Pension Application of John Kirk: S5558
                    Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia Giles County SS
On this 27th day of August 1832
        Personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Giles
County now sitting, John Kirk a resident of the County of Giles in the state of Virginia aged
Seventy eight years on the 10th day of October next who being first duly sworn according to law
doth on is Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of
Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That in February 1776 he enlisted as a soldier in the service
of the United States for two years under Capt John Chilton of the Continental or Virginia line,
under Thomas Marshall Major and that he marched from Fauquier County the place of his
residence to Alexandria (D.C.) and there joined the regiment commanded by Col. [Hugh] Mercer
at which place they resided for some time & from whence the regiment to which he belonged
marched to Williamsburg and from thence they marched to New York where Col Mercer was
promoted to a brigadier general [June 1776]. One [George] Weedon took Command of the
regiment. Maj'r Marshall was promoted to a Col. and ___ Leash[?] commanded as Major and was
killed in a skirmish with the British in York island, and Capt Lee was appointed Major to fill the
vacancy occasioned by Leash's death. He further states that he with the army continued at York
island for some time, from which place they were marched to White plains above New York from
thence they were marched some distance up the North river above the White plains and crossed
the river (at a place called Fishkill – Piskill or some other such name) and marched into New
Jersey from thence into Pennsylvania, and Camped on the bank of the Delaware on Christmas
and (as well as he now remembers) on the following morning they crossed the Delaware &
marched into Trenton and took the Hessian prisoners. they then recrossed the Delaware taking
the prisoners to the Pennsylvania side – in a few days afterwards they recrossed the Delaware
and took possession of Trenton, and continued there a few days and from thence he with the
army took a circuitous route and fell in at Princeton, and was in the battle fought in the vicinity
of that place [3 Jan 1777] where Gen'l. Mercer was Killed [mortally wounded; died 12 Jan]. after
the battle of Princeton he was taken sick and sent to the hospital in Philadelphia. And in the
spring of 1777 he again joined the Army in Bonbrook [sic: Boundbrook] or Middlebrook in New
Jersey and marched in various directions until information was received that the British had
landed at the head of Elk [now Elkton MD, 28 Aug 1777]. he marched into Pennsylvania & from
thence to the state of Delaware, and was at the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] where Major
Lee was killed. Capt. West was appointed Major to fill the vacancy occasioned by Maj. Lee's
death. Capt. Chilton was likewise killed and John Blackwell took command of the Company. He
further states that the regiment to which he belonged, and the whole army was engaged for
sometime (after the battle of Brandywine) in the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, watching the
movements of the enemy marching and countermarching to different places, among others they
marched to Germantown, where they had a considerable engagement with the British [4 Oct
1777]. And that the army continued to watch the movements of the enemy until it went into
winter quarters at valley forge, where he was regularly discharged. Which discharge he has lost.
he also states that after he arrived in New York he was under the command of General
Washington and belonged to the brigade composed of the 3rd 7th 15th & 11 regiments which was
commanded by Gen'l. Wood.
        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.   John Kirk