

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Elijah Milton S30588

f38VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/14/13

[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 Kentucky Woodford County Sct.

On this 17th day of August 1833 personally appeared before B. Straunson [?], a Justice of the peace in & for said County, Elijah Milton a citizen of Fayette County Kentucky aged 77 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as hereinafter stated.

That in the winter of 1775 & 76 this affiant was a resident of Prince William County Virginia, that in said winter he volunteered for six months as a private in the war of the revolution and served in Captain Andrew Leach's [Andrew Leitch's] Company of minute men; that said Company were marched to Hampton and there discharged, that during this Tour he was arranged to Colonel William Grayson's Battalion of minute men, that this affiant was taken sick on the way to Hampton and owing to sickness did not again joined the Regiment or Battalion until they were all discharged, at Hampton, consequently this affiant did not get a written discharge. This affiant owing to sickness was not in any battle during this Tour.

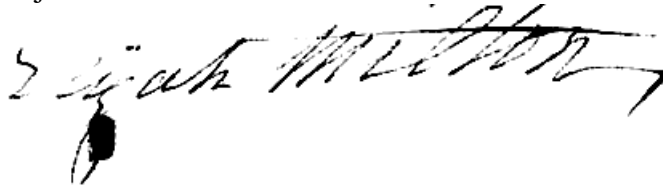
That in the Summer of 1778, this affiant volunteered as a private soldier for six months in General Nelson's Corps of Light Dragoons, that in said Company there was one hundred twenty-five men that they all mustered into service each furnishing his own horse & suit of clothing, the government furnishing the caps & swords, that during this Tour of duty Captain or General Nelson's Corps was not attached to any Regiment being a separate Command, that during this time of service they were in no battle that said Corps of Horse marched from Virginia to Philadelphia. That said Company was discharged at Philadelphia with the thanks of Congress, that for said Tour of six months Service this affiant was discharged by General Nelson which discharge he has lost.

That in the month of May 1782 this affiant was appointed a Captain in the wagon Service, in the French Army by General Rushambeau [Rochambeau] the commander of the French Army in the United States, that his business in said service was to command order and directed the Brigade of Wagons after they had been employed and recruited although he this affiant recruited and employed & that he was first engaged in & by the number of teams in moving the baggage and other property taken at Little York, which belonged to the French Army to Boston, where the French Troops sailed to France, that in transporting said baggage this affiant had numerous teams under his command, sometimes as many as one hundred and sometimes less, that he regularly paid off all the waggoners in the service and drew on the agents of the French Army for the funds – that this affiant was engaged in this service for eight months if not a few days more, that he has now in his possession a settlement made by the agents on the

8th of December 1782 marked (A) which he herewith sends, which settlement in account was the last service he rendered as wagon master, that from__ of May until the 8th of December 1782 he was constantly engaged in the aforesaid service, that he has receipts of many waggoners for the payment of money &c which he herewith sends, that his pay in said service was \$50 per month, this affiant states that the reason the baggage was sent by land to Boston is that the British fleet was much feared, this affiant states that he has no documentary evidence except as aforesaid, nor does he know of any living witness by whom he can prove the aforesaid service, he states that most of the receipts of waggoners he has lost, but all the papers sent are of a genuine quality.

He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to a pension or annuity but the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of any agency of the United States. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Elijah Milton

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elijah Milton", with a small circular mark below the end of the signature.

Questions put to the applicant by the Justice

Where & in what year were you born

Ans, I was born in Prince William County Virginia the 23rd day of December 1755.

Have you any record of your age, & if so, where is it,

Ans. I have which makes me the aforesaid age.

Where were you living when called into the service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live.

Ans. When called into the Service I lived in Prince William County Virginia since the revolution I have lived in Fayette County Kentucky where I now live.

How were you called into the service were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute,

Ans. The two first Tours of duty I performed as a volunteer, the last duty was done under appointment of Wagon Master by the French Staff –

Did you ever receive a discharge and if so by whom was it given & what has become of it?

Ans. I received for the two first tours only a verbal discharges, the last service, when Brigade Wagon Master, I here with sends my discharge or settlement,

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. In the Tours of duty I first performed I as above stated, was in the first tour taken sick, did not see any service of consequence. In the second Tour we were with no Regiments of any kind, in the second Tour General Lawson & George Nicholas acted as Lieutenant's in General Nelson's company, all of which had command[ed] Regiments before, but took inferior offices in the Corps of horse. In the Wagon Service the French Generals were many of them known to me.

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can speak of your character for veracity and their belief of your Services as a soldier and officer in the service.

I state as persons to whom I am known in my present neighborhood Oliver Brown, John H Berryman & Colonel R M Johnson,¹ Henry Clay² all in of the House of representatives [Oliver Brown & John Berryman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 13: copy of the last will and testament of Elijah Milton of Fayette County Kentucky in which he names his sons William E Milton, Bushrod I Milton, William C Milton, Ebin Milton, John Milton; and daughter Caroline. The will is dated July 24, 1833.]

¹ JOHNSON, Richard Mentor, (brother of James Johnson [1774-1826] and John Telemachus Johnson, and uncle of Robert Ward Johnson), a Representative and a Senator from Kentucky and a Vice President of the United States; born at "Beargrass," Jefferson County, Ky., near the present site of Louisville, October 17, 1780; attended the common schools and Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky.; studied law; admitted to the bar in 1802 and commenced practice in Great Crossings, Ky.; member, State house of representatives 1804-1806 and again in 1819; elected as a Democratic Republican to the Tenth and to the five succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1807-March 3, 1819); chairman, Committee on Claims (Eleventh Congress), Committee on Expenditures in the Department of War (Fifteenth Congress); commissioned colonel of Kentucky Volunteers and commanded a regiment in engagements against the British in lower Canada in 1813; elected as a Democratic Republican to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John J. Crittenden; reelected as a Jackson Republican (and later Jacksonian) and served from December 10, 1819, to March 3, 1829; unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1829; chairman, Committee on Post Office and Post Roads (Nineteenth and Twentieth Congresses); elected to the Twenty-first and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1829-March 3, 1837); chairman, Committee on Post Office and Post Roads (Twenty-first and Twenty-second Congresses), Committee on Military Affairs (Twenty-second through Twenty-fourth Congresses); was chosen Vice President of the United States by the Senate on February 8, 1837, no candidate having received a majority of the electoral vote, and served under President Martin Van Buren from March 4, 1837, to March 3, 1841; member, State house of representatives 1850; died in Frankfort, Ky., November 19, 1850; interment in the Frankfort Cemetery.

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=J000170>

² CLAY, Henry, (father of James Brown Clay), a Senator and a Representative from Kentucky; born in the district known as "the Slashes," Hanover County, Va., April 12, 1777; attended the public schools; studied law in Richmond, Va.; admitted to the bar in 1797 and commenced practice in Lexington, Ky.; member, State house of representatives 1803; elected as a Democratic Republican to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Adair and served from November 19, 1806, to March 3, 1807, despite being younger than the constitutional age limit of thirty years; member, State house of representatives 1808-1809, and served as speaker in 1809; again elected as a Democratic Republican to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Buckner Thruston and served from January 4, 1810, to March 3, 1811; elected as a Democratic Republican to the Twelfth and Thirteenth Congresses and served from March 4, 1811, to January 19, 1814, when he resigned; Speaker of the House of Representatives (Twelfth and Thirteenth Congresses); appointed one of the commissioners to negotiate the treaty of peace with Great Britain in 1814; elected as a Democratic Republican to the Fourteenth Congress (March 4, 1815-March 3, 1817); seat declared vacant by the governor of Kentucky, "caused by the acceptance of Henry Clay to sign a commercial convention as minister plenipotentiary to Great Britain"; elected in a special election as a Democratic Republican to the Fourteenth Congress to fill his own vacancy on October 30, 1815; re-elected as a Democratic Republican to the Fifteenth and succeeding Congress (March 4, 1817-March 3, 1821); Speaker of the House of Representatives (Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth Congresses); elected to the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Congresses and served from March 3, 1823, to March 6, 1825, when he resigned; again served as Speaker of the House of Representatives (Eighteenth Congress); appointed Secretary of State by President John Quincy Adams 1825-1829; elected as a National Republican to the United States Senate on November 10, 1831, to fill the vacancy in the term commencing March 4, 1831; reelected as a Whig in 1836 and served from November 10, 1831, until March 31, 1842, when he resigned; chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations (Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Congresses), Committee on Finance (Twenty-seventh Congress); unsuccessful presidential candidate of the Democratic Republican Party in 1824, of the National Republican Party in 1832, and of the Whig Party in 1844; again elected to the United States Senate and served from March 4, 1849, until his death in Washington, D.C., June 29, 1852; lay in state in the Rotunda of the United States Capitol, July 1, 1852; funeral services held in the Senate Chamber; interment in Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, KY.

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=C000482>

[Facts in file: on January 29, 1794, the veteran married Kitty [maiden name not stated]; she died in Fayette County Kentucky July 29, 1828; the veteran died in Fayette County Kentucky October 15, 1833; the following children are listed:

Caroline T born December 2, 1794, married ___ Watkins

Ebin born May 8, 1797

John born March 24, 1802

Bushrod I. born November 10, 1809

William E born July 21, 1811.]

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Dr. M. Elijah Milton W.C. In Acc. Cont. with Messrs Wadsworth & Gentry C^{ts}

To order on John [unclear] for £750.0.0	By [unclear] for [unclear]	£ 237.0.2
To Cash to Bal ^{ce} 14.8.6	By ditto [unclear]	177.0.0
£ 764.8.6	By ditto & substitute [unclear]	350.8.6
	By ditto [unclear]	£ 764.8.6

1782

For M^{rs} Wadsworth & Gentry

[p 28]

Sir Please to pay to John Wickle all the wages due to me for my waggon & Team in the French Service till the last day of July last past and you^{ll} much oblige your humble Serv^t

August 5th 1782

June £18.0.0 | 36.12.0
July 18.12.0

Milton Conductor of R^{gt} Creighton
the French Service

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$25 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia cavalry.]