

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Peter Miller W5149 Ann Elizabeth Miller PA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Ohio Ss } Court of Common Pleas
Trumbull County } December Term 1820

On this sixth Day of December in the year of our Lord 1820 Personally appeared in open Court Being a Court of Record for said County; John Peter Miller of Elsworth Township in said County of Trumbull aged Sixty Six years; who being firstly duly sworn according to Law; doth on his oath make the following decleration in order to obtain the provision made by the Act of Congress of the 18th March 1818, and the first of May 1820. That he the said John Peter Miller in July 1778 Inlisted into General Count Pulaskys [sic: Kazimierz Pulaski's] Legion on the continental establishment in East Town [sic: Easton] in Pensylvania; and joined the Company Commanded by Henry Balmer [sic: Henry Bedken; Henry Bedkin] some time in the year 1779 & served in said Count Pulaskys Legion & Colo. Arman's [sic: Charles Armand's Legion] untill the expearation of the war as a Trumpeter when he received a discharge which is lost – and that he has no evidence in his power of his said services; that he was in a battle at Elizabeth Town New Jersey 1780 [probably Battle of Springfield NJ, 23 Jun 1780]; and received a wound. And in pursuance of the Act of the 18th May 1820 [sic] 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.

Schedule

One Cow \$12
One three year old heifer \$12
One old mare twenty years old \$10
3 hogs \$6

John P. Miller

And the said John Peter Miller on his Oath aforesaid further saith that by occupation he is a weaver; but able to but very little; and has a family consisting of one exclusive of himself; his wife Elizabeth aged sixty one and he further declares that he made application before Harman Canfield one of the Judges of the said County of Trumbull in May 1819, and left said application with my discharge &c to be forwarded to the secretary which the said Judge informs me was forwarded by mail but has never had any return.

State of Ohio }
Trumbull County Ss } Court of Common Pleas April Term 1821

On the 10th Day of April 1821, Personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of Record for said County John P Miller of Elsworth Township in said County of Trumbull aged Sixty Seven; who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following decleration in addition to the decleration made in an affidavit, made subscribed & sworn to before said Court of Common Pleas at their December Term 1820 & on the Sixth day of December 1820 and in open Court. Viz that he the said John P. Miller did inlist in July 1778 into Gen'l Count Polazky's Legion on the continental establishment in East Town in Pensylvania for the Term of three years or during the War, and Was Wounded not only in his hands but both Legs

John P. Miller

[The following is undated but was presumably written after 30 Oct 1821 when Miller's first pension certificate was issued.]

To the Honorable Secretary of War.

We the undersigned Petitioners would represent to your honor that a certain John P Miller a resident of Trumbull County and State of Ohio, by some means or other, has been placed on the list of pensioners and by that means receives ninety six dollars a year. The fact is this, the said John P Miller came to America with the British army and served in said army till his bad conduct obliged him to flee to the American army for safety which was towards the close of the war. [See endnote.] Mr. Miller has frequently attested that he never was in any battle after joining the American standard nor did he ever render any particular service to the United States. We would further state that the said Miller has a good farm and cattle in abundance about him and is much better off than his neighbours are in general. Mr. Miller has but two children and they have married well. If we have a right idea of the [undeciphered word] of Congress in awarding pensions it was to relieve the aged, infirm and the poor that had spent the prime of life in service of their Country without any compensation therefore and not British deserters. We wish that your honor would cause the said John P. Miller to be struck from the list of Pensioners. By so doing Mr. Miller would not in any way be injured and your entitled to much credit. We will ever pray &c

Henry Piles	James Steel	Henry Croninger	Isaac Cronk
George Howe	D. W. Vines[?]	Charles Veirs	Jabal havens[?]
Jhon Greenley	John West	Wm Camper[?]	John Huseley[?]
David Winters	Crana W Wood	[undeciphered in German]	
Frederic Crumrines	[illegible]	George broadsword	George P Broadsword
[undeciphered in German]	Phillip Borts	John Borghot	Henry Borts
George Harting	george g fusilman	Phillip Borts	Philip Auneo[?]
George Leonard	Chas C. Chapman	James Shron	W. H Ross
George Ross	John Sterl[?]	Robert Gray	[undeciphered in German]
Wm Grey			

A schedule of the Real estate and Personal property, belonging to John P Miller a Trumpeter in the Revolutionary War, as appraised by us this 20th day of June 1831.

Thirty acres of land at \$10 per acre	\$300.	
4 Cattle	35.	
1 old mare	<u>10.</u>	
	\$345	[See endnote]

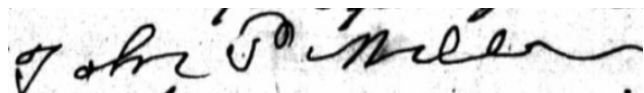
The State of Ohio }
 Trumbull County Ss }

On this 14th day of August 1832 Personally appeared before me Alexander Sutherland a justice of the peace for the County of Trumbull aforesaid John P. Miller of Ellsworth in said County, a Revolutionary Pensioner under the acts of Congress of 18th March 1818 & first of May 1820 aged (now as he says) 77 years on the 11th May last. Who being first duly sworn according to law Deposeth and says that he served as a Trumpeter in the Revolutionary Army, and inscribed on the Pension List Roll of the Ohio Agency, at the rate of Eight Dollars per month, and that his pension commenced on the first of June 1819. Which said Pension was continued to him the said Deponent until the said Deponents name was stricken from said Pension Roll, and dropped therefrom as he verily believes on account of property or some misrepresentations made to the War Department.

This Deponent further deposeth and says that he belonged to Captain Henry Baken troop in Col. Armong (as pronounced by said deponent) Legion in the Revolutionary Army as may appear in the Records of the War Department. And that at the time of his first and at all subsequent applications for a pension or restoration to the pension Roll, that he resided at Ellsworth aforesaid And he the said Deponent further saith that he does not know of any evidence other than what is now in possession of the

War Department. In testimony whereof I the said Deponent have subscribed my name
Sworn and subscribed at Newton this 14th day of Aug't 1832 John P. Miller

The State of Ohio Trumbull County Ss On this twentieth day of March 1833 Personally appeared before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the County aforesaid John P. Miller a resident of Ellsworth in said County of Trumbull and State of Ohio aged Seventy seven years on the eleventh day of May last (1832), who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Provision made by the Act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832. that he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1778 at Easton Northampton County in the State of Pennsylvania with Captain Henry Bekin under Col. De Korvalt [sic: Michael Kowats] (spoken by applicant) of Gen. Pulaski Legion and served in said Legion in the Continental line under the following named Officers, viz Captain Henry Beken, Col De Korwaltz, Gen. Pulaski But after Gen. Pulaski death [at the siege of Savannah GA, 11 Oct 1779] by Resolve of Congress our Company was attached to Gen. Armongs (the French Gen. of Horse) Legion [in the summer of 1780]. (This applicant would refer to his former Declaration on file in the Pension office of the War Department) at the time of this Applicants enlistment he resided at a place called Upper Milford township in said County of Northampton Pennsylvania. This Applicant continued in the service of the United States until the close of the Revolutionary war, and was Discharged at Little York in Pennsylvania, which discharge this Applicant lost in Philadelphia, but retained his Captains Certificate of a wound received in Elizabeth town New Jersey in and assault by the enemy in the night time attacking the party by surprise. This Applicant states that at this late period and at his advanced age he cannot bring to his recollection every scene of that eventful period, nor yet all the places particularly through which he march while in the service of his Country. The first Battle that he was engaged in after his enlistment was at Springfield New Jersey against the British & Hessians from Staten Island, under Gen Knephausen [sic: Knyphausen] of the Enemy, General [Nathanael] Greene Commanded the American force. The hot reception the enemy got from the Americans in this battle induced them to make a rapid retreat to Staten island. And as the Company to which he belonged was mostly kept on the lines and as he was Trupet Major his post was in an engagement with the Commandant. At the approach of winter General Greene retired to Morristown with Gen Washington and we to Winter Quarters at a place called Bristol on the Delaware river in Pennsylvania. At the opening of the Campaign in the Spring we marched to Delaware (State), to Maryland, and Virginia at Yorktown against Lord Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis] and after the Surrender of Lord Cornwallace with the whole of the British Army under his Command [19 Oct 1781] we retired to Winter Quarters at Charlottesville [sic: Charlottesville] Va. After the Capture of Cornwallace Gen Armongd having returned from France with arms and accoutrements &c (and under orders from General Washington raised from the line of several states six Company's of horse and Infantry, which again formed the Legion.) From Charlottesville march to Staunton Va Winchester, Frederick town Maryland thence to Little York Pennsylvania to Winter Quarters at which place he said applicant was Discharged by Gen. Armongd, he thinks some time in November 1782 having been twice enlisted for three years each time after being discharged at the close of the War and no more fighting was done, he went to Philadelphia where he lost his discharge. This Applicant believes that as his former application under the laws formerly passed on the subject of Revolutionary pensions are in the department and as he has been heretofore stricken from the Roll of pensioners he may now with propriety and truth Declare that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any State of territory or (if any) only on that of the State of Ohio and not now on that to his knowledge having been as he believe stricken therefrom on the account of Property and not yet restored
That he resided in said Ellsworth at his first and subsequent application and still resides there in the County of Trumbull State of Ohio



NOTES:

Gen. Pulaski did recruit from Hessian deserters from the British Army, but this was in 1778, not near the end of the war. Pulaski's Legion ceased to exist in the summer of 1780, and its remnants were taken into Armand's Legion. Having previously served with the British was not a disqualification for a pension. Miller's service in the American Army is established by the records cited in the next paragraph.

A muster roll of Capt. Henry Bedken's Troop of Light Dragoons belonging to Gen. Count Pulaski's Legion dated at Morristown NJ on 13 Dec 1779 lists John P. Miller, Trumpeter, who enlisted on 26 Oct 1779 for three years. Another muster roll for the same company dated 15 March 1780 at Westfield NJ lists John P. Miller, Trumpeter, as having enlisted on 14 May 1778 for three years. A note on the back of Miller's first pension certificate states, "Appears on Col Armands Corps in the Miscellaneous Extracts of Rolls Page 9."

The Pension Office deemed more than \$200 in property as disqualification for a pension under the act of 1818. Miller was finally pensioned under the act of 1832.

On 27 Nov 1839 Ann Elisabeth Miller, about 80, applied for a pension stating that she married John P. Miller in August 1784, and he died on 2 Aug 1835. John Miller and Mary Magdalen Wolf, wife of George Wolf, certified their parents' marriage as well as the birth and baptismal certificates written in German by John Peter Miller and abstracted as follows:

Johann Georg Miller was born in Rockland Township, Berks County, on 8 April 1785 to Johan Peter Miller and Ann Elisabetha née Mayer and baptized on 16 May, witnessed by Peter and Anna Margaretha Hilfer.

Born to Johann Peter Miller and his wife Anna Elizabet née Meier on 7 March 1787 in Berks County, Maria Magdalena baptized on 30 May 1787 by Daniel Lehmann, witnessed by Johannes and Maria Magdalena Hilbert.

Johanes Miller was born to Johann Peter and Anna Elizabeth Miller in Berks County on 6 September 1788 and baptized on 6 October by Daniel Lehmann, witnessed by Johannes and Maria Magdalena Hilbert.

On 21 April 1854 John Miller stated that his mother, Ann Elizabeth Miller, died on 9 May 1840, leaving himself and Mary M. Woolf, both of Mahoning County, as survivors. On 18 May 1855 John Miller applied for bounty land.