

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Sorrels S3953

fn29NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/2/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Kentucky County of Butler: Sct.

On this 8th day of October, 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the County Court of said County, now sitting, John Sorrels a resident in the County of Butler, and State of Kentucky, aged seventy-six years past, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

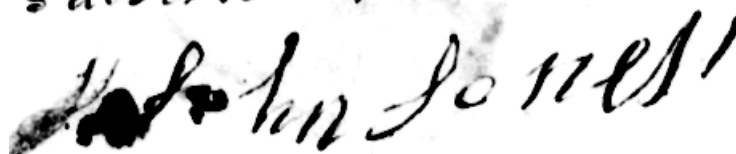
That he entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he volunteered about the 1st of September 1779 [the date is interlined and difficult to read: it may not be correct] in a company of militia minute men in Rutherford County in the State of North Carolina, which company was bound to military services under Captain John McLane, & Lieutenant Nicholas Harvey, and in the Regiment commanded by Colonel James Miller. That he continued to serve in said company until May 1781, during which time, he was the greater part thereof in actual service against the Tories and Indians, but would be permitted to return for a day or two after the different scouts. He had to assist in guarding both [indecipherable word] of the County, the one infested by Tories, and the other by the Indians, and was kept in always constant service, and they whole time under military orders. That in May 1781, he enlisted for ten months as a Dragoon, in what was always believed to have been the Continental line – but may have been the State Service. That he then lived in North Carolina, Rutherford County, and enlisted under Captain McIlhany [sic, McIlhaney ?], Who lived near the line between North & South Carolina and may have lived in the latter state, as he sold his claim for his pay, and understood that it was drawn at Charleston. Lieutenant Nicholas Harvey, who resided in said County of Rutherford North Carolina, Colonel Hammonds of South Carolina, and Major Grierson [?]. That he rendezvoused in the edge of South Carolina, and marched to the neighborhood of Augusta, on the South Carolina side of the river – from thence he marched to what was called Bull Swamp, passing Beech Island, and scoured the country to drive the Tories out of the neighborhood. That he continued to range the Country until early in September 1781, when he was marched through Ninety Six, and joined the Army under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] on the 7th of that month, about 3 miles from Eutaw Springs in South Carolina, and on the 8th the battle was fought at that place in which he was engaged. That he knew Colonel Lee who commanded a Regiment of Dragoons or Cavalry who

was under General Green but I understood was stationed with his horse to cover our retreat. That after the battle, he marched about a mile and a half to a branch and encamped. That about 12 o'clock that night, it commenced to rain, and continued to do so through the 9th and until about midnight of that day. That on the 10th General Green, early in the morning, pursued the British, and he was told overtook them. But he was detailed to go with the wounded of his Regiment, eighteen in number, and to take care of them. That he marched with the wounded through the back part of South Carolina, perhaps a hundred miles from the Eutaw Springs, where he remained until the wounded began to get well, when he rejoined his company at Hammonds old store, near Augusta, but on the South Carolina side of the River. That during the balance of the term of his enlistment, he continued to range the country between said store, Beech Island and Bull Swamp, without serving with any Continental troops. That on the first day of March 1782, on the Saluda River, he was regularly discharged – which written discharge was signed by Colonel Hammonds and Captain McIlhany. That in September 1782, he volunteered on an expedition to the Cherokee Villages, under Captain John Watson, and Colonel James Miller – from Rutherford County in North Carolina, where he resided. That he marched to a town near the Hiwassee River, and killed two Indians = and having destroyed their corn, returned to Rutherford, after an expedition of about 30 days. That he has no documentary evidence of his service, having given his discharge up when he sold his pay for his 10 months services – and that he knows of no one by whom he can prove any of [his] services, except John Henson, who lives near Evansville, Indiana, by whom he can prove the 10 months service. That he cannot say in what year he was born, but believes that he is about 76 or 77 years of age. That he has no record of his age, having lost the one made by his father. That since the Revolutionary War, he has lived in Tennessee and Kentucky, and now resides in Butler County in the latter state. That he is acquainted with the Reverend Benjamin McReynolds and Benjamin Porter, who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services.

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 the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Sorrel

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Sorrel". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid.

[Benjamin McReynolds, a clergyman, and Benjamin Porter gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

An Amended Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832
State of Kentucky Olive County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace in and for the said County aforesaid, John Sorrels who, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades; –for two years and four months, I served as a private, for three months, I served as orderly Sergeant – and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ John Sorrels

did.

Question. By John Sorrels

Do or do you not know that I am the same person of whose services you speak?

Answer. Yes. I know that you are the same identical John Sorrels, whose service I have mentioned in the foregoing deposition.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Henson, H his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$92.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 10 months as a private in the cavalry, 11 months as a private in the infantry and 3 months as a Sergeant in the infantry.]