

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Coleman S3196

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Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Cocke County: On this __ day of August 1832 [could be 1833] personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions the same being a court of record now sitting for the County of Cocke William Coleman a citizen of said County aged 71 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 was born in Stafford County Virginia on the 20th day of April 1761 as appears from a record of which he is in possession. That he entered the service of the United States about the first of September 1781 the precise date he cannot recollect in Washington County then in North Carolina as a volunteer under Colonel John Sevier Major John McNabb, Captain David McNabb, And marched from Washington County North Carolina in which County he then resided through Morganton in Burke County North Carolina and joined General Marion [Francis Marion] near Nelson's ferry on Santee River South Carolina from whence he was marched to a place called White Oak on the Charleston road, from which place he was marched in Captain McNabb's Company under command of Colonel Maham [Hezekiah Maham] by order of General Marion to a place called the Quarter house near Charleston where a body of Americans consisting of a thousand men took a British outpost of ninety men from whence they returned to the mouth of White Oak Creek on Santee River where he was discharged on the 13th of December 1781 having 12 days allowed him to return home. In this campaign he messed with James Miliken¹ by whom he can prove the same.

And that afterwards in the fall of 1782 the day or month he cannot recollect he entered the service under Colonel John Sevier Captain Christopher Taylor as a volunteer and marched from Washington County aforesaid where he resided and crossed French Broad [River] at Sevier's Island thence up Bords Creek [sic, Boyd's Creek? or Bird's Creek] in the northwestern Territory and crossed the little Tennessee [River] near Tellico in the Cherokee Nation from whence they took a southwestern direction through the Indian Country burning and destroying wigwams killing and taking the natives prisoner until they came to a place called Chota where they exchanged their prisoners for prisoners who had been previously taken by the Indians, from which place they returned home near the middle of the winter season as he believes making as he supposes a term of three months or upwards.

And that afterwards in spring of 1785 the day and month he cannot recollect he volunteered as an Indian spy to guard the settlement South of French Broad and Holston River's

¹ [James Milliken S3609](#)

in which country he then lived under Captain William Lillaid and Major Peter Fine and rendezvoused on big pigeon River in said Territory and marched back and forth from French Broad to the waters of the Little Pigeon, that he served as aforesaid a term of 8 months as near as he can now recollect. He states that he had a discharge from under Marion but said discharge is lost he knows not how nor when, nor does he now know of any person living who has personal knowledge of his services except such as he here with transmits. That he has resided in Cocke County Tennessee where he now resides ever since the revolutionary war. He also states that Abraham Booker who is a clergyman and Abraham Fine Esquire are well acquainted with him in his present neighborhood and can testify as to his veracity.

He hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn and subscribed in open court this 28th day of August 1833
S/ G. M. Porter, Clerk

S/ William Coleman

William Coleman

[Abraham Booker, a clergyman, and Abraham Fine gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I James Milliken of the County of Cocke & State of Tennessee do hereby certify that the above declarant William: did serve a three months tour of duty as a volunteer under Colonel John Sevier Major John McNabb & Captain David McNabb – that he marched and stationed as he states – and that he was honorably discharged – And that I served with him in the same mess during said campaign.

S/ James Milliken

James Milliken

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for six months service in the North Carolina militia as a private.]