

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Pollard Guthrie W5286

Eliza Guthrie

f38VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/31/14

[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 '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.]

State of Virginia, Fauquier County SS

On this 29<sup>th</sup> day of November 1850 personally appeared in open Court Eliza Guthrie a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 70 years, who, being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed the 29<sup>th</sup> of July 1848, That she is the widow of John P Guthrie, who was a private Soldier of Infantry of the Virginia ~~Continental~~ State Line, and served as such more than three years during the War of the Revolution, she relies upon the record proof to wit the settlement of his depreciation account here with enclosed to sustain her allegation of his service.

She further declares that she was married to the said John Pollard Guthrie in ~~Christ Church~~ Alexandria, State of Virginia on the \_\_\_ day of August A.D. 1799, that her said husband, the aforesaid John Pollard Guthrie was lost at sea he being then in command of a Brig in the Merchant Service called *The Rachell* sometime about the last of the year 1804, or during the year A.D. 1805. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January 1800, viz., at the time above stated. She further swears that she is now a widow and that she has never before made any application for a pension.



Sworn to in open Court this 30<sup>th</sup> day of November 1850

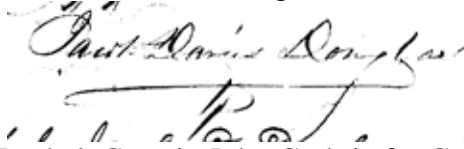
S/ William H Jennings, CC

I certify that I was a resident of Alexandria Virginia from early in June 1799 until June 1726 and that I have a distinct recollection of the Marriage of Captain John P Guthrie with his present widow, Mrs. Elijah Guthrie having been Consummated in Alexandria sometime in the Summer of 1799 – my recollection is strong thereof by the incidents of the day – for instance – On the next day the house of the late Dan McLean who was the Bride's brother-in-law and where the wedding was celebrated – was thrown open and a handsome Entertainment given to the friends and relations of the parties and the Citizens at large – a "Punch Drinking" as it was termed being the fashion of that Period – in the morning of same day a Salute was fired from one or more armed Vessels – and the Vessels in port had their colors hoisted during the day in honor of the Occasion – Captain Guthrie being then in Command of an armed Merchant Vessel owned by

citizens of Alexandria – And I saw him that day in the full dress of a Naval Officer. On the 19<sup>th</sup> Day of December 1816 I married Mary Ann Guthrie the Daughter of J P Guthrie & Eliza Guthrie and since that time the Family Bible of Captain Guthrie (and from which was cut yesterday the leaf to be exhibited as part of the testimony in procuring the Pension which Mrs. E. Guthrie is entitled to has been used by me as my family record – and from what I have seen and heard I am confident that the name of "John Pollard Guthrie" and the births of his two Daughters "Mary Ann and Eliza" was written on that paper by the said John Pollard Guthrie.

Some years since when investigating the claim of Captain Guthrie Deceased for the Land and arrearages of pay which his heirs might be entitled to for his service as a Revolutionary Soldier – I was informed by Mr. William Wedderburn then a resident of Alexandria [one or more indecipherable words] – that he was intimately acquainted with Captain Guthrie in early and afterlife (proved by the facts as I have been informed that Mr. Wedderburn called his first and only child now Doctor Jno. Wedderburn of New Orleans for him) that he knows his going out when a very young man as a private Soldier and remembered his return after [indecipherable word] his full term and receiving an Honorable Discharge – that his elder and only Brother James Guthrie went out with him in the same Company commanded by Captain \_\_. Mr. Wedderburn was ready at any time to testify to these facts – but finding from the public records at Richmond that JP Guthrie's Bounty land and pay had been received by him or someone representing him – I deemed any further steps unnecessary. Given from under my hand at my residence in Fauquier County Virginia this 30<sup>th</sup> day of November 1850.

S/ Jacob Davies Douglas



"October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1804 Sailed this date the Brig Rachel, Captain John Guthrie for Cowes England and a market at 10 o'clock a.m. when the ~~light~~-N. W. light."

I Jacob Davies Douglas do hereby certify that the above writing beginning with the word "October" and ending with "light," inclusive is truly copied from the late Dan'l McLean's Shipping Journal now in my possession. I further certify that the John Guthrie therein named was the Husband of Mrs. Eliza Guthrie the applicant, above for a Pension on account of his Revolutionary Service and I further certify that I have heard the aforesaid Daniel McLean frequently state that the said Captain John Guthrie was lost at sea on that voyage. I married said Guthrie's Daughter in the year 1816, and have always heard from the family that Captain Guthrie was lost at sea on that voyage and I know the fact myself from hearsay from the time it happened. I am the Executor of the late Daniel McLean and therefore have his Journal and other papers in my possession.

S/ Jacob Davies Douglas

[p 10: family record

John Pollard Guthrie was born March 8<sup>th</sup> [the right margin of the paper is cut off at this point]

Eliza Guthrie Was born January the 16, 1780

Mary Ann Guthrie dauter [sic] of Jno. & Eliza Guthrie was born May the 12<sup>th</sup> 1800 in Alexandria D. of Col.

Eliza Guthrie Daughter of Jno. & E. Guthrie was born June the 30<sup>th</sup> 1802

Lucretia Guthrie Daughter of John & Eliza Guthrie was born January the 11<sup>th</sup> 1805 [could be

1803]

Eliza Daughter of John & Eliza Guthrie died August 15<sup>th</sup> 1813 at 5:30 PM aged 11 years one month & 15 days]

[p 11]

Wheeling March 6, /51 [1851]

Dear Sir,

I received your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> Inst. and am glad to recognize in you a connection of my family. Your [sic, You are] right in your conjecture that I was a son of James Guthrie of King & Queen County who was a brother of John Guthrie, I cannot recollect my uncle John Guthrie, and was not apprised of his having a double name though it is highly probable that he had, as his Mother's maiden name was Pollard, from Gloucester County, the old stock of which I believe are all deceased. I recollect of hearing my Father talk of his brother John being in the revolutionary War, which I suppose there can be no doubt of, after their return (having served three years at the North) my said Uncle I think went to sea as a common sailor (I do not know what Port he sailed from) and being convinced of the advantages of knowing navigation, he returned to my Father's and boarded there, and learned navigation under Mr. Dawson Cook in the neighborhood as I have often heard my Father & Mother say. I have also often heard them talk of his going to Alexandria, and sailing from there for a Colonel Hooe in command of a Schooner I think called the Welcome Return and of his marrying in Alexandria, but I do not recollect of hearing the name of the Lady he married. I recollect of my Father's visiting Alexandria after my said uncle had married there, and of hearing him tell of the house he had built and how comfortable he was fixed, and that he made my Uncle's house his home, during his stay in Alexandria, which was probably several weeks, and have also heard him speak of his wife and two Daughters, none of which have I yet seen.

I recollect of hearing my Father say that his Brother John came into Severn River I think while he commanded the Welcome Returned, and sent for him to come down into Gloucester County to see him, and of hearing him tell how well he was treated & of their being 9 different kinds of liquor set on the table.

I have heard my Father in law John Stedman tell of his coming passenger from the West Indies with Captain Willis who sailed in Company with my Uncle John Guthrie and that they dined on board Captain Guthrie's Vessel at sea. Mr. Stedman was a connection of my Father's family and knew my Uncle John, as he also was raised in King & Queen County. I could relate many other little incidents that I have heard but they probably would have no bearing on the subject at issue, but certainly my Uncle John who served in the revolutionary war from King & Queen County, and afterwards learned navigation in the neighborhood of my Father's under Mr. Dawson Cook, is the Identical person who sailed for Colonel Hooe from Alexandria, and that married & settled in Alexandria afterwards. I should suppose that your statement of the above facts, as you certainly believe them as much as I do, together with the family Record of the marriage of my Uncle, would be sufficient to induce a magistrate or Court of record to certify that your Mother-in-law was the identical person set forth in the declaration, the magistrates here for the County and Alderman of the City, certified to the identity of a person under similar circumstances, who are seeking after bounty Land claims. I undertook to seek after a claim of my Mother in-laws, and produced a family record that had been taken from the original one, and sent in a frame, which had the marriage of Mr. Stedman to my Mother-in-law, and stated that I knew them to live as man & wife for at least 8 years and the magistrate did not hesitate to certify

that she was the identical person set forth in the declaration, and I have seen it done in several other cases, in fact in every case where the Alderman can be satisfied, and believes there is no fraud contemplated, otherwise it would be impossible to prove many just claims for services in the last war with Great Britain, and impossible to prove any for services in the revolutionary war, for they are all gone. Some years ago when I was seeking after some bounty land claims of my Father's & several Uncles, I saw the name of my Uncle John Guthrie on the books at Richmond, but knowing that he left children, I did not trouble myself about it, but believed that the warrant was never located, and that there is 100 acres of land coming for his services, either to his heirs or myself. The circumstances are the, I recollect of my Father's having two land Warrants, which he could get nothing for, and he used to send them to Richmond & Washington by persons that were going there to inquire if there could be anything God for them, and the last I heard of them, he sent them to Captain Rogers, the Sheriff of Gloucester County who was going to Richmond, Captain Rogers moved to Alabama & died, and the Warrants were not found at my Father's death, my Father had long before transferred his warrant for 200 acres and he had been located, therefore I think that, one of the warrants was that of Uncle John, who gave it to my father at the time he was studying navigation, and the other was issued to my Father as the representative of William Rigan a half Brother who died soon after his return from the war. Upon investigation I found that the warrant issued to my Father as the representative of William Regan had never been located, and after a good deal of trouble I got it renewed at Richmond, and succeeded in getting it filed for payment in the General Land Office at Washington, but the appropriation that had been made was exhausted, and ten years have elapsed without Congress making any further appropriation. We were very much pleased with a visit from your son last night, he stayed an hour or two with us, and then left to enter in the Western Stage. Please to make my best respects to And Guthrie, Your Lady & children and Mrs. Dade Husband & children, and tell them that I feel a warm attachment to them though I never saw them, and should I ever have business over the mountains that way, I should be delighted to call and see them, and should be very glad to see any of them out here.

With Sentiments of Respect

I am Yrs Respectfully

Henry P. Guthrie

Mr. J. D. Douglass

[p 16: Copy of a marriage bond dated August 21, 1799 issued in Fairfax County Virginia to John Guthrie and Daniel McClean [sic] conditioned upon the marriage of John Guthrie to Elizabeth Hutchenson.]

[p 35]

This is to certify, that it appears from a list in this office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line as settled their accounts and received certificates for the balance of their full pay, according to an act of assembly, passed the November session 1781, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of said Officers and Soldiers from the first January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (see Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 10, p. 462.) that a settlement was made on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of July 1783 in the name of John P Guthrie as Soldier of Infantry and evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him was £57.7.9, delivered to John Shackelford but as the original settlements or copies thereof are not to be found in this office, the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated.

Given under my hand at the First Auditor's Office, Richmond, this

p. 75  
[No Seal of Office]

2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 1850.  
S/ Ro Johnston  
First Auditor

I Certify that I was acquainted with the late Captain John Guthrie and his wife Eliza or Elizabeth Guthrie – I further Certify that I was for many years the proprietor of a sail making Establishment in the town of Alexandria and that I know John Guthrie to be the Master of the Brig or Snow *Rachel* owned in the town of Alexandria, and further that the said Brig *Rachel* sailed from the Port of Alexandria under the command of said Captain John Guthrie sometime in the years eighteen hundred and four upon a forge to Europe and I further certify that the said vessel and her Crew has never since been heard from.

Given under my hand in Alexandria Virginia this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1850  
S/ Thomas Sanford

[p 38]

Custom House Alexandria  
Collector's Office December 20<sup>th</sup> 1850

I, Joseph Eaches, Collector of the District and Court of Alexandria, do hereby certify that upon an examination of the records of this office, I find that on the 26 day of September 1804, the Snow *Rachel*, Daniel McClean, John Young & Ferdinand Marsteller of Alexandria Owners, John Guthrie Master – was duly registered at this Port – and that said vessel John Guthrie Master on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 1804 cleared at this Court for Cowes & a Market. It does not appear that the Register of said vessel was ever delivered at this office nor do I find any entry on the books of the office in relation to said vessel subsequent to the date of her sailing from this Court.

Given under my hand & seal of Office the date above written  
S/ Jos Eaches

[The veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1848, for his service as a private in the Virginia service.]