

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Giles ¹ W7522

Martha Giles

f82NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/9/08 rev'd 8/20/15

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky, County of Monroe: SS

On this third day of June 1833 personally appeared in open Court before Justices of Monroe County Court now sitting John Giles a resident of said County and State aged 72 or 73 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He Substituted for William Hampton from the County of Rowan North Carolina and served as an orderly Sergeant for the space of five months under Captain James Craig his Colonel's name was Matthew Locke who was commanded by General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] of the North Carolina Militia the claimant by reason of loss of memory he cannot state precisely what time he entered the service but believes it was in the latter part of the year 1778 and was discharged in the spring of the next year by his Captain James Craig; he further states that they marched from North Carolina to the Ten Mile house near Charleston South Carolina, where they remained for a short time, thence marched to Smoky Camp near Purrysburg; Where they joined Generals Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] and Nashe [sic, John Ashe] at said Camps – General Nash beat up for volunteers to crossed the Savannah River to attack a small body of British station at Ebenezer in the State of Georgia but having no boats we had to march to Augusta Crossed and marched down where we had a small engagement [March 3, 1779] with the British near the mouth of Briar Creek and was compelled to retreat back to Smokey Camp and shortly after our return the Claimant had the Command of the guard in the night took a Negro prisoner obtained from the British Commander with a Letter directed to a Tory by the name of Zoobless to get him to pilot the British Army to the camp of the Americans he took a file of man and took Zoobless who was taken and tried as a spy we were marched back to North Carolina and discharged as before stated.

The Claimant further declares that he volunteered from the County of Surry North Carolina the same year thereafter but cannot state the time owing to the great lapse of time and old age together with a loss of memory for the space of eight months in the Militia of said State to guard the Lead Mines called Chissells Mines [sic, Chriswell or Chiswell's Lead Mines] under the Command of Captain Willis he served this tour as an orderly Sergeant his recollection does not serve him to state whether there was any Colonel if there was any he never was at our Camps and the highest officer was a Captain and was Discharged by Captain Willis.

The Claimant further declares immediately after the return from the above tour he volunteered from the same County and State last mentioned for the Term of six months in Militia of North Carolina under the Command of Captain David Smith and Colonel Shepherd [William Shepherd] were our Commander we marched to the Shallow Ford on the Yadkin River where we had an engagement

¹ BLWt9274-160-55

[October 14, 1780] with the Tories commanded by Col. Bryant² we defeated them and shortly afterwards said Bryant was taken prisoner and was condemned to be hung and was retrieved by the Governor of North Carolina we were marched back to Surry County and was discharged by Captain Smith.

The Declarant further declares that he entered in the State Troops of North Carolina for the Term of 12 months sometime in the year 1780 but as to the date he is not certain under the Command of Captain Charles Gorden [Charles Gordon] and served as an orderly Sergeant of Mounted State Troops his commander was called Major Lewis but he may have been the Colonel Commandant of this latter circumstance he is not apprised We were a scouting party which traversed the Country between Drowning Creek and Deep River as well as the Raft Swamp and often had engagements with a Tory band commanded by Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] but never came to a general engagement with him the Claimant states that the Regiment or Battalion was marched to Hillsborough North Carolina when he was discharged by Captain Gorden all of the above mentioned discharges have been Lost and that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose Testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services.

He hereby relinquishes every Claim 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.

S/ John Giles, X his mark

[Flemmon Jones and William Sims gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The following Question was propounded to the applicant John Giles and answer there to Annexed

1st When and in what year were you born

Ans: I was born (as I have been told) in the County of Monmouth & State of New Jersey but the year I cannot tell owing to the Record of my age being lost in my father's life time but believe I was born about the year 1760

2nd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live

Ans: I lived in Rowan and Surry Counties State of North Carolina when called into service Since the Revolutionary War I removed to Oglethorpe County Georgia thence to Lawrence County State of Indiana thence to Monroe County State of Kentucky where I now live

Quest: How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom

Answer I was a Substitute for William Hampton from the County of Rowan State of North Carolina for five months as an orderly Sergeant under Captain James Craig and Colonel Matthew Locke I volunteered from the County of Surry North Carolina twice in the Militia and once in the State Troops the first time I volunteered I served eight months as an orderly Sergeant under Captain Willis to guard Chiswell's Lead mines we were under no Col. as I know of.

The Second time under Captain David Smith and Colonel Shepherd for six months I served as an orderly Sergeant

The time enlisted in the state troops I cannot state only 12 months was the term of enlistment which I performed as an orderly Sergeant under Captain James Gordon & Major Lewis as he was called although he may have been a Colonel Commandant or a brevet Colonel

Question State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your

² Sic, the Tories at Shallow Ford were commanded by Col. Gideon Wright and Col. Hezekiah Wright. One of the companies under their command was commanded by Capt. James Bryan, who was killed in the action. Col. Samuel Bryan, a notorious Tory leader, was not known to have been in the engagement at the Shallow Ford.

service.

Answer the first tour I was about Matthew Locke and General Lincoln were regular officers and General Nashe [Ashe] the second time, there was no officer of a higher grade than a Captain which was Captain Willis the third time Colonel Shepherd we solve several officers during this tour but did not get acquainted with them as we were generally on a scouting expeditions and staid but a short time and one place.

Then the fourth tour we were mounted man in the state troops under Charles Gordon & Major Lewis (so called) and no other Captain in our lines we never joined any Regular Continental or Military Regiment but continually almost constant on the scout

Question Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer I received for Discharges first given by Captain James Craig the second by Captain Willis the third by Captain David Smith the fourth by Captain Charles Gordon all of them have been lost for several years

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer Flemmon Jones and William Sims there being no Clergyman in his neighborhood.
Sworn to Subscribed the day and year first mentioned.

S/ John Giles, X his mark

[p 66]

State of Kentucky, Monroe County

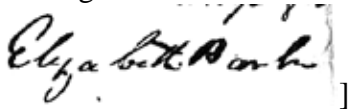
This is to certify that this day John Giles of said County came before me a justice of the peace in and for said County, and made oath, that sense of amending his declaration heretofore he has been enabled to obtain the affidavits of Elizabeth Parks of Madison County Kentucky and also the affidavits of Richard Giles of Monroe, and Richard Giles of Cumberland County Kentucky, which he forwards herewith, as testimony of his said services – Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 10th day of April 1834.

Sworn to and describe before me the date above.

S/ W. H. Wooten, JPMC

S/ John Giles, X his mark

[p 52: On April 28, 1834 in Madison County Kentucky, Elizabeth Parks gave testimony that she was about 25 years of age at the time of the revolutionary war when she became acquainted with John Giles; that she is aware that he resided in Surry County North Carolina and entered the American Army during the revolutionary war; was gone on one campaign for a considerable time but how long she cannot recollect; that he came home on furlough once and returned to the Army and brought a discharge when he left the Army. She cannot testify as to how long he served.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Parks". The signature is written in dark ink and is enclosed within a simple rectangular border.

[p 61]

State of Kentucky, Cumberland County

This day came Richard Giles before me John Coe the undersigned Justice of the peace for said County and made oath that John Giles Junr did Enlist in the United States service under Charles Gorden as his Captain for one year in the Revolutionary war in County of Surry and State of North Carolina and that the said John Giles get a legal discharge from his Commanding officer Sworn to before me this 20th day of August 1831.

S/ Richard Giles

Richard Giles

S/ John Coe

[p 63]

The Commonwealth of Kentucky Monroe County

This day personally appeared Richard Giles before me Robert H. Maxey one of the Justices of the peace for said County and made oath that John Giles Substituted for five months in place of William Hampton who was drafted a militia man in the Revolutionary war in the County of Rowan and State of North Carolina under the command of General Rutherford and Colonel Matthew Locke and Captain James Crage [sic] and that the said John Giles was duly discharged by his commanding officer and the said Richard Giles further swears that John Giles did enlist in the Revolutionary war in the year 1780 in the County of Surry and State of North Carolina in what was called the State troops under the command of Captain Charles Gordin [sic] and Major Joel Lewis for one year and that the said John Giles was duly discharged by his commanding officer in the year 1781.


S/ Richard Giles, X his mark

S/ Robert H. Maxey, JP MC

[p 20: On June 11, 1855 in Allen County Kentucky, Martha Giles, 102 years old, and a resident of Allen County, filed for a widow's pension under the 1848 act stating that she is the widow of John Giles, a revolutionary war pension; she states she married John on August 16, 1767 in Rowan County, NC; that her maiden name was Martha Roberts; that she is the mother of 9 children, all but 2 are still living; viz. George Worthington Giles, aged 85, lived in Indiana; Henry Giles, 82, lived in Illinois; James Giles, 78, lived in Madison County, Ky, when she last knew; other children, David, now dead; Deborah, married Samuel Lancaster, now dead; Eli, now living in Simpson County, Ky.; Lovey Giles now living with her second husband whose name is Mark Anderson in Allen County, Ky; Malinda Giles, married James Mann, lives in Illinois; Levi Giles, her last and youngest child, "is still living with her and is a confirmed and hopeless idiot." She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 22: Mark Anderson and Lovey Anderson gave testimony in support of the facts as set forth in the widow's application for her pension. They also authenticated the family Bible record.

Mark Anderson
his
Lovey Anderson
mark



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[Bible record:

John giles and Marthy Roberts was Marriad the 16 day of August 1767

My son, george Worhinton was Born the 25 day of march 1769

My son Henry gils was born the 9 day of may 1773

My son James gils was Born the 11 day of September 1776

Roberts was married the
16 day of August 1768
My Son George Washington
was born the 25 day of
march 1769
My Son Henry Giles was
born the 9 day of march 1775
My Son James Giles was
born the 11 day of April
1776

[p 27: On June 11, 1855 in Allen County Kentucky, Robert Y McReynolds gave testimony that he was acquainted with John and Martha Giles for a number of years; that they lived together as man and wife; that John and Martha applied to the affiant to take and raised 2 of their grandchildren who were bound to the affiant; that those children (not named) were the children of Deborah Giles by her marriage with Samuel Lancaster; the affiant thinks that Deborah was the 5th child of Martha & John Giles; that one of the grandchildren still remains with the affiant and is over 17 years old; that the affiant in's 1851 was the assistant US Marshall and in that capacity was responsible for the census statistics; that at that time John Giles gave his age as 102 years old; that John Giles died in Allen County Kentucky September 12, 1852.

R. Y. McReynolds

[p 28: On June 11, 1855 in Allen County Kentucky, Charles F Harvey gave testimony that he was acquainted with John and Martha Giles who lived in Scottsville, Allen County Kentucky having settled there about the year 1840.

Charles F. Harvey

[p 32: On June 23, 1855 in Heart County Kentucky, Rachel Hardy, 59, the daughter of John Burks of Barren County Kentucky, gave testimony that she was acquainted with John and Martha Giles since 1806 when they settled near her father's residence in Barren County Kentucky; that John and Martha continued to live in the neighborhood until about 1810. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 36: On June 25, 1855 in Barren County Kentucky, Mrs. Susanna Ford, 66, gave testimony that she

was acquainted in the year 1807 with John and Martha Giles; that the affiant resided in the neighborhood of John Burks, Senior, deceased, where she became acquainted with John and Martha.

Susanmah Ford

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[p 17: On September 4, 1855, Martha Giles, 102, filed a bounty land claim in Allen County, Ky., stating that she is the widow of John Giles, a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$80 per annum on September 12, 1852]

[p 55]

2 State of N. Carolina
3 Comptroller Department

I Geo. W. Brooks Comptroller of Public Accounts
do hereby certify that it appears of record ^{in my office} among the payments made to sundry persons for military service in the Revolutionary war, as follows viz

John Giles, Quarter Master Sergeant, Continental
Book 28 Page 43 L 13-8-10 U.S. M. Sine

" 19 " \$108.54p. Ser. M. S. appointed Aug. 22^d 1777
" 14 " 58 L 9 " omitted Jan'y 1778

" 26 " 8 L 5-10-

Journal of Records by Abisha Thomas General & Co
No. 11:78 " John Giles, Sergeant for the years 1774-78
" He is mustered as U.S. from the 22^d day
" 77 to Jan'y, 78 " corresponding with Book
19 quoted above

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said office in the City of Raleigh on this 10th day of October 1855

Geo W Brooks
Comptroller

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina. His widow was initially pensioned in a like amount which was increased to hundred \$80 per annum effective September 30, 1865.]