

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Gilbert S31057

f25NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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

State of Kentucky, Graves County: SS

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 1833 personally appeared in open Court before William Armstrong, Crawford Anderson, Benjamin McGee and James Cochran and Thomas B. Brown Justices of the Graves County Court now sitting, Charles Gilbert age 77 years a resident of the said County of Graves and State aforesaid, 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<sup>th</sup> 1832. He states that he was born on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 1756 in Baltimore County and State of Maryland, and that his father emigrated from the said County of Baltimore and State of Maryland to the State of Virginia when this declarant was a child & there remained until he removed from that State to Surry County North Carolina, which he did in the year 1777 and there remained one year and removed to Wilkes County North Carolina. This declarant here states that early in the year 1779 by order of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] a Corps was formed in the upper or mountainous part of North Carolina called minute men (the object of which was to protect the Country from the depredations which were being constantly committed by the Tories). The Corps was composed entirely of volunteers and the members thereof were to hold themselves in readiness to entered the Service at any moment, & were to continue therein (if necessary), for an indefinite period of time, Said Corps was placed under the Command of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland and Major Benjamin Hearn. This declarant here states that he joined the said Corps, and was first attached to a Company Commanded by Captain Salathiel Martin. This declarant States that early in the month of February in the year 1779 he entered the Service of the United States under the Command of the above named officers, and marched in pursuit of the Tories who were embodied in considerable force under their Col. Bryant [Samuel Bryan] in this Service we marched from the Country in the direction of and near to Cross Creek in the vicinity of which place the Tories presented themselves in such force that we did not attack them. Our party now returned slowly toward the Yadkin [River], remaining occasionally Stationary for the purpose of reconnoitering and protecting the Country from the enemy, at times the whole Corps was embodied and again we were dispersed by Companies in to the upper district of the Yadkin above Salisbury, This declarant states that he continued in this Service under the Command of Captain Martin whose Company was kept embodied until the latter part of September 1780 when a requisition was made upon the Country for the purpose of marching against the British partisan Colonel Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] who had invaded the Weston district of North Carolina, upon this occasion Captain Martin's Company was left for the protection of Wilkes County with the exception of a few of its members who volunteered to go upon the expedition against Ferguson amongst those who volunteered for that Service was this declarant proceeded with Colonel Cleveland. But a few days before the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780], this declarant received intelligence that his wife was dangerously ill in consequence of which he obtained leave of Col. Cleveland to return home and did so but in the meantime Captain Martin who had been left as above remark for the protection of the Settlements on

the Yadkin was in the beginning of October 1780 surprised by the Tories under the Command of their Colonel Hezekiah Right [Hezekiah Wright], and himself (Martin) and his whole party made prisoners, upon this unfortunate event the whole Whig population of the Circumfacent [sic] Country were embodied for the purpose of expelling the enemy upon this occasion this declarant joined a Company under the Command of Captain William Terrell Lewis (after he had been at home two or three days) and our whole party was under the immediate orders of Colonel Gordon and Major Floyd, under these officers and with this Corps this declarant marched to attack the Tories who had captured Captain Martin and we did on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 1780 [sic, October 14, 1780] attack them at the Shallow Fords of the Yadkin and succeeded in defeating them, this declarant was then discharged verbally by Captain Lewis after having been under his Command eight days and immediately joined his old Corps under the Command of Colonel Cleveland and Major Hearn after his (Cleveland's) return from the battle of Kings Mountain, which joining of his old Corps (this declarant states) took place about the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 1780, and he (this declarant), was attached to a Company under the command of Captain John Pipes, he continued for a short time in the Company of Captain Pipes [John Pipes] before he was detailed by order of Colonel Cleveland to go under the Command of Captain Reuben Stringer on an expedition over the mountains upon the heads of the Western waters, and which service he visited New River and Watauga and cleared the Country of some Tories when he returned to his old station on the Yadkin. He was amount transferred by Col. Cleveland to a Company under the command of Captain Gibson Wooldridge and with this officer he was detached upon an expedition towards the northern frontier of South Carolina – this expedition took place in January 1781 we proceeded down the Catawba River in our progress & returned about the last of January 1781. He was afterwards (to wit) in the month of February 1781 attached to a small party of infantry (militia) under the Command of Captain William Jackson who with a company of horsemen under the Command of Captain Charles Gordon was ordered by Colonel Cleveland on a reconnoitering expeditions down the Yadkin. He proceeded with this party down the Yadkin to Allen's Iron Works where they returned to their old Station in Wilkes County. He was now ordered by Colonel Cleveland to join a Company commanded by Captain John Cleveland with this Company he marched in March 1781 down the Yadkin to the Trading Ford where he joined a Corps of North Carolina militia under the command of General Polk at which place he remained under the orders of General Polk building breastworks for the purpose of protecting the country against the anticipated return of Lord Cornwallis from the North until the last of August 1781 at which time he returned to his old Station in Wilkes County North Carolina where in December 1781 he received a written discharge from Captain John Cleveland which discharge is not countersigned. Thus he continued in the service of the United States from the month of February 1779 at which time he entered the service under Captain Martin until the month of December 1781 making in all the period of two years and nine months during which time he received three furloughs to visit his family (to wit) one from Captain Martin, one from Captain Wooldridge and one from Captain Stringer and also a verbal permit from Colonel Cleveland to visit his sick wife just before the battle of Kings Mountain. But so urgent was the necessities of the Country during the whole of the above period that this declarant was at no time permitted to follow any civil pursuit. He states that he lost the above named furloughs together with his discharge whilst he was engaged in the war with the Indians which took place in Georgia after the revolution. This declarant moved from North Carolina to Franklin County in Georgia and there remained 17 years and from there he removed to Grainger County in Tennessee where he remained nearly 5 years and from there he removed to Dickson County Same State, where he of upwards of 25 years and then he removed to Graves County Kentucky where he has continued to reside ever since. He states that the record of his age has been lost. He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his services, nor does he know of any living witness or witnesses by whom he can prove his Services. This declarant here states that Amos A. Atkinson, Zadock Adams, John Moore, William F. Anderson – Luke Allbritton [sic, he signs his name “Albritton”], Samuel Moore &c are his neighbors and will bear ample Testimony of his character for veracity and as to his

reputation of having been a soldier of the revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any State or Territory whatever.

S/ Charles Gilbert, X his mark

Subscribed and sworn to in open Court

Test

S/ Jno Anderson, Clerk

[Jeremiah Adams, a clergyman, and Luke Albritton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Graves and State of Kentucky Charles Gilbert who being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades (to wit) For one year and six months I served as a private (volunteer) under Captain Salathiel Martin and Colonel Cleveland – For eight days I served as a private volunteer under Captain William Terrell Lewis & Colonel Gordon. For 13 days I served as a private (volunteer) under Captain John Pipes & Colonel Cleveland. For two months I served as a private (volunteer) under Captain Reuben Stringer & Colonel Cleveland. For one month I served as a private (volunteer) under Captain Gibson Wooldridge & Colonel Cleveland. For 15 days I served as a private (volunteer) under Captain William Jackson & Colonel Cleveland. For five months I served as a private volunteer under Captain John Cleveland & General Polk making in all the period of two years, three months and six days, and for such service I claim a pension. I was in active service during the whole of the above period of time a sign from the time which I occasionally spent at home visiting my family upon furlough.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 1833.

S/ Wm Armstrong, JP

S/ Charles Gilbert, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for one year and 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]