of Henry and State of Virginia, and he died in Hawkins County Tennessee in the year 1810 or 11 to the best of my recollection.

S/ Robert Phillips, X his mark