

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Symms (Sims) S37397

f20VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/31/12

[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.]

The Commonwealth of Kentucky Montgomery County, Sct.

On this 9th day of October 1818, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Circuit Court, in and for the state aforesaid, personally appeared John Sims aged 57 years; – who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following statement and declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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;" that he is a citizen of the state of Kentucky and resident of the County of Montgomery; and that he was enlisted for 2 years at Albemarle County in the state of Virginia on or about the ___ day of 1778 or 1779 by one Anderson Thompson and served in the company commanded by Captain Robert Barrett of the Regiment of guards of the ___ Virginia Regiment of guards to guard the Prisoners of Burgoyne's Army – commanded by Colonel Francis Taylor that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States, in the Continental Army, against the common enemy, until about the spring 1782 when he was honorably discharged from service at Charlottesville in the state of Virginia by General Wood; that he was in service 2 years and was in no battles but was afterwards among the state militia at the taking of Cornwallis – and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has lost his discharge and has no evidence in his power, of his services and discharge, other than that which is here transmitted. Sworn and declared before me the day and year aforesaid.

S/ B. Mills, Judge

Before me Benjamin Mills a judge of the General Court and a circuit Judge of the State of Kentucky (being the same who took the foregoing or annexed declaration of John Sims) this day appeared William Clarkson Esquire, who being duly sworn, did depose and say, that in the year 1779 as near as he can recollect, he lived at the Barracks in Albemarle County Virginia and there acted as assistant commissary for the troops of that place who acted as guards to the prisoners of Burgoyne's Army. Colonel Taylor of Orange County commanded the guards, and the Regiment was called the Regiment of guards. The deponent remained there almost the whole time, that Burgoyne's troops lay there, and was there acquainted with the aforesaid applicant John Sims, the whole of the time, and knew him to be a regular soldier in Colonel Taylor's Regiment, during the whole period, and as well as this deponent's memory serves him said Sims belonged to Captain Barrett's Company – Barrett during the time resigned and the company was afterwards commanded by Lieutenant Pettis until the Regiment of Guards was discharged. That the time during which this deponent knew the said Sims as a soldier was about 18 months or 2 years, he is

certain he could not be less than 18 months.

Sworn to before me this 4 August 1819

S/ B. Mills

Additional Claim

District of Montgomery County & Circuit State of Kentucky

On this 12th day of October 1820 personally appeared in open court being a court of record for the circuit & County aforesaid John Symms aged 60 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 the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st May 1820, that he the said Simmes enlisted, for the term of 2 years on the __ day of __ in the year 1779 1780 in the state of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Barret in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Taylor in the line of the state of Virginia on the Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said Corps until his time was out when he was discharged from the said service, in Albemarle County in the state of Virginia. He refers to his former statement for further facts – and that he has no other evidence, now in his power, of his said services, except what has been heretofore sent.

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

Sworn to, and declared on the 12th day of October 1820 before the Judge of the Montgomery Circuit Court now sitting.

[Attested by Micajah Harrison, clerk of the circuit court]

A Schedule of John Symes Property

He says he has no land, no [indecipherable word]

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------|------|------------------|
| 1 Horse | \$25 | 1 mare & colt | \$25 | \$50 |
| 2 Cows & one calf | | | | 17 |
| 10 hogs | | | | <u>15</u> |
| | | | | 82 |
| 2 Beds | \$42 | | | Bot up <u>64</u> |
| 1 Table | 4 | | | \$146 |
| 3 Chairs | 3 | | | |
| 1 Cubboard & contents | <u>15</u> | | | |
| | 64 | | | |

which is all the estate he has real or personal – & a sum less than \$10 due him he owes upwards of \$50

He has a wife about 58 – & a weekly woman & 4 daughters – also a son who does not live with him – that he is afflicted with Rheumatic Complaints, and has the Palsy & that he is unable to labor –

S/ John Symms

John Lyman

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing October 9, 1818, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia Continental line.]