

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Miller R7205

Jane Miller

f23VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/9/13

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 2]

State of Virginia Monroe County: SS

This day John Miller (aged seventy-five years) appeared before me Henry Alexander a Justice of the Peace for said County and made oath according to law that he is the Brother of Robert Miller Deceased who was a Soldier in the Revolutionary War, that he knows, that his brother Robert, was drafted for three months, to go to Clover lick he thinks in the year 1777 or '78; he was commanded by Captain Robert McCrarsey [probably Robert McCreery] and Lieutenant Jacob Warrick [Jacob Warwick] after he returned home his father was drafted, and he the said Robert went back to Clover lick as a substitute for his Father, and he believes that he went a third tour to the same place as a Substitute for some other person, but is not positive. He then went to Kentucky in September '79 or '80, and returned the next July – and in the month of January 1781 he was drafted for three months, and marched to Portsmouth Virginia under Captain John McCrory [probably John McCreery] and Colonel Sampson Mathews [also spelled Sampson Matthews] and he thinks Major Robinson [probably Alexander Robertson] – he heard him say that he had been in several Skirmishes with the enemy – He returned home and in the month of June the same year he was drafted for two months to go to Williamsburg and he said he was in the Battle at Jamestown, he believes that David Guinn [David Gwin] was his Captain, John Brown, was an officer, as he believes – He further states that Robert Miller returned from this Tour of 2 months as he believes before the taking of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] – He now recollects that he heard him say that Jacob Warrick was his Lieutenant at Portsmouth Virginia and that he Robert Miller acted as Sergeant in the 2 last named tours. –

He further states that he has heard the Declaration of John Miller (one of the Heirs of Robert Miller) read and believes the facts there stated (as far as he can recollect) to be true. He further says that he was present at the marriage of Robert Miller in the year 1793 and thinks on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of July of said year, in County of Augusta Virginia.

S/ John Miller



[Attested September 24, 1847]

[p 5]

State of Virginia Monroe County: SS

This day Mary Benston (aged eighty-five years) and made oath according to law, that she is the sister of Robert Miller who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. That he left home as a

soldier not long after the war commenced and went to Clover Lick to guard and fight the Indians, he was two or three tours of three months each, one of said tours he went as a substitute for his Father, he came home at the end of each three months – and I often have heard him relate the circumstances which had taken place, and heard him say that he was under the command (at Clover Lick) of Captain McCrorey and that Joseph Warrick was the Lieutenant – She further states that after this service – he went to Kentucky and returned as she believes in the year seventy-nine or eighty, after that he was drafted for three months and went as she was informed to Portsmouth Virginia, he returned home and shortly before the surrender of Cornwallis, he the said Robert Miller and his Father, was drafted for two months and they did not return until after Cornwallis was taken – She does not recollect the officers' names he served under, the Last 2 tours, although she heard her brother often named them.

She further states that in the year 1793 her Brother went to get married and return, and always after lived and died as a married man – And he died in the month of February 1828 as she believes although she cannot say positive – She further states that she has heard the Declaration of John Miller (one of the heirs) read and believes the statements therein is true, and many of the circumstances which he [sic, she] once knew has left her recollection.

S/ Mary Benston, X her mark

[Attested September 24, 1847]

[p 7]

State of Virginia Greenbrier County: SS

On this 26 day of September in the year 1847 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Greenbrier County now sitting John Miller resident of said County of Greenbrier, State of Virginia who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration (in behalf of himself and the other children of Robert Miller and his wife Jane Miller deceased of said County of Greenbrier[]), in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836. That his father the said Robert Miller was an Indian spy in the revolutionary service, and died the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 1828, and that his widow the said Jane Miller survived him eleven years, and died on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 1839. The following are all of the children of said Robert Miller and his wife Jane Miller to wit William Miller, John Miller, Alexander Miller, Elizabeth Miller, Jane Alexander, Margaret George, these reside in the State of Virginia Greenbrier County and Monroe County – Mary Ferry and Robert Miller reside in Davis County [Daviness County] in the State of Missouri – That the said Robert Miller, was a soldier in the revolution, and served as follows – Entered the service in 1777 in the summer, and served three months tour; in the years of 1777 – 1778 and 1779 – one of which tours, he was a substitute for his father Patrick Miller, but which one of the three tours he is not able to say. The said Robert Miller was a soldier under Captain Robert McCrery for the nine months above stated; been in September 1779 he went on a tour to Kentucky and returned to that state (Virginia) in June 1780, at which time from September 1779 to June 1780 the declaimant [sic, declarant] is not certain that he was in the United States service, but he has often heard him speak of this tour, as going from one station to another, but who was his officer in that last tour, the declarant does not pretend to say – In the summer of 1780 he entered into the regular service of the United States as a drafted militia man. He was drafted in the County of Augusta, and entered the service under Captain John McCrery and served a three months tour, and marched to Eastern Virginia; after serving out that three months tour he returned home. Then in December 1780 he was again drafted in the County of Augusta

and went into service immediately, under Captain Thomas Hughart [Thomas Hugart], and marched to Portsmouth Virginia where he remained during the winter of 1780 and 1781 and returned home in April 1781 – then in the summer of 1781 he was again drafted and entered the service immediately under Captain David Gwinn (to the best of the declarant's recollection) and served a two months tour, in the Eastern part of Virginia – The declarant recollects of hearing his father state that he was in a small skirmish at Jamestown, he was in the rifle Company and was stationed on the outskirts – he also recollects hearing him the said Robert Miller say he had fired frequently, but whether he killed at any one or not he does not know – Colonel Sampson Mathews was his Colonel, and Wayne [presumably Anthony Wayne] was his General – He the said Robert Miller was with General Wayne when he Wayne was attacked by Cornwallis with a superior force to the Americans, and that General Lafayette came up during the engagement, and ordered a retreat. Colonel Mathews' Regiment retreated across a swamp or low marshy place, and in crossing this place the said Robert Miller lost his shoes – In the retreat of Colonel Sampson Mathews' Regiment they got separated (that is the men) in this swamp or marsh, and did not get together until the next day – This was in July or August 1781 – This declarant has often heard his father speak of other battles but the one above, he recollects more particularly – During all his service in the revolution he acted as first Sergeant – That he believes his father the said Robert Miller was married to the said Jane in the month of July 1793 and that the marriage took place in the County of Augusta State of Virginia – that his Mother's maiden name was Jane Yowel [or Youal]<sup>1</sup> that the said Jane never married after the death of her husband the said Robert Miller and that she died in the County of Greenbrier on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 1839 without ever having drawn the arrearages of pension due to her on the account of the services of her husband as aforesaid and the preceding declaration is made by him for the purpose of drawing what was due at the time of her death; and the declarant does hereby relinquish every claim, to all annuity, or pension except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state, nor was the name of either the father or mother on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ John Miller Juner [sic]



[Attested on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in September 1847 in Greenbrier County Virginia]

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<sup>1</sup> *Jane Youal*