

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Jesse Miles S21886

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of South Carolina }

Marlborough District } Court of Common Pleas Fall Trm 1832.

On this the 1st day of Oct'r AD 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Court of Common Pleas now Sitting, Jesse Miles a resident of the State & District aforesaid aged Seventy one 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 June 7th 1832 That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. He entered the service in the year 1780 about three months before Gate's defeat [Gen. Horatio Gates's defeat at the Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] (as well as he can recollect. He was drafted by Capt. James Love & was living in Duplin County No. Ca at the time. the Reg't was commanded by Col. Benjamin Axom [Benjamin Exum] who was under the orders of Gen'l. Rich'd Caswell. He served altogether, upwards of Three years. He was at the battle fought by Gates near Camden So. Ca; he was not in the line, but was stationed with some others to guard the baggage waggons. After Gates' defeat, he went on to Duplin County No. Ca where he immediately enlisted in a light horse company raised by Capt James Love & marched to the Cheraw Hill So. Ca where he remained three months. Gen'l. [Henry William] Harrington being the commanding officer He then went back to Duplin County No. Ca and from thence to Wilmington in the same State where he staid about three months. At this place, the Capt. of his company, (James Love) was killed by some of the British Soldiers, who came upon him in a house [Rouse's Tavern, Mar 1781] where he was intoxicated. He then returned to Duplin County & volunteered in the light horse company raised by Asa Pipkin, Major John Moulton commanding, & marched down to Luckards[?] Folly a inlet in the Wacamaw [sic: Waccamaw] River in Brunswick County No. Ca where he lay three weeks. Gen'ls [Griffith] Rutherford & Lenninton [sic: Alexander Lillington] having marched into Wilmington sent us orders to go on there, where we went. He was stationed just above the town about two weeks, when his company was disbanded & he returned to Duplin County again He staid there but a few weeks when he volunteered in the foot service under Capt Jesse Ward & marched down to Rockfish Creek three miles from Washington, Hanover County No. Ca. where other companies were stationed. Major Benjamin Hicks & Col. James Kinnion [sic: James Kenan] were the commanding officers. At that place [2 Aug 1781] the Americans were attacked by the British under the command of Major [James Henry] Craig who had been left in Wilmington by Cornwallis. the Americans were defeated & he went back to Duplin County where his company was disbanded He rec'd his discharge from Gen'l. Kinnion & has lost it. His age was recorded in a family Bible which was burned together with the house in which it was kept. He was born in Dobbs County No. Ca. & has lived since the Revolution twelve years in Moore County No. Ca. & thirty six years in Marion & Marlborough in the latter of which places he now lives. The infirmities of age have weakened his recollection of transactions so long past & the Account which he can give of them at this day must necessarily be imperfect. He recollects however of having seen Baron De Kalb Capt Joseph Rhodes. Capt Hall. Lieut. Curtis Ivey & Capt Joshua Hadley. He has no documentary evidence of his service - but that Benjamin Miles is living at this time, who having staid part of the time with him can testify to his services. 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

Jesse hisXmark Miles

Benjamin Miles swears that he was at the battle fought by the Americans & British at Rockfish Creek, Hanover County No. Ca. that Jesse Miles fought there as he has stated & that he believes his Declaration of his services to be substantially correct

Benj hisXmark Miles

South Carolina
Marlborough District
In the Court of Common Pleas
Before his Honor
Judge

On the first monday in October AD 1833 appeared before me, Jesse Miles, who made the following affidavit as an amendment to his declaration for a Pension under the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 viz That by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below, under the officers & at the times & places there stated.

1 In the year 1780 a short time before Gates defeat at Camden he served three months as a private in a Militia Company, commanded by Capt James Love Col Benj. Axom: during this term deponent was at Camden & also stationed at Cheraw So Ca

2 In the year 1780 he volunteered under the same Capt for three months & was employed during this term of his engagement at Cheraw Hill S.C. - Gen'l Harrington being the commanding officer

3 In the year 1781 He served three months as a volunteer in the militia service under Capt James Love & was employed during this term of his engagement at & about Wilmington No. Ca. He then

4 volunteered under Capt Jesse Ward and served as a private in the militia three months. During this term he was in the Battle at Rockfish Creek No. Ca. Major B Hicks - Col Kinnion appeared to be commanding officers

5 At the time Gen'l Rutherford drove Craig from Wilmington No. Ca. [18 Nov 1781] deponent served three months in a horse company commanded by Capt Asa Pepkin, at Pollards[?] Folly Inlet No. Ca. - Major John Moulton commanding. Making an aggregate of Fifteen months actual service as a private in the Revolutionary War. And the said Jesse Miles on oath further says that for the periods already mentioned he served with an embodied corps, called into service as he believes by competent authority, that he was either in the field or in garrison & for the time during which the service was performed he was not employed in any civil pursuit.

Jesse his mark Miles

[A note dated 24 Sep 1833 on the preceding amended application states that it was ready for Miles to sign before 15 Jan 1833, that he had been advised to wait until the certificate of a clergyman could be obtained, but that he had died before he could sign it.]