

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John (Samuel) Gillock S35969
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

VA

District of Kentucky – Jessamine County Sct

On this 29th day of April 1829 personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of record for the Circuit of Jessamine John Gillock aged 69 years, resident in said County, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows;

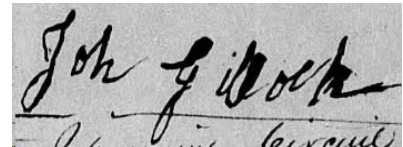
That he enlisted in the year, as he thinks of 1775 or 1776, & in the fall of the year, under Capt. Joseph Spencer [pension application S37436], in the revolutionary army of the America, on continental establishment, in the State of Virginia, for the term of three years. That he belonged to the 7th Virginia Reg't. commanded by Col Spottswood [sic: Alexander Spotswood] & the Brigade of Gen'l. Mumford [sic: William Woodford]. That he was in the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] & other skirmishes. That just before the expiration of the three years, he enlisted again with Capt. Thomas Porter in the virginia line of the regular army for during the war & served till the close of the war in the fall of 1782 when he was honorably discharged. That his discharge is lost or mislaid so that he cannot find. That he is not in the receipt of a pension from the U States or any other government. That he is poor & needy & thinks he is entitled to the provisions of the pension laws of Congress. And the reason that he has not applied sooner is, that he has been able to support himself heretofore with what property he had. But he is now old & very infirm & has nearly lost his eye sight & cannot labor.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed.

Schedule.

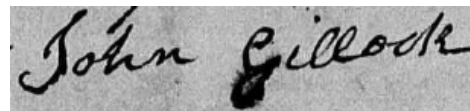
In the year 1818 I had 5 horses value \$60 each – 1 Cow value 8 doll's – I had lost my wife & rented land. He had ploughs, axes &c of small value.

Changes of property – I sold two of the horses for money for supporting my family in 1819 & never have yet been able to get the pay – being \$250 & never expects to get pay. That I sold two of the others in the years 1825 & 1826 to support my family. I have now one mare value \$30. no cattle – a plough, axe, hoe & spade & bed & furniture, saddle bags – all of little value. I am now living with my daughter & unable to labor for a living and I feel that the government should bestow its bounty on me as well as others. Signed.



[In the file is a statement that "John Hillock" was the owner of a draft on Edward King for \$250, considered to be worthless.]

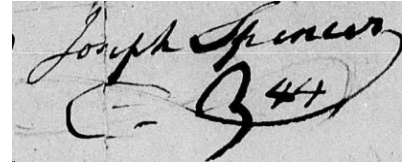
Amended declaration of John Gillock the within applicant & made in open Court. This affiant states that the changes of his property as exhibited in his Schedule hereto annexed, have taken place since the 18th March 1818.



Gallatin County Ky Sct

I Joseph Spencer of lawful Age Depoeth and Saith that John Gillock enlisted as A private in the Army of the U. States, in the Revolutionary War and that he served under the said Deponent, who at that time Commanded A Company, in the Seventh Regiment of Virginia Infantry and further this Deponent Saith not

[30 Oct 1828]



Mercer county Sct.

I Geoge L Waugh one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County Do hereby Certify, That John Bohon [S14975] personally came before me and made Oath that John Gillock did in the year 1776 or 1776 [sic] enlist in the regular service, he thinks for three years, the said Gillock was a private in the same company with the Deponant previous to his enlistment in the regular service, and that they were stationed together as minute men in the neighbourhood of Norfolk Virginia when the s'd. Gillock enlisted and left the company. This Deponent farther states that the s'd Gillock enlisted under Capt. Joseph Spencer, and farther sayeth not.

Given under my hand this 25th day of Nov'r. AD 1828 Geo. L. Waugh J.P.

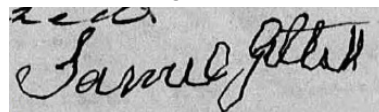
[On 1 Feb 1830 a pension certificate was issued in the name of John Gillock and sent to R. M. Johnson, Member of Congress. The following declaration indicates that Gillock attempted to collect the pension under the name of Samuel Gillock, and was refused. Correspondence in the file indicates that J. T. Johnson requested unsuccessfully that the Commissioner of Pensions issue a new pension certificate with the name changed to Samuel Gillock.]

State of Kentucky } Sct
Scott County }

Pleas before the Justices of the Scott County Court, at the Court House in the Town of Geo. town, on the 8th day of August 1834.

Samuel Gillock, this day, produced in Court his declaration & schedule to obtain a pension for revolutionary services, which being sworn to in open Court, & ordered to be entered of Record, & is in the following words & figures towit, Declaration & Schedule of Sam'l. Gillock to obtain a pension under the acts of Congress of 1818 & 1820. District of Kentucky Scott County Sct. on this 8th day of August 1834 personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of Record for the County of Scott, Sam'l. Gillock aged 74 years, resident in said County, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War, as follows, That he enlisted in the year, as he thinks of 1775 or 1776 in the Fall or Autumn, under Capt. Joseph Spencer, now dec'd. in the revolutionary Army, on Continental establishment in the State of Virginia for the Term of three years. That he belonged to the 7th Reg't. commanded by Col Spotswood & the Brigade of Gen'l. Windford. That he was in the Battle of Brandywine & other Skirmishes. That just before the expiration of the three years he enlisted again with Capt. Thomas Porter, in the Virginia line of the regular army, for & during the war, and served till the close of the War in the fall of 1782 when he was honorably discharged. That his discharge is lost or mislaid so that he cannot find it. That he is not in the receipt of a pension from the United states or any other government. That he is poor & needy and thinks he is entitled to the provisions of the pension law of Congress. And the reason why he did not apply sooner than the year 1829 is that he was able to support himself. That he became very infirm & nearly blind & can scarcely walk about. Owing to these misfortunes & being hard of hearing & about blind, it was his misfortune again to have his name improperly put to his paper John instead of Sam'l. And in that name his pension Certificate was granted & handed him & there has been a refusal to pay him his pension on that account. [Oath similar to the

preceding.] I have no property – but am wholly dependent on the charity of the world. Signed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Samuel Gillock". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid.

J. T. Johnson also states – That he assisted the old man Sam'l. Gillock in obtaining his former Pension Certificate in the name of John; That he so understood the old man. But he has not a doubt, from all the circumstances detailed by the old man, his age, infirmity – blindness & hardship of hearing & sometimes drinking too much, that a mistake was made, & that the old man did not discover it, until his pension was withheld on his appearing in the name of Sam'l. Gillock instead of John. This affiant has taken the declarations of many old soldiers, & he has as much confidence in the honesty & veracity of the old man Sam'l. Gillock as any other. And his statements when made as to his services &c exhibited as much simplicity & candor & sincerity. Signed J. T. Johnson

Please issue the Certificate in this case in the name now specified. It brings the govt into great objection & complain to put such decrepid old men to such trouble I do think that he has been put to very unnecessary trouble. My Brothers former statement ought to have been sufficient in my humble opinion & affidavit of the Party [signed] R't. M. Johnson

War Dept./ Pension Office/ Aug. 26, 1834

Sir [Hon. R. M. Johnson, Great Crossings, Ken], The papers which you sent to this office in the case of Gillock have been examined and placed on our files. All the original papers are drawn up in the name of John Gillock. The signature to the declaration is written Joh Gillock. The witnesses also call him John. The affidavit of John T. Johnson Esq'r. is satisfactory, so far as it goes; but he only expresses belief in the honesty of Gillock, and alleges that there is a probability that John was written instead of Samuel in consequence of the old man's infirmities preventing him from having the name correctly written. I am very unwilling to cause any poor old blind man to complain; but the fault in this case is not mine. The errors must be corrected, and proper explanations must be given. John Bohon in 1828, made an affidavit in Mercer County, Ken. and he swore that John Gillock performed certain service in Capt. Joseph Spencer's company: and in the same year captain Joseph Spencer, in Gallatin county, Ken. made oath that John Gillock served in his the said captain Joseph Spencer's company. On the evidence contained in the affidavits of Spencer and Bohon the claim was allowed. Here we have concurrent testimony from different counties that John Gillock was the man who performed the service. It is very difficult to conceive how such mistakes should have occurred, if they be such; and if they be, some satisfactory explanation and new affidavits proving the service of Samuel Gillock should be produced. If the witnesses are not mistaken in the name, proof from some quarter will of course be necessary to shew that Samuel Gillock served as alleged. On the rolls of revolutionary service the names of neither John nor Samuel Gillock can be found.

In reply to your letter of the 18th inst. I have to inform you that William Berry's certificate was issued on the 20th inst. and sent to you. I have the honor to be/ Very respectfully/ Your friend & obt. ser. [probably by James L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions.]

NOTES:

The name "John Gelluck" appears on a Payroll of a detachment under Capt. Joseph Spencer (<http://revwarapps.org/b175.pdf>).

A letter from J. T. Johnson dated 7 Jan 1830 states that in the previous fall in an attempt to get another statement from Joseph Spencer, "Mr. Gillock had went down to obtain what was required, but the old man was too far gone & he failed." Efforts to restore Gillock's pension were then apparently abandoned.