

Pension Application for John (or Johannes) Miller

W.18511 (Widow: Anna Dorothea) Married April 12, 1784. John died November 29, 1838.

Declaration In Order To Obtain The Benefit of The Act of Congress, Passed June 7, 1832.

State of New York

County of Herkimer SS.

On this eleventh day of October 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the court of Common Pleas now sitting, John Miller a resident of Columbia in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, aged 71 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 7, 1832.

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

That he volunteered as a militia man some time in the month of August, in the years 1777 and was marched in the company of Captain DeForest in the Regiment of Colonel Stephen Schuyler, from Greenbush in the County of Albany to Saratoga and was there about three weeks & then was dismissed.

That he was enlisted as a minute man o or about the first day of June 1778 for the term of one year in the Company commanded by Captain Jacob DeForest in the Regiment of Colonel Henry K. VanRensselaer. That the Major of the Regiment was John Fonda, Jacob VanAlstine acted as Adjutant, Marinus Sharp was Lieutenant of his company and Andrew Miller Ensign, his father.

That he was then a resident of Greenbush aforesaid. That during the year for which he enlisted as above, he was marched through different sections of the State of New York to wit, from Greenbush to Fort Edward 14 miles south of Lake George, also two or three times from Greenbush to Saratoga County. Also once to the county of Schoharrie [Schoharie] in said State.

That sometime in the month of May or June 1779 he was marched as a militia man en mass from Greenbush aforesaid in the Company of Captain Jacob DeForest in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Stephen Schuyler to Fort Hunter now in the County of Montgomery in said state and was in service on this tour one month.

That in November of the same year, he was again marched under the same Colonel but in the company of George Sharp Captain whose Lieutenant was John Riley from Greenbush aforesaid to Stony Arabia on the Mohawk River, now in the County of Montgomery and State aforesaid.

That in the spring of 1780 he was again marched with the whole regiment of militia to which he belonged in the company of Captain Jacob Deforest and under the same Colonel to Schenectady in said State and that he remained in service on this tour some time, about one and two months. That in the latter part of the summer of 1781 he was again marched with the Regiment of Militia to which he belonged under the same Captain, but under Colonel Henry K. Van Rensselaer a second time to Schenectady where he remained in service three weeks.

That about three weeks after his return to Greenbush he was marched the third time to Schenectady under the same officers, that while stationed there they were marched a distance of 12 or 15 miles to a place called Yankee Hill where they had a skirmish with the enemy and took thirty prisoners. They then returned to Schenectady and remained there about one week after information was received that Lord Cornwallis had surrendered at YorkTown, that they were then verbally discharged and this was the last service of this claimant in the war. The last tour to Schenectady was a month.

That he has no documentary evidence of his services:--that William Haner of Columbia in the County of Herkimer, and Philip Carner of Glenville in the County of Schenectady are living witnesses of his services and that their depositions are hereto annexed.

That he was born on the fifth day of September 1760, in the Town of Claverack in the County of Columbia and State of New York.

That he has a Record of his age at his residence in the Town of Columbia County of Herkimer aforesaid entered and preserved in the family Bible.—

That he was a resident of Greenbush now County of Rensselaer and State aforesaid when he was called into service, that he continued to reside there until he removed to his present residence forty one years ago, where he has lived ever since.

He was called into service first as a volunteer in the year 1777 as an enlisted soldier for one year from about the first of June 1778 and as a volunteer and drafted militia man at various times from about the first of June 1779 to the close of the war.

He never received a written discharge.

He served as a private soldier.

He served with no regular troops, and knew only Col. [?], Col. Schermerhorn, Col. Van Schaick, Regiments of Militia besides his own.

That Jacob Haver, William Hainer of Columbia. & [?] VanDusen of German Flatts, of the Town of Columbia his present place of residence are persons well acquainted with this Deponent and to them he refers as to his character for veracity, and as to their belief of his having served in the Revolutionary War.

And this claimant in fact saith that he was in actual service either in the camp, upon the march, as a scout or in garrison exclusive of the year commencing about the first of June 1778, more than fifteen months, and that he was during the year commencing on the said first of June 1778, under the enlistment and liable to be called into actual at a moment's warning, and that he was in actual service during that year in camps, on the march, in garrison or as a scout or spy nine month and more of that year.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) Robert A. Miller.

Letter in folder dated March 17, 1928, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.18511, it appears that John (or Johannes) Miller, son of Andrew, was born September 5, 1780 in Claverack, Columbia County, New York.

While a resident of Greenbush, Albany County, New York he enlisted and served as a private in the New York Troops as follows:

In August 1777 and served three weeks in captain Jacob DeForest's Company, Colonel Stephen J. Schuyler's Regiment.

On June 1, 1778 and served one year in Captain Jacob DeForest's Company, Colonel Henry K. Van Rensselaer's Regiment. His father, Andrew Miller, also then of Greenbush, New York, was his Ensign on this tour.

On June 1, 1779 and served one month in Captain Jacob DeForest's Company, Colonel Stephen J. Schuyler's Regiment.

In November 1779 and marched from Greenbush to Stone Arabia, New York in Captain George Sharps' Company, then in the spring of 1780 and served one month in Captain Jacob DeForest's Company.

Later in the summer of 1781, served one month and three weeks in Colonel Henry K. VanRensselaer's Regiment and was in a skirmish at Yankee Hill.

About 1791 said John Miller moved from Greenbush, New York to Columbia, Herkimer County, New York. He was allowed pension on his application executed October 11, 1832 while living in Columbia, New York. He died November 29, 1838 in said Columbia.

Soldier married April 12, 1784 in Greenbush, New York, Anna Dorothea Kerner born January 29, 1767. She was allowed pension on her application executed February 6, 1839 while a resident of Columbia, New York.

Their children were:

Andreas born December 17, 1784.

Susanna Margretha born October 11, 1786.

Johannes born March 11, 1789, was living in Cedarville, Herkimer County, N.Y. in 1847.

Catharina born October 15, 1791.

Wilhelm born September 25, 1796.

Anna born February 1, 1798.

Christopher born February 8, 1802.

Jacob born October 30, 1804.

The Revolutionary War records fail to show a claim for pension or bounty land on file on account of the services of Andrew Miller, the father of the above soldier John, or an Andrew Miller as described in your letter of January 18, 1928.

Sol[dier?] had a bro[ther] Wm. C. Oct '73 & lived in Columbia, N.Y. in 1839.

Wid[ow] had a Bro[ther] Philip Kerner who died a few years prior to 1848 & was a pensioner.