

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Gibson: S38729

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

District of West Tennessee

John Gibson aged sixty years a citizen of Wilson County in the State of Tennessee came before me and claimed to be placed on the pension list of the United States in consequence of his services as a soldier in the revolutionary War. and after being duly sworn deposed and saith that he enlisted as a soldier with Continental army in the revolutionary war under the Command of Captain Griffen in the third Maryland continental reg. commanded by Colo. [John Eager] Howard, Brigade commanded by Gen's [William] Smallwood. that he enlisted in the spring of 1778 for three years, that he faithfully served his said term of three years and was discharged at Camden in South Carolina, his discharge was signed by Colo Gunby who then commanded the Reg't. that his discharge was lost by accident in having his clothes washed. That he is very infirm having very afflicting pains in his loins and back, which renders him unable to perform hard labor That he has a daughter who is now 26 years old and been entirely helpless ever since her birth, has never stood alone or walked, having a wife old and very infirm unable to labor.

That he is a poor man reduced in his circumstances and stands in need of aid from Government. That he never has had any pension from the United States or any state.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 25 of September 1818. John hisXmark Gibson

Please before the court of Pleas & quarter sessions began & held for the County of Wilson, at the courthouse, in the Town of Lebanon, on the fourth monday in June A.D. 1830. & it being the 28th day of said month & in the 54th year of American Independence.

Present the worshipful Walter Carruth, Paulden Anderson, William M. Swain, William Phillips, Alexander Provines, David C. Hittitts, Burchect Douglass, John Powell, Thomas B. Reese, Thomas S. Green, James Gray, Thomas Burk, Samuel J. Garrison, James C. Willerford, John Shane, John Williamson, Wiley Alford & Thomas Joplin Esqrs. who took their seats & proceeded to business.

A schedule & declaration of John Gibson, in order to be continued on the pension list, under the act of May 1820.

State of Tennessee}

Wilson County}

on this 2nd. day of July 1830, personally appeared in open court, being a court of record, for the county of Wilson, John Gibson, resident in said County, aged about seventy one years, who first being duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818, & the first of May 1820; that he, the said John Gibson, enlisted for the term of three years on the [blank] day of March in the year 1778. in the State of Maryland, in the company commanded by Capt. Griffin, afterwards commanded by Capt. William Wilmot, in the Regt. commanded by Colonel Ramsey, & after affiant was taken prisoner at the battle of Monmouth & returned to the service his Regiment was commanded by Colonel John Gunby in the line of the State of Maryland, on the continental establishment; that he continued to serve in said corps untill March 1781. when he was discharged from service at Campden in the State of South Carolina [see note below]; that he has lost his certificate of discharge, and cannot therefore be verry precise in dates, that he was in the battles of Monmouth [sic: Monmouth NJ, 28 Jun 1778], Gates defeat [Battle of Camden SC where Gen. Horatio Gates was defeated, 16 Aug 1780], Guilford [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781], & Cowpens [17 Jan 1781], that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension except the present, that his name has been placed on the pension list, that the number of his pension certificate is 10,924; and that he has not before exhibited a schedule of his property, because he was able by strict economy & industry to gain his support by his own exertions & he was determined not to throw himself

upon his contry, whilst he could obtain the common necessaries of life without her aid; and further if he had been disposed to apply, as he lived in a remote part of his county and was not formilure with the proceedings of Congress, he was entirely ignorant of the requisitions of the laws in relation to a schedule & did not now why his pension, which he only drew one year had ceased, unless Congress had changed their course of charity & liberality and left the old soldiers to scuffle along as well as they could, perhaps he never would have known any better if it had not been for the accident that a friend of his happened to heare an Attorney talking upon the subject to a revolutionary soldier & gave him information. and in pursuance of the act of the first May 1820. I do solemnly swear, that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th March 1818. & that I have not since that time by Gift, sale, or any other manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring bring myself within the provisions of an act of congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval services of the united states in the revolutionary war, passed on the 18th 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 that what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed & by me subscribed, that the only property owned by me on the 18th March 1818. & which I do not now own is one cow & calf, which I sold to one Jacob Bennett for Ten Dollars, the exact time of sale not now recollected, but I think it was in 1819. or 1820. except such stocks as have died or been used for food. Sworn to & declared on the 2nd day of July 1830 in open court. John Gibson

A schedule of the Whole Estate & income of John Gibson of Wilson County. 1830 July 2nd

80 Acres of land about 23 of which is in cultivation, the other part of which say 57 acres, is rendered unfit for cultivation by the interference of rocks, glades &c. the part in cultivation is verry nearly worn out not producing more that from two to five Barrels of corn per acre with good cultivation, which the applicant from his age & infirmity is unable to give, worth say \$125.

one work Horse about 14 years old about 15 hands high woth from \$20. to \$30., one work mare, 7 years old worth the same amount, one milch cow old without a calf 11 or 12 years old worth say \$5.00 one heifer worth say \$3.00 one Yoke of work steers 4 years old worth say \$20.00. 4 sows with 20 young pigs worth say \$16.00. one Barrow one year old worth say \$2.00. one cart worth say \$15.00. 5 Bee stands worth say \$5.00. 12 head of sheep & 4 lambs worth say \$12.00. 2 ploughs & gear old worth say \$5.00 & hoes & axes worth \$5.00. one saw \$3. 2 chisels. 2 augers. 1 drawing knife one frow one round shave, all verry old worth say \$2.00 1 pr cumpasses, 1 howell, 1 crows & few shoe tools old worth say \$1.00. one hell[?] 2 saddles. 3 Bridles. one old lock chain. 2 wheels & pr. cards worth \$13. one Table, one tin trunk 1 doz. puter plates worth \$3.50 one half doz. knives & forks. one set cups & saucers one coffee pot worth say \$2.00. 2 pots, 3 ovens 2 pr. pot hooks 1 pr. smoothing [irons] worth say \$7.00 2 pales. 2 piggins, Two churns, 1 half Bushel worth say \$2.00. Two ovens worth \$1.25

John Gibson

NOTE: Gibson stated that he was discharged at Camden SC in March 1781, but American troops under Gen. Nathanael Greene did not arrive at Camden until the following month.