

Pension Application for Henry Guile or Gile or Gill, Giels

W.19560 (Widow: Zillah) Married January 3, 1784. He died February 27, 1835.

State of New York

Otsego County SS

On the 15th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas holden in the Court House in Cooperstown in and for the County of Otsego Henry Gile a resident of of [sic] the Town of Lawrins [Laurens] County of Otsego and State of New York aged seventy six 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 provisions of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That [he] lived during the early part of the Revolutionary War in a frontier settlement in the Town of Florida in the County of Montgomery that he was frequently engaged on scouting parties previous to the year 1780 as a militiaman (1) in the service of the United States that he does not recolect [recollect] well enough to state the periods [periods] but I should think he was engaged in such service three or four months in all.

That in the month of March in the year 1780 he [was] living at the Town of Florida in said County of Montgomery enlisted into the aforesaid service as a soldier in the state troops in the New York line under the command of Capt. Garrett Putnam (2) that he marched to Fort Hunter and was attached to Colonel Willott's [Willett's] Regiment that he enlisted for nine months that he was engaged in a Battle at the Town of Sharon in the County of Schoharie.

That he continued in that compony [company] nine months and was discharged verbally sometime in the month of December following. That he again enlisted living at the same place aforesaid some time in March 1781 for nine months under the command of Capt. French (3) and was attached to Colonel Willott Regiment in the New York Line as above. Marched to Fort Plain from thence to Fort Wallrod thence to Fort House from thence to German Flatts were he staid about two months from thence down to Schenectada from there took boats and Provisions up to Fort Stanwix (4) from thence back to Fort Hunter from thence up the River to Fort Plain and German Flatts where he staid till discharged about Christmas that he was engaged as a volunteer on scouting parties a number of times after his enlistment for short periods but that he cannot specify the particular periods.

That he has no documentary evidence but that he knew Ray Gile of Oneonta during the Revolutionary War who was knowing to my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Interrogatories by the Court

Where and in what year were you born I was born in the town of Preston in the County of Norwich in the State of Connecticut in the [year] 1755.

Have you any Record of your age if so where is it I have no Record of my age except as I learn it from my step mother where were you living when called into the service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live I

lived in the Town of Florida in the County of Montgomery during all my engagements in the service I have lived in Florida in Montgomery in Schoharrie and in Otsego County I live now in the Town of Lawrence [Laurens] in the County of Otsego & State of New York how were you called into the service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom I entered the service of the Uniden [United] States as a volunteer on scouts and twice I enlisted state the names of some of the regular troops where you served such Continental and Militia Regiments as you recollect and the general circumstances of your service Colonel Peter Gansevoort (5) Colonel Morenus Willott [Marinus Willett] both regiments being sometimes together at the same Post I was sometimes out on scouts I carried provisions up the Mohawk River to supply the Posts & Forts along that River did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it signed I think I never had a written discharge state the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to you[r] character for truth and veracity your services as a soldier I am well acquainted with Ray Gile and was so acquainted during the Revolution who can testify as to my services as a soldier (Signed) Henry Guile

Sworn & subscribed in open court the 15th day of October 1832. Horace Lathrop Clerk.

End Notes—W.19560—Henry Guile

1. In Ray Gile's Pension Application R.4017, Ray states he enlisted in Captain David McMaster's Sixth Company in Colonel Frederick Visscher's Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia. Ray and Henry were brothers living in the same area and should have served in the same company. So far there is no record of them serving in Colonel Visscher's Regiment. So far there is only a record of John Giles, Guyles serving in Colonel Visscher's Regiment.
2. Henry has the wrong year of his enlistment. Henry enlisted in 1781 in Captain Garret Putman's Company in Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. On September 30, 1843, Deputy Comptroller Philip Phelps' affidavit gives the following:
Certificates 30 Nov 1781 £ 19 . . 0 . . 5
and 31st Dec 1781 £ 2 . . 13 . . 4 for service in Captain Putman's Company.
In Captain Putman's receipt roll lists *£ 21 . . 13 . . 9 wks transferred to Jacob Cuyler.*
Col. Willett swore to the roll on Oct 28, 1785 for being true.
FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3. Abner French was appointed Captain on April 10, 1782 in Colonel Willett's Regiment. In November, Captain French retired from the service and Lieutenant Jellis A. Fonda was appointed Captain of this company.
4. Fort Schuyler also referred to as Fort Stanwix was abandoned by June of 1781 because of the damage in May from flooding and a fire. This service was probably in 1781.

5. Peter Gansevoort was appointed Colonel of the Third New York Continental Regiment on November 21, 1776. On January 1, 1781, the Third New York being the senior colonel of the New York Line, remained in command of his regiment and Gansevoort retired from Continental service. Gansevoort was appointed brigadier general on March 26, 1781 of the First Brigade of the Albany County Militia.