

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Gibson S3395

Transcribed by Will Graves

f15NC

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

State of Tennessee, Lincoln County

On this 16 day of July in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court before John Lanier, Samuel Todd and William F. Smith Justices now sitting John Gibson, a resident of Lincoln County and State of Tennessee aged about seventy-three years who doth on his oath following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the month of October 1778 he was drafted to serve a term of five months and did serve the term in the militia as a private under the command of Captain John Nelson of Guilford County in State of North Carolina, his company rendezvoused at Guilford Court house, marched from there to the town of Salisbury in Rowan N. C.; thence to Camden in South Carolina-- thence through that State to the Savannah River adjoining the State of Georgia. Colonel Locke [Francis Locke] commanded the Regiment of which his company was a part. He believes that General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] was first in command of the North Carolina Militia, the forces of which he was a member were encamped at a place called the Black Swamp in South Carolina when his term of service expired. In the early part of February 1781, he volunteered his services and joined a company of horsemen commanded by Captain Thomas Cook of Guilford County N. C., was marched into Pittsylvania County on Dan River Virginia in order to Join the troops under the Command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] they were subsequently marched back to Guilford County and he with such other horsemen as were citizens of Guilford County was attached to the commissary department and was employed in collecting cattle for the use of the Army on the day of the battle of Guilford Court-House [March 15, 1781], between the armies commanded by General Greene (Americans) and the British commanded by Lord Cornwallace [sic, Cornwallis], he served to the best of recollection at this time a period of not less than seven weeks; It was the last of August or early in September 1781, he volunteered again. Joined a company of horsemen commanded by Captain Daniel Galispie [Daniel Gillespie], Col. James Martin of Surry County, North Carolina commandant, they were marched towards the South boundary of N. C. near the Raft Swamps & Drowning Creek in pursuit of Tories who it was understood had there secreted themselves. Here it proving impracticable to ferret the Tories out, this declarant obtained a furlough from Colonel Martin and returned home with an injunction again to join his company as soon as possible, in obedience to this order, he did in a few days thereafter aimed to rejoin his Comrades; but while on his way, for that purpose, he met Col. Peasley [sic, John Paisley] at Guilford Court House who informed this declarant that the Tories were embodied on Deep River in Randolph and Chatham Counties, in such force as to render his return to his Regiment extremely dangerous, unsafe and uncertain; At the suggestion of Colonel Paisley who was first Colonel of the Guilford militia this declarant relinquished the idea of rejoining Captain Gillespie & Colonel Martin; and volunteered under Colonel Paisley who attached him to a company commanded by Captain John May of the County of Guilford. In the course of one week Colonel Paisley having assembled such troops as was found to be

practicable, they, and this declarant, were marched into Randolph and Chatham Counties to suppress the Tories, there, then back to Guilford Court House, and were dismissed, at this time he was in service to the best of his recollection a period of not less than two months and two weeks, And here ended his services in the Revolutionary War – he having served in all to the best of his remembrance a period of not less than nine months and one week. The only documentary evidence he has or can obtain is the annexed affidavit of James Cotton¹ who is the only living witness to any portion of his services in his power to procure one. He was born in Orange County North Carolina as he was informed by his parents on the 16th of September 1760 his father caused the ages of his children to be recorded in the Family Bible in a copy of this is the only record of his age he has. He was raised to manhood in Guilford County N. C. at which place he entered the service as before stated – and where he continued to reside until 1805 at which period he removed to Davidson County Tennessee. He resided in that County until 1809, when he located himself and family in Lincoln County, Tennessee where he has continued to reside ever since. He never received any written discharge. 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 the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Gibson



[Ebenezer McEwen, a clergyman, and James Bright gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Alabama, Madison County

Personally appeared before me Thomas W. Scott Esq. An acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County, James Cotton, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that before and during the Revolutionary War he was well acquainted with a man by the name of John Gibson both of as being inhabitants of Guilford County in the State of North Carolina I was an enlisted soldier in the horse and in 1781 was attached to a company of horse under the command of Captain John May of said County and State, the services of which company was rendered in subduing the Tories in the Counties of Randolph and Chatham – Colonel John Paisley was the commandant of said troop – during which tour of duty I do hereby certify that the above named John Gibson belonged to the said company as a volunteer and performed his duty free of Pressure – and after his services as a volunteer was at an end he the said Gibson was dismissed at Guilford Court House – Colonel William O'Neale had also some command in said troop – and I further state that I am now about 67 years of age and Mr. Gibson is some six or seven years older than I am & now resides in Lincoln County and State of Tennessee.

S/ James Cotton



Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of March 1833

S/ Thos. W. Scott, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months and 3 days in the North Carolina militia.]

¹ [James Cotten \(Cotton\) W6942](#)