

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Glidewell S32271

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 17 March 2021.

State of Indiana Shelby County Sct On this eleventh day of November 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Probate court of Shelby county Indiana now sitting William Glidewell a resident of Union Township in the county and state aforesaid aged seventy three years on the 4th day of March last, 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 1833 [sic: 1832]. that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated to wit. First. In the month of September or October 1778 he cannot say precisely which, he volunteered as a private soldier of the Militia, in the county of Halifax Virginia where he then resided, under Captain Peter Rogers, Lieutenants 1st George Wiley, 2nd Humphrey Hendricks, Ensign Alexander Moore and Sergeant Nathan Formsby, all of whom were officers of the company in which he served. While at home he was under the command of Colonel Wat Cole [Walter Cole] and Colonel John Boyd one of whom was Lieutenant Colonel, he does not now know which of them. Both of these remained at home. When he entered the service he was under the command of General [Thomas] Nelson. He does not know whether said Nelson was or was not of the regular army. The term for which he volunteered in this engagement was three months, the whole of which he served. The place of rendezvous where the volunteers met was a tavern called Rightbons on North River a Branch of the Roanoak [sic: Roanoke River] in Virginia. This place is in Halifax County aforesaid. After remaining here a little more than a week he and the company to which he belonged started on their march, to guard the sea port towns, it having been reported that the enemy were about to land. They first marched to Petersburg Virginia, passing through a hilly & broken country and crossing Roanoak river at Surputens[?] Ferry then marched to Williamsburg crossing on the way James river at Flowery hundred [probably Flower Dew Hundred in Prince George County], and Chickahominy river about a half days march from Williamsburg, thence marched to old York Virginia, there took shipping and went to Norfolk where he remained waiting with his company & two other companies that were there also for orders, untill his term of three months expired when he was discharged in writing by his Captain, in Portsmouth, on the oposite side of the river from Norfolk, about the month of December 1778 or January 1779. He cannot remember the dates exactly but knows that in this engagement he served precisely three months not including the time he spent returning home While on his march to Norfolk he & his company tarried 7 or 8 days at Williamsburg, where there were one or two companies of the regular army, under the command of two officers called Nat. Terry [Nathaniel Terry W3054] & Joe. Hopsons [probably Joseph Hopson] (he dont know what offices they held but thinks the one was a Captain and the other a lieutenant) who had been entrusted with the duty of recruiting and were then conducting those under their command to join Washingtons army then some place in the north. He was during this engagement, at no other time than this, with any part of the regular army, nor does he remember the names of any other of its officers, or of the militia with which he served excep those which he has mentioned. During this engagement he was in no battles. He does not remember the number of his company nor of the regiment to which it belonged, (if either of them was numbered which he does not know) He has lost the written discharge which at the end of his first term he had from his captain. Part of the men returned by water to York with the officers, but most of his Company among which was claimant returned by land. General Nelson visited the companies while a Norfolk but twice. Once he came of his own accord, & the other time he was sent for on the following occasion. A gentleman who lived on Chickahominy above mentioned, had been trading to Europe, it was thought, in violation of law, & was suspected with being a tory and a traitor to his country. Charges were brought against him and he was arrested and kept under guard. Deponent stood guard over him one night. He was tried at Williamsburg and General Nelson was sent for to attend his trial. He was cleared. Deponent forgets his name. When deponent arrived at Norfolk a tory was held in custody under guard of the soldiers, charged with the murder of the wife and child of a Whig who had

made some disclosures against the said tory. He was tried at Norfolk & condemned: but by some means had another trial at Williamsburg where he was also condemned and hung. While at Norfolk before being taken to Williamsburg deponent stood guard over him one night. He forgets his name also.

2nd. Sometime in the month of March 1780 he was drafted into the service of the United States, for the term of three months as a private soldier of the Militia in the county of Halifax Virginia where he still continued to reside. The officers of the company to which, after being called out, he was attached were Captain William Carr Lieutenant Joseph Gill, Ensign William Wade, sergeant Richard Boyd. The officers of the regiment to which he belonged before he was called out were Colonel Watt Cole & Lieutenant Colonel John Boyd. General Green and Colonel John Washington he thinks were officers of the army then in service in the south [sic: see endnote] & under whose command he thinks the drafts were intended to be put. He does not remember the names of any other officers. During this engagement he saw neither Gen. Green nor Colonel Washington but believes they were someplace on the borders of Virginia. He was not during this engagement at any time with any portion of the regular army. Gen. Green & Col. Washington he believes were officers of the regular army He left home immediately after he was drafted, marche to Richmond about 100 miles from home, from which place he learned that a part of the regular army had started about a month before his arrival to join the whole army He tarried here 8 or 9 days with the company waiting for orders then marched across to Petersburg staid there nearly two weeks waiting for orders, then marched along the same rout as above described in the preceeding engagement, to Williamsburg Va, where the soldiers took up quarters in the capital & tarried till his three months had expired – still waiting for orders and guarding the towns. He served during this engagement three months at the end of which time he was discharged in writing by his Captain, but has lost the discharge. This was some time in the month of June 1780. He cannot recollect either the day of the month when he entered nor when he quit the service in this engagement, but knows he served just three months. He was in no battles during the time. They expected to be called to [Gen.] Washington but were not. Claimants Company did not meet with any other during the term. He is not certain that General Green commanded in the south at this time.

3rd This Claimant was a third time called into the service of the United States in the month of March 1781. Does not remember the day of the month. Was drafted for 3 months, the whole of which he served, under Captain Charles Booker, Lieutenant Nathan Camp Ensign Tim Warren [Timothy Warren] Sergeant Hackley Warren brother of the Ensign. He was drafted as a private soldier of the militia. Robert Jones was his captain while at home. He understood that the reason why he did not go out was, because it was the duty of the eldest Captain to go: this was Capt. Booker, Capt Smith was Lieutenant at home and Buck Wall Ensign Wallace Wilson Sergeant, Wat Cole Colonel & John Boyd Lieutenant colonel, neither of these last mentioned was called out. He does not know the number of his regiment or company. The army was in the South, thinks in one of the carolinas, they expected to join the general army under Gen Green & Col. Washington. They rendezvoused at Dans River and marched to Moon's Creek [probably Moon Creek in Caswell County] in North Carolina where they staid 6 weeks waiting for orders, went thence to Charles' ford on Kataway river [Catawba River?] North Carolina where they laid three weeks waiting for orders, went thence to Talbots Ferry Broad River N.C. where they staid till the three months had expired, which was in June 1781 (dont remember the day of the month) at which time he was discharged by his captain, in writing, which discharge also he has lost. He served just three months this engagement. The object in going out was to guard the towns, and wait for orders to join Green's army in South Carolina. He still continued to live at Halifax County Virginia. He was in no battles during this term. He returned home when discharged.

4th About the last of August 1782 he was again drafted into the service of the United States as a private soldier of the militia for the term of 3 months, under Captain Robert Jones Lieutenant Jacob Falkner, Ensign Richard Jones, Sergeant Walace Wilson [Wallace Wilson] The reason why he was called out on this occasion, was, that a report was in circulation that the British were about to land at Norfolk. They were intended to guard the towns particularly Norfolk, and, if ordered, to join the army which was still under Gen. Green and Colonel Washington [sic: see endnote]. Claimant still lived in Halifax County, Va.

Marched to Meherring river [sic: Meherrin River] about 50 miles from home in the direction of Petersburg, where they were discharge in writing, the officers having received orders to return home, as their services would not be wanted, the report about the landing of the Enemy at Norfolk being false. They had been seen but passed by. He served in this engagement eleven days. He has lost this discharge also: was in no battles. was with none of the continental troops, or any part of the army except his own company.

5. About the last of September of the same year 1782 claimant was again drafted as a private soldier of the militia into the service of the United States for the term of 3 months, under the same officers as in the last mentioned engagement, and upon a similar occasion, to wit, in consequence of a report that the English were about to land at Norfolk. Still lived in Halifax county Virginia, marched as far as Petersburg 120 miles from home; here received a written discharge for the same reason as in the last engagement, has lost it also met with none of the regular army, or militia except his own company. He served during this engagement 20 days.

6th. About the middle of July 1781, this Claimant was drafted into the service of the United States for the term of 3 months as a private soldier of the militia, under Capt. John Falkner Lieutenant Jacob Falkner Ensign Craft Wald and Colonel Peter Rogers. He resided at the same place (Halifax County Virginia) He marched the same rout described in his first mentioned engagement till he arrived at Old York Virginia where he remained till his term of three months had expired and eight days over. Cornwallis and Tarlton [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton] had possession of Old York. The general army was there present. Also General Washington, LayFayette [Lafayette] & Green [sic: see endnote] and Colonel Washington [sic]. The American Army laid there some time firing hot balls and log chains into the town for the purpose of setting it on fire. They set a number of houses on fire. Cornwallis being in a strait asked of General Washington three days to consider of terms of compromise or surrender. He understood that this time was not granted, and Cornwallis surrendered [19 Oct 1781]. He thinks Cornwallis surrendered to the French general. [see endnote] Does not remember the number either of the company or regiment to which he belonged either in this or either of the other above mentioned engagements. He served during this engagement three months and eight days, and was discharged, (by written discharge which he has lost) soon after the taking of Cornwallis and about the last of October 1781, when he returned home, the whole period of his service amounting to thirteen months and nine days.

Claimant was born in Halifax County Virginia on the 4th of March 1760. He has a record of his age in a Testament which he here produces in Court. He has now no documentary evidence of his service having lost all the discharges which he received, and knows of no living witness whose testimony he can procure as to the same, except Robert Glidewell [R4065], his brother who now lives in Franklin County Indiana, and who has some personal knowledge of his service; but who is unable by reason of old age and bodily infirmity to attend this court: whose evidence however, so far as the said Robert could testify, this deponent has procured to be taken before Miles C. Eggleston judge of the Circuit Court of Franklin County Indiana, in writing, which this deponent here produces in this court, the same being duly certified by the clerk of the said court of the said county of Franklin. The said Robert can only testify as to the Deponents services in the first second and third of his above engagements, and as to the rest of his services this deponent says that he knows of no living witness whatever whose testimony he can procure as to the same. He refers to Massy Brown Robert Brown William Cotton John Rice and Thomas Gouldin, persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. In each engagement he served as a private soldier of the militia, He continued to live after the Revolution till the year 1784 when he was 24 years old, in Halifax County Virginia, at which time he removed to Lawrence [sic: Laurens] County South Carolina and lived there 19 years then moved to Hamilton County Ohio, lived there 7 or 8 years and perhaps more, then moved to Shelby County Ind where he has lived ever since. He was drafted each time except the first when he volunteered. For the time during which his above mentioned services were performed he was engaged in no civil pursuit.

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 or territory.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year first aforesaid. William hisXmark Glidewell

State of Indiana } Sct.

Franklin County } [23 Oct 1833]

Before the subscriber Judge of the Circuit Court of Franklin County personally came Robert Glidewell of said County who being duly sworn deposed and saith that he is well acquainted with William Glidewell of Shelby County Indiana, who is his brother, That the said William Glidewell volunteered, he thinks, in September or October 1778 under Capt Peter Rogers, in Halifax County Virginia, and marched to Norfolk Virginia, that at this time he served three months as a private soldier of the Militia in the service of the United States, under said Captain. This deponent was not with his said brother, but went to the place of rendezvous with him & saw him start and knows when he returned. That the said William Glidewell again was drafted in the spring of 1780 and served three months as a private soldier of the militia in the service of the United States, that he marched at this time to Williamsburg Virginia, & served the said three months under Captain William Carr. He had the same knowledge of this as of the preceding term of service. That the said William Glidewell again was drafted into the service of the United state under Captain Charles Booker, in the summer of 1781 for 3 months which time he served, as a private soldier of the Militia. This time he marched for Carolina. He had the same knowledge of this as of the preceding terms of service. Soon afterwards this deponent married and left home and has no personal knowledge of subsequent services of his brother the said William Glidewell, but has understood from him and believes that he served several tours subsequently. This deponent is unable by reason of bodily infirmity to appear in the court of Shelby County where his brother resides

Robert Glidewell

NOTES:

Gen. Nathanael Greene arrived in the South in December 1780 and remained in the Carolinas until the end of the war. Lt. Col. William Washington arrived in South Carolina early in 1780, was captured at the Battle of Eutaw Springs SC on 8 Sep 1781, and remained a prisoner until the end of the war.

Cornwallis did not personally surrender at Yorktown, but delegated that task to Gen. Charles O'Hara. O'Hara proffered the sword to the French General Rochambeau, who directed that it be surrendered to the Americans.