

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Gilliam W8849                      Elizabeth Gilliam                      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 15 April 2014.

Logan County                      }  
State of Kentucky                } S.S.

On this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 1832 personally appeared in open court before the judge of the Logan Circuit Court in the State of Kentucky (said Court being now in Session – John Gilliam a resident of said County in the State aforesaid aged 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated. Towit in the year 1775 or 1776 he was enrolled in a company of Malitia he being about 16 years old, in Albemarle County Virginia commanded by Michael Wallace, a requisition made about this for malitiamen to march to the lower part of Virginia he was in the division in said Company which was drafted his Liutenant James Wood was also drafted or volunteered and went on the same campaign. We rendesvoused at a place called the Old Wells in Flavannah [sic: Fluvanna] County which adjoins Albemarle here the Company was organized and I was placed in the command of Captain Lina[?] Jones [probably Landon Jones], said James Wood still holding his rank as Lieutenant. from hense we marched to Williamsburg where we joined a considerable army of Malitia. We remained some time in the neighbourhood of Williamsburg. We marched during the Campaign to the Sea bord, but we was in no battle. He was discharged at the City of Richmond, after having performed a tour of duty of three months. whether he got a written discharge or not he does not now recollect, but if did get a written discharge it is lost or mislaid.

The second tour of duty was entered upon some months after his return to said Albemarle County he was again drafted from the said company which he mustered in before, his old Captain having resigned, his Lieutenant James Wood commanded the said Company. we rendesvoused at one Randolph Watsons near the bird [sic: Bird's] Ordinary his Captain who took command of him was named Nathaniel Garland. Col Reuben Lindsay. from here we marched to Richmond from hense to Hampton. from this place he was detached together with about sixty other soldiers (riflemen) to watch the movements of the British vessels which lay about eight miles from Hampton in the Bay and to prevent the escape of the negroes to said vessels. a circumstance took place here which is recollected distinctly. after an excessive nights rain which considerably wet our rifles we asked leave of the officer who commanded us to suffer us to fire our guns. we were permitted to do so and marched out and fired alternately at a pine tree which stood about sixty yards from our tents. the guns we [were?] heard at a distance and the alarm given at Hampton and the army posted off to our relief the cause of our firing being made known we marched back to Hampton & our officer put under arrest for his indulgence to us in suffering us to fire our guns. The vessels alluded to went into the mouth of James River and we marched up to Richmond. After remaining here some time he was again discharged after having served another tour of three months but did not receive as he recollects a written discharge. After the first Tour of duty as first set forth went as a substitute for William Rigins and served a tour of two months at the Albemarle Barracks [between Jan 1779 and Feb 1781] under Col. [Francis] Taylor. Some months before the capture of Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis, 19 Oct 1781] he was again called into the service for six months as a drafted malitiaman from said County of Albemarle. we rendesvoused at Goochland Court House and Col Charles Dabney took command of the regiment to which I was attached at the place of rendesvous. from hense we marched directly to Williamsburg and after some (but the precise time he cannot now recollect) we marched to Little York. he was there during the whole siege [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. after the siege was over the Company to which he belonged was detached to Richmond to guard the prisoners and tories. Here he remained until the end of his tour which was six months. he does not

think he got a written discharge. Our Captain Slaughter commanded the company at the time our services expired. He received the money to pay the company & went off and kept the whole of it & the soldiers never received one cent for this tour of duty. 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                      John hisXmark Gilliam

An Amendment to the declaration of John Gilliam hereto attached, which was authenticated on the ninth day of November 1832 before the judge of the Logan Circuit Court in the State of Kentucky which was then in regular Session. This declarant saith in amendment to said declaration 1<sup>st</sup>. that he was born in Albemarle County in the State of Virginia on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 1760 This fact he learns from the family record of his father, kept in his Bible. He has no written record of his age at this time, he had a record of his age in an old Cyphering Book that he made when he went to School but it is lost or destroyed so that he cannot now procure it. He cannot now recollect whether he ever received a written discharge for any part of his services, he might have received, a written discharge for his services at the Barracks but he cannot say certainly that he did, but he can say with certainty that he served the several tours set forth in his said declaration, the time added amounting to fourteen months, and was discharged from them respectively

This declarant being extremely infirm from age and disease did not procure any evidence at the time he filed his declaration: an old neighbour in Virginia & fellow Soldier having since applied to this declarant for an affidavit to prove his services to Wit Evan Watson [Evan T. Watson, pension application S30770] of the County of Warren in the State of Kentucky your declarant procured the affidavit of said Watson, proving a part of the service of your declarant, which said Affidavit our declarant forwarded to the War Department to the care of Geo. Breather Esqr. this Declarant knows of no living witness by whom he can prove his services further than has been done as above stated He is so old and infirm that he with great difficulty gets about, or he would retake the affidavit of said Evan Watson and attach it hereto

Thomas Porter a Clergyman and William J. Morton a citizen both of whom are residents of my County and neighbourhood have certified in the declaration hereto attached, agreeably to and in compliance with the seventh interrogatory prescribed by the War Department; in addition thereto Thomas M Smith a Clergyman and John H Thomas, a Citizen both residents of my county and neighbourhood will also certify, respecting my character and reputation of having served as a Soldier in the Revolution.

Subscribed & sworn to this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833                      John hisXmark Gilliam

NOTE: On 22 Dec 1845 Elizabeth Gilliam, 79, applied for a pension stating that she married John Gilliam in Albemarle County on 25 Dec 1785. She also stated that in 1818 they moved from Virginia to Madison County KY, then in 1821 moved to Logan County. In the file is a copy of a bond signed on 22 Dec 1785 by John Gilliam and John Bailey for the marriage of Gilliam to Elizabeth Bailey. Her application was supported by Nancy Thomas, who deposed that she was born 10 Feb 1790, the second child of John and Elizabeth Gilliam. On 17 Nov 1845 Charles Bailey, about 78, and Pleasant Gillum (as he signed), about 74, both of Albemarle County, certified the claim of Elizabeth Gilliam. On 26 Jan 1846 Charles P. Gilliam, John R. Aingell, and James B. Burgess certified that John Gilliam died on 4 June 1845. On 15 Mar 1856 at age 90 Elizabeth Gilliam applied for bounty land.