

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Gilliland S15852

f44PA/VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/4/06 rev'd 8/27/15

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

[p 3]

State of Virginia, Washington County

On this 27th day of November 1833 personally appeared before me William Buchanan Justice of the peace in and for the County of aforesaid, and a justice of the court of Washington County being a court of record, James Gilliland aged eighty eight years, and who by reason of bodily infirmity and his great age, is unable to attend in court, 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 June 7, 1832.

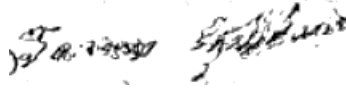
The said James Gilliland states that he was born and raised in the County of York and State of Pennsylvania. Then at the commencement of the revolutionary War the Indians being troublesome on the frontiers of Pennsylvania, the people of a certain district or country in which he resided were assigned to guard and protect the frontiers from near the Potomac to the Susquehanna. That on one occasion he was out on this service three months in a company commanded by Captain John McConnoghe [?]¹ and was honorably discharged. Afterwards he removed to the County of Augusta in the State of Virginia where he was enrolled in a company of militia commanded by Captain James Tate, who afterwards commanded a company at the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] and was killed. That he was appointed a Lieutenant in said company after being enrolled in it, and whilst he resided there he performed a tour of duty as Lieutenant under Captain Alexander Long against the Indians in the country of Tygart's Valley in which service he was engaged at least three months, if not longer. Every search has been made for this Commission among his papers, but it cannot be found. He therefore concludes that the said Commission is lost. He afterwards about the year 1779 removed to the County of Washington, where he has lived ever since. After settling in said County he was in the year 1780 drafted and marched in Captain Andrew Colville's [Andrew Colvill's] company in a detachment commanded by Colonel William Campbell in the expedition called the Kings Mountain [Battle of Kings Mountain, October 7, 1780] expedition in which Major Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] was killed and his party captured – and on this tour he served six weeks or upwards. He also marched in a company commanded by Captain Alexander Montgomery in a detachment of militia under Colonel Arthur Campbell against the Cherokee Indians and served one month and was honorably discharged from all the said services, his discharges being verbal ones. He performed other services, but being unable to state the length of time of each he omits to name them. He therefore says that during the revolutionary war he faithfully served his country five months and two weeks as a private militia soldier and three months as a Lieutenant. He has made some proof as to his service but does not know of any clergyman now living who knows any of the above circumstances or who has lived in his

¹ *McConnoghe*

neighborhood. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension 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 & year aforesaid before me.

S/ James Gilliland [last name is illegible]



S/ Wm Buchanan

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Washington County to wit

This day personally appeared Michael Widener Senior² before me David Carson an acting Justice of the peace in & for the County aforesaid, & doth depose and say that he served a three months Tower [tour] as a Soldier in a section of the Country called Tigers Valley [Tygart's Valley] in the State of Virginia, And that to his knowledge there was a soldier stationed there for several years in order to guard the settlement from the depredations of the Indians. He adds that he performed his Tour he believes in about the year 1779. Sworn to this 21st day of September 1833.

Given under my hand this 21st day of September 1833

S/ David Carson, JP

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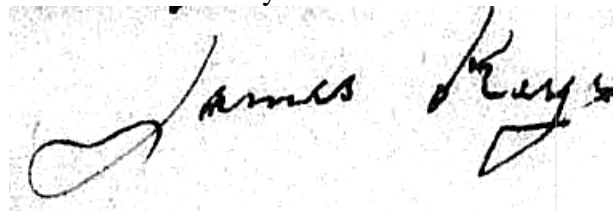
Virginia Washington County to wit

This day personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for said County James Keys and made oath that he has been acquainted with James Gilliland for upwards of fifty years living nearly the whole of that time in the same neighborhood with him, the affiant was in the battle of Kings Mountain, and knows that said Gilliland was in that expedition, he believes in Captain Colvin's [Andrew Colvill's] Company and in the detachment commanded by Colonel William Campbell, he also recollects that the said Gilliland was absent for some time against the Cherokee Indians. He believes that the facts stated in his declaration, which the affiant has examined, are true, he further states that he believes the said Gilliland's age is what he represents it to be, that his mind has become feeble and does not remember dates with accuracy. The affiant also remembers to have seen the said Gilliland engaged as a guard when the line where was run between Virginia and North Carolina.

Sworn to before me November 28, 1832

S/ Reuben Bradley, JP

S/ James Keys³



[p 13]

Virginia Washington County to wit

This day personally appeared before the undersigned, a Justice of the peace for said County, Joseph Wilson⁴ and made oath that he was with James Gilliland a citizen of Washington County on an expedition against the British and Tories at Kings Mountain and that he recollects perfectly well that he

² [Michael Widener W8303](#)

³ [James Keys \(Keves\) S15907](#)

⁴ [Joseph Wilson S3569](#)

was in the battle in the month of October in the year 1780 that he belonged to Captain Colvins Company in a detachment commanded by Colonel William Campbell, that in the same year if his recollection serves him right, he was with the said James Gilliland in an expedition against the Indians and that said Gilliland belonged to Captain Alexander Montgomery Company in a detachment commanded by Colonel Arthur Campbell and he has been acquainted with the said James Gilliland ever since the Revolutionary war and that he knows him to be the same man that now claims a pension and that he believes him to be an honest man.

Sworn to before me October 25th, 1833

S/ William Buchanan

S/ Joseph Wilson, X his mark

[p 11: On November 28, 1832 in Washington County Virginia, John H Fulton gave testimony that he was born in Augusta County Virginia; that he has heard his relations speak of James Gilliland; that when affiant was a boy he knew Captain Alexander Long; that Captain James Tate was an uncle by marriage of the affiant; that by tradition the affiant's ancestors, the Tate family, and the said Gilliland lived in the same neighborhood in the County of Augusta; that Gilliland is esteemed and honest man but poor and feeble.]

[p 6]

Washington County, to wit:

This day David Gilliland, now about sixty s[paper torn] years of age personally came before me James [last name obliterated by a tear in the paper] a justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid and being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath deposes that he perfectly recollects the fact of his father, James Gilliland, acting as Lieutenant in Captain James Tate's company in the County of Augusta, but has no recollection of ever seeing his commission. This affiant was then a boy but large enough to notice matters of that kind being and about nine or 10 years old. This affiant further recollects that his father went on an expedition against the Indians under Captain Alexander Long. That he went in the spring and was gone upwards of three months. This affiant also recollects well after his father removed to this County of his marching on an expedition to Kings Mountain under Colonel William Campbell – and also against the Cherokee Indians under Colonel Arthur Campbell.

Signed and sworn to this 26th day of November 1833.

Attest: S/ James White

S/ David Gilliland, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$78.22 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private and Lieutenant in the Pennsylvania and Virginia militia for a total of 8 months and 16 days.]