

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Guthrie W9468

Eunice Guthrie

PA VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky } ss

Jefferson County }

On this twenty third day of April one thousand eight hundred and thirty three, personally appeared before the undersigned James Pomeroy a justice of the peace in and for the County of Jefferson and State of Kentucky and by virtue of his Commission one of the judges of the County Court of said County, James Guthrie (at his own house) a resident in said County & State aged eighty three years on the 25th day of February last past, born in the year 1749 & 50 O.S. (as it was then expressed [1749 Old Style: Julian Calendar]) who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 towit, that he was born in the now state of Delaware, New Castle County and remained there until the year 1773 & then moved to Bedford County in the back part of Pennsylvania, that in 1776 the Court or Committe of Bedford County ordered three companies to be raised and some time in June of 1776, say the 15th this applicant entered the service of the United States State of Pennsylvania as he then thought for three months; the Companies were Commanded by Capts. [Van] Swearingin, Canon & Miller and the present applicant was Lieutenant under Capt. Miller, that some time in July 1776 orders were given to raise a Regiment in Bedford County of Pennsylvania to be known by the name of the eighth Pennsylvania Regiment and the said Regiment was raised and was commanded by Enos McCoy Colonel, George Wilson Lieutenant Col. Richard Butler Major (which last was killed in St. Clears defeat by the indians [sic: defeat of Arthur St. Clair, 4 Nov 1791] & that Capt Miller Commanded the Company to which the present applicant belonged and in which he was Lieutenant That when the regiment was organised we were stationed on the Allegany [sic: Allegheny] River until some time in December 1776 we then were ordered to march and passing through the towns of Leganair [sic: Ligonier], Bedford, Shippensburgh [sic: Shippensburg], Carlisle, Lancaster and Pilidelpia [sic: Philadelphia] there crossed the river and passed through Trenton, Princeton in New Jersey and on the Baskin ridge [sic: Basking Ridge] joined the army & at Quibbletown we had several little skirmishes and near Boundbrook [Bound Brook NJ, 13 Apr 1777] we were defeated and lost our artillery. We were then under the command of General [Benjamin] Lincoln. we then went to Morristown New Jersey then to Goshen on the highland York (now he believes the state of New York) then to Germantown Pennsylvania. At Trenton Colonel McCoy died and at Quibbletown our Lieutenant Colonel died and we were afterwards commanded by Col. Daniel Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead]. At German Town (after having served fully fourteen months as Lieutenant) this applicant in August 1777 say after the 15th of same month he resigned his commission to Col Broadhead. This applicant states that he had a commission but does not now recollect by whom it was signed, that he gave it to Col Broadhead, & that he received a discharge in writing from Major Byard [sic: Stephen Bayard] but does not now know what has become of it. This applicant states that there are now no persons living by whom he can prove the time he entered the service and the time he left but that he can prove his service in part by James Welsh [pension application S14819] and that he served as Lieutenant in the s'd Eight Pennsylvania Regiment.

After this applicant left the regular service he went to Cumberland County Pennsylvania and was enrolled in the militia of s'd County in Col. Culbertson Regiment and in the last of August 1778 he was called under the then laws of Pennsylvania to perform a tour of two months which servises he rendered as a private soldier under Capt. Jack and was stationed on the Juniatta river in Canoe valley as a gaurd to the frontier settlement & that he left the service in Octr. 1778 after his two months expired. & this tour he can prove in part by the s'd James Welsh but by no other person.

This applicant states that in year 1779 he moved to the now state of Kentucky [then Virginia] and landed at the falls of Ohio (Louisville) on the 6th day of April said year, and on the 13th day of May 1779

this applicant joined a volunteer company under Capt Wm Harrod [William Harrod] the party was Commanded by Major Boman [sic: Col. John Bowman]; the object was to fight the indans who were distressing the fronteer settlement, that they marched through the Indian Country to one of their towns on the head of the Little Miami River the town was called New Chillicothe [sic: Old Chillicothe near present Xenia OH, late May 1779] and had some fighting with the Indians and this applicant was wounded in his face [see endnote] and on his return to Kentucky he continued in the service some time in November (he thinks some time about the middle) of the same year, employed sometimes as a spy, a hunter, and in the fort at Lexington Ky. This tour he cannot prove by any living witness that he knows of except in part by James Welsh. He served this tour six months

And in the year 1780 on the 20th or 22^d of July he volunteered to go a campaign against the Indians and joined a Company Commanded by Daniel Hall, this Campaign was Commanded by Gen'l. George R Clark [George Rogers Clark] Col Wm Lynn [William Lynn] Lieutenant Col [William] Harrod & Major Edward Bulger that they marched to the waters of little Miami now State of Ohio and on to the Picaway [Piqua] towns on the waters of the big Miami Called Mad River and there had some fighting with the indians and destroyed several of their towns [8Aug 1780] and that the party returned home the last of August of the same year that he served at least thirty days at this time and can prove his service by James Welsh but by no other person that he now knows of a living. That in the year 1781 this applicant was called upon to aid in building a fort at the falls of Ohio and in constructing a boat to ply between the falls and the mouth of Kentucky River in order to guard off the Indians against persons mooving to Ky. and that he spent thirty days in this service but he knows of no person by who he Can prove this service. That in the year 1782 this applicant volunteered again under General Clark to go against the Indians and belonged to a company Company Commanded by Capt Saml Pottenger [Samuel Pottenger], that he marched to the West branch of the Big Miami and destroyed several Indian towns [Piqua, Standing Stone, and others, 10 Nov 1782] and had an engagement with the Indians at a place called high Rock and that he was in the service forty days in the months of — — cant recollect which tour he can prove by Wm. Tyler [William Tyler S14742]

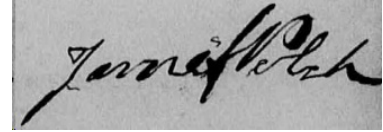
This applicant states further that from the time he moved to Kentucky in 1779 to the year 1791 he was almost a soldier the whole time that he spent his time in the different forts & garrisons in s'd state and was almost continually employed as a soldier in defending the County or spying the movements of the Indians &c &c which he can prove by wm Tyler & James Welch now living.

He states that as a private soldier he never received a discharge in writing and that he has now no documentary evidence by which he can prove his service and can only prove his service in part by the persons before named. 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 or agency in any State
Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid James hisXmark Guthrie

Jefferson County }
Kentucky } ss

The deposition of James Welsh taken at the house of James Guthrie in s'd county & state on the 23^d day of April 1833 who being of lawful age and first duly sworn deposeth & saith that he the s'd Welsh is now (since the the 5th instant) in the seventy eighth year of his age. And that he has been acquainted with James Guthrie who is now an applicant for a pension & who has subscribed the foregoing declaration for upwards of sixty years, that he was in the same Regiment (the 8th Pennsylvania Regimnt) from April 1777 to the July following and that s'd Guthrie was in the office of Lieutenant under Capt. Miller & that he had heard of him the s'd. Guthrie being in the army for some time before he the s'd. Welch joined him, and has no doubt but he served as he states. And afterwards he knew of s'd Guthrie joining the army under Capt Jack in 1778 and that a tour was for two months and that he believes s'd Guthrie seved his full tour. And that he was with said Guthrie in 1779 in Kentucky on Col. Bomans Campaign and was standing near him when he was wounded in the face and that he continued with him until the party returned to the Ohio River when we parted; I to Pennsylvania & he to Kentucky And that

he was with s'd Guthrie under General Clark in 1780 & knows that he served as he has stated, & that said Guthrie was an active soldier in the settlement of Kentucky & was very useful as a guard and as a spy for the settlement from 1779 to the end of our troubles with the indians
A further this deponant saith not. Subscribed and sworn to the day above



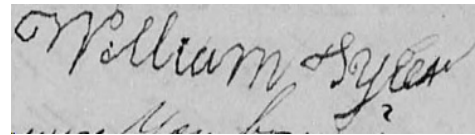
[The following three documents are on the same pages, certified 6 May 1833.]

Personally appeared before me James Pomeroy a justice of the peace in & for the County of Jefferson & State of Kentucky James Guthrie who being duly sworn, deposes and saith that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades for one year and two months as Lieutenant and for two months as a private Soldier For six months as a private soldir. For thirty days as a private soldir. For forty days as a private solder, and For thirty days as a private soldir. & for such service I claim a pension James Pomeroy JPJC

Jefferson County }
Kentucky }

This day Wm Tyler of s'd County & State personally appeared before me James Pomeroy a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid on oath says that he is now in the seventy seventh year of his age that he has been acquainted with James Guthrie since the year 1781 or '82 that he served with him in the Campaign of Gen'l. Clark in 1782 and knows that he served as he states, and that he was an active frontier soldier to the end of our troubles with the Indians.

Subscribed & sworn to the day & year aforesaid



Question 1st Where & in what year were you born?

Ans I was born in Newcastle County State of Delaware in the year 1749 & 50 as it was then expressed

2^d Have you any record of your age & if so where is it?

Ans I have no written record of my age, only a memorandum I made myself now in my house

3^d Where were you living when called into the service where have you lived since the revolutionary war & where do you now live?

Ans. When first called into the service I lived in Bedford County Pennsylvania, afterwards in Jefferson County Kentucky in which last place I have lived since the war & where I now live.

4th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served: such Continental & militia regiments as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your service. I served in the 8th Pennsylvania Regiment of regulars under Col McCoy, Col Wilson Major Butler Capt Miller & I was with General Lincoln, Col Broadhead Major Byard Col Culbertson, Gen'l. George R Clark, Col Wm Lynn Col Harrod Major Edward Bulger & for a more full account see my declaration.

5 How were you called into the service, were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute?

Ans I always entered the service voluntarily & was never a substitute.

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

Ans A private soldier I never received a discharge in writing

6 Did you ever receive a Commission & if so by whom was it signed & what has become of it?

Ans I had a commission as Lieutenant but do not now recollect by whom it was signed I gave it to Col

Broadhead & received a discharge but do not recollect what has become of it.

7th State the names of the persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity, & their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Ans Revd Michael Miller James Welsh Wm Tyler Edward Tyler Hiram Malott James Pomeroy Warden Pope George Fenley General Robt. Brackenridge & if necessary one hundred others.

[The certification by James Pomeroy stated that Guthrie was unable to attend court "being for a long time afflicted with the palsey." The above application was returned with a note stating that further evidence was required that Guthrie had been a Lieutenant. After several years, Guthrie contacted Henry Northup of Washington DC as an agent to reopen his case. The Pension Office then raised further objections, resulting in a long correspondence, only part of which is transcribed here.]

Mr. Henry Northop Oct'r 12th 1840

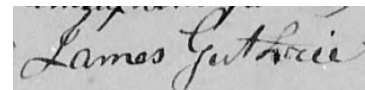
Sir I have for several years passed made many inquiries to find out where you were for the purpose of writing to you on matters, which are at least of importance to me. The business here alluded too is a just right to claim a pension from the United States for services in the Revolutionary and after ward in the indian wars. I entered the service as 2nd Lieu't. in Capt James Millers company which formed a part of the 8th Reg't. of what was then called the Pensylvania line raised by order of Congress and was (I think) reported and recieved about the middle of October 1776. The 8th reg't was composed when reported of 10 companies Commanded by Colo. McCoy Lieut Colo Wilson Maj'r. Rich'd Butler (he who was killed at the time St Clear was def'd) The Capains was Van Sweringain [Moses] Carson Miller Myers Orra [David] Kilgore Mann Pirot Wilson and Montgomery . The agadants [sic: adjutant's] name was Hoofnoggle. our company as first stated was commanded by Miller Mathew Lack 1st Lt James Guthrie 2nd Lt. and Jno Lyons [John Lyons] Ensign. I remained in said reg't untill about the middle of September 1777 previous to which time Colo McCoy died and s'd reg't was placed under the command of Daniel Broadhead with whom I had a personal differance which resulted in my resignation and discharge from siad reg't at the time above stated (which discharge I have unfortunately lost)

I then came home and remained there untill 1779 when myself in company with others came down the Ohio River with Gen'l Clarke to the falls and assisted in makeing places of deffence there. I was in the battles of the Piqua Chillicothe &c (at one of whitch places I recieved a sevear wound) which I suppose the rolls of those campaigns will shew from 1779 untill peace was made with the Indians all those early adventureors might be called in actual service as they always had to keep themselves in constant readiness

Now sir if you will undertake thes business for me and succeed in getting my pension I will pay you what your customary charges may be out of the same. I suppose all my chance will be in finding my name on the Roll of the Pensylvania line as above stated as I know not now a man who knew me in the service the men by whom I could have established all by; are now dead I took Jas Welshs deposition who states that he met with me when in the army in 1777 and that I came home with him. This is all that I can prove about it, you will be so good as to write to me as early as possible what you may think of my chance address your Letter to Newburgh Jefferson County Ky

Sir if you can help an old man now 91 years old you will confer a lasting obligation upon himself and family

Yours with respect

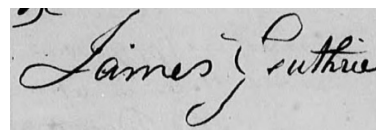
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Guthrie". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Dear Sir [Henry Northup] Jefferson County Kentucky Dec'r 28th 1840

I this day received yours of the 17th inst which informs me that the documents sent you were not satisfactory, though you state at the same time that you had not seen them. the printed sheet you mention in your letter incloses my declaration which contains a full and substancial accout of what you require of me as I understand it in your letters. The letter of J. L. Edwards [Commissioner of Pensions] before mentioned, had no further use or meaning in it but merely for a covering for my declaration as made in 1833 which had become some what worn by handleing and it being round it I sent it as it was I have nothing to do with Edwards as I [illegible word] to your propposition made in your letters in toto and you will accordingly act for me in the aforesaid business understood. My declaration as mentioned I think after you examine its contents perhaps contains all you want to enable you to prepare the papers necessary. but if not I will now state some of the Circumstances again as well as I can recollect. In June 1776 I was appointed as 2nd Lieutenant in Cap Sam'l Millers company by order of the County Court of Wesmore [sic: Westmoreland] for three months but before the experation of s'd time independence was declared and orders came from Congress to raise what was then termed the 8th regiment of what was then called the Pennsylvania Continental line and accordingly the Companies spoken of inlisted myself with the others still holding the same grade of office with this differance my last commision was from Congress in Millers company as aforesaid after said reg't was compleated we rendezoused at a place called the old Catanian town [sic: Kittanning] mustered into service and was rec'd and reported about the 12th of Sep'r (1776) and marched from thence in november The first town we passed through was Ligoneer at the foot of the Chesnut ridge [sic: Chestnut Ridge] through bedford The peas town Carlisle landcaster Philadelphia Trentown Prince town and quiggle town on the lines where we had some skirmishing with the Brittish The first severe brush we had was at Bone brook took place on april the 13th 1777 in a short time after we marched to Morris town and then to Goshen on the highlands but on hereing that the Brittish was in the Chesapeak [sic: Chesapeake Bay advancing upon Philadelphia] we were ordered back to Germantown at which place I left the army and was discharged (the Copy of which I have long sence lost) and came home to Canagocheak and in 1778 volunteered for a 2 months tour under Colo Jack to act against the Indians which I performed in 1779 came down the ohio river to the falls arived there in april and the same year went on what was called Bowmans Campaign under Capt William Harrod on which I was severaly wounded in 1780 I went a Campain under Gen'l Clark to the Piqua town in 1782 I also went an other Camp'n. under said Clark to a place called High Rock. The time Occupied in the Malitia Service was altogether 11 months and ten days and in the Continental service 14 months. This sir is as nearly as I can recollect in a short acc't of the matters as they transpired. you also wished me to inform you about attending the County Court I will tell you sir, I have not been able to go to Louisville for the last 12 years so of course some person will have to come to my house to take my declaration when it is taken

you wll on the rece't of this be so good as to write me again and if any thing is wanting that I can supply you with I will forth with attend to it as I hope sir that we will get it all right after while your terms as I have said are agreeded to and you will now go to work

Your friend &c



P.S

Address all your letters to Newburgh Jefferson County Ky

State of Kentucky Jefferson County Sct

On this 22^d day of January 1841 Personally appeared before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace, in and for said county and one of the Justices of the County Court of said County James Guthrie a resident of said County and State aforesaid aged Ninety one 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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed June the 6th [sic] 1832. Saith that in June 1776 he was appointed a second Lieutenant in Captain Samuel Millers Company by order of the County Court, or

such tribunals as had the controul of such matters for the County of Westmoreland in the State of Pennsylvania, ordered to act against the Indians for the period of three months, in which capacity he actually served. That before the expiration of said three months, but the precise day he does not know, and after the Declaration of Independence on the 4th of July 1776 Orders came from Congress to raise what was then termed the 8th Regiment of the Pennsylvania line when the said Captain Miller and deponent entered into the Continental line in the said 8th Pennsylvania Regiment holding the same rank as formerly with the difference that he then received a Commission from Congress or its President

After said Regiment was completed they Rendezvoused at a place calle the Old Kittanning Town, were mustered into service, and was received and reported about the 12th of September 1776. Said Regiment was Commanded by Colo Eneas McCoy and George Wilson Lieut Colo. and marched from thence in November of that year, passing through the following towns & villages viz Ligonier at West fort of of Laurel Hill, Bedford, Shippensburg, Carlile, Lancaster, Philadelphia, Trenton, Princeton and Quibble Town on the lines where they had some skirmishing with the British. The first severe skirmish they had was at Bond Brook on the 13th of April 1777. Shortly after which they were marched to Morristown and from thence to Goshin in the highlands of New York. When shortly afterwards, on hearing the British were in the Chesapeak the Regiment was ordered back to Germantown in Pennsylvania. That during the time said Regiment was in New Jersey, both Colo. McCoy & Lieut Colo George Wilson died and at or about the time the Regiment reached Germantown Colonel Broadhead took Command of the Regiment when he the deponent resigned on or about the [blank] day of September 1777 surrendering up his Commission and returned to his Residence on the Connagig in the County of Cumberland and State aforesaid, having then performed as second Lieutenant under the State appointment and Continental Establishment fourteen months as second Lieutenant aforesaid. That in the year 1778 he Volenteered in the Capacity of a adjutant for the period of two months in a tour against the Indians under Colo Jack, and served that length of time faithfully Said expedition being on the Allegany river & its waters. In the year 1779 he came down the Ohio river and arrived at the falls, now Louisville, in April of that year, that in the same year he marched as a volenteer in the Company Commanded by Captain Wm. Harrod in the Campaign against the Indians on the Miama waters under the Command of Colo. John Bowman generally known as Bowmans defeat, in which tour he was severely wounded. And was engaged in this service, or expedition

In the year 1780 he marched again as a Volenteer under Colo George Rogers Clark to the Pickaway Town of Indians in which he was in service one month and lastly, in 1782 he went an other Campagn in the capacity of volenteer under Colo George Rogers Clark against the Indians to a place called high Rock, in which service he was forty days That he now resides in the County of Jefferson and state of Kentucky, and has for the last 61 years. That he has at this time no record or documentary evidence to support his said claim, all such having been long since lost or destroyed. That he at this day knows not of any living person by whom he could prove his services. Or where any Rolls or records of his services are to be found. That from age and Bodily infirmity he is wholly unable to attend at the County Court 12 miles distant to make his declaration That he is not in the receipt of any pension from the United States or any State, nor never has been. That some seven or eight years ago he made application for a pension under the act of Congress of the 6th or 7th of June 1832 but without success – that the sum total of his services are fourteen months as Lieutenant in the Continental line. And in the various tour; first as 2^d Lt in Captain Millers Company of State troops, Colo Jack's Command in the Indian Country in Pennsylvania, Colo Bowman Expedition, and two under Colo George Rogers Clark, was eleven months and ten days – and that he hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension except the present.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written James hisXmark Guthrie
Questions propounded by the Justice this 22^d January 1841

1st When, or in what year were you Born

Answer 6th March 1750

2^d Have you any record of your age, & if so, where is it?

Answer. I have none.

3^d Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer. In the Monongala [sic: Monongahela River] Country Westmoreland County Pennsylvania. In Kentucky. In the same state in Jefferson County within 12 miles of Louisville

4th How were you called into service, were you drafted or did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom?

Answer. I volunteered in every instance.

5th State the name of some of the Regular Officers who were in the troops where you served or such Continental & Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service?

Answer Colo McCoy Lt Colo Wilson Colo Broadhead (Major Byers) Adj't. Hoofnan and Captain Kilgore, Van Boren, Vanswearingen, Carson, Miller, Myers & Mann. There are many circumstance of interest which I could relate but for the great pain it gives me to talk; I will however mention one Viz upon Colo Broadheads taking the Command we had a severe skirmish in which a difficulty arose between him & Capt. Carson, which resulted in the arrest of the Capt and finally it was said his deserted to the British [Moses Carson, 21 Apr 1777].

6th 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 a discharge from Major Byers, which I left with my papers in Pennsylvania where they now are for what I know

7th State the names of the persons to whom you are known in your present Neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Answer. Reverend Michael Miller, Jacob Smith, Harry Hawkins, Peter Miller & many others if necessary. Many of my old & dear friends have died within a year or so past

NOTES:

Robert Dickey in his pension application S2174 stated, "There was one man named James Guthrie wounded in this last engagement. He was shot either in the cheek & out of the mouth or in the mouth & out of the cheek."

On 16 Feb 1841 James Guthrie was awarded a pension of \$160 per year as a Lieutenant.

On 7 April 1851 Robert Welsh, administrator of the estate of Eunice Guthrie, applied for a pension on behalf of the seven surviving children of James and Eunice Guthrie. He stated that Eunice Guthrie married James Guthrie on 28 Nov 1786, that he died on 24 March 1841, and that she died on 23 July 1850. Welsh listed the surviving children as follows: Moses Guthrie, Elizabeth Guthrie, Margaret Guthrie, Mary Welsh, Sarah Johnson, Eleanor Johnson, and Eunice Woodrow.

The file contains a copy of the following records from Jefferson County:

date of the license November twenty third [1786]

parties names – James Guthrie – Eunice Paul widow

November twenty eight, Seventeen hundred and eighty six, married by me Jno. Whitaker"