

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Benjamin Gilpin S13155

MD

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

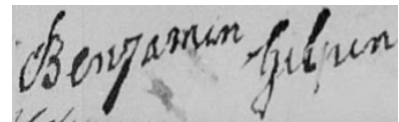
the State of Alabama } Circuit court Spring
Henry county } Term 1837

On this 21st Day May 1837 personally appeared in open court Benjamin Gilpin a resident of the county of Henry & state aforesaid of the Age of about seventy five years old who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on Oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the Benefit of the Pension made by the act of congress passed the 7th of June 1832 that the year before the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] he believes in July he entered the service at Montgomery in the State of Maryland as a volunteere under Captain William Murdock for a Nine Months Tour and was marched to Georgetown and from thence to Anopolus [sic: Annapolis] and Joined the Fourth Maryland Regiment commanded by Col Oxburgh [sic: Maj. Alexander Roxburgh] and was marched from thence to Little York in the State of Virginia where Wallis [sic] was first attack [siege of Yorktown begun on 28 Sep 1781] he was at Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] about 12 miles off and heard the firing. the next Day at about 12 O'clock [undeciphered word] under the command of Capt Murdock and Col Oxburgh of the fourth Maryland Regt was marched on the Lines near Little yorke [sic: Little York, i.e. Yorktown] and continued on the Lines as guard and alternatly one Day and Night on fortigue & one Day & Night off untill Wallis surrendered. the first Fort Erected was on Pigeon Hill and from that fort fired to great purpose he assisted in digging a Lengthy intrenchment around the Brittish intrenchment he was Taken on the Lines and placed on a general guard which was placed over Generals Stuben & General Gess [sic: Baron von Steuben and Nathaniel Gist] was on the Lines when General Wayne Took a Fort on the Right from the Brittish [sic: not Gen. Anthony Wayne, but Lt. Col. Alexander Hamilton, Redoubt 10 on 10 Oct 1781] and General Lafayett [sic: Lafayette] was on the Left of their intrenchment he was on the Lines when the Brittish sent a flag for a cessations of arms and continued their untill the Brittish marched out [for the surrender]. we were formed on the West side of the Road the French on the other side. The Brittish marched out four deep Between us, to the Lower end of the Lines, grounded their armes, then marched Back into Town without armes. the next Day were Taken off to Albermarl Barracks in New[?] Virginiae [sic: see endnote] he continued and asisted in filling up the intrenchment afterward was marched to Frederick Town in Marry Land where he to get a discharge but had to go to Anopalous where he was discharged from that Tour of service making his service this Tour Six Months. he then inlisted in a corps of Horse with the French under the command of Col Armong [sic: Charles Armand] his captain was John Brown Lebelzer [possibly Jerome Le Brun de Bellecoeur] & Lieut Dickatur [sic: James Decatours] & William Murdock his Captain on his first Tour of service was now Cornet he Drawd[?] \$66 Bounty and was to receive a Horse and acutrement Five[?] hundred acres of Land as an aditional Bounty and Eight Dollars & $\frac{2}{3}$ pr month he Joined the corps in New Virginia at a place called Winchester in July or August where he staid untill about the Last of December then was marched to pemsylvania when he heard of peace being made [Treaty of Paris drafted, 30 Nov 1782] but was not discharged until about the Last of November [1783] then received a discharge from Col Armong and Godfry Swatts[?] the Adjutant making his Last Term of Servis about Sixteen Months that he was Born in fairfax county in the state of Virginia the Lutter [latter?] part of the year of Seventeen Hundred & Sixty Two has no record of his age as it was [one or two undeciphered words] the Family Bible was Lost and was raised in Prince George [sic: Prince Georges] County in the state of Maryland. he was Living with his Dececed Father's Family County in the State of Maryland after the close of the Revolutionary war he moved to Roan county [sic: Rowan County] in the State of North carolina and resided there nearly Forty years and from there moved to Putnum county [sic: Putnam County] in the state of Georgia and resided nearly seven years from thence moved this (Henry county in the State of alabama) where he has resided nearly seven years past

he volunteered on the first Tour and inlisted on the second. he received a discharge from service when on his first Tour of duty but dont recollect who signed it he was quite young gave it to some member of his Fathers Family to Take care of and do not recolect any more about it. his second discharge was signed by Col Armong and countersigned by Godfry Swalls the adjutant he kept this discharge many years and afterward handed it to Mashack Franklin (a Member of congress from North carolina) to obtain the Bounty of Land as agreed on for the service in the Last Tour but could not get it therefore it was considered of no value and no further care Taken of it consequently it was misplaced and since has Lost that he cannot find it.

All these facts stated in this declaration he cannot prove by any person in knowledge Except by his own oath. as he moved from the State in Early Life where most if not all his companions in arms reside has not seen any of them since does not know that those whom he was particularly acquainted with during his servis are a Live that for notoriety of his service as a Revolutionary soaldier and for his varacity as an honest upright man he refers the ware department to subjoined certificate of Citizen of the County of Henry in the State of Alabama, and he further hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in any State to this knowledge sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Moses K Speight Clerk
circuit court Henry Co Alabama



A Statement shewing the service of Benjamin Gilpin of Henry in the state of Alabama

	*		rank of the clamnt	Names of the Field officers under whom he served	age at present the places of abode when he entered the service	proof by which the declaration is supported
first Volunteered	—	6	private	Col Oxburgh Capt Wm Murdock	nearly 75 Montgomery Co entered service 1780	Wilson C Williams Clergyman Major General Wm Irwin
Second service enlisted	1	4	private	Col Armong Capt Brown Lkelzer Leu Dickature & Wm Murdock Cornet	entered service in the year 1780	Hon Richard C. Spann

*duration of claimants service

NOTES:

The prisoners taken at Yorktown were marched not to Albemarle Barracks 4 mi NNE of Charlottesville VA, but to Winchester Barracks

A Treasury Department document states that the administrator of the estate of Benjamin Gilpin received the final pension payment up to the date of his death, 24 April 1840. On 20 May 1841 the administrator, Richmond Gilpin of Fayette County AL, stated that Benjamin Gilpin left no widow.