

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Fleece S35945

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 11 Feb 2014.

State of Kentucky. Lincoln County & Court. [12 Aug 1818]

John Fleece formerly a soldier in the revolutionary war with G Britain being advanced in years in humble circumstances & unable to labour in consequence of several severe & desperate Wounds which he recd during his service is desirous of obtaining the benefit of the act of Congress of the united States made for the relief of the surviving soldiers & officers of the Revolutionary War states that in the month of September as well as he recollects in the year 1775 he being then only 17 years of age enlisted in the united states service at Winchester Frederick County Virginia as a private in the Company of Capt Isaac Bell in the fourth Virginia Regiment which with the twelfth formed the brigade commanded by Genl [Charles] Scott – the fourth Regt was commanded by Col Stevens [sic: Adam Stephen] that soon after his enlistment he marched to trenton & there joined Genl Washington that he was in the battle of Trenton at the taking of the Hessians [26 Dec 1776], the Battles of Prince town [Princeton NJ, 3 Jan 1777], Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], Germantown [4 Oct 1777], the battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], that soon after the battle of monmouth he obtained permission to join Col Lees [Henry Lee's] legion of horse, that while he was attach'd to this Legion he was in all the skirmishes sustained by that Legion that two days before the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] twenty men were detached from the Legion under Capt John Armstrong of which he was one, that whilst reconnoitering they were attacked by Genl Tarlton [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton, skirmish at Bull Run Creek near present Jamestown NC, 13 Mar], that Tarlton in person attacked him, & after a severe conflict Tarlton cut this deponant with his sword on the forepart of his head quite thro' the skull when he fell from his horse & Capt John Armstrong himself rescued him & had him carrid by four men on a blanket to a house at some distance, that three or four days after – that is after the Battle of Guilford the British took him prisoner & had him carried to Guilford C. H. where he remained 16 Days during which his sufferings were extreme that he was then Parolled & again joined the Legion, but his health continuing to be very indifferent Col Lee gave him a furlough without limit in hopes that his health might be restored but his wounds continuing sometime to enfeeble him the war was closed & the legion dismissed & he did not again join them, & this was the reason he had no regular discharge. for a further account & confirmation of his services in the Legion he begs to refer to the attached Certificates & to Genl Armstrong, to whose bravery & humanity as above related he was indebted for his life when attacked by Tarlton he states that he received from Col Lee his furlough as above stated about three months before the close of the War, that he is now 61 years of age in humble circumstances unable to labour & in need of assistance from his Country.

Boon [sic: Boone] County Kentucky.

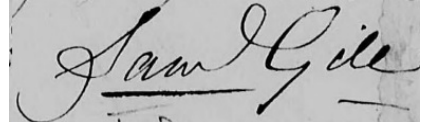
This Day Came Joseph Brann [BLWt208-100] Before me, a Justice of the Peace in and for Boon County, and made Oath that He the said Joseph Brann served Five years in Lee's Legion of Light Dragoons, in the 2<sup>d</sup> troop and was well acquainted with John Fleece of s'd. Legion in the 3<sup>d</sup> Troop, and that on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year 1781, two days Previous to the Battle at Guilford Courthouse North Carolinah, the said John Fleece was ordered out on a Detachment under Capt. James Armstrong, of the first Troop, they Fell in with the British Horse Commanded by Colo. Tarlton who Wounded the said Fleece Deeply in the Head, and Left him on the ground for dead, a Party of the Detachment Return'd and Carried him to a house, and Left him, after night, and 2 days after the above Battle the English Troops found him out and took Him Prisoner to Guilford Courthouse, and when they march'd said fleece not being able to march they Parol'd and Left him and further said Brann saith that said Fleece was then sent of to a Place of Safety to be Cured of his wounds and was some few months Absent from the Legion, and Return'd to his duty, and that after being some few months with the Legion, the said Fleece Receiv'd a

Furlough without date, from the Commanding Officer and was sent home, and further said Brann saith that he then understood, said Fleece's wounds Rendered him Entirely unfit for Service, which was the Reason of his Dismissment and farther said Brann saith that it was suppos'd by some In the Legion that said Fleece was in some measure Derang'd at times, and Given it as his opinion that s'd Fleece wounds must be Detrimental to Him in doing Hard Labour

This diposition sworn two Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> 1804

Elizah Hume

Capt. Sam'l. Gill [Samuel Gill, pension application W8882] states that he knows that John Fleece enlisted as stated in his foregoing petition in the fall 1775 in the Regular service of the United States on Continental establishment and knows that he served in the Regular army as a private Soldier at least four years.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sam Gill". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

State of Kentucky  
Lincoln County Sct

For the purpose of obtaining the amount of pay accruing to me for two years back pay and also for the half year ending on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September 1828 under the Act entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldier of the Army of the Revolution" approved 15<sup>th</sup> May 1828 I John Fleece Sen'r. of Lincoln County in the State of Kentucky do hereby declare that I was at first enlisted as a private in the Army of the Revolution by Captain Isaac Bell of the 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment and served in that rank for eight months, when I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant to rank as such from the end of my first enlistment aforesaid. That at that time I enlisted and served as Sergeant for three years in the same Regiment. That at the end of said three years he enlisted for and during the war in Lee's Legion of horse and served accordingly in Captain Egglestons [Maj. Joseph Eggleston's] Troop being the third Troop to the end of the War in the Continental Line. I further state that evidence of my aforesaid Services may be found on file in the War Office among the papers of my application for a pension under the law of [blank] in which application I was successful and for some time received a Pension, but was afterwards stricken from the Roll of Pensioners, in consequence of owning more than two hundred dollars worth of property. Witness my hand this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Fleece". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

State of Kentucky  
Lincoln County Sct

This day John Fleece came before me a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and made oath that he enlisted under Capt. Bell [probably Isaac Beall] an officer of the Virginia State troops in the Virginia line in the year 1775 and served four years in the fourth Virginia Regiment, except about eighteen months of the four years he served and acted as a gunner in the artillery commanded he thinks by Capt. Sargent in Cranes Regiment of Artillery [sic: Winthrop Sargent in John Crane's 3<sup>rd</sup> Artillery Regiment from Massachusetts], and whilst in that artillery service he was in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown; he states also that during the four years he served above mentioned he was in the battles of Trenton Princeton and Monmouth besides a great many skirmishes He states that after his term of service above expired, he enlisted in the Continental Service and served untill the end of the War in Lees Legion an account of which is made out and filed in the Pension office at Washington to which he refers he being now a Pensioner on account of said service. He states that he received a wound at the battle of Guilford or rather he rec'd. the wound in a reconnoitering party about two days before the Main

Battle was fought but was on the ground on the day of the Battle and was taken prisoner and kept sixteen days when he was paroled. after that he entered the service again and continued untill the end of the War. He states that he has never received any Land or Land Warrant either from the State of Virginia or the United States for the above services

Given under my hand as a Justice of the Peace aforesaid this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 1830 L. Hunton



Capt. Saml Gill, witness to enlistment

[p8-9] 28Oct1830, a repeat deposition before L Hunton JP L.C. and Thomas Helm, clerk to pursue bounty land.

[p14]

State of Kentucky

Lincoln County

For the purpose of obtaining the amount of pay accruing to me for two years back pay and also for the half year ending on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September 1828 under the Act entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution" approved 15<sup>th</sup> May 1828.

I John Fleece Sen<sup>r</sup> of Lincoln County in the State of Kentucky do hereby declare that I was at first enlisted as a private in the Army of the Revolution by Captain Isaac Bell of the 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment and served in that rank for eight months when I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant to rank as such from the end of my first enlistment aforesaid. That at that time I enlisted and served as Sergeant for three years in the same regiment. That at the end of said three years he enlisted for and during the war in Lee's Legion of horse and served accordingly in Captain Eggleston's troop being the third troop to the end of the War in the Continental Line. I further state that evidence of my aforesaid services may be

[p17] found on file in the War Office among the papers of my application for a pension under the law of \_\_\_\_\_ in which application I was successful and for some time received a pension but was afterward stricken from the Roll of Pensioners in consequence of owning more than two hundred dollars worth of property. Witness my hand this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight.

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature reads "John Fleece". The ink is dark and the background is light, showing some texture of the paper.

[certification

Logan Hunton, JP

Robert Samose, witness

Henry Cartain, witness

Thomas Helm, clerk

[p18] deposition of Joseph Brann in Boone County KY

Was in 2d troop of Lee's Legion for five years part of which John Fleece was in 3<sup>rd</sup> troop.

Witnessed Fleece skull wound and its debilitating nature.

Nov 26<sup>th</sup> 1804

Elijah Hume, clerk

[p22] Treasury department authorization for bounty land to John Fleece 26Feb1829

[p24] power of attorney 22Aug1818 to congressman George Robertson

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Addendum to John Fleece S35945

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 29 Jan 2020.

[The following is from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). The rest of the file consists mainly of documents copied from the federal pension file.]

War department/ Bounty Land Office/ Decem'r 13<sup>th</sup> 1830

I certify that the name of John Fleece is returned on the records of the Virginia Continental line, as a Private of Lees Legion, in service at the close of the Revolutionary War, and entitled to bounty land from the United States

Wm. Gordon First Clerk

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Addendum to John Fleece S35945

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 29 Jan 2020.

[The following is from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). The rest of the file consists mainly of documents copied from the federal pension file.]

War department/ Bounty Land Office/ Decem'r 13<sup>th</sup> 1830

I certify that the name of John Fleece is returned on the records of the Virginia Continental line, as a Private of Lees Legion, in service at the close of the Revolutionary War, and entitled to bounty land from the United States

Wm. Gordon First Clerk