

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Harrison S5471

f28VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/23/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

Virginia Madison County SS

On this 23rd day of August 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Madison John Harrison a resident of Madison County Virginia aged Seventy-two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 or 1777 (I am not positive which) with Ensign John Pope an officer belonging to the Regiment then called the Tenth Virginia State Regiment. It was on the 24th day of December that I enlisted but the date has escaped my memory. The Regiment when I joined it was under the command of Colonel Lewis Willis and a part of Weadon's Brigade [George Weedon's brigade]. The company to which I was attached was commanded by Captain John Monjoy [John Mountjoy]. The period for which [paper damaged and text missing] was three years, I was not quite sixteen years old at the time of my enlistment, part of the time attached to the company commanded by Captain John Spotswood, and very often detailed as Commissary Guard, I left the service after the expiration of three [years] which was in the year 1779 or 1780.

At the time of my enlistment I lived with my father in the County of King George in the State of Virginia – I have resided in Madison County Virginia for the last forty-two years – a short time after I joined the Regiment I was marched to Wilmington in the State of Delaware and not long after marched to New Castle where I was inoculated for the smallpox. In some short time I was marched (or rather went by water) to Philadelphia – After remaining in Philadelphia about three weeks the Army or that part to which I was attached performed of great variety of marches and counter marches and wintered at Valley Forge sixteen miles from Philadelphia. I was in the engagement [paper damaged and text missing] the Battle of Germantown [October 4, 1777]. I was in the reserve and halted about half a mile from Stony Point at the time of Storming and taking that Fortress [July 16, 1779]. In the evening after the Capture I was detached to guard the prisoners that surrendered, Shortly after this the American Army or that part of it to which I was attached was variously employed principally in marching and countermarching. I assisted in demolishing Stony Point Fort sometime after the surrender. In the Course of my services in the northern Army a [sic, I] was a good deal in and about West Point and Trenton. It was at a place called Middlebrook and nearest it I spent a good part of one winter. The lapse of time and my want of education prevents my recollecting accurately the day and date of many events in which I was concerned and among others and enterprise in which I was engaged at Powlers Hook [Paulus Hook, August 19, 1779]. That part of the Army to which I was attached [paper damaged

and text missing]ded [divided?] into three Divisions and undertook to make a [indecipherable word]¹ upon Powlers-hook. It was so planned that the three divisions were ordered to take different Routes and to concentrate about the break of day upon the enemy at that point – whilst my memory fails me as to the day and date of this dangerous enterprise – I recollect very well that the division to which I belonged was the only one that reached the Book at all. And we succeeded in taking about 60 prisoners without the loss of a man – and about all I well remember that I received as a donation 60 Dollars for the enterprise.

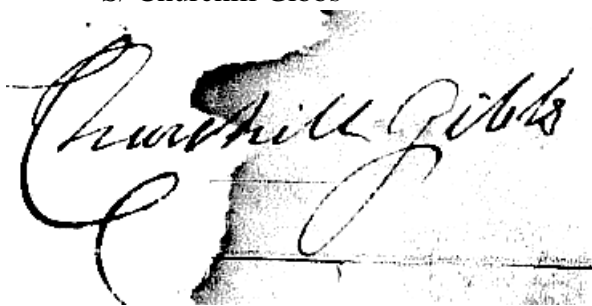
He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any state. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Harrison, X his mark

[p 8]

I Churchill Gibbs of the County of Madison in the State of Virginia a surviving officer of George Gibson's Regiment do hereby certify that John Harrison of Madison County Virginia has resided near me for near forty years and I have had frequent conversations with him on the subject of the events of the Revolutionary War, and among other things he has spoken of many things that occurred to my knowledge at Valley Forge in the spring of 1778 and of occurrences likewise at Middlebrook the following winter, I had no knowledge of John Harrison until since the War of the Revolution but I have no doubt he was a Soldier of the Revolution, I take pleasure in saying that John Harrison is a man of truth and veracity in my opinion. Given under my hand this 2nd day of August 1832

S/ Churchill Gibbs²

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Churchill Gibbs". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The first letter 'C' is large and loops around the start of the name. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

I Burdict Reddick aged about eighty-nine years of the County of Madison and State of Virginia do hereby certify that I move from the County of King George to Stafford about the year 1770 and was well acquainted with John Harrison and family who resided in King George – I frequently visited my former neighborhood a distance of about 16 miles after my removal and the father of the said John Harrison and always understood and believed that he John had enlisted in Captain John Monjoy's Company for three years and marched to the North in the Revolutionary Army – I do not recollect the date of his enlistment but it was sometime in 1770 odd.

The above was sworn to before me a magistrate of Madison County this 25th day of June 1832 by Burdict Reddick.

S/ R. C. Benton

¹ 

² [Churchill Gibbs S46002](#)

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental service.]