Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Might W4548
Transcribed by Will Graves

Keranhappack Might f50SC 6/21/09: rev'd 4/10/17

[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 19]

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an "Act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution" approved on the 15th May 1828, I John Might, of Elk Run Township, in the County of Columbiana, in the State of Ohio, do hereby declare, that I enlisted in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued in its service until its termination; at which period I was a musician in the Regiment of Light Dragoons commanded by Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee]. And I also declare that I received a discharge from Colonel Lee at the close of the war.

And I further declare that I was not on the 15th of March, 1828, on the Pension list of the United States.

S/ John Might

[David Green and William Smith testified as to the reputation of the applicant as a soldier of the revolution.]

[p 33]

Revolutionary Claims Treasury Department, 4 December 1828

John Might of Elk-Run Township in the County of Columbia in brackets sic] in the State of Ohio has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that he enlisted in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued until its termination, at which period he was a Musician in Captain __ 's Company, in the Colonel Lee's Legion regiment of the __ line; and that he received a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars, provided by the resolve of the 15th of May, 1778; and further, that he was not on the 15th of May, 1828, on the pension list of the United States, and that he has received as a pensioner since the 3rd of March, 1826, nothing.

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his Office.

By order of the Secretary S/ F. A. Dickins

Treasury Department,
Third Auditor's Office,
6th December 1828

It appears by the records of this office, that a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars has been issued to ___in the ___

It further appears that John Might is not now on the pension list of any agency, and has not been so since the 3rd March 1826———at the rate of ___ dollars per month.

The name of John Might cannot be found among those of Lee's Legion to whom Certificates for the gratuity of Eighty Dollars were issued.

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

General Land Office February 6, 1829

The name of John Might does not appear on the list of Warrants issued by the Register of the Land Office at Richmond Virginia, so far as they have been received.

S/G. W. Grisham, Commissioner

War Department: Bounty land office 6 May 1829

The records of this office do not show that John Might of Lee's Legion ever received or is entitled to bounty land of the United States.

S/ Robert Taylor

[p 3]

State of Ohio Columbiana County SS

On this 17th day of October A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, now sitting in and for said Columbiana County, Ohio, John Might, a resident of said Columbiana County, aged seventy-five years and two days, 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 A.D. 1832.

That he was born in Brandenburg in Prussia; that in the year 1778 he came to this country as a soldier under Colonel Seybotten, from his native place, against the continentals and in favor of the British; that as soon as he had a convenient and safe opportunity to desert from the British, he embraced it, and sometime in July, A.D. 1780, arrived at a place in South Carolina, then called the "War Path," and sometimes "Snow Island" 10 or 12 miles from Pedee River; that here he immediately volunteered his services under General Marrion [sic, Francis Marion] against the British, but for no time certain, and took an oath of allegiance to this Country, which was administered by one Esquire Wilson; that at the time of his said volunteering was placed under the command of Captain Snipes [Henry Snipes]; that Colonel Horry [Peter Horry] aided in commanding the forces then under General Marion; that he continued so to serve as aforesaid, about five months; that during said period he was in several skirmishes with the Enemy, but not in any important battle; that at the end of said period, by the recommendation of General Marion, he enlisted with Captain Harrison, ¹ under Colonel Lee as a bugler to a horse company,

¹ No officer by that surname is known to have served under Henry Lee during the revolution.

commanded by said Captain. -- Lieutenant of said company was called Doddridge; that Colonel Lee's Regiment lay at the time of his joining the same between Georgetown and Camden, in South Carolina; that from the time of his said Enlistment, which was about the middle of December, A.D. 1780, he continued to serve under said Captain Harrison for one year, being the period for which he enlisted; and was discharged in Williamsburg Virginia receiving a discharge from Colonel Lee, which was given over soon after to General Gates [presumably Horatio Gates], to take care of; that he has never heard of said discharge since. That during said year's Enlistment, he marched about two days march towards Guilford Court house, when he and the balance of the corps under Colonel Lee, were ordered back near Georgetown aforesaid, where he lay for some time: that sometime in end or about September, A.D. 1781, he fought under said Captain Harrison, Colonel Lee, General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], General Marion and General Green (Greene Commanding) against the British under General Rawdon, at Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781], where the British were defeated.

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.

S/ John Might

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Charles D. Coffin, Clerk

[James Brisbine, George Frederick and Thomas J. Lang gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 10]

Questions propounded by the said Court and the answers as given by said applicant 1st Where and in what year were you born?

- A. In Prussia, October 15th 1757, as I was informed by my parents.
- 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?
- A. I have one made by myself about two years ago -- none other. It is in my possession. 3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?
- A. I deserted from the British camp, at the time I joined the American Army; -- After the revolutionary war I lived about four years with General Horatio Gates in Berkeley County Virginia; Thence I moved to Washington County, Pennsylvania where I resided till the spring of 1805, when I moved with my family to this (Columbiana) County where I have resided ever since.
- 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?
- A. I first volunteered and served five months then enlisted for & served one year, as particularly stated in declaration.
- 5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.
 - A. For answer see what is embodied in the declaration.
- 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?
- A. I received a discharge from Colonel Lee as stated in declaration, & gave it over to General Gates for safekeeping, and never saw it since. See declaration.
- 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who

can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

A. George Frederick, Thomas Lane, James Brisbine, John Jackman, Samuel Quigley, Thomas George, William McGinnis.

In testimony that the preceding questions were propounded by said court to said applicant, and on oath, answered as above, I hereunto set my hand and official seal this 17th of October 1832.

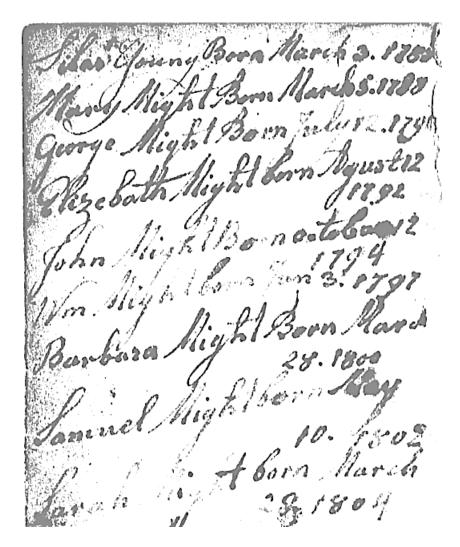
S/ Charles D. Coffin, Clerk Common Pleas

[p 16: On April 16, 1841 in Columbiana County Ohio, Kerian Hapuch Might, 88, filed for a widow's pension under the 1844 act stating that she is the widow of John Might, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in June 1787 in Pikerum [sic, Pike Run Township], Washington County Pennsylvania; that her husband died January 1, 1846: that attached to her application is a record of the births of her children in the handwriting of her husband but that the name of Silas young shown on such record should not be considered a son of John Might. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 13 family record]

Silas Young Born March 3, 17?? [last 2 digits unintelligible; a later transcript in the file interprets this date as 1785.]

Mary Might born May5, 1788 George Might born July 12, 1790 Elizabeth Might born August 12, 1792 John Might born October 12 1794 Wm Might born June 3, 1797 [William Might] Barbara Might born March 28, 1800 Samuel Might born May 10, 1802 Sarah Might born Marched 28, 1804

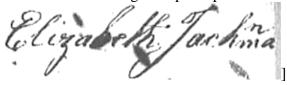


[p 8: On May 21, 1846 in Columbiana County Ohio, Keranhappuck Might, 88, a resident of St. Clair Township in said County and State, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Might, deceased, that she married her husband prior to January 1 1794; that her husband died January 1, 1846; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 29: On April 16, 1847 in Columbiana County Ohio, William Might of St. Clair, Columbiana County, Ohio, gave testimony that Karanhapuch Might is his mother; that his father John Might, a revolutionary war pensioner, died January 1, 1846; that the family record is in his father's handwriting. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p 27: On May 26, 1847 in Adams County Ohio, Elizabeth Jackman, aged 71 as of July 29 last, wife of Samuel Jackman, gave testimony in support of the application of the widow; that John and Karenhapuck Stilwell were married in affiant's father's house when affiant was 12 years old; the wedding occurred in May or June of 1787; that she was present at their marriage, it being the second wedding which she had ever attended; that she well remembers the approximate date because her sister Eleanor was then about 2 years old and the family record of affiant's family kept by affiant's father show that Eleanor was born in 1785 and her brother Hiram was born in

1788 and the wedding took place prior to his birth.



[p 29: William Might, son of the veteran and his wife gave a supporting affidavit in which he states that the family record is in his father's handwriting. His affidavit is dated April 16, 1847 and was given in Columbiana County Ohio.]

[John Jackman, a minister of the gospel also gave a supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: veteran married Keranhappack Stillwell, May or June 1787 in Pike Run, Washington County, Penn.; Barbara Might married a Green; widow's name is also spelled "Karan Hapuch Might"; in a filing in April 1847, the widow attested to the family record set out above stating "that the one named Silas Young whose name is found first on the attached record is not to be considered a son of John Might" [no other explanation is given to why Silas Young's name appears on the family record]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year in the South Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]