

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Mims S30590

f25VA

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

State of Kentucky Pike County: SS

On this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 1834 personally appeared in open court, before the Worshipful the Justices of the Pike County Court (being a court of record & having a seal thereto) Robert Mims aged seventy-six years of age 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States and served under the following named officers as herein stated under the following officers. Colonel John Woodson, who was Colonel Commandant, Jolly Parish he Lieutenant Colonel, Captain William H Miller in the County of Goochland in the State of Virginia in November 1778, he was a volunteer for eighteen months this arrangement was to serve at the Albemarle barracks to take care of the prisoners captured by the American Army in the North by Arnold [Benedict Arnold] and Gates [Horatio Gates] [at the battle of Saratoga October 7, 1777], from Goochland he states he was marched to the barracks he arrived there some time before the prisoners arrived, and in the company to some wagons to Elk Island in Goochland County, the military stores such as flour, corn, pork was obtained at the Elk Hill opposite of Elk Island, and got the same from the place aforesaid which was then the property of Thomas Jefferson who had got the Island or one moiety by his wife, from this place he marched up to the Albemarle barracks. This was the first trip. The military stores were delivered by us to Christopher Clarke who was then the Quarter Master. He was dispatched a second time for the purpose aforesaid to Lewis Mills on the burk [?] Creek in Goochland County adjoining Elk Hill, he returned with additional military stores to the barracks and delivered the same as before stated. He was dispatched a third expedition for corn with one Bennett Henderson in Albemarle County. All of this was to prepare for the keeping of Burgoyne's men after he returned the third time aforesaid the prisoners arrived at the barracks, and after they arrived he was dispatched and his company to Richmond to have the baggage of the British officers and soldiers brought up to Albemarle. This was in the spring of 1779 or perhaps in the winter but it has been so long since that it he cannot recollect about the dates and intends only to give the circumstances of his service. He returned from Richmond to the barracks. After this he remained on duty at the barracks during the whole summer of 1779: and during that winter on duty and until spring 17780 [sic, 1780] the Colonel who commanded the barracks was Colonel Bland, Afterwards by Colonel Taylor who resided at the barracks – in the spring 1780 perhaps in May but he does not certainly state May as the truth, he was dispatched to go to Richmond and the Company was directed [to] take military stores from Richmond to old Halifax court house at which place the American troops were rendezvousing to go with General Horatio Gates to the South, he recollects well that the military stores &c were for that purpose and that a great many

military camp kettles, Poll axes, etc. etc were also taken; he did not accompany the Army as he was a volunteer, and under the condition of staying in Virginia – he got to the barracks & some of the prisoners were removed to Winchester barracks at which he did not go but serving out his period he was discharged of which he knows nothing of in fact he has know [no] precise recollection of what did become of it. He states that there many Continental regiments and militia Companies – to wit Colonel Bland, Colonel Taylor, Colonel Turner Southall of Henrico County, Colonel Mosby of Powhatan County, Major Stokely Tolls, Major Hatcher Thomas, There was Captain Parish and a Colonel Parish, Captain Joshua Leak and Captain Elisha Leack who was older than Josiah and there was Colonel Thomas Mann Randolph who lived in Goochland, the father of Thomas Mann Randolph who married Mr. Jefferson's daughter & who was Governor of Virginia afterwards, there was Colonel Hopkins in the militia, there was a Major Joseph Woodson of the militia, and Captain Samuel Woodson from Goochland of the Continental line. The foregoing are the circumstances of his first tour and he has been thus particular in giving his detail, his engagement was unusual and though long he is confident he can establish every jot and lille [sic?] of his Service by living witnesses and by those who served with him, and for the further prevention of any mistake he avers that during his 18 months aforesaid he never omitted to perform his duty a single day as to the dates herein given it may be possible he may be mistaken, he knows and is referred that there is a man in his state by whom he can prove his service aforesaid, one in Tennessee and 2 in Virginia, these actually served with me, during the Revolutionary War. In the winter of 1780 Arnold [Benedict Arnold] and one General Philips [William Phillips] invaded Virginia, and came to Richmond, and some came as far up as Westham six miles above Richmond, he went out in the aforesaid year when he calls it the winter of 1780 he means until March 1781 and whether it was in December 1780 or in January or February 1781 he does not pretend to say as he only speaks from a very imperfect recollection of things, he was three months, his Colonel was Fleming Captain Miller was the Captain of his company – he rendezvoused at Major Joseph Woodson's in the lower end of Goochland County – this last service was commenced in Goochland County state of Virginia. The day of the month or the month he cannot state. The enemy retreated to the shipping and the Americans pursued them below Richmond and he thinks as far as Williamsburg, and the only circumstance he now recollects of worthy disclosing is that at Charles City Court house the British light horse cut off a great many of our militia, and killed them in the courthouse, and the blood and brains of many were to be seen on the walls of the courthouse for a long time afterwards – his time expired and the militia being disbanded he returned home. He marched during this tour alone in Virginia – not out of the state. His 3<sup>rd</sup> tour was in the spring 1781 in May he is about this as all the rest not certain as to the precise dates. He was a drafted man for 3 months. The militia were all generally called out to oppose Lord Cornwallis who had come to Petersburg his Colonel was Daniel Morris, Captain William H Miller. This was from Goochland, from Goochland, marched down below Richmond. After getting down to the main Army, he was placed under the command of Colonel Holt Richardson who was the Commander and until Lafayette arrived, after getting down about 14 or 15 miles at the narrows of James River near a place called Coxendale's here the American Army was engaged across the River with the British under Cornwallis who had March from Petersburg to the River. The fight commenced about 8 o'clock in the morning and continued all day, but little damage was done as they fought across the River the most damage that was done was the blowing of a vessel carrying 14 guns. From this place our Army marched down to Mobin Hills [Malvern Hills] where Boller Cocke lived at this place, the British had taken our vessels and going down the River, one ran aground, and our

men endeavored to retake the vessels from them, but failed. From this place our Army marched up to Richmond, and the British marched up on the other side, at Richmond Lafayette joined the Army and took the command, his light horse joined us before he did, he made at Mary Oaks in Hanover the day the battle took place – from Richmond, Lafayette marched up the country and permitted Cornwallis to cross James River at Richmond, the Army retreated up the country up to Albemarle, and he thinks up as high as Orange to the little mountain, Cornwallis made a stand at Sctoch Town [sic?? Scott's town or Scotch Town?] in Hanover County, the next to Goochland Courthouse the next at Elk Hill and marched in Jefferson's house from this place he retreated (after laying there 8 days) down the country he was then discharged, he states that he did not serve out three months but the time was a little short of it, he received no discharge as he now recollects, but left service, these are the only circumstances of his last Tour as aforesaid set forth, that he can now call to his recollection his 4<sup>th</sup> tour was this –

In August 1781 he stood his draft, Captain \_\_ Colonel William Dark, for 3 months he rendezvoused at Goochland Court [house], being the County he was from. After the quota was made he was marched down to Williamsburg and this was in the last of September 1781 as he now recollects. Colonel Darke did not reside in Goochland County, he was marched to the siege, and remained until a few days before he was dispatched with an express and therefore was not at the surrender of the British Army [October 19, 1781] and the event had happened before he got back. His whole service as given was as a private. The circumstances attending the siege is utterly unnecessary to be given as they are so well known to us all, his service expired, in January 1782, he knew General Lafayette, General Steuben, General Muhlenberg – he knew so many officers that it would greatly enlarge this statement to name them. He has no documentary evidence of his service. He 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. Sworn to and subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Ro Mims

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ro Mims", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and right of the name.

[John D. Mims, Clerk of the court attested the document June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1834]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]