

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Miles R7168

f81NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 4/30/09 & 6/2/15

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of Georgia, County of Baldwin: SS

On this the twenty seventh day of May anno Domini 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable ~~John A. Cuthbert~~, Thomas H Kenan, William F. Scott, William Grigg and William W. Carnes Esquires Justices of the Inferior Court for the County aforesaid Thomas Miles a citizen of said County aged seventy two 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 act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 1832.—

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated Viz.—That he served a tour of duty of three months beginning the 20<sup>th</sup> September 1779 or 1780 (the year not precisely remembered) and ending the 20<sup>th</sup> December of the same year—as a drafted man in the regiment of Col. William Moore of the North Carolina Militia—He was a private in the Company commanded by Capt. John Faulkner (the remainder of the Company officers not recollected).—The Field officers during this tour of duty were Genl. Davidson [William Lee Davidson], Genl. John Butler and Col. Shelby [Isaac Shelby] —before the tour had ended Genl. Greene [Nathanael Greene] assumed the command.<sup>1</sup> —Declarant was during this tour of duty in an engagement at the Shallow ford of the Yadkin river in which the Tory commander Col. Bryan was defeated—and killed—In this engagement Col. Paisley [John Paisley] commanded—Harrison was the company commander—this battle took place in October—This applicant was during this tour detached under Genl. Morgan [Daniel Morgan] to take Rugilly [sic, Rugeley's] fort near Camden in South Carolina, which fort surrendered [December 4, 1780] to a detachment under the command of Col. William Washington;--at the time of the draft declarant resided in the County of Caswell N. C.—The militia rendezvoused at Hillsboro—they were marched from thence to the Island ford on the Yadkin [River]—thence to the Shallow ford—They marched from Charlotte in the County of Mecklenburg through the Waxsaw [sic, Waxhaw] settlement down the Wateree River to the capture of Rugeley's fort; from which they returned by Charlotte to Salisbury with their prisoners—at which place the applicant was discharged. This applicant does not remember the continental regiments—or companies with which he served—or the names of any of the regular officers—this applicant further states that the draft was ordered by the Governor of North Carolina—That during this tour he was in camp at Salisbury near three weeks—also in camp near six weeks at Charlotte—the remainder of the

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<sup>1</sup> Nathanael Greene assume command of the Southern Division of the Continental Army in Charlotte North Carolina on December 2, 1780.

tour he was engaged in scouting—or in march from place to place--& that during the three months he was exclusively engaged in the service of the U. S.—This applicant further states that he has no documentary evidence by which he can establish the fact of his service as aforesaid nor does he know of any person in this state by whom he could prove it.

This applicant further states that in the year 1781 he performed two tours of duty as a volunteer mounted militiaman—both under the command of Col. William Moore—The first tour of duty in said year, began the fifteenth day of February—and terminated the 31<sup>st</sup> March next thereafter—He was a private in the company commanded by Capt. Dudley Reynolds--& Lieutenant Moses Richardson—At the time this applicant commenced this tour of duty, Genl. Greene was retreating before Lord Cornwallis—Declarant was in the engagement in which Col. Piles [sic, John Pyle] the Tory officer was defeated [February 25, 1781] and killed by the hand of Capt. Reynolds who on this occasion preserved the life of Col. Moore—this engagement was in Chatham County N. C.—this applicant was also in the engagement at Whitesell's [sic, Wetzel's or Weitzel's] Mills [March 6, 1781] on Haw River under the command of General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] who was obliged to retreat before Ld. Cornwallis—this applicant was also in the battle at Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781] under the command of Genl. Greene and the regiment and company officers before named—The Army was concentrated at Guilford Ct. House the day before the battle where Genl. Pickens joined Genl. Greene, after the defeat of the American army it retreated through Guilford County into Rockingham [County]—and upon Cornwallis' departure, retreated back into Guilford County—Colonels Williams [Otho Williams], Washington and Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] are the only Continental officers recollected—This applicant is unable to state what continental regiments or companies he served with—The volunteer company in which applicant served was raised by Col. Wm. Moore—who had returned home from the army with orders from Genl. Greene to raise volunteer mounted men and join Genl. Pickens.—The volunteers rendezvoused at Borings (about 15 miles from Hillsboro) at which place they joined Genl. Pickens—no other field officer remembered than Genl. P.—of his service in this tour this applicant states that he has no documentary evidence having sent in his discharges to a board of Auditors who gave him a certificate for £ 46 10S—which proved utterly worthless & which certificate has been lost--& he further states that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. During this tour declarant was engaged in no civil pursuit whatever.—

The second tour of duty performed by applicant in 1781 as a volunteer mounted man—began the first day of September 1781—applicant served till the tenth of November next ensuing—when he was discharged—In this tour applicant was a private—The volunteers were raised under the orders of Genl. John Butler—the Governor of North Carolina [sic, Thomas Burke] being at that time a prisoner in the hands of the Tories in Wilmington)—the volunteers rendezvoused at Hillsboro thence marched to Fayetteville—thence to near Wilmington to watch the movements of Major Craig—and Fannin [sic, David Fanning]. In this tour this applicant was under the command of Genl. Butler & Col. Moore; --Capt. Spillsby Coleman and Lieutenant James Burton were his company commanders—During this tour an engagement took place at Baldwin's plantation<sup>2</sup> in the lower part of North Carolina in which the British and Tories were commanded by Major Craig—the combat was in the night—the Americans retained possession of the ground. The volunteers marched from Caswell Court house in pursuit of the Tory officer Col. Fannin [sic, David Fanning] & pursued him near about two hundred miles without success

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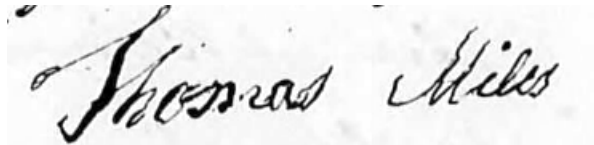
<sup>2</sup> Probably the skirmish at Brown Marsh, September 1781.

through Orange and Chatham counties & others not now remembered—Col. Mabin [sic, Robert Mebane] a continental officer was with the volunteers in the pursuit of Fanning—this applicant was discharged between Fayetteville and Wilmington—no other particulars are remembered which can aid in establishing the fact of applicant's service as aforesaid—applicant has no documentary testimony nor does he know any person whose testimony he can procure who can establish the fact of his performance of this third tour of military duty—During this tour also applicant was engaged exclusively in his military pursuit.

This applicant 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 whatever.

Sworn to in open court and subscribed before us the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Miles

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

Test:

S/ W. F. Scott, J. J. C. B. C.  
S/ Wm. Grigg, J. J. C. B. C.  
S/ Thomas H. Kenan, J. J. C. B. C.  
S/ W. W. Carnes, J. J. C. B. C.

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The Answers of Thomas Miles to the Interrogatories propounded by the War Department.  
To the first – he answers that he was born the 10<sup>th</sup> November 1760 in Spotsylvania County, Virginia.

To the second – That he has not the original records of his age – but has a true copy of it now in his possession.

To the third – That he was living in Caswell County North Carolina – when called into service – that since his several tours of duty as stated in his declaration – he has ever since resided & now does in Baldwin County Georgia.

To the fourth – That he went into the service in the manner stated in his declaration – first as a drafted man – and afterwards both times as a volunteer mounted man.

To the fifth – That in his declaration he has stated all the officers he recollects – both of the Regular troops & the Continental and militia Regiments – as also the general circumstances of his service in three tours of duty.

To the sixth – That he was a Soldier – that he received a discharge upon the performance of the first tour of duty from Captain John Faulkner – For the second tour – from Captain Dudley Reynolds – For the third tour from Captain Spillsby Coleman which three discharges were sent to the board of auditors who were consolidated the amounts were you upon them and gave the applicant a certificate for £46.10S as aforesaid in lieu of them.

To the seventh – Dr. Samuel Boykin, a member of the Senate of the State of Georgia – Thomas H. Kenan Esquire a Justice of the Inferior Court – John R. Smith a Justice of the Peace & Mr. William Whitaker – and John Williams Esq., Treasurer of the State of Georgia.

The foregoing answers to the Interrogatories propounded by the War Department.

Sworn to and subscribed before us in open Court the day and year first aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Miles

[John Williams, Treasury of the State of Georgia, Thomas H. Kenan, Esq., Justice of the Inferior Court of Baldwin County, Samuel Boykin Esq. Senator for Baldwin County & William Whitaker gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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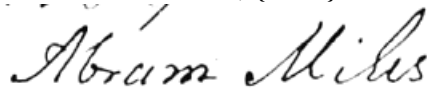
State of Alabama, County of Pike

Personally appeared before me, a Justice of the Peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, Abram Miles aged Eighty & 4m. years, a resident of said County and State, who being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the Brother of one Thomas Miles deceased, originally a Resident of the State of North Carolina, and more recently a resident of the States of Georgia and Alabama: That from evidence of which deponent is cognizant, the said Thomas Miles deceased, was a Soldier in actual service in the War of the Revolution: Louisa P. Crowell wife of John Crowell formerly Louisa P. Miles, is the identical, legal and only daughter of the said Thomas Miles deceased aforesaid; and that John Crowell and his wife Louisa P. Crowell, now residents of the County of Russell and State of Alabama, are to all intents and purposes the legal heirs and inheritors of the Estate and effects of said Thomas Miles deceased.

Witness my hand and Seal, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1854.

Attest:

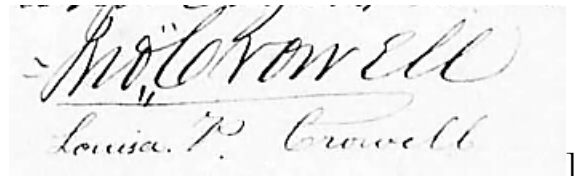
S/ Abram Miles, {Seal}



S/ Malcom Blue, JP

S/ Thomas Blue

[Facts in file: veteran died November 23, 1844 in Russell County, Alabama; on June 11, 1853 in Russell County, Alabama, John Crowell and his wife Louisa P. Crowell, formerly Louisa P. Miles, of Oswehee, Russell County, Alabama, filed a power of attorney in which they state they all the heirs at law of Thomas Miles.



Louisa P. Crowell ]