

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Michael Boyls (Boyle) R1108
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } SS
County of Randolph }

On this 16th Day of January AD 1833 Personally appeared before me Jacob Keller one of the Commonwealths Justices of the Peace for the county of Randolph aforesaid; Michel Boyles, Resident of the county and state aforesaid, aged 70 years who being first duly sworn according to Law: doth on his oath make the the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress Pased June the 7th 1832

That he entered the service under the folowing named officers and served as herein stated
I entred the United States service under Captain Stephen Munson & Leutanant Timothy Tuttle the Ensigns name I have forgotten My Field officers names I have forgotten But I frequently seen Genls George Washington & Layfette [sic: Lafayette] and there was one Col. Sealey [sic: Seeley] who commanded a part of the time Shortly after I wait into the service we was marched from Morriss Town [sic: Morristown] New Jersey to Springfield to meet the Kings troops which was marching out from New York we met them at Springfield and tried to repel their march into that Town and a Battle took place [probably 23 Jun 1780] at a Bridg near the Town a cross a small watter the name of which I have forgotten several ware killed in this fight on Both sides and we ware forced to retreat; the British troops being too strong for us; We only retreated out of gun shot and stood when in a short time I saw the Town of Springfield razed in flames of fire the British troops that night Retreeted towords New York again and on the next morning we Pursued them as far as to Elizebeth Town Point where they had arected a small fort whitch we destroyed; and ware then discharged I entered the service in May (the day of the month I do not recollect) 1780 — There was a general Call and all who was able to Bear Arms had to go into the service I was in the service at this time about one month My resedence was then in New Jersey (about five miles from Morriss Town My Father lived with whom I resided) I had scearsly got home until I was again called into the service and did Enter the service in July 1780 under the same company officers (as well as I can recolect) I know that Tuttle was our Lieutenant in this service I continued upwards of Twelve months the Princpal part of which time I was stationed at Morriss Town New Jersey My Employments ware frequently changed I was several times sent out on scouting parties the British and torey (Tories) ware then doing a great deal of Injury in our own neighbourhood and it might be said that war Raged there; a part of the time I was ingaged in Wagoning being one selected out for that purpose and hauled the sick & for the sick &c. during this campain I was under different officers; But cannot recolect perticklerly their names Except those I have mentioned nor can I at this Day recolect the names or Numbers of the Regiments to which I then belonged during this tower I do not recolect of Taking a part in any Battles worth mentioning we ware not doing much there the soldiers got allmost naked for close [clothes] and we Drew no Pay; the soldier and some of the officers got very discontented on the subject and some of some of them ware going to turn mutious [mutinous] & If I recolect right some did mutnize and marched away and a new set come in theire room or to my part My Father only lived 5 miles off and I never sufferd for food or clothing I was discharged from this service in August 1781 and shortly afterwords my Father sold his property near Morriss Town New Jersey and moved to Hampshire County Virginia where I had not been Long until there was a call for soldiers to go and Fight an Army of Tories that had collected them selvs together on the South fork of the North Branch of Potomac into this service I recolect that, I volunteerd we marched against them and made Battle But the Fled and took to the mountains over Rocks that would astonish any man to bew lave [believe?] at the Present day on being informed of the facts; they made scarce house sertence [?] all tho they ware more numerus then we

ware, for they ware some hundreds strong we did several take and I seen one Cother Hang a man who (he said) was a Tory until he was dead with a Straw rope to the Arel[?] of a gate Posts tho after he had been cut down he com to life again; we ware discharged from this expedition which did not exseed three weeks I have forgotton my Company officers the Field officer who Commanded us was one Williams; I then returned home and my Father removed to Alegany County in the state of Meritland [sic: Allegany County, Maryland] where some time Afterwards I was drafted and wait against the Ensurgants who had rased in the western Part of Pennsylvania [probably the Whiskey Boys during the Whiskey Rebellion, 1791-1794] this Tower I also served; But have no person who served with me in the service aganst the English & Tores to Prove my services only I expect to prove by my Brother Gilbert Boyles that I was called and actively wait into service But he did not serve with me; nor have I any discharges to show my services If I had any it got Burnt in my Dweling house which was Burnt about 35 years ago all my Papers with the record of my age was then destroyed I do not recolect of my ever having a discharge in writing or Print tho if any soldier who served when I did got a discharge; I did; for I always obiyed my Superiour officers and served as directed when ever called on and I mearly mention my services against the insurgants to show that fact; I have now grown so old and decriped that I am not able to travle to the Court house of Randolph in order that these proseedings might be taken before the Court; which is neare forty miels from my residence nor would I put the officers of Government to the truble to investigate my clames nor the Government to Pay the same if actully nessistiy did not force me so to do for I would sooner give to government then take from her be the clame ever so just ware her situation so critical as at the Days of my services

He hereby Relinquishes every Clame whatsoever to a Pension or anuity except the present and Declears that his name is not on the Pension role of any agency of any state Michel Boyls

I Jacob Keller a justice of the peace for the county of Randolph and state of Virginia being the same before whom the investigation of this Pentioner or Aparcant for Pention has been taken do sertify that the interrogatories as has been required by the war department to be perpounded to all applicants for Pention on account of services in the Militia state Troops or volunteers except the Militia of New Hampshire [sic] and the state Troop of Virginia being Propounded the said Michel answers as folows to the first Derrogatory – he was born in the state of New Jersey within 5 miles of Morriss Town as to the year he was born he is not certain. But he thinks about the year 1763

To the 2^d – the record of his age was Burnt and he knows of no other

To the 3^d in New Jersey lived when called the first & second time in to service That he resided in Hampshire county Virginia when he volunteered against the Tories and that he resided in Aleganney County state of Mereland when he was drafted to go against the insurgants he moved to Randolph County Virginia where he has resided ever since

To the 4th – he sais he was taken in the Troops of New Jersey by a call as he thinks from the governor of that state which was for all men able to bear Armes he dos not recolect of being drafted That in the expedition against the Tories he volunteer'd and against the insurgants he was drafted

To the 5 he sase he Recolects no regular officers except Genls Washington & Lafeatte and one Col. Sealy But dos not know wheather he was a regular officer or of the Militia he was not Particklerly acquainted with them But knew them when he seen them which was frequent he dose not recolect the Nombor or names of the Regements But recolects of there being distinctions amongst them and that he was in diferent employments during his servises and under diferent officers he dose not recolect of geting a discharge in writing or Print But if he did it got Burnt with his house and his other papers about 35 year ago

To the 7th he is known by most of the sitizens Randolph and perticklar well known in his own neighbourhood by Rev Simeon Harriss George Nestor Esq and Captain John Ryan [pension application S18584] all of whom have long since known him Michel Boyls

State of Virginia } SS
Randolph County }

personally appeared before me Jacob Keller one of the commonwealths Justices of the peace for said County Gilbert Boyls of said county who made oath in due form of Law that he knew his Brother Michel Boyles when he was called in the servis in the state of New Jersey that he knew of his being in the service when the Army was stationed at Morris Town that he was called in the service at sundry times that he has reason to believe he served in all more than Twelve months and that he knows of his Brither Michel gitting his house Burnt about 35 years ago, But dose not recolect of ever seeing a written discharge in his Possesion That he was not in the Army at that time with his Brother Michel But that he was mostly in the service at Morriss Town New Jersey and that did not exseed 5 miles from where his Father lived that Michel had frequently Permits to come home and some of the family ware every 2 or 3 Day of the garrison.

State of Virginia } SS
Randolph County }

pearsonally appeared before me Jacob Keller a justice of the peace for said county Captain John Ryan of said county who made oath in Due form of Law That he had been acquainted with Michel Boyles the Present aplicant for Pension for near forty years, That he had been always ben reputed a good & honest sitizen and a friend to his country and that he has reson to believe that said Boyles was in an expedition against the Tories as stated in his declaration that he (said Ryan) was in said expidition and that on having a convesation with said Boyles has reason to believe he was in said service; And that the Part of his declaration stating that he was drafted and served against the Insurgents is true for that he (said Ryan) then Commanded a company of Militia in the county of Aleganey in the State of Mereland & there being a call for men to go against the insurgents and two men being called for out of his company and Lots being drawn it fell upon one Joseph Davis and said Michel Boyles; Davis hired a substitute and Boyles served his Tower & some time after word he was informed that said Boyles had got his house Burnt and not long afterwards he (said Ryan) removed to Randolph County Virginia where he has Resided ever since that said Boyles removed into his neighbourhood within about six miles of him where he has resided for upwards of Twenty years (That he well recolects the Father of said Michel Boyles that he was a warm Friend to his Country) and that it is & has been believed that said Boyls has served as he has stated in his declaration

Randolph County to Wit

Personally appeared before me Jacob Keller one of the Commonwealth's justices of the peace in & for said county – Michael Boyls who being duly sworn according to Law deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memmory he cannot swear Positive as to the presise lenth of (Time of) his services But to the Best of his recolection the first Tower mentioned in his anexed declaration ware not less then one month That the 2^d Tower mentioned therein ware not less then Twelve month (or one year) That the 3^d Tower mentioned therein ware not less then 3 weeks and that three Towers is all that he served during the revolutionary war making in all one year one months and Twenty One Days That during the Twelve months service he acted as a Teamster not longer then two weeks that he [several illegible words] Hauling or as a Teamster his is certain, and he never [several illegible words] then a common soldier Sworn and subscribed this 11th Day of June – 1833 Michel Boyls

State of Virginia } Ss
County of Randolph }

personally appeared befoure me George Nestor a justice of the peace for said county Michel Boyls who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath further state as follows that he served his first

term which was one month under Captain Stephen Munson Lieutenant Timothy Tuttle and Ensign Green and that he served his second tower which was not less then Twelve months under the same officers and that Colonel Sealey commanded the garrison at Morris Town in the Absence of General Washington and that Major Ball was the next in command that he served both those Towers making thirteen months in all under the same officers except about fourteen Days that he was engaged in waging for the Army while the Pennsylvania troops were stationed at said garrison That he was Drafted and served as a soldier in the Infentry he dose not recolect of any alotment but thinks it was a general call for all who could bear arms he dose not recolect what Regement he belonged to during Both these terms of service he was always in the field or garrison and only fourteen Days as a Teemster nor was he in any sivel persuits during said terms The third term he [illegible word] of Volenteering against the Tories that tour did not exseed three weeks he dos not recolect his captains name but thiks it was Abraham Johnson the rest of the company officers he has entierly fortgotten But recolets that a Major cauld Williams commanded the party called Whigs of whom he said Boyls was one (see declaration)

25 December 1833

Michel Boyls