

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Miller W3706

Mary Miller

f43SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

[p 10]

State of Kentucky Fayette County Sct.

On this 17th day of June 1818 before me the Subscriber one of the Judges of the Circuit Court of the State aforesaid, personally appeared John Miller aged Sixty Six years resident in Bourbon County in said State who being by me duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following 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 & naval service of the US in the Revolutionary War:" That he the said John Miller, first enlisted in Captain Smith's company of General Williamson's [Andrew Williamson's] Regiment in the (now) County of Abbeville, State of South Carolina, that he continued to serve in said Regiment from the year 1775 to the time of the taking of Charlestown [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], which he thinks was in the year 1780 when he was discharged from Service, near the place of his original enlistment. That he was at the Siege of Ninety Six,¹ & in many skirmishes, that he was afterwards in General Sumpter's [sic, Thomas Sumter's] defeat² at Catawba River, & that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support & that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said Services, owing to his having removed to a great distance from the scene of action's & all his officers he believes are dead & at any rate without his knowledge.

Sworn to & declared before me this day & year above written.

S/ John Miller, X his mark

S/ Benjamin Johnson, Circuit Judge

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Commonwealth of Kentucky Circuit of Bourbon } SS

On this 29th day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a court of record in and for the Circuit & Commonwealth aforesaid John Miller aged about sixty-eight years resident in Bourbon County and Circuit aforesaid, who being duly sworn according to law,

¹ It is hard to know if the applicant is referring to what is called the First Battle of Ninety Six which occurred in November 1775 at which forces under then Major Andrew Williamson opposed Tory forces commanded by Major Joseph Robinson or the siege of Ninety Six led by Genl. Nathanael Greene in May-June 1781.

<http://gaz.jrshelby.com/ninety-six.htm>

² This engagement is commonly referred to as the engagement at Fishing Creek or Sumter's Defeat. It occurred on August 18, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/fishingcreek.htm>

did on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows, to wit, as stated in his original declaration dated on the 17th June 1818 now on file in the War office, in pursuance of which he is inscribed on the pension list roll of the Kentucky agency by certificate dated the 15th day of February 1819 & No. 6972 –

And he did solemnly swear that he was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself 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 h has not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to him nor has he any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by him subscribed.

[Attested by Thomas Arnold, Clerk of the Bourbon Circuit Court]

[p 5]

Schedule of the estate of John Miller a pensioner of the revolutionary Army, except wearing apparel -- & Bedding

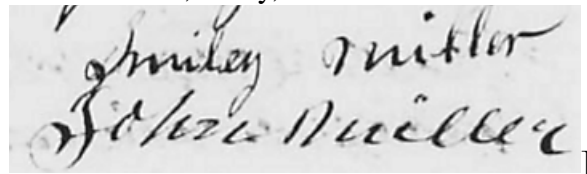
1 old mare about 24 years old
1 cow, calf & yearling
3 head of sheep
2 sets of old plow irons
2 pair chains
2 axes
3 hoes
6 old chairs
1 table
3 tin cups a few spoons
No debts due to him except his pension
He is indebted about \$30
3 kettles and a pot -- 3 of them broken
1 Dutch oven -- one small broken pot
a small skillet

He has a wife & six children three of them under ten years old the rest a little older. That he is afflicted with rheumatism & unable to labor –

S/ John Miller

And the court thinks the property in the foregoing schedule is worth \$38.75

[p 13: On December 19, 1850 in Pike County Missouri, Smiley Miller and John Miller stated that they were acquainted with John Miller, a revolutionary soldier and that he died August 26, 1825. Their relation, if any, to the veteran and/or his widow is unstated.



Smiley Miller
John Miller

[p 14: On December 19, 1850 in Pike County Missouri, Mary Miller, 81, filed for a widow's

pension under the 1848 and 1838 acts stating that she is the widow of John Miller, a pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum for his services in the revolution; that she married him March 13, 1798 that he died August 26, 1825. She signed her application with her mark]

[p 16: Certified copy of a Marriage Bond dated March 9, 1798 issued in Greene County Tennessee for the marriage of John Miller to Mary Smiley.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 17, 1818, for service as a private for 5 years in the South Carolina service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[Facts in file: DAR note that the John Miller who was veteran left a will dated May 27, 1825 which was probated October 1825 in which he names wife, Mary, son, John, daughter "Jinney" and "all my children."]

[Note: It appears that veteran mistakenly obtained a pension under the 1818 act. That act only applied to indigent Continental Line soldiers. The services alleged by the veteran appear to me to have all been rendered in the South Carolina militia. Consequently, he would not have been eligible for a pension under the 1818 act. He would have qualified under the 1832 act had he lived long enough to file a declaration under it.]