

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Allen Gillespie S21230

f13NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/9/08 rev'd 8/22/15

[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.]

State of Tennessee, Washington County: September Term 1834

Be it remembered that on this tenth day of September 1834 before the Honorable Samuel Powel Judge of said Court, personally appeared Allen Gillespie a resident citizen of said County aged sixty-nine years and being desirous of availing himself of the provisions of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 made and subscribed on oath the following declaration to wit, that he was born in the County of Hagerston [sic, Hagerstown] Maryland, in the month of July 1765, and before the Indian hostilities in what is now East Tennessee then North Carolina removed to Washington County & settled there, where declarant was raised & continued to reside ever since and being subject to perform military duty in the year 1781 declarant volunteered to perform a tour of duty against the Cherokee Indians & Tories then in league with the British this was in the same year of the Kings Mountain battle [October 7, 1780] & a little previous thereto, when a regular call was made for militia to repel the invasions of the enemy, he volunteered under Captain Thomas Biddle under the command of Colonel John Sevier to whom frequent orders had been given by the Government of North Carolina to call out the Militia, & after his enrollment under the aforesaid officers he was marched to the Nation, & after driving back the Indians, was kept in the vicinity of a fort on Big Limestone [Creek] called [indecipherable word, part obliterated by an ink blot, perhaps "Blockhouse"] where he with the men under the command of the aforesaid officers, ranged spied and scouted on the frontier until the expiration of his term of time which was for three months, verbally discharged by Captain Biddle.

2nd Tour After the expiration of his first term he again volunteered under the same officers, & continued to serve the Country being at the time annoyed with bodies of the Cherokee Indians & Tories breaking in upon the frontier, & the British under Cornwallis being in the march to the lead mines, & expected to pass through the very Country in which he resided & would have so done but for the signal defeat of the Army at Kings Mountain and instead of going under Colonel Sevier to Kings Mountain Battle he was detailed with the Captain's company to which he belonged to guard the Fort on Limestone, & repel the Indians & Tories from taking the Country on the withdrawal of so great a body of the militia from the frontiers to intercept the march of Cornwallis and remained in service not only for the time engaged of three months but beyond it, and not for neighborhood Defense but under general defensive orders.

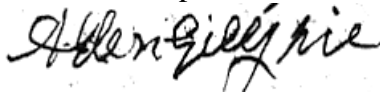
Again he was enrolled as a volunteer under Captain Handy [? probably Capt. Samuel Handly] of Colonel Sevier's command for another tour of three months marched to the Tennessee River, & there being so large a body of Indians assembled on the opposite side of the River the Regiment retreated there being more than 3000 Indians assembled, & not more than 500 whites, said tour was for three months but was actually after retreating to the fort on the Limestone kept until a reinforcement came which was one month longer than his engagement. Declarant states on the last tour he was an orderly Sergeant & performed duty in that capacity & for which three tours amounting to nine months regular calls but 10 months actual service he claims a pension six thereof as a private & the residue as an

orderly Sergeant that he has no record evidence of his services or written documents to establish his said servitude, nor is there any witness known to him by whom he can establish his actual service save that of Charles Graham¹ herewith transmitted. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state, that he has no record of his age but the family record is in the possession of his brother James and he recollects the year of his birth & it is truly stated he states that Charles Graham & Nathan Gann are persons known to him & he remembers to them & by whom he can prove reputation of services.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court this 10th September 1834

Test: S/ James V. Anderson, Clk

S/ Allen Gillespie



We Charles Graham and Nathan Gann resident citizens of said County do certify on oath that we are well acquainted with Allen Gillespie Esq. who has made & Subscribed the foregoing declaration, that we believe him to be 69 years of age, & it is reputed & believed in the vicinity of his and our residence that the said Allen was a soldier of the Revolution & served as stated by him & Charles Graham states that he knew of the declarant Allen Gillespie being in service as a Sergeant under Colonel Sevier on the expedition specified by him in his declaration & which is truly stated by him witness residing in the vicinity of said declarant being personally acquainted with the fact.

Sworn to & subscribed before the Court in open court this 10th September 1834.

Test: James V. Anderson, Clk

S/ Charles Graham, X his mark

S/ Nathan Gan²

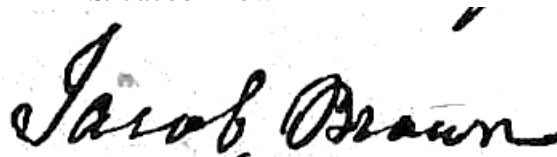


State of Tennessee, County of Washington

On this 28th day of October 1834 before the Subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for said County personally appeared Jacob Brown³ and made oath that in the year 1780 in October, he came to the Western part of North Carolina after the defeat of Ferguson, and was in said engagement – remained in said Section of the Country part of the year 1780 and 81 and well knows that the militia of said Territory & vicinity in which Allen Gillespie resided & still resides were called out into service against the Cherokee Indians & Tories for general & not local defense & that he himself was so called out in the services and that, thin sparse population was more oppressive in subduing the Indians & Tories than most of our quarters, that being a theater for the Tories & disaffected & knows the calls to have been from general authority of North Carolina not neighborhood – local defense.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the 22nd of December 1834.

S/ Jacob Brown



Sworn to and Subscribed before me the day and date above.

¹ [Charles Graham S3424](#)

² [Nathan Gan \(Gann\) S1820](#)

³ [Jacob Brown W333](#)

S/ Henry McCray, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months and as a Sergeant for 4 months in the North Carolina militia.]