

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John A. Miller R7211

f11VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/7/13

[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.]

State of Illinois Greene County: SS

On this 2nd day of April 1833 personally appeared in open court before Samuel D Lockwood, Judge of the Circuit Court for the County of Green and State of Illinois John A Miller a resident of the County & State aforesaid aged seventy-four years the 29th day of last May, who first being 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 June 7th 1832. That he was born in the County of Bucks Pennsylvania the 29th day of May 1758. That he was living in Hampshire County Virginia in the Winter of 1775 when he volunteered and entered the service of the United States commanded by Captain Yoakam [sic, Yoakum?] and served three weeks at least, in pursuit of Tories in the adjoining neighborhoods. That in 1781 shortly after Cornwallis was defeated [October 19, 1781] and taken he volunteered for six months and entered the service of the United States commanded by Captain Yoakam and marched to Winchester Barracks to help guard the prisoners taken at the defeat of Cornwallis and served at least three months & would have served the whole six months had he not been discharged. That he cannot recollect the precise time he served but is confident that he served not less than three months and three weeks altogether for which time he claims a pension, as a private – That by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot recollect the names of any officers besides Captain Yoakam that he does not recollect ever seeing along with the troops, when he served any officer higher in command than Captain Yoakam. That he received two discharges and that they were left at his father's in Virginia and have been destroyed as he has been informed. That he has no record of his age but that his father had a record in his Bible from which he learned his age when young and not being able to write he has never kept any record of events, so that he cannot tell in what year he served, only by being told when certain other events took place. That after the war he moved to Kentucky lived there about 20 years, then moved to Indiana lived there about 12 or 14 years then moved to the now County of Green Illinois where he has lived for the last 10 years, that he is known to several persons in his neighborhood who can testify concerning him among whom he would mention John Brown & Samuel Thomas. That he cannot get a clergyman to testify for him at present as no clergyman lives in his neighborhood.

That he had no documentary evidence & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State or Territory. That he cannot recollect any Continental or militia regiments or any general circumstances of his service further than he has stated in this declaration.

S/ John A Miller, X his mark

[John Brown & Samuel Thomas gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Note: This veteran's application would have been automatically rejected because he failed to allege that he served the minimum 6 months required under the 1832 pension act. He only alleges that he served 3 months and 3 weeks.]