

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Michael Sword S6181

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 19 Nov 2014.

Virginia: At a Court held for Russell County the 5th day of May 1818

Michael Sword who resides in the County of Russell in the State of Virginia, wishing to become a pensioner pursuant to the provisions of an Act of the Congress of the United States, passed the 18th day of March 1818 entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War," personally appeared in Court and declared on oath that he enlisted as a private Soldier in Winchester in Virginia some time in the year 1777 as near as he recollected, under Colo Nevil [sic: John Nevill], he did not recollect the number of the Regiment but it was in the service of the United States he served nearly four years and was discharged at Williamsburg in Virginia. He was in the battle fought at Germantown [4 Oct 1777] where he was taken prisoner and sent to Philadelphia: he was sent from thence to New York and was there exchanged and joined the American Troops at white plains [New York] under Colo Nevil and passed through the Jerseys till orders came for a Detachment to South Carolina; that Colo. Crabtree commanded the troops until their arrival at Charleston. That he was taken prisoner again at Charleston [12 May 1780]. That the first Captain under whom the said Michael Sword served was Captain Robert Higgins, he afterwards served under Capt Leonard Cooper; he does not at present recollect the name of the Officer who discharged him He also stated that Colo. Nevil was first in command in the detachment that went to Charleston.

[Certification by the court not transcribed.]

And At a Court held for said County the 6th day of July 1819

This day personally appeared in Court Michael Sword, who at a Court held for this county the 5th day of May 1818, made a declaration on oath for the purpose of obtaining the pension allowed by the Act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818, and further declared on oath that the line he served in was the Virginia Line, and he being interrogated by the Court upon the points stated in his first declaration, the judge of this Court is of opinion that his statements aforesaid are true. Which is ordered to be certified to the Secretary of the Department of War.

A Copy Teste Henry Dickenson C.R.C.

District of Virginia SS

On this second day of January 1821, personally appeared in open Court being a court of record held for the County of Russell in the District aforesaid Michael Sword, aged sixty years or upwards resident in said District, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows, he enlisted in a company commanded by Capt. Robert Higgins of the fourth Virginia Regiment commanded by Colo. John Nevill, and that he was taken prisoner at the battle of Germantown and being exchanged joined the Continental Troops again at White plains, and served in a company commanded by Capt Cooper – was marched from thence to Charleston in South Carolina, and at the Seige of Charleston taken prisoner, and being put on board a British prison vessel was carried to Williamsburg in Virginia where he was exchanged and discharged [summer 1781], having enlisted for three years, and served four, having been detained a prisoner after the period of his service had expired. That he has received a pension certificate from the War Department that he is inscribed on the pension list, roll of the Virginia agency No 14,661, and that the original declaration of the above facts was made May 5th 1818. And 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 disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions 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, to wit,

150 acres of land lying on the north side of the Rye Grass mountain, generally very steep.

Two mares & 1 colt; 8 cows; 5 years old cattle, 11 calves, 11 head of sheep, 15 head of hogs, one shovel plough, 3 hoes, two old axes; 3 pots, one broken oven; 1 skillet; 1 wedge; 1 pair chains; 1 pair old chains; 1 log chain; cupboard furniture a small quantity 1 chest; 1 old saw; 1 auger; 1 adze; 12 dollars owing to me and I owe ten dollars

Michael Sword

And the said declarant also states, that he is by occupation a farmer, that he has a wife of forty years of age or upwards, who for six or seven years past has not had the proper use of her left arm and shoulder, that he has a stepson nearly seventeen years old who ever since last March has been disabled with a white swelling upon his leg; that he has two sons and one daughter, Viz. Jeremiah nearly twelve years old; Susanna nearly ten years old & Michael nearly eight years old; that this declarant is infirm and unable to labour as he could have done a few years past.

Sworn to and declared before the court of Russell county the 2^d day of January 1821.

I Henry Dickenson clerk of the said County Court do hereby certify that the foregoing oath and the Schedule thereto annexed, are truly copied from the record of the said court, and I further certify that it is the opinion of the said court that the total amount in value of the property exhibited in the aforesaid Schedule is five hundred and fifty dollars

State of Virginia }
Russell County } SS

On this 4th day of September, 1832, personally appeared before the County Court of Russell Michael Sword, a resident of the County of Russell, aged seventy six years and an applicant for a pension under the act of Congress of June 7, 1832 who being first duly sworn according to law depose and saith, that he was formerly enrolled on the pension list under the act of Congress of March the 18, 1818, and was afterwards struck from the roll on account of the amount of his property that he enlisted as a private soldier of the United States Army in the year 1777 with Captain Robert Higgins and marched from Winchester Virginia the place of his enlistment and then late residence, to Philadelphia after being equipped there he joined the 8th Regiment in General Scotts [Charles Scott's] Brigade, as he believes, the Commandant of which Regiment he thinks was Colo Matthews, and served according to the statement in his Declaration made before the Court on the 5th day of May 1818, the time of his first application for a pension that he then resided and still resides in the said County of Russell

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first aforesaid Michael hisXmark Sword