

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Gilbrath (Gilbraith) Neill (Niel) W17400 Martha Neill f36NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 2/27/17

[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 'indecipherable' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of North Carolina Iredell County: Court of Pleas Quarter Sessions August Session 1832

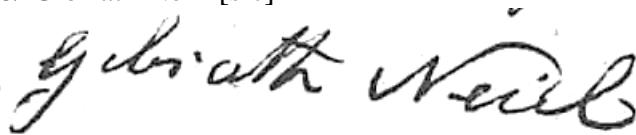
On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of Aug. 1832 appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas Quarter Sessions of Iredell County in the State of North Carolina Glibreath Neel [sic] resident in Iredell County State of North Carolina aged Eighty eight years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of the Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, that he was a Lieutenant in the Company of Militia commanded by Capt. Gilbraith Falls and as such entered the service of the United States sometime in the summer of 1776 as a volunteer for three months, that the corps in which he was joined Gen. Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] commanded near the head of the Catawba River, that Col. McDowell [probably Charles McDowell] commanded the Regiment to which he belonged and remained there stationed to protect the frontiers from Indian invasion. Before the three months expired he was taken sick and returned home! That in the spring of 1777 he again entered as a volunteer lieutenant under the same Captain for another three months tour and marched to Broad River in South Carolina where he joined the army under Gen. Picking [sic, probably then Col. Andrew Pickens] and marched to the neighborhood of Ninety Six in said State in pursuit of the Tories who were reported to be in force, then after having performed the object of the Campaign (the dispersion of the Tories) he was discharged and returned home. That in the spring of the year 1779 he again volunteered for another tour of three month under the same Captain and marched to Augusta in Georgia where he joined the army under General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] encamped in that town for about two weeks, was then marched to Stono and was in the battle at that place [Battle of Stono, June 20, 1779] and shortly after the battle was discharged having served this tour about four months. Afterward he again joined as a volunteer as lieutenant in the same company and joined the corps commanded by Col. Locke [Francis Locke] and Gen. William Davidson [William Lee Davidson] and was engaged in reconnoitering expeditions in the neighborhood of Rocky River in North Carolina where his station was and at the expiration of three months was discharged. That in the year 1780 he was again in the service in the same company and was at the battle of Ramsour's on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 1780 and then he returned home. That in addition to these services he was often called for short periods of time into the service of his Country until the capture of Lord Cornwallis. That honestly and conscientiously believes he was more that two years in actual service. That he has

no documentary evidence and that he knows of no persons whose evidence he can procure (except such as is here subjoining) who can testify to his services.

That he was born in Rowan County North Carolina in the year 1752 that his age is worded in a Bible in his own possession, that at the time he entered the service he lived where he now lives in Iredell County (then Rowan) N. Carolina, that he always volunteered as set forth above, that he has named the regular officers before mentioned and others whose names he has forgotten. That he had a commission as Lieutenant but does not remember who signed it as he lost it long ago. He refers to William Falls and Andrew Ramsey in proof of the general opinion of the neighborhood respecting his services, he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on any pension Roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn and Subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ Gibriath Neill [sic]

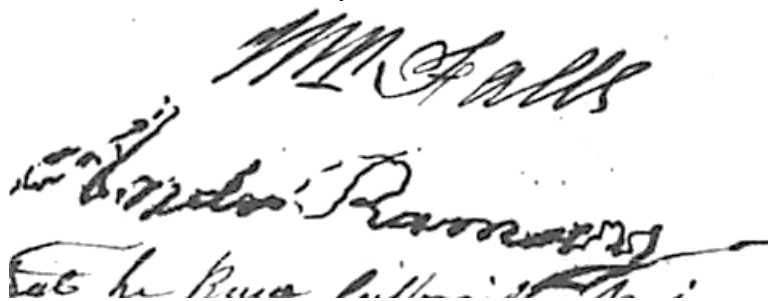


S/ A. Simonton, Clerk.

We William Falls and Andrew Ramsey of the County of Iredell and State of North Carolina residents hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Gilbreath Neill who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing declaration. That we believe him to be 80 years of age, that he reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in opinion, and William Falls further says that he "saw him at the battle of Ramsour's—and although he was not in the whole of the service with Lieutenant Gilbreath Nail [sic] he swears on oath that he has every reason to believe that he served as above stated, and also Andrew Ramsey swears that he believes that the services rendered by Lieutenant Gilbreath Nail as set forth in the foregoing declaration are true.

S/ Wm. Falls<sup>1</sup>

S/ Andrew Ramsey<sup>2</sup>



George L. Davidson certifies that he knew Gilbraith Neill at the time of the Revolutionary War and ever since, and does know that he was always reputed to have been an active soldier and that was a long time in the service.

S/ Geo L. Davidson

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<sup>1</sup> [William Falls S6834](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Andrew Ramsey S4037](#)

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State of North Carolina, Iredell County

This day personally appeared Gilbraith Neill before me, the subscribing Justice of the Peace in and for this County aforesaid and having sworn in due form of law doth upon his oath make the following additional declaration In order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 1832.

He deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear precisely as to the length of his service but to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below.

His first tour, as mentioned in his declaration, was in the year 1776. he served as lieutenant in the Company of Militia commanded by Capt. Gilbraith Falls and marched on the Cherokee expedition and was taken sick and returned home.,  
not less than 2 months

In the year of 1777 he again served as lieutenant under Capt. Falls and marched to Ninety Six in South Carolina. This is the second tour mentioned in his declaration  
3 months

The third tour mentioned in his declaration was in 1779 as Lieutenant under the same Captain. He marched to Georgia and was at the battle of Stono He served  
4 months

The fourth tour mentioned in his declaration was performed under the same Captain also in the year 1779 and was for  
3 months

The 5th tour was at Ramsour's Mill. He was in the service this tour

10 days

He also states that immediately after the battle of Ramsour's he marched under Capt. Caldwell after Bryan, the Tory leader and pursued him to Guilford and was out

14 days

That immediately after his return from pursuing Bryan, this in the same year, 1780, he was called upon to march to the mouth of Rocky River under Col. Davidson after the Tories and was out there was a skirmish with the Tories

14 days

That in the same year, 1780, he served a tour under Col. Locke and General Davidson marching into Mecklenburg and was stationed on Rocky River at the time the British was in Charlotte, and after they fell back to Camden he was joined to Col. Morgan's command to follow up after the British and returned to Mecklenburg and was then discharged. This tour was

3 months

That he was also under Col. George Davidson in the spring 1781 in a tour to South Carolina and was engaged in looking after the. Tories

16 days

16 days  
17 [mos.]. 22 [days]

For such services he claims a pension.

He says that he was appointed and commissioned a Lieutenant in the Militia at the time he first entered the service and kept his commission for many years but supposing it to be of no value he has suffered it to be destroyed. He is uncertain who signed the. Commission although he believes it to have been Gov. Martin.

S/ Gilbraith Neill

Sworn and subscribed May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1833. before me  
S/ J. Campbell, J.P.

[32]

William Falls being sworn sayeth that he knows that Gilbraith Neill did act as Lieutenant in the company of which my father Gilbraith Falls was Captain and that he has seen him in service as such.

Sworn & subscribed before me this 17 day of May 1833

S/ J Campbell, JP

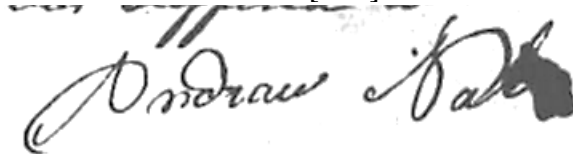
S/ Wm Falls

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm Falls", with a long, sweeping underline.

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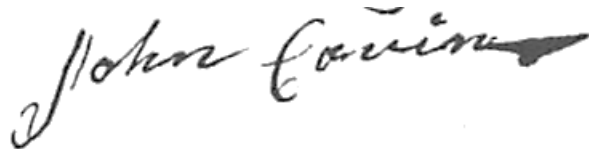
Andrew Neill being Sworn sayeth that he has frequently seen a paper among his father's papers having a large seal appended to it which he understood and believes to have been his father's Commission given to him as Lieutenant in the time of the War: He thinks when he last saw it it was in the hands of a Child and he supposes was suffered to be destroyed as a matter of no value.

S/ Andrew Nall [sic?]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrew Nall", with a decorative flourish at the end.

John Cavin Swears that he mustered under Gilbraith Neill as Lieutenant during the Revolutionary War and he understood that he was such during the whole time of that war.

S/ John Cavin<sup>3</sup>

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Cavin", with a decorative flourish at the end.

Sworn & subscribed before me this 17 day of May 1833

S/ J Campbell, JP

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State of North Carolina, Iredell County

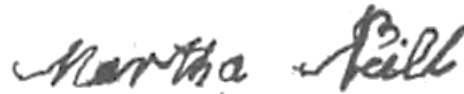
On this 29th day of March One Thousand eight hundred and forty—one personally appeared before me John Young one of the acting Justices of the Peace in the county aforesaid Martha Neill a resident of the county and state aforesaid, aged ninety—two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration In order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act, of Congress passed July 4th, 1836. That she is the widow of Gilbraith Neill who was a Lieutenant of Cavalry in the North Carolina Militia in Captain Gilbraith Falls Company as a volunteer, that she is unable at this time to give a full account of all the services rendered by her husband during the Revolutionary War but she well

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<sup>3</sup> [John Cavin W4916](#)

recollects that in the summer of 1776.; that said Gilbraith Neill served one tour of three months in said company in Gen. Rutherford's Brigade and was stationed near the head of the Catawba River in said state that after he returned and remaining at home a time he again volunteered as a Lieutenant in said company, that in the spring of seventeen hundred and seventy seven he was marched to a place called Ninety—six in the State of South Carolina and returned in about three months, that in the spring of 1778 as well as she now recollects he again volunteered as a Lieutenant in said company and was marched to the State of South Carolina and was at the Battle of Stono under the command of General Lincoln and that he afterwards volunteered as a Lieutenant In said company under the command of Gen. Wm. Davidson and his services was chiefly rendered in the County of Mecklenburg and that he afterward volunteered as Lieutenant in said company under the command of Col. Locke and was at Ramsour's Battle in the County of Lincoln. Her memory does not now serve her well enough to give any. further information as to her husband's services but reference can be had to his declaration who was placed on the pension roll June 21<sup>st</sup> 1833, and drew a pension of three hundred and twenty four dollars and sixty— six cents per annum until the day of his death, that during the period of his services we resided in what was then Rowan County, now Iredell in the state of North Carolina. She further declared that she was married to the said Gilbraith Neill on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Nov. 1774 in the County of Chester in the state of Pennsylvania, that her husband the aforesaid Gilbraith Neill died on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 1834, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed sworn to and subscribed on the day above written before. She further swears that she has no documentary. evidence relative to the subject matter of the foregoing declaration except a record in her family Bible of the date of her marriage. .

S/ Martha Neill

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martha Neill". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

Test.

S/ John Young, J.P.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$324.66 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a Lieutenant for 17 months and 18 days in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]