

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Melton S36117

f24NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/27/09: rev'd 4/3/17

[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 Illinois County and Circuit of Lawrence } SS

On this Sixth day of November in the year of our Lord 1821, personally appeared in open court to wit, in the Circuit Court of the County aforesaid -- the same being a Court of Record William Melton aged Sixty Three years -- who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of 18th March 1818 -- and the 1st May 1820 -- that he the said William Melton enlisted to serve during the War sometime in the summer of the year 1776 -- in the company commanded by Capt. Henry Dixon -- (afterwards commanded by Capt. James Read) in the Regiment commanded by Col. Thomas Clark, in the line of the State of North Carolina on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said Corps until the taking of Charleston by the British [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] when he was taken prisoner and remained a prisoner until the end of the Revolutionary War, when he was set at liberty at Nova Scotia by the enemy and returned home but that his Regiment and company were then dispersed and he was unable to procure a discharge -- That he was in the Battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], Germantown [October 4, 1777] and Monmouth [June 28, 1778] and at the taking of Charleston as aforesaid and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said Service, except the testimony of Benjamin Melton¹ whose affidavit is hereto annexed.

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed and I do further swear that I lost the use of one of my eyes while in service as aforesaid and have since nearly lost the use of the other. That I have no children. That my wife is above eighty years old and infirm, and that I am in danger of becoming chargeable to the County in which I live. That I am by trade a Taylor [tailor] but am not able by reason of my age and infirmity to pursue that or any other business.

¹ [Benjamin Melton \(Milton\) W2227](#)

S/ Wm Melton, X his mark

Schedule of property

one Bed and Bed Clothing kitchen and household furniture to the value of \$10 the necessary wearing apparel of myself and wife

State of Illinois Lawrence County and Circuit

In the Circuit Court of the County and State aforesaid This day came Benjamin Milton [sic] who being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is Brother to William Melton the deponent in the annexed affirmation that he knows that said William Melton served as a soldier in the North Carolina line on the Continental establishment during the revolutionary war for several years but cannot testify as to the exact time of commencement or termination of his said service that the said William Melton is now old, infirm unable to labor and in very indigent circumstances, and further this deponent says not.

S/ Benjamin Melton, X his mark

Sworn to in open court 6th November A.D. 1821

S/ James M. McLean, Clerk

[p 22]

State of North Carolina Secretary's Office

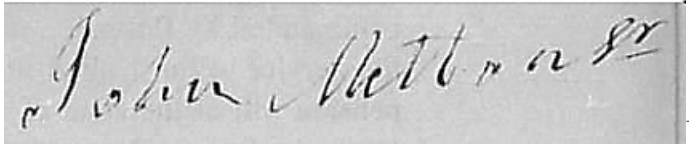
I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid do certify that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that William Melton a private in Captain Dixon's Company of the first Regiment was mustered on the __ day of __ for the War, was appointed a Corporal on the 1st November 1777, and of whom nothing more is said on said Rolls.

Given under my hand at Office in Raleigh 8th November 1825

S/ Wm Hill

[p 7: On November 9, 1826 in Lawrence County Illinois, William Melton filed an almost identical, word for word reaffirmation of his prior application citing the same services and circumstances as set forth in his earlier application.]

[pp 19-20: On September 5, 1827 in Lawrence County Illinois the veteran applied for a new pension certificate having lost the original. His application was supported by a certificate of his identity given by John Milton, Senior whose relationship to the veteran is not stated.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Milton Sr". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name "John" is written in a large, flowing script, followed by "Milton" and "Sr" in a slightly smaller, more compact script. The signature is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing November 9th, 1826, for service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]