

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

Pension Application of Jesse Gwin S8645

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia, To Wit:

On this Fourth day of January 1833 Personally appeared before James M Williams Jr a justice of the peace for Pittsylvania County Jesse Gwin a resident of Pittsylvania County and State aforesaid, aged Seventy four 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 Act of Congress passed June the 7th, 1832, that he entered the Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War, having enlisted with Captain Peter Perkins as a minuteman, and marched from the County of Pittsylvania in the State of Virginia (where he resided) in the month of April 1776 in a Company, which was commanded by the said Capt. Perkins, Lieut. Jesse Herd [Jesse Heard] and Ensign Robertson, went through the Town of Petersburg, crossed James River at Cobham went through James Town to Williamsburg where we united with Capt. Dillard's [probably John Dillard's] Company and staid there a few days and marched from thence direct to Gwyns Island [Gwynn Island]; we were stationed at a place called Pinetop on the Piankatank River in the County of Middlesex in the State of Virginia, the main Army at that time were stationed on the South Side of the said River in the County of Gloucester. Governor Dunmore then had possession of Gwyn's Island, his Vessels lying at that time in the River; we remained there for some time fired on his Vessels, an Action took place [8 - 10 Jul 1776], and we drove him and his fleet from the said Island, about this time the Indians commenced Hostility on the Western frontier settlements of Virginia, we left the said Island marched through King and Queen & Prince William Counties passed by New castle [now Old Church in Hanover County] crossed James River at Richmond (on our march to this place, we fell in with the Regiment under Colo. Haynes Morgan, from Richmond we marched through the Counties of Powhattan [sic: Powhatan], Cumberland, Prince Edward, Charlotte, Halifax, to our homes in the said County of Pittsylvania still under the Command of Capt. Perkins we were permitted to stay at our homes but a short time until the said Capt Perkins could enlist more men to enlarge his Company, as soon as this was done he marched to New London then in the County of Bedford [now in Campbell County] and joined the Regiment under Colo. [Charles] Lewis, from thence the whole of the troops under Colo. Lewis marched through the County of Bottetout [sic: Botetourt] crossed New River at Englishes Ferry [sic: Ingles Ferry near present Radford] and went to Fort Chissell [sic: Fort Chiswell in present Wythe County] near the said River, from thence we marched to the Islands of Holston River [Long Island of Holston River at present Kingsport TN] and near that place we joined the Regiments under Colo. Christia [sic: William Christian] from Virginia and Colo [Joseph] Williams from North Carolina. Colo. Christia was made Commander in Chief from thence we marched across French broad River through the wilderness waded many water courses and arrived at the Indian Townes on the south side of Tenesee River [sic: Tennessee River]. The Indians having fled, we took possession of their Town where we were stationed for some time. An Indian Chief King Conestoty [sic: Connistoto] came in and proposed to [illegible word] into a treaty of peace &c but could not bring in as many of his Chiefs as were necessary to do so. by this time our provisions become scarce, we left the said Towns and marched back through the said Wilderness One hundred and fifteen miles to the said Islands of Holston where we remained until some time in the month of December 1776 we were disbanded and suffered to come home and afterwards regularly discharged by Captain Perkins, the whole time of service rendered on this tour to Gwynes Island, Islands of Holston, Indian Towns &c was at least nine months. I acted the whole time as Sergant; my discharge is lost and cannot be found, but the service rendered is proved by David Irby [pension application S5602] and Charles Colley [or Charles Collie, S9233] who were soldiers with me in the same Service at that time

In the month of February 1777 I enlisted in the Army of the United States with Captain John Dooly who

was then in the County of Pittsylvania in the State of Virginia enlisting troops for the Defence of the State of Georgia and marched with him through the States of North and South Carolina entered the State of Georgia and was attached to the Regiment of Horse first Commanded by Colo Ray then by Colo. Bacon, and last by Colo. Leonard Marbury, under Gen'l. [Samuel] Elbert. I was in this Service untill some time in the month of January 1778. I have no discharge to be found and I do not know a man living that was in that Service with me. I can prove by George Lumpkin who lived a close neighbour to me at the time that I did enlist with Captain Dooly and marched from the County of Pittsylvania. I also have in my possession a letter from Capt. Dooly directed to me while I was in the service under him. I also have a furlough to go in pursuit of Deserters [illegible word] to me by Colo Marbury at Savannah in the State of Georgia in the month of November 1777. These Identical papers are herewith presented. the whole time of Service rendered under this enlistment was at least Eleven months

I was born in the County of Buckingham in the State of Virginia in the year 1758

My age was recorded by my Father in a testament that is now in the possession of Redmond Fallen who married my sister and lived in the County of Pittsylv'a.

I lived in the County of Pittsylvania in the State of Virginia when I entered the Service of the United States in the War of the Revolution, I lived in that County when the war ended and have lived in that County ever since

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll fo the Agency of any State. [signed] Jesse Gwin

Mr Jesse Gwin

Sir/ I have wrote to Mr Denis to no if he wants the men any Longer and if he Dont they are to march back the Reason Leiut Mitchell Did not Come Mr Deal will Inform you if you are to Continue at the Mill I have sent you money to by provisions Till an officer Comes to you and I beg you will Take Care of the men Till further orders
I am y'r Hum'l S't John Dooly

Savannah in Georgia November 28th 1777

The Bearer hereof Jesse Gwin a Serjeant in the Reg't of Horse Raised by Order of Congress for the State of Georgia has leave of absence from the said Reg't for fifty days

Leo'd Marbury Lieut't. Col'l. Commandant

All Deserters belonging to the Continental Reg't of Light Horse Raised for the Defence of the State of Georgia who were Inlisted for three years or During the War and will Return to their Duty in fifty days shall be forgiven. Given under my Hand at Savannah this 28th November 1777

Leo'd. Marbury Lieut't. Col'l. Commandant

NOTE: On 13 Apr 1854 Jesse Gwin, one of the children of the soldier, who died 12 Aug 1835, assigned power of attorney to try to recover his father's pension, which had been suspended for further proof. The cause of the suspension was not stated, but may have been related to Gwin's deposition in support of the pension application of Charles Collie, who was alleged to have been a deserter.