

Pension Application for Jacob Milles

R.7232

Declaration of Jacob Milles of the town of Verona of the County of Oneida and State of New York, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

State of New York

County of Oneida SS.

On this 12th day of June in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty five, personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Oneida County in the State of New York, now sitting, Jacob Miller, a resident of the town of Verona in the said County and State, aged seventy seven 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 of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated; that is to say;

That at the commencement of the war of the American Revolution and during its Continuance he belonged to & was a private in a company of Militia in the town of Schenectady in the said State of New York, commonly known in that place, as the Curry's Bush Company; which said company was under the command of Capt. Thomas Wasson, Lieut. Cornelius Sanford, (the name of the Ensign not now recollected,) Samuel Kennedy first sergeant, and belonged to a regiment under the command of Col. Abraham Wemple; that the said regiment was also a part of a brigade under the command of Gen. Philip Schuyler.

That the said Jacob Milles lived during the said war on Norman's Creek in the said town of Schenectady at the distance of about eight miles south from the then village of Schenectady, that at a place called the Hillabaret, only six miles more remote from the said village the inhabitants were generally of the Tory faction and joined the enemy, who made a place of frequent rendezvous, that this circumstance and the savage ferocity of the enemy which infested that part of the County and issuing from their lurking places often made their dreadful incursions in the vicinity, then amongst our frontier settlements in the state of New York, rendered the active services of the Militia there almost constantly necessary for the public defence.

The said Jacob Milles says that besides the company of Militia to which he belonged, there was an other in the said town of Schenectady generally known there by the name of the Schenectady Company, and that after the opening of the spring next succeeding the declaration of our independence and during the five years next subsequent to that period, excepting the winter season when the enemy had returned to their winter quarters, one or the other of those companies was almost constantly out and in actual service, and many times both of them; that always during the said war he went when called and served with the said Curry's Bush Company during the whole of the periods for which the services of the said company were required;

That the man with whom he lived whose name was Henry VanDyke belonged to the said Schenectady Company, and not having a family himself he went and served at different times as a substitute for that man in the said last mentioned company when

that was called out and the said Curry's Bush Company were remaining at home. The said Jacob Milles says that the services he rendered were performed in the said town of Schenectady and its vicinity excepting in two several instances; that in one instance he with the company to which he belonged was marched to the town of Johnstown in Montgomery County in the State of New York, in pursuit of Col. Butler the Tory, and the forces under his command, consisting principally of Indians and Tories, that as the said Jacob Miller was informed there had been an engagement with the enemy the day before he arrived at the said town of Johnstown, and Butler and his followers fled, that whilst at that place he was informed that Butler was shot and killed by an Indian belonging to our party whilst crossing Canada Creek.

That in an other instance which was a little previous to the capture of Burgoyne and his army, he was marched with the said Curry's Bush Company to Stillwater, where he remained under arms according to the best of his present recollections and belief from five to six weeks, and was discharged a day or two before Burgoyne was taken.

The said Jacob Milles however says that such is the badness of his memory, and so much time has elapsed since the period of his services, that he cannot now recollect how long he served at any one time; nor can he indeed how many times he engaged in the service either in consequence of being called out or even when he was a substitute for another; that living so near as he did to the scene of those services, he supposes the times of of [sic] his service were from that circumstance shorter and more frequent than they would otherwise have been, and it is hence more difficult for him to remember about them. We whoever does remember that during the period of five years commencing with the opening of the spring of seventeen hundred and seventy seven, he was required to be in a constant state of readiness for the service, and he verily believes, judging from the best of his recollections, that little less than one half of his time was taken up during that period in necessary preparations for, and actual employment in that service.

He verily believes that the service which he rendered as a member of the said Curry's Bush Company consumed at least two years of his time, and that including the whole time which he served in that company and as a substitute in the place of the said Henry VanDyke it would amount to not less than two years and two months.

The said Jacob Milles says that he has no papers or documentary evidence to prove his service; that Frederick Weller, whose affidavit is hereto attached, is the only person known to him that can testify to any part of his service; and that his pecuniary circumstances are so bad that he cannot be at the expense of bringing the said Weller to testify in court; that he is dependent himself upon the beneficence of a kind friend for the necessary funds to enable him to attend court; and that his indigence, land his ignorance about the difficulties and expenses of making an application for a pension have prevented his making such application before now.

The said Jacob Miller further says that he was born in the town of Palatine in the County of Montgomery N.Y. in May 17th 1758 & his Father removed with him and the rest of his family to the town of Schenectady when he was five or six years old;

that he lived in the said town of Schenectady until about sixteen years after the close of the war of the revolution, a period of about twenty six years, when he removed to the town of Minden (now Stark) in Montgomery County, N.Y. in which last mentioned town, the towns of Canajoharie in the same county, and Cherry Valley in Otsego County N.Y. (all of which towns are adjacent to each other), he lived about thirty three years, that he then removed and lived in Verona in Oneida County N.Y. six years, afterwards returned to Canajoharie and lived there two years; then removed to Augusta Oneida County and lived there two years, and from there to Redfield in Oswego County N.Y. where he lived two years, and has returned to Verona aforesaid where he has been living about one year. The said Jacob Milles says that there was a family record kept in his fathers family in which there was a record of his birth; but where that record now is he does not know and supposes it is lost.

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. (Signed with his mark) Jacob Miller

Sworn and subscribed June 12th 1835 before me in open court. John Otis JP.
A. Germond Mott, Deputy Clerk

Letter in folder dated December 8, 1932, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter relative to one Jacob Mills, a soldier of the Revolutionary War.

The data contained herein are obtained from the papers on file in the Revolutionary War claim for pension, R.7232, based upon his military service in that war.

Jacob Milles was born in May 1758 in Palatine, Montgomery County, New York, and when five or six years old moved with his father, his name not stated, to Schenectady, New York.

He applied for pension June 12, 1835 while a resident of Verona, Oneida County, New York, and stated that he enlisted in the spring of 1777 as a private in Captain Thomas Wasson's Company, Colonel Abraham Wemple's New York Regiment and that during a period of five years he served at various times, dates not stated, not less than two years and two months in all.

His claim was not allowed as he failed to furnish proof of his services as required by the pension laws.

About sixteen years after the Revolution he moved from Schenectady, New York, to Minden (later Stark) Montgomery County, New York, lived there and in Canajoharie, Montgomery County, New York, and in Cherry Valley, Otsego County, New York, about thirty-three years, he then lived in Verona, Oneida County, New York, six years, then returned to Canajoharie, two years later moved to Augusta, Oneida County, two years later he moved to August, Oneida County, Two years later he moved to Redfield, Oswego County, New York, and two years later he returned to Verona, New York.

There are no family data, except above reference to soldier's father.

This is the history of the only Jacob Milles, all spelling of the surname searched, that is found on the Revolutionary War records of this office.