

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Sylvanus Stokes S38397

f27VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/29/12: rev'd 6/24/21

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

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Original Claim

Declaration in order to be placed on the Pension list under the act of the 18th of March 1818
State of Alabama, Lawrence County} On this 12th of July 1826 personally appeared the undersigned sole & only Judge a court of record for the County aforesaid having Jurisdiction unlimited in amount power to fine and imprison and being made a court of record by the act of the General Assembly creating said court Sylvanus Stokes resident in said County aged seventy-seven years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and 1st May 1820 that he the said Sylvanus Stokes enlisted for the term of two years on 24th of February 1776 in the County of Halifax State of Virginia in the company commanded by Nathaniel Cock [Nathaniel Cocke] in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Dangerfield [William Dangerfield] in the line of the State of Virginia as deponent supposes on the Continental establishment: that he continued to serve in the said Court until 8th of December 1777 at which time being still in the service he enlisted again for the term of three years in the company commanded by Captain William Mosely [William Moseley] in the Regiment commanded by Colonel McClanan or McClanahan [Alexander McClanahan] in the State of Pennsylvania on the Continental establishment that he continued to serve in said last mentioned Corps until the end of said three years when he was discharged from the service in the State of North Carolina in the County of Maclenburg [Mecklenburg] at the time of the discharge he was commanded by Captain Epps [probably Capt. Lieut. William Eppes] that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, that his name is not on the roll of any state, except as above stated and that the following all the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension: that he has been for a considerable time infirm, has been totally or nearly blind for the last ten or twelve years, has been supported by the County for the last two years has lost his discharge for some considerable time, did once make application to a lawyer to aid him in getting a pension and was informed by the lawyer to whom he applied that a pension could not be obtained unless he could prove his services by some officer who knew of the service. He therefore concluded he could not get a pension and has not attempted it until now which application is made on the advice of persons differing with attorney 1st consulted. 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

Wearing apparel

S/ Sylvanus Stokes, X his mark

his occupation is that of a planter he is not now from blindness and age able to do anything and has not been able to do anything for at least about ten years he has no family but lives from place to place under the direction of the overseer of the poor. That since the 18th of March 1818 the following changes have been made in my property to wit I gave up my tools, a wagon and some stock & a few other articles to Leigh Taylor a son-in-law in consideration that he would support me the balance of my life, he has driven me off & has kept the property and left me without anything.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing February 2nd, 1827, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

Addendum to Sylvanus Stokes S38397

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 23 June 2021.


[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#): indexed as Stokes, Sills.]

Richmond February 26th '78

I Certify that Sill's Stokes has been in the service more than three years successively.

W Moseley Maj'r

C. Line



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. Moseley", written in dark ink on a light background. The signature is positioned below the typed name "W Moseley Maj'r" and "C. Line".