

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

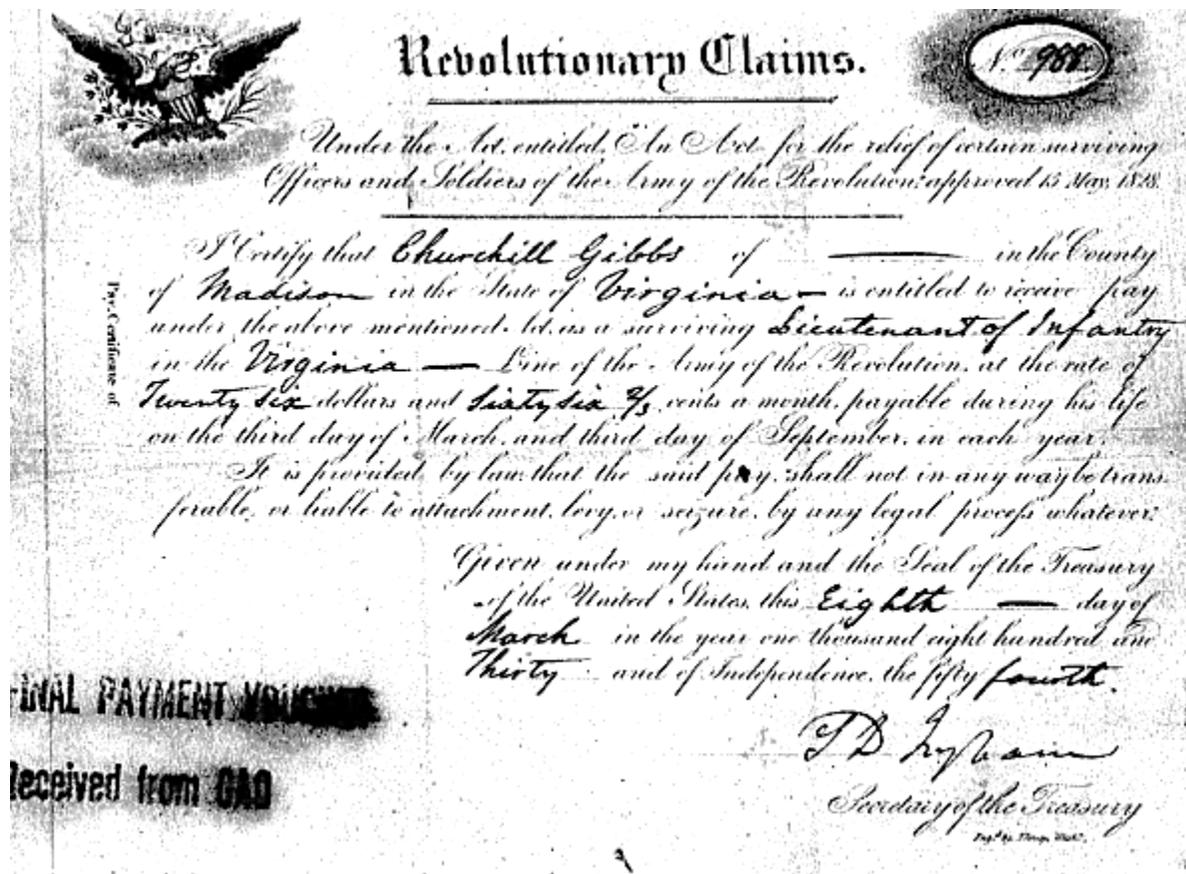
Pension application of Churchill Gibbs <sup>1</sup>S46002

f246VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

3/3/10 rev'd 4/7/14 & 12/10/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]



[p. 3]

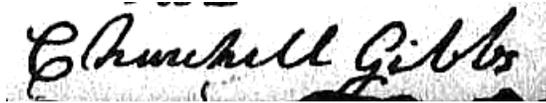
### Revolutionary Claims

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an act entitled an act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution, approved the 15th of May 1828 I Churchill Gibbs of the County of Madison in the State of Virginia do hereby declare that I was an officer of the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution and served as to the end of the war. In the

<sup>1</sup> BLWt1694-200 Va. Half Pay N. A. Acc. No. 874 See O50 073 Half Pay Churchill Gibbs

month of September 1775 I enlisted as a soldier under Captain John Green (afterwards Colonel John Green) who enlisted the first company raised in Virginia. I continued in his Company one year and then enlisted as a Sergeant in the Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson and marched to the State of Pennsylvania in the early part of the year 1777 and joined the Army commanded by General Washington. In the year 1778 I was commissioned a Lieutenant in Gibson's Regiment shortly after the Regiment was transferred to the Continental line in place of the 9th Virginia Regiment captured at Germantown. The evidence of the transfer of Colonel George Gibson's Regiment to the Continental line may be seen in Henings Statues at large volume the 9th page 337.<sup>2</sup> I was at the battle of Monmouth [June 28 1778] and at the battle of Stony Point [July 16, 1779]. I returned to Virginia in the year 1780 and continued in service in said Gibson's Regiment until June 1781 when I was taken a prisoner at Petersburg [April 25, 1781] in Virginia and never exchanged until the end of the War. My commission long since lost or rather worn out.

S/ Churchill Gibbs

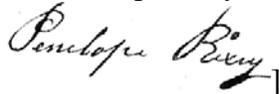
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Churchill Gibbs". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and characteristic of the late 18th or early 19th century.

Virginia in Madison County to wit

Before me Charles R. Gibbs a justice of the peace in and for the County of Madison in the State of Virginia personally appeared Angus Rucker<sup>3</sup> and John Breedlove<sup>4</sup> this day both of the said County who did severally make oath that Churchill Gibbs by whom the within declaration was subscribed is generally reputed and believed to have been an officer of the Army of the Revolution in manner as therein stated. Witness my hand and seal this 26th day of February 1830.

S/ Chs. R. Gibbs

[p. 5: Penelope Rixey filed a power of attorney on January 18, 1855 in Fauquier County, VA, in which she states she is the legal heir of Lieutenant Churchill Gibbs. The nature of her relationship, if any, to the veteran is not stated in the power of attorney.]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Penelope Rixey". The signature is written in dark ink and is enclosed in square brackets.

[p. 10: On February 5, 1847 in Madison County Virginia, Elizabeth Gibbs made oath that she is the widow of Churchill Gibbs and that her husband lived in Madison County for the space of 50 years before his death; prior to his residing in Madison County he had resided in Orange County Virginia. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 11: Finding by the court of Madison County Virginia that satisfactory evidence had been produced that Churchill Gibbs, a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$26.66 2/3 per month for his service in the revolution died in Madison County May 30, 1846 survived by his widow Elizabeth Gibbs.]

[p. 17: invitation issued by the City of Richmond dated July 22, 1824 inviting Churchill Gibbs to

<sup>2</sup> <http://vagenweb.org/hening/vol09-16.htm>

<sup>3</sup> [Angus Rucker S19068](#)

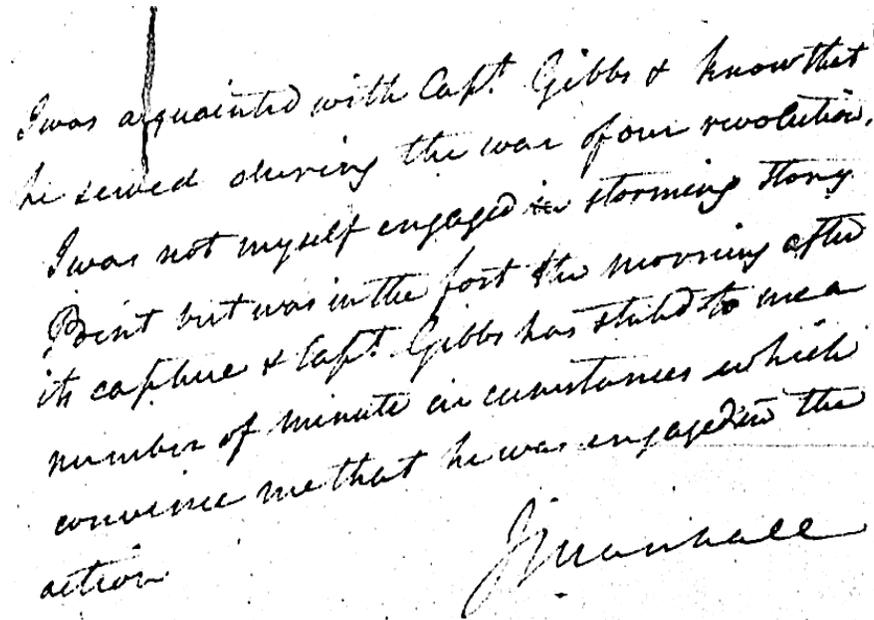
<sup>4</sup> [John Breedlove S2102](#)

a reception for General Lafayette upon his visit to the city; p. 18: invitation dated October 15, 1824, to a ball at the Eagle Hotel in honor of General Lafayette.]

[p. 19]

I was acquainted with Captain Gibbs & know that he served during the war of our revolution. I was not myself engaged in storming Stony Point but was in the Fort the morning after its capture & Captain Gibbs has stated to me a number of minute circumstances which convinced me that he was engaged in the action.

S/ J. Marshall<sup>5</sup>



I was acquainted with Capt. Gibbs & know that he served during the war of our revolution. I was not myself engaged in storming Stony Point but was in the fort the morning after its capture & Capt. Gibbs has stated to me a number of minute circumstances which convince me that he was engaged in the action.

J. Marshall

[pp. 42-46: Printed report of the House of Representatives' Committee on Revolutionary Claims dated February 28, 1849, relating to the claims by Churchill Gibbs' heirs.]

[pp. 48-52: printed report of the House of Representatives' Committee on Revolutionary claims dated January 26, 1837 relating to claims made by the heirs of William Vawter.<sup>6</sup>]

[pp. 53-57: another printed report of the House of Representatives' Committee on Revolutionary Claims dated March 3, 1847, relating to the claims of Churchill Gibbs.]

[p. 59]

I do hereby certify that Captain Churchill Gibbs of the County of Madison in the State of Virginia enlisted in the Revolutionary war, under Captain John Green of Culpeper County State of Virginia in September 1775 for one year and marched to Williamsburg and served his time out at which time the said Gibbs was discharged and further say that said Gibbs enlisted as a Sergeant in the first of 1777 and marched to Williamsburg the first of 1777 and joined Colonel George Gibson's Regiment and early in 1777 marched to Pennsylvania and joined the Main Continental Army commanded by General Washington and while at the North he was appointed

<sup>5</sup> Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court

<sup>6</sup> [William Vawter \(Vawler, Vawters\) R10921](#)

a Lieutenant in 1778 in Colonel George Gibson's Regiment after that Regiment was transferred to Continental Establishment in place of the 9th Virginia Continental Regiment taken at Germantown and continued in the northern Army until the said Regiment marched to Virginia in 1780 and belonged to said Regiment when he was taken prisoner in 1781 and was not exchanged until the end of the Revolutionary war. I further state that he held his Commission until the end of the Revolutionary war as a Lieutenant, but has since lost it from everything I have heard and believes. Given under my hand this [20th day of February 1838]

S/ Angus Rucker  
formerly Capt. in  
Col. George Gibson's Regiment

*Angus Rucker  
formerly Capt. in  
Col. George Gibson's Regt*

[p. 62]

District of Columbia County of Washington

I, Churchill Gibbs aged about seventy-three years, do, upon oath, testify and declare, that, in the year 1775 I entered the service of the United States and served in the Regiment No. One under the command of Colonel George Gibson of the Virginia line as a Lieutenant and I continued in this service aforesaid until the close of the war.

I further declare, that I never received a warrant for Bounty Land promised to me on the part of the United States; nor have I ever assigned or transferred my claim in any manner whatsoever; therefore, [sic]

S/ Churchill Gibbs

Issued on evidence from the Treasury Department, see Certificate filed with the papers upon which Warrant No. 1695 issued to Captain Angus Rucker of the Virginia line.

S/ Wm Gordon

[p. 64: 2-page letter dated January 26, 1833 from Lewis McLane, Secretary of the Treasury, addressed to B. Watkins Leigh, Richmond, VA, relating to the claims of the representatives of the "late Dr. McClurg"<sup>7</sup>]

[p. 66]

State of Tennessee Bedford County<sup>8</sup>

Be it known that before me George W. Ruth a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State above mentioned personally appeared Moses Nelson and made oath in due form of law and saith that he was well acquainted with James McAdam a private in a company of foot men in the revolutionary war and that he was a resident of the State of North Carolina and under General Marion and Captain McPeak and several others he went out several times but Moses Nelson does not remember who was his other captains and that he served under General Gates and was at Gates defeat and that James McAdam, Jr. is his youngest son. Sworn to and subscribed before made this first day of July 1857

<sup>7</sup> FPA NA No. 874 O50 115 Half Pay No pension file found for this officer (surgeon)

<sup>8</sup> The following undated note appears at the top of this document: "no claim for James McAdams or McAdow or Moses Nelson described in these papers. They must have been filed for reference in this claim."

S/ Geo. W. Ruth, JP

S/ Moses Nelson, X h is mark

[p. 76]

Revolutionary Claims

Treasury Department, 5 March 1830

Churchill Gibbs of \_\_ in the County of Madison in the State of Virginia as applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An Act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution," approved on the 15th of May, 1828. He states that he was an officer on the Continental line, and served as such to the end of the war, at which period he was a Lieutenant in the \_\_ Regiment of the Virginia line; and that he received the commutation certificates for the five years full pay granted by the resolve of 22 March, 1783; and, further, that he received as a pensioner since the 3rd of March, 1826, nothing.

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his office.

By order of the Secretary

S/ F. A. Dickins

Treasury Department, Third Auditor's Office, 8th March 1830

It does not appear by the records of this office, that final settlement certificates have been issued for the commutation of five years full pay to Churchill Gibbs -- Lieutenant in the Virginia line.

It further appears that Churchill Gibbs is not now on the pension list of any agency, and has since the third March 1826.

The Revolutionary records in this Office, furnish no information whatever in relation to the services of Lieutenant Churchill Gibbs of the Virginia line.

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

[p. 78]

Pension office March 28, 1849

I hereby certify that I have examined the claim of the legal Representatives of Churchill Gibbs, under the Act of Congress of the 5th of July 1832, entitled "An act to provide for liquidating and paying certain claims of the State of Virginia," and that I find the said Churchill Gibbs was a Lieutenant in the First Virginia State Regiment when he was captured by the enemy on the 25th of April 1781, and that he continued a prisoner until the end of the war, and thereby became entitled to half pay for life. That he died on the 30th May 1846, and Thomas N. Welch is the Administrator of his estate.

I am therefore of opinion that his claim should be allowed at the rate of \$160 per annum from the 6th June 1781 to the 30th day of May 1846; that there should be deducted there from \$2468, being the amount paid by the State of Virginia to the said Gibbs in his lifetime as commutation and interest, and that the balance should be paid to the said Administrator Thomas N. Welch.

S/ J. L. E. [Edwards, Commissioner of pensions]

Approved

S/ T. Ewing Sec. Inter.

[p. 79]



exchanged until the end of the war. I further state that I believe he has lost his Commission.  
Given under my hand this 20th day of February 1830

S/ John Breedlove, X his mark

[p. 88]

In the Spring of the year 1777 I was acquainted with Lieutenant Churchill Gibbs who was then in the Army raised for the defense of this State, in the month of June following the Regiment to which he was attached marched to join the Army to the North under the command of General Washington where he continued until about the Commencement of the year 1780 when part of that Army was marched to the South & as he received the Commutation in lieu of half pay for life, he was considered to be in service until the end of the war.

S/ Wm Campbell



Richmond 4th of December 1815

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[Note: There are two 2-page files under the Virginia Bounty Land claims relating to Churchill Gibbs, but the contents of those files are either illegible as posted or do not provide any additional information regarding the services or life events of the veteran.]

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[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 20-page file relating to a claim by the veteran's heirs for additional bounty land

January 26, 1848

No Warrant appears to have issued from the Virginia Land Office to Churchill Gibbs except Warrants No. 3103 for 2666 2/3 acres & No. 6244 for 444 78/100 acres which Warrants issued to him for his services as a Lieutenant in the State line.

S/ J. H. Parker Reg L. Office

[p 2]

I Angus Rucker of Madison County do certify that Churchill Gibbs enlisted in Captain John Green's Company in September 1775 in 1778 he was appointed a Lieutenant in Captain Hamilton's Company in Colonel George Gibson's Regiment and he served in said Regiment as long as he continued to the North the said Gibbs was in service in Virginia in 1781 when he was taken prisoner and I do not believe he was exchanged before the close of the war of our Revolution. 6<sup>th</sup> of September 1834

S/ Angus Rucker  
late a Captain Revolutionary  
War &c &c

His Excellency

The Governor of Virginia will please give an order to the register of Virginia for the bounty in land due for my revolutionary services 6 October 1834

S/ Churchill Gibbs

[p 7]

To the Honorable the Executive of Virginia 8<sup>th</sup> January 1847

Churchill gives the applicant for additional bounty land entered as a private soldier under Captain John Green (subsequently Colonel) at Culpepper Courthouse on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 1775 one year See his statement upon which his bounty land was [illegible text interlined] at the end of which time he again enlisted in Captain Hamilton's Company of Colonel George Gibson's Regiment then on State establishment and about the time that Regiment was entered into the Continental Line September 1777, he was appointed a Lieutenant and served as such until that Regiment returned to Virginia [illegible text interlined] in the winter of 1779 – 80. The copy of his petition from the pension office will show the balance of his Service. He received 26 May 1784 2666 2/3 acres bounty land and 30<sup>th</sup> May 1813 444.70 as Lieutenant in the State Line. Judge Francis J Brook received 21<sup>st</sup> January 1784 2266 two thirds as Lieutenant, and in April 1838 was allowed the amount of a major that being the rank of his staff appointment as [several indecipherable words. This allowance was made to Major Brook upon his own statement upon oath. The statement of gives here with enclosed is upon his oath and I respectfully asked for him the bounty due his rank as Brigade Major deducting from it what he has heretofore received – he served not more than 2 years in the state line to wit from 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 1775 till September 1777 – the balance of his service was in the Continental line.

Respectfully Submitted

S/ Wm Heim [??]

Attorney for Gibbs

NB Please file these papers with those filed by me in this case some 8 or 10 years ago.

S/ W. H.

[p 8]

Richmond October 10<sup>th</sup> 1834

Dear Sir

On receiving your letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant I examined the records of the court of appeals and find that the judgments in your favor were for the commutation for five years full pay with interest from 1783 when the troops were discharged. In consequence of this judgment a certificate ought to have issued for the principal some carrying interest according to the judgment of the court. This certificate you can draw as you mentioned in your letter. If you retain it, you will perceive that it purports to carry interest. The interest warrants would be distinct from the certificate for the principal – whether you ever drew them or not I cannot tell. If you have drawn them the fact is I presume endorsed on the certificate. If you have transferred the certificate of the holder may have drawn them. I do not know that any provision was made by the state for the interest.

I am dear Sir respectfully

Your obedient

S/ J Marshall [John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court]

[p 13]

To the Executive of Virginia

I commenced service in the War of the Revolution in the month of September 1775 & enlisted in a company of regulars of which John Green of Culpeper was the Captain, that I was

afterwards promoted to a lieutenancy in Gibson's Regiment, that I continued in commission until the close of the War, at which time I was a prisoner on parole, that I received a commutation certificate from the State of Virginia. I was therefore entitled to bounty lands for 2/3<sup>rd</sup> [?] more than for three years service which I respectfully asks may now be allowed me, deducting therefrom what I have already received which the records at Richmond will show.

And I as in duty &c will &c

S/ Churchill Gibbs

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[From [Virginia Half-Pay record on Fold3.com](https://www.fold3.com): file of 113 pages]  
<https://www.fold3.com/image/616517885>

[p 4]

It appears from a List of Officers and others that were taken prisoners & paroled by the Enemy.

That Churchill Gibbs a Lieutenant in 1<sup>st</sup> State Regiment was taken prisoner on the 9 May 1781 by General Philips [sic, Major Genl. William Phillips], and paroled 25 May 1781 By order of Lord Cornwallis.

It appears he was from Culpeper

D. Dorrington

22 Jany 1850

[p 6: Certificate from JL Edwards transcribed from page 78 of the veteran's pension file as set forth above.]

[p 25]

The United States Dr. [Debtor] To Churchill Gibbs deceased Lieut. in the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia State Regiment

for his Half pay from February 6, 1781 to

May 30, 1846 when he died, being,

65 years 113 days at \$160 per annum	10,449.53
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deducting there from, the amount paid by

the State of Virginia as Commutation & interest	<u>2468.00</u>
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Dollars	7981.53
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Allowed by decision of the Secretary of the Interior dated March 28, 1849 –

As to provide for liquidating & paying Certain Claims of the State of Virginia Approved July 5, 1832

Dollars 7981.53

Treasury Department

Third Auditor's Office

March 29, 1849

Stated by

J. Kirkpatrick

Treasury Department  
Second Comptroller's Office  
March 29, 1849  
Ex'd J. M.

[p 27: Petition addressed to the House of Representatives of the United States from Thomas N. Welch, administrator of the estate of Churchill Gibbs seeking payment of his half pay.]

[Note: The contents of this file provide a very detailed description of the laws and regulations relating to the payment to Virginia officers of the half pay due them for service in the Revolution. Anyone interested in the details (and frustrations) of obtaining half pay should be interested in the contents of this file. I could find, however, no additional details of the service of the veteran in any of these documents. Consequently, I have elected not to transcribe them as I deem such subject beyond the scope of our database.]