

### **Pension Application for Nathaniel Miller**

W.17142 (Widow: Anna) Married Anna Bartholomew in 1784, Nathaniel died 1844.

B.L.Wt.3997-160-55

[Several scribes wrote this document and one of the had terrible writing. I apologize for any errors in transcription. AJBerry]

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

State of New York

County of Essex SS.

On this 2<sup>th</sup> day of Mary 1833 personally appeared before me Joseph L. Weed one of the Judges of the court of Common Pleas of the County of Essex aforesaid Nathaniel Miller a resident of the town of Ticonderoga County & State aforesaid aged seventy two 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<sup>th</sup> 1832.

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

The officers were Colonel John Williams of Salem N.Y. & Captain Joseph Ingals, no other officers recollected. They were frequently changing.

He entered the service in the forepart of June 777 & left the said service the fore part of July following – he resided in Granville Washington County N. York. An alarm came to that place & he was ordered out & went into the [???] of those orders.

He was in no battles—had a few skirmishes—he marched through the woods from Greenville his place of residence to Poultney V t. thence to Castleton, stayed there some days, keeping guard, being few in number—then went to Hubbertown Vt. There kept guard some days until Colonel Seth Warner arrived with some militia he had resided in Vermont—he joined Warners troops & marched to Mount Independence opposite Ticonderoga, crossed the bridge over Lake Champlain to Fort Ticonderoga –

He was there on Picket guard with about 500 men – was there the night the Americans retreated from Ticonderoga before Burgoyne & Who while he [???] on the Lake (Champlain) & on the land, on Mount Defiance & on Mounte [Hoke] & between those mounts after retreating across the lake to Mt. Independence an officer ordered some of the men to turn back & fill up the bridge & the men obeyed and pulled up a part of it the Americans continued their retreat towards Hubbardton Vt. Through the woods & arrived there the first day from Ticonderoga –marched from Hubberton to Poultry in a body from thence and went to his several homes & this applicant arrived at his home in Granville—some of those who returned from Ticonderoga were Continental troops but their companies or regiment are not recollected he knew Colonel Warner's regiment who knew the Colonel & General St. Clair seen them both at Ticonderoga.

This applicant was not in the battle at Hubbardton but had never enough – advance of the battle to hear the guns & the officers went to General St. Clair to prevail on him to turn back to assist in the battle & the applicant was the officers

came back from the general [????] he refused to grant their request. They however [?] a short time & then marched on.

Colonel Warner regiment was mostly cut off it was said at the time that only 36 men left—those with whom this battle was fought were a part of Burgoyne's army, that followed the Americans from Ticonderoga & they followed on to Castleton—shortly after the party with this applicant started for Hubbardton they met [?] of cattle followed by some Canadians & it was said Indians—they took seven Canadians & drove the Cattle back—they had been plundered from the inhabitants & that vicinity as it was said & supposed. & this applicant saw a number of Indians who said that their cattle had been driven away—The above is all the actual service this applicant rendered to his country that reason as he was taken sick immediately after his return home & did not recover till Jany following—his sickness was occasioned by fatigue & exposure while out.

He however was obliged to keep himself ready at all times to enter the service at a moment's warning & he did keep himself ready but his sickness prevented his returning to the service again that season—he provided himself with arms ammunition & provisions in the service—he was in actual service this term not less than one month he thinks it was more but he cannot state precisely from age & the consequent loss of memory—he was a private.

He was out a second term under the following named officers: one Webster or John Williams was Colonel—does not recollect which Silas Child was Captain. Ichabod Parks he thinks was Lieutenant. He entered the service this term in the spring of 1778 about the time the Lake (Champlain) broke up—it must have been in April—

The company to which he belonged was divided into 3 or 4 classes, one of which was to be continually scouting by turns so that fi the classes were 3, each class was out a third part of the time—but whenever there was an alarm, the whole company turned out & this applicant was out very frequently on alarms besides taking his turn scouting—he left this service some time in November it was when the Lake froze over so that the enemy could not navigate the lake—he resided when he entered the service this term & the some place he did when he entered the first term.

He was in no battles—his duties were scouting & watching the enemy—the [?] to which he was attached lay at Whitehall then Skenesborough, on the mountains & other places most advantageous for observing the enemy in their movements—had no marching it was called scouting—no Continentals with this company—he knew no regular officers nor any others except those in command over him—there were none with him—whenever any scout discovered any of the enemy intelligence was given for the same to the main body of men & they would all turn out—sometimes boats were discovered on the lake (Champlain) as the tories frequently passed & repassed between Canada & the town of Kingsbury & place about 15 miles south of Whitehall where a number of tories resided—no large bodies of the enemy appeared in those parts during this season—[?] parties only came for the purpose of plunder—he entered the service this term as volunteer—drafting orders came & he turned out or

volunteered instead of being drafted—the orders were for a certain number of men but how many he does not know—he cannot state [?] but he was out not less than three months as a private.

He entered the service & served a third term under the following named officers & served as follows:

The Captain or Commandant as he [?] styled himself & who his officers understood to be a Continental officer with their [?] was Levi Stockwell—Lieutenant was Thomas Boggs, first Sergeant was John Hunsden, 2d Thomas Miles, [?] Tyscol—the Commissary was Gillot, QuarterMaster sergeant was Abram VanDuesen, he knew no higher officers & does not know whether there were any others—he commenced this term of service the first of April 1779, & left the same the first of January following—he was a resident of the town of Granville County of Washington State of New York.

Drafting orders came & he turned out as volunteered instead of being drafted—had no battles, had no marching other than scouting—his station was at Skenesborough now Whitehall—the barracks were Skeens? building the number of men at this place constantly was said to be 100—his duties & object were to guard the frontiers, scouting, observing the movements or approach of the enemy & to give the alarm to the country & the militia when any of the enemy were discovered—whenever alarm was given the militia would come to Skeensborough & from Greenville, Hebron, & White Creek N.Y. & would sometimes remain there a fortnight or till the alarm was over—Colonel Webster who resided in Hebron came to Skenesborough a number of times—Some Continental troops during this term lay at Fort Edward 24 miles distant south & some of the officers were up to Skenesborough to attend court martials & tow men were ordered by them to be flogged.

Captain Stockwell sent for the officers at Fort Edward instead of militia officers to sit on court martial.

Col. Webster was a militia officer—This applicant was not at Fort Edward during this term. Colonel Sherwood was at Fort Edward & this applicant supposes he belonged to his regiment, but cannot positively state & he was in actual service this term 9 months & he was informed that Col. Sherwood was a Continental officer.

This applicant with others was selected from the militia company to which he belonged & was bound to military service as a minute man—he was bound to go whenever his country called for & needed his services, to keep himself always ready to start at a single moments warning was frequently called out by night & oft times when he went to bed he expected to be called up before morning. He provided himself with arms ammunition & substance & sometimes they had to kill their meat—had no stores to draw from—this service of this engagement commenced the forepart of the year 1780 & continued during the year—

During this period he was out more than one third of the time in all but exactly how much of it he cannot recollect, neither can he specify all the particular periods—& thou [tho?] he can recollect he cannot specify the length of them—he was out a day or two, a week or more at a time just as occasion required –

The following is all he can recollect of this engagement—On the last of February or first of March 1780 when Skenesborough was burnt this applicant turned out on the alarm produced by their officers & went to that place—it was burnt by the Tories & Indians—his Captain this time was Silas Childs—no other officers recollected—he was out not less than 3 days—the enemy took some captives at Skenesborough among whom was Lemuel Bartholemew or Burtomy as he was called, his brother in law—they also killed some & took & carried away some property –

In the Spring of this same year he was ordered to Skenesborough to keep guard & went but how long cannot state—through this same season (1780) this applicant was out as much as two months in the whole by tours of two weeks each. He was out again in 1780 or he thinks it was more probably 1781 it was the time the tories & Indians burnt Fort Ann & Kingsbury & Fort George –he went from his residence (? N.Y.) through the woods about 25 or 30 miles & came out south a little from Fort Ann, the houses or ruins of which were smoking then—there halted & it was proposed & thought best to send a scout in advance to observe where the enemy were to make other observations, this applicant & one other were sent on this scout—they proceeded to Kingsbury where some houses belonging to Tories were standing, some of which houses they watched by night—they went on near Fort Edward where they, in sight of that fort, shot some Continentals from there on their way to fort George which had been burnt & demolished & a party of Americans killed by the enemy—those continentals were going to Fort George to bury the bodies of those there killed—having [burnt from these men?] from Fort Edward that the tories & Indians had gone north this applicant returned home but how long he was out this time he cannot state precisely but from the best of his recollection it could not be less than four days.

His officers from 1780 & [?] that year & the next (1781) were the following Colonel Webster Captain Silas Childs & he thinks Henry Watkins was Lieutenant—he had different officers after the commencement of the season of 1782 till the close of the war—during this period they were Colonel Webster, Capt. Parmeter Allen Lieutenant Jephthah Bartholemew, Ensign John Blanchard—first sergeant Solomon Vine—This applicant was 2d or 3d regiment & served as such from the beginning of 1782 till the close of the war—He resided during this period in Skenesborough—at one time however this applicant was under Col. Warren employed about 3 miles south of Whitehall landing on East Creek building a picket fort & some long huts he cannot from old age & loss of memory state how long he was employed under Warren but it could not be less than one month.

Again this applicant with others on the discovery of a boat in South berg near Whitehall supposed to belong to tories went under Capt. Parmalee Allen & Ensign John Blanchard & lay in ambush near the boat for the purpose of Waylaying the enemy would they come to their boat—they did not return to their boat. This party took it to Whitehall—he was out this time not less than 10 days.

This applicant is well know to Joseph Weed, Francis Arthur, Esquire & Doct Levi Wilcox who can certify to his character for truth & veracity & to their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. He was born in the year 1760 in the town of

Mt. Washington Berkshire County state of Mass. has a record of his age at home in his Bible but mostly obliterated.

In the Revolutionary War he has resided in Skeensborough & for 39 years past he has resided in in [sic] Ticonderoga aforesaid.

He has no Documentary evidence respecting his services except the affidavit hereto annexed.

He never received any written discharge & that he is unable from bodily infirmity to attend court when this applicant was a sergeant he resided in [?] but what has become of it he knows not.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pensions roll of the agency of any state.

(Signed) Nathaniel Miller

Subscribed & sworn to the day & year aforesaid before me. Joseph S. Weed a Judge of Essex Com. Pleas.

Letter in folder dated June 6, 1924, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim W.17142 it appears that Nathaniel Miller was born in 1760 in Mount Washington, Berkshire County, Massachusetts.

During the Revolution he lived first in Granville, Washington County, New York and then in Skenesboro, New York.

He was allowed pension for the service of nine months as a private in the New York Troops, on his application executed May 2, 1833 while a resident of Ticonderoga, Essex County, New York. He died October 6, 1844.

Soldier married March 18, 1784 in Whitehall, Washington county, New York, Anna Bartholomew who was allowed pension on her application executed February 1, 1845 while a resident of Ticonderoga, New York, aged seventy-eight years. Their children were:

Mary born January 1, 1787.

Ana born September 7, 1789.

Nathaniel born January 3, 1782.

Rachel born September 23, 1794.

Elizabeth born January 5, 1797.

Phebe born October 10, 1799.

Levina born May 12, 1802.

Asenath born February 5, 1805.

Samuel born March 11, 1807, died October 12, 1808.