

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Sykes (Sycks)

f28VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/31/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Penn^a County of Greene: SS

On the 17th day of November in the year of our Lord 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Thomas H Baird President and his Associates now sitting Henry Sycks [sic] a resident of the County of Greene aforesaid aged about seventy-eight years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service as a volunteer some time in August 1776 and him from the waters of Dunkard Creek and rendezvoused on the Ohio River some short distance below the mouth of Yellow Creek, my Captain's name was James Neel [James Neal] he then resided in what is now Fayette County, one term of service was to be three months, but as no persons came to supply our places, our officer requested us to stay longer and we stayed half a month, I have no recollection of the names of the other officers or names, I was out at that time four months lacking a few days. I next served one month at Garret's Fort on Big Whitely Creek under Captain Samuel Swingler, sometime in the year 1777 or 1778. I was at the time a sergeant in Captain Minor's Company of militia and we were all classed and took our respective times of doing duty, as it came to our turn. I next acted as an Ensign at the said Fort, for the space of upwards of a month, from a small scrap of paper that I have attached to this declaration on which I kept the account of the persons as they came into service their monthly tours, I must have acted in the capacity of Ensign for near six weeks. This service was in 1782. I was then appointed and acted as a Spy under Colonel William Crawford in which capacity I served for some length of time, while in that Capacity I found and took off the scalp of an Indian that was supposed to be killed by a man of the name of Hall, this fact I made an affidavit of sometime after to enable Hall to draw the reward for killing an Indian. In addition to the above services that deponent rendered under officers as above stated that deponent was off and on at Jerrats fort nearly every summer from the year 1776 till the year 1782. He also acted in the Capacity of Spy on the waters of Dunkard, for a number of Summers but the precise time from the length of time & deponent's old age deponent cannot state with certainty. But deponent is free in stating that the whole time he was engaged in the Indian War must have been upwards [of] two years, there are a number of circumstances to which deponent ought to refer of his voluntary services, one of which was the taking of one of his Sisters by the Indians and who was kept with them till after General Wayne's Treaty, deponent was at that time engaged against them he was also in pursuit of the Indians at the time of the killing of Robinson & Enoch Enochs where he with others pursued them in the direction of the Big River, but did not come up with them, in short he might say that the whole frontier was in a state of War during the summer seasons for years.

I was born on the Shenandoah River in the State of Virginia on the 12th of February

1757.

I have no record of my age the Bible of my Father was sold at my Father's [indecipherable word], who died in 1782.

I was living on the waters of Dunkard Creek in now Greene County where I have continued to reside and where I now reside

I was called or rather I rendered the services as set forth in the former part of my declaration particularly principally as a volunteer.

As regards the names of my officers I cannot state more particularly that I have, I mentioned the name of my first Captain James Neel and Samuel Swingler, Colonel William Crawford and refer to the former part of my Declaration for my services.

I received a discharge from Captain Neel but that with my pocket Book was taken a great number of years ago out of my father's Cabin. I never received any other discharge.

[I] Refer to the names of a number of my neighbors whose depositions is hereto attached for proof of my services and also John Fordice, Lot Lantz, and William T. Hays as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services rendered as a soldier of the revolution, against the Indians & I do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and do declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State whatever.

S/ Henry Sykes, X his mark

[John Fordyce, a clergyman, Lot Lantz, Esq., and William T. Hays, Esq. gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 27]

Thomas Dugh or Dugla [Thomas Douglas?] May 17 Enterd

Zacheriah Evines [Zachariah Evans?] May 17 Enterd

Robart mullen [Robert Mullins?] May 17, Enterd

Jarge Seaten [George Sutton?] May 17 Enterd

Jonethan Mundle [Jonathan Mondale?] May 17 Enterd

Charles Molten May 28 Enterd

David Casto May 29 Enterd

John huston [John Houston or Hudson?] May 29 Enterd

John Jones May 29 Enterd

Glile long [Gilly Long?] May 30 Enterd

fort Jaret 1782

John Roberts

Thomas Dugan	May 19	Entered
Zachariah Surres	May 14	Entered
Robert Macellen	May 04	Entered
Jorge Seaton	May 14	Entered
Jonathan Mundle	May 04	Entered
Charles Mollen	May 20	Entered
David Coste	May 29	Entered
John Huston	May 29	Entered
John Jones	May 29	Entered
Abile Long	May 30	Entered
John Roberts		

Greene County SS

Before me the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for said County personally appeared Jonathan Morris¹ of Dunkard Township Greene County who upon his solemn oath saith that he well remembers that Henry Sycks now of Monongahela Township in said County served on duty under Captain Samuel Swingler at Garrards Fort on big Whiteley Creek, not certain as to length of time but supposed not less than a month at once that the said Sycks was there on duty frequently that at one time he was Sergeant under Captain Swingler, that at the time the Indian was killed on Whitely by Richard Hall the said Sycks was a Spy under Colonel Crawford and found the Indian that was killed by Hall, deponent, cannot recollect positively the particular dates of the services rendered by said Sycks but well remembers the services mentioned further saith not.

S/ Jonathan Morris, X his mark

Sworn and subscribed the 30th day of August 1834 before me

S/ David Taylor, JP

Greene County The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Before me the subscribing Witness one of the Commonwealth Justices of the peace in & for the County aforesaid Personally appeared Stephen Gapen² who after being duly affirmed as the law directs deposeth & saith that in the year 1781 or 1782 that Henry Sicks [sic] now of Greene County & State aforesaid – did act in company with the deponent as a volunteer spy against the Indians on the waters of Dunkard Creek about the line between Virginia & Pennsylvania the ground we ranged composing now a part of Monga^a [Monongalia] County in Virginia & a part of Greene County Pennsylvania the

¹ FPA S7247

² FPA S8545

deponent states that he was with him one or two weeks the exact time not precisely recollected & further the deponent states that he knew the said Henry to be out as a spy at divers other times & further saith not,

Sworn & subscribed September 1st 1834 before me
S/ Richard Kerwood

S/ Stephen Gapen

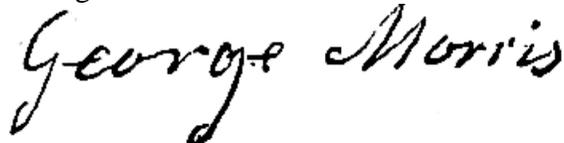
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen Gapen". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Greene County SS

Before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said County personally came George Morris³ of said County who on his solemn oath deposes and saith that he well remembers that Henry Six [sic] of Monongahela Township in said County for forted at garard fort on Big Whitely Creek during the greater part of 2 or 3 Summers during the Indian war under Captain Swingler either as a volunteer or under a draft (he does not recollect which) was ready and willing at all alarms and at all times to pursue the Indians – and further saith not.

Sworn and subscribed this 20th day of September 1834.

S/ George Morris

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Morris". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$21.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service of 5 months as a private and one month as a sergeant in the Virginia militia.]

³ FPA R7403