

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Sikes Garris S13130

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation &/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading & 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 & to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included & genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits & attestations related solely to the application, & later nineteenth & 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 & 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.]

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Sikes Garris states that he resides in Muhlenberg County and State of Kentucky that as well as he now recollects in the year 1777 or 1778 his father enlisted in the 10th Regiment to serve for three years he does not recollect the Captain's name he enlisted with but that he took his father's place in a short time after he enlisted & that he was marched to the North and was put under the command of Captain Benjamin Coleman in Colonel Mebane's Regiment that he then marched to Charlestown and was there taken prisoner by the British and was taken to England and brought back to New York and from there was taken to Charlestown from which place he ran off and made his escape and got to General Marion's [Francis Marion's] Camp and kept there as a soldier until the end of the war.

S/ Sikes Garris, X his mark

Betsy Garris personally appeared in open Court and made oath that Benjamin Garris her late Husband enlisted in the State of North Carolina to Serve three years and that shortly after he enlisted his son Sikes Garris took his place and that he said Sikes Garris was gone from home about six years before he returned home and that said Sikes Garris has but little property and needs the assistance of his country

S/ Betsy Garris, X her mark

Dempsey West Brook [sic] also appeared in Court and made oath that he knows Benjamin Garris Deceased enlisted to serve for three years in the State of North Carolina in the revolutionary war and that shortly after he enlisted Sikes Garris took his place and that he was gone from home about 6 years before he returned and that said Garris has but little property.

S/ Dempsey Westbrook, X his mark

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The Commonwealth of Kentucky Muhlenberg County Sct. November County Court 1819

The Court does hereby certify that it appears to their satisfaction that Sikes Garris now of the Commonwealth and County aforesaid aged fifty-seven years did serve in the revolutionary War as stated in the preceding declaration against the common enemy for the term of nine months at one time on the Continental establishment and they now transmit the proceedings and testimony taken and had before them to the Secretary of the Department of War pursuant to the directions of the act of Congress in that case made & provided the Court from the testimony of three credible witnesses are also satisfied that the said Garris needs the assistance of his country for support.

In Testimony whereof I Charles F. Wing Clerk of the said Court have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal of office this 2nd day of November 1819 & in the 28th year of the Commonwealth.

S/ Ch. F. Wing

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State of North Carolina Secretary's Office 19th February 1820

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby Certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State, that Sykes Garris a private in Captain Heron's Company of the 10th Regiment was mustered on the 4th May 1777 for three years or the war, and deserted the 19th June 1783. He has obtained a Warrant for Western land as a war Soldier on the certificate of a Field Officer.

Given under my hand this the day above

S/ Wm Hill

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State of Kentucky, Muhlenberg County: Sct.

On this 21st day of August 1832 before the honorable Alney McLean, Judge of the Muhlenberg circuit court now sitting, Sikes Garriss [sic] a resident of Muhlenberg County & State of Kentucky aged 70 years the 15th day of February last who being 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 7th of June 1832.

That he (his father enlisted & the officer received me in his stead) enlisted in the army of the United States in the year ____ for three years with Captain ____ Hearing [Armwell Herron] at Kingston in the State of North Carolina & served in the 10th Regiment of line under the following named officers. He was marched to the Northward & there put under comm& of Captain Benjamin Coleman. Colonel ____ Maybin [Robert Mebane] comm&ed the Brigade or Division or the regiment & General ____ Hogan [James Hogun].

He was then marched to Stony Point & stationed there until the British marched against that place. We retreated to West Point where General Washington lay with his army. We had only a half regiment or battalion. We then retreated up West Point River. He was then marched by Philadelphia & took shipping at the head of Elk for Charleston. The weather very cold & the river freezed up & we had to take it on foot to Charleston. He arrived at that place before the British attacked it & was there during the siege & was in all the fighting there in defending the City & when Charleston surrendered [May 12, 1780] he was taken Prisoner. The siege as well as he now [recollects] lasted 40 days. After he remained in what the British called the prison Bounds for some time. Himself with some others of the prisoners was put on board a prison Ship & sent to England. They were kept at the Isle of Wight some time. Were taken to London, Portsmouth & most of the ports of Ireland. The Captain of the ship gave me three chances. One was to enlist in the British land Service. Another to go on shore & live in England. The 3d to enter on board of his ship & be a sailor for five years, to which last proposition I assented.

We sailed on the borders of England for some time, touching on the Irish coast. From that to the French Islands. From thence to New York; reloaded our vessel & sailed for Charleston. There discharged our loading & reloaded our Vessel for St. Augustine. About midnight made my escape in company with two others.

He states that his term of service was nearly out when Charleston surrendered; that from the time he first enlisted until he made his escape as a prisoner was six or seven years. He got no discharge or he does not recollect of any. States that he was placed on the pension roll the day of the evidence in the War Department & the certificate Secretary of war hereto attached marked (B) he prays may be taken as part hereof.

That he was stricken off the pension roll shortly after on account of his having some property as he is informed.

That he removed from Duplin County, North Carolina to Muhlenberg County, Kentucky about the year 1798. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the

present & he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State except as aforesaid.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Sikes Garriss, X his mark

[Veteran was initially pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing November 2, 1819 for service as a private for 6 years in the North Carolina Continental line. He was struck from the list probably because he failed to file the required schedule of his property pursuant to the terms of the act of May 1, 1820. Veteran again was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for three years in the North Carolina Continental line.]