

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John May VAS535

vsl 6VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/28/13

[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. 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 fails 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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

John May – Ensign

Rej. 10 January 1833

Resubmitted June 18th 1837

Rejected

To his Excellency the Governor and Honorable the Council of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Memorial of John May now of the State of North Carolina and County of Rockingham humbly sheweth –

That whereas your memorialist has been informed by the Secretary of your Committee that his claim for land bounty has been rejected on the ground that the evidence was not satisfactory in showing how and at what time he left the service of the State of Virginia your Memorialist affirms that after he served with Captain John Nicholas two years he was appointed Ensign by the Governor & Council of Virginia (Henry [Patrick Henry] then Governor) on the recruiting service and that he recruited men in various Counties of the State particularly his native County Buckingham some of which recruits he sent on to the North: others were retained in Williamsburg with himself & Colonel Haynes Morgan to defend the State of Virginia from a threatened invasion of the British on their way south after the Battles of Germantown & Monmouth. Your memorialist continued in the service until it was manifest the enemy had gone to the South when the militia were discharged: The services of your memorialist were in the year 1778 & 1779. In December 1779 (the precise date he does not now recollect) he moved from the State & consequently the service of the State of Virginia he left & went to North Carolina where he served in the Militia of that State until the end of the War – Your memorialist states that when he moved from the State of Virginia his commission & other papers were left in Buckingham & have since been lost and he has now no [the image of this document is cut off at the bottom at this point]

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a bounty of land for 3 years Service in the State of Virginia, and he humbly hopes that the Certificate of Colonel Nicholas and his former declaration with the additional Memorial sufficiently prove the performance of his service: Whatever may be your decision your petitioner in that (without reference to his necessitous circumstances again) will humbly & silently acquiesce.

S/ John May



[attested in Rockingham County North Carolina December 5, 1832]

I do hereby certify that Mr. John May formerly of Buckingham County Virginia now of Campbell County Virginia enlisted with me in 1775 as a soldier in the minute service in which I was a first Lieutenant which minute men were marched to the Holston against the Cherokee nation of Indians: & afterwards reenlisted with me (a Captain in the 6th additional Regiment of the Virginia line on Continental establishment; but which Company with 4 others were transferred to the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson: he served faithfully as well as I can now recollect as my orderly Sergeant two years when he was appointed an Ensign in the 2nd Virginia State Regiment which served in the North where I saw it in actual service. After that I saw and knew nothing of Mr. May personally but understood and have good reason to believe he served to the end of 1779 just 3 years in all.

Buckingham County Virginia

S/ John Nicholas
Captain & Lieutenant Colonel
Revy army

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Nicholas". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[Attested August 9, 1831 in Buckingham County Virginia]