Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Henry Miller S16481 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 19 Aug 2015.

State of Indiana }
Tippecanoe County } SS

On this the first day of April in the year 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable John R. Porter President Judge and James Wylie and John Travett Esquire his associates the circuit court for the county of Tippecanoe aforesaid now sitting Henry Miller, a resident of said county and State aged seventy three years the sixth day of December A.D. 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 act of Congress passed June 7 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He saith that about the last of February or first of March in the year 1776 or 1777, whilst he resided in the county of Bedford and State of Virginia he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the company of Henry Buford or Bufort for the term of six months. That the company to which he belonged formed a part of a corps of about three hundred men which accompanied the four commissioners who met at the Big Island on Holston River [sic: Long Island of Holston River at present Kingsport TN] to treat with the Cherokee Nation of Indians on the part of Virginia and North Carolina [Treaty of Long Island, signed 20 Jul 1777]. He saith that William Christie [William Christian] and Col. Shelby (whose christian name he thinks was James [sic: Evan Shelby]) were the two Commissioners from Virginia but the names of the two from North Carolina he has forgotten. That the expedition was under the direction and command of Col. Shelby and Christie. That one John Fields was the lieutenant of the company to which he belonged and Abram Sharp ensign. That agreeably to his recollection the company of volunteers from the county of Pittsylvania Virginia which also formed a part of said corps, was commanded by Capt Waters and Capt. Dickson commanded one of the companies from said county of Bedford. The name of the other Captains he has forgotten. He saith that he marched by the way of English's ferry at New river [sic: Ingles Ferry near present Radford] in going from said county of Bedford to the Big Island aforesaid. He further states that he served on this expedition four months, at the expiration of which time (in July 1776 or 1777) he together with the company to which he belonged was permitted to go home, their services being no longer required. He saith that he does not now recollect that he ever received a written discharge, but if he did it has long since been lost. He saith that again on the 18th day of February or about that time, as near as he can recollect, in the year 1778, whilst residing in said county of Bedford & State of Virginia, he was drafted for one year into the service of the United States. That he together with twenty four other drafted men (that being the quota required from Bedford county at that time) marched under the command of Capt Jacob Ellis to the Valley Forge on the Schulkyl [sic: Schuylkill River] fifteen or twenty miles from Philadelphia crossing James river and passing through the counties of Amherst and Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] – through Leesburgh [sic: Leesburg], Frederick town in Maryland, Little York and Lancaster in Pennsylvania. That he left Bedford county as near as he can recollect about the first of April & arrived at the Valley Forge he thinks sometime in May. He saith further that upon his arrival at that place joining the main army, he together with those that accompanied him united with and formed a part of a company of regular troops under the command of Capt. Robberts [sic: Cyrus L. Roberts] belonging to the fourteenth regiment of the Virginia line. That at the time he joined said company, the Brigade to which said Regiment belonged was under the command of General [George] Weedon, but that a short time after the battle of Monmouth (which was about the last of June 1778 [28 Jun 1778]) the said Regiment was attached to the Brigade under the command of General Mulenburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg]. That at this time as near as he can recollect, the first and fourteenth Regiments of the Virginia line & two Regiments of Virginia State troops formed the Brigade

of which General Mulenburgh was the commandant. He further saith that his Col's name was William Davis [sic: William Davies] Abram Buford [Abraham Buford] was lieutenant Col. of said Regiment (the 14th) from the time he said Miller entered the same till sometime in October 1778 at which time he was advanced to the command of the eleventh Regiment of the Virginia line. The name of the Lieutenant Col. who succeeded him he does not recollect. Their Majors name was William Cavell [sic: Samuel Jordan Cabell]. The names of his Lieutenant and Ensign he has forgotten. He further saith that the day after he joined the company of said Capt. Roberts at Valley Forge he together with those who accompanied him from said county of Bedford were inoculated for the small pox by which he was rendered unfit for service until about the first of October following (1778). He lay sick at the Valley Forge at the time the battle of Monmouth took place, which he thinks was about the last of June or first of July 1778. After he recovered of the fever, he together with about one hundred and fifty volunteers recovered sick left Valley Forge (in October 1778) to join the Virginia troops at West point and marched under the conduct of some commissioned and non-commissioned officers whose names he does not now recollect. In going from Valley Forge to West point he marched through MorrisTown in New Jersey & New Windsor, where they crossed the North river. The were compelled to take this route in consequence of the Brittish having possession of New York & the command of Kings ferry. He joined the company of said Capt. Roberts and the said fourteenth Regiment towards the last of said month of October. In November following (1778) he and all the troops of the Virginia line le[ft] West point & marched into the State of New Jersey (crossing the Hudson at Kings [Bridge?; page torn] and went into winter quarters about the first of December near a town called Bonbrook [sic: 11 Dec 1778 at Middlebrook near Bound Brook] in the State of New Jersey at which place he remained until about the 20th of February 1779 at which time he was discharged. He received his discharge from Col. William Davis which discharge has long since been lost. He saith further that afterwards, to wit, early in February 1781, whilst he was residing in said county of Bedford in the State of Virginia he was again drafted into the service of the United States. He marched from Bedford county in the company of Capt David Beard and joined General Greens [sic: Nathanael Greene's] Army between the river Dan & Guilford Court House a short time before the battle of Guilford Court House took place between Gen. Green and Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis], which was early in March 1781 [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781]. He saith that the number of militia that marched from Bedford at the time of which he speaks was about three hundred and were commanded by Col. [Charles] Lynch. His Majors name was John Calaley [sic: John Callaway] – his Lieutenant Jeremiah Payt [probably Matthew Pate], as near as he can recollect – his Ensign Charles Tate. He saith that the night preceding the battle of Guilford Court House he was placed out on the picket line Guard where he remained till the battle was over. That after the battle was over the Virginia troops and General Green's regulars retreated to a place called the [Troublesome] Iron Works about fifteen miles from Guilford Court House, at which place they remained a short time and started in pursuit of the Brittish. He saith that that he left the army near Guilford Court House and went to take care of one of his brothers who received a wound in the battle of which he speaks. Here he was detained about three weeks, when he left for home, at which place he arrived toward the last of April 1781. He saith that he never received any discharge for this term of service, having left his company to take care of his brother and said company together with the before mentioned Bedford county militia having been disbanded previous to his starting for home. In this expedition he was engaged about two months, making the length of time he served under the three engagements one year & six months. He saith that he was engaged in no battles during either of the terms of service aforesaid, except that of Guilford Court House, and in that he was not actually engaged having been placed on the picket guard as before stated. He saith further that he was born in Augusta County State of Virginia December 6. 1759. His age is recorded in a bible now in his possession, and the entry was made some years since agreeably to a statement of his mother. From Augusta county he went to Bedford county in said State to live. From that place he moved to the State of Kentucky in the fall of 1783, in which State he resided until the spring of 182[?], at which time he came to Tippecanoe county Indiana where he has resided ever since & where he now resides. He states that he has no documentary evidence of his service and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure

(except at very considerable trouble & expense) who can testify to his service. 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.

NOTE: A document in the file indicates that Henry Miller died 18 Jan 1846 leaving no widow but the following children: Henry Miller; William Miller; James Miller; Andrew Miller; Nancy, wife of William Robinson; Catherine Miller; Elizabeth, married to George D. Sharpe; Sarah, married to Cyrus Magill; Jacob Miller; John Miller; Mary, married to Charles Danson.