

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Record for Samuel Gilbert S8569

f30VA

M-804 Roll 1070 p. 634

Transcribed by Larry Hallstrom

Edited by Fred Weyler and Will Graves in italics

6/7/13

Samuel Gilbert enlisted in Washington Co. (which later became Russell Co.) Virginia in May 1776 and served 5 months as Indian spy in Captain James Crabtree's company, Colonel Arthur Campbells' Virginia Regiment on the southwestern frontiers of Virginia.

He enlisted in 1778 and served six months at Williamsburg, Virginia, under Lieutenant Samuel Gilbert (who he stated was "a relative") and Captain John Canefax¹ in the Virginia Troops.

He enlisted in July, 1780 and served a little over two months in Captain James Montgomery's company, Colonel Jeremiah Pearce's Virginia Regiment.

He enlisted in June, 1781, served three months as Indian spy in Captain James Crabtree's company, Colonel Arthur Campbell's Virginia Regiment against the Cherokee Indians, destroyed two of their towns, Tellico and Hiawassee, killed and took many of the Indians.

He enlisted and served eight weeks under the above named Samuel Gilbert, who was then a captain in Colonel Stiff's Virginia Regiment, when news arrived of the Treaty of Peace and he was discharged.

He was allowed pension on his application executed 18 Feb 1833 while a resident of Lee County, Virginia, aged seventy-two years. No further family data on file.

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¹ Fred Weyler suggests this might be a mistaken reference to William Canifax of Botetourt County VA. The last name is variously spelled as Canfox, Canafox, Canafax, Cannafox, Cannafax, etc.

Virginia

At a Court begun & *held* for Lee County at the Courthouse thereof on the 18th day of February 1833.

Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832
State of Virginia, Lee County to wit,

On this 18th day of February 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Lee County now sitting, **Samuel Gilbert** resident in said County, aged seventy two years, which being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the 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, to wit: That he enlisted in a company of Rangers, for six months, commanded by Capt. James Crabtree, Umberton [Humberton] Lyon Being Lieutenant, and Philiman Higgins [*Philemon Higgins?*] the Ensign, under the command of Col. Arthur Campbell of Washington County in the state aforesaid, an officer in the Virginia Militia.

That he served in the said company of Rangers May 1776 for a period of five months, in spying against *the Indians* and guarding the frontiers in the then County of Washington, but now Russell, which was the South western frontier of Virginia. At the *end* of five months being a month before the expiration of his enlistment, he was discharged at Jeremiah Harrison's Fort, in the said county of Washington by Capt. Crabtree, about the 1st of November 1776 without receiving any written discharge from his officer, as the Declarant now *recollects*.

That in the year 1780 in the month of July, the Declarant again entered the Service in a Malitia (Militia) Company in the said county of Washington commanded by Capt. James Montgomery, Samuel Newell Lieutenant, and James Sims Ensign, and marched to the *Straw Barns*, and Lead Mines on New River, against the Tories *and joined some Regular* troops at the Lead Mines, all commanded by Col. Jeremiah Pearce of the Malitia (Militia). In this Service the Declarant was engaged a little over two months, when after having dispersed the Tories, and caused several of them to enlist in the Regular Service, and making a large quantity of lead for the protection of the Frontier, the troops at the Lead Mines were permitted to go home. That after his return from the Lead Mines he again enlisted under Capt. James Crabtree as a spy for seven months against the Indians, making Harrison's Fort his place of rendezvous from which with other spies, at short intervals. He *scouted* the Wilderness under great privations and dangers, for the *period* of his enlistment, as a spy upon the Indians, who were making frequent incursions, into the settlement, and doing a great deal of mischief in their *Sanguinary mode* of warfare. This last service commenced in June 1781 and *expired* at

the end of seven months. During his last enlistment the Declarant marched with his company on an expedition commanded by Col. Arthur Campbell aided by the Regiment commanded by Col's Sevier [*John Sevier*] and Clark [*Elijah Clark*] against the Cherokee Towns on Tennessee and at Tellico and *Highwassee* [*Hiwassee*] where we destroyed the Towns & killed & took many of the Indians and returned after an absence of three months with but he the *loss* of one man of our party killed. Before the declarant expedition to the Lead Mines, before mentioned, he served a six month tour in the Malitia (Militia) against the British at Williamsburg in Virginia in the company commanded by Capt. John Canifax, **Samuel Gilbert**, a relative of the Declarant, the Lieutenant but the other officers of the company, and the commanding, or other officers at Williamsburg, the declarant has *entirely* forgotten, being *then* but sixteen years of age. He thinks this was in the year 1778. The declarant a short time before the treaty of peace substituted for a six months tour, to guard New London in Virginia, under the then Capt. Samuel Gilbert, (the relative above mentioned), Arche Moon [*Archibald Moon*] Lieut. In the regiment commanded by Col. Stiff,² where he served just eight weeks, when the news of the treaty of peace arrived and the declarant was discharged. The declarant has a written discharge for his Services at Williamsburg and for his last enlistment as a spy, which he has long since lost, and for his other services he never obtained discharges. 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 & year aforesaid.

Teste J.W.S. Morison DC

his
Samuel X Gilbert
Mark

I Jacob Crabtree Senior a respectable Witness being first duly sworn in open court for the purpose, do swear that I am well acquainted with Samuel Gilbert who was sworn to and subscribed the above declaration and has been so with acquainted with him ever since the year 1775. That I *believe* him to be seventy two years of age. That this affiant served five months with the Declarant as a spy under Capt. James Crabtree, and two month and upwards under Capt. James Montgomery at the *Straw* Barns and Lead Mines. That at the time the Declarant served the 7 months services under Capt. James Crabtree as a spy, including his expeditions to the Cherokee Towns, this affiant was serving as a spy under Capt. Thomas Price, and this affiant heard it frequently said at the time that the Declarant was then a spy under Capt. Crabtree, and that he had gone on the expedition to the Cherokee Town. And this affiant heard the declarant frequently tell of those services shortly after their mutual discharges from those enlistments. This affiant also heard the Declarant frequently during the Revolution, and shortly after its close speak of his services in the Malitia (Militia) at Williamsburg and at New London in Virginia, and the Declarant Has no doubt but he tendered them as states in his declaration, which is the general opinion in the neighborhood where the declarant now resides, and where he formerly resided in the County of Washington.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court this 18th day of February 1833.

Jacob Crabtree

² *Fred Weyler suggests this MIGHT be Edwin Stiff of Bedford County*

Jacob Crabtree

Teste. J.W.S Morison DC

I Robert W. Wynn, a clergyman, residing in the County of Lee in the State of Virginia, do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with **Samuel Gilbert** who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration; that I believe him to be seventy two years of age, that he is [res]p[ec]ted & believed, in the neighborhood where he resides, to have been a soldier of the Revolution, and that I concur in that opinion.

Sworn to and subscribed the 18th day of February 1833

Teste J.W.S. Morison DC

Robert W. Wynn

And the said court do hereby disclose their opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the *interrogatories* prescribed by the War department, that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier and served at the States and the court further certifies, that it appears to them that Robert W. Wynn of Lee County who has signed the preceding certificate, is a clergyman, resident in the County of Lee. And that Jacob Crabtree, who has also signed the proceeding affidavit is a resident in the County of Lee, and that they are credible persons, and their statements is entitled to credit.

I Alexander W. Mills clerk of the court of Lee County do hereby certify that the foregoing contained the original proceedings of the said court in the matter of the application of Samuel Gilbert for a pension.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and private seal (there being no seal of office.) this 26th day of February 1833

Alexander W. Mills {Seal}

Addressed to Col. John d. Sharp
Lee C. House

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Invalid

File No. 8569

Samuel Gilbert

Pvt Rev War

Act: June 7th 1832

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Letter from Mary F. Price (author of Gilbert book), dated 10 Aug 1925, states that Pvt Samuel Gilbert, received his commission in Bedford Co., Va. 28 May 1781. He and his brother (???) served from this county.

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