

Pension Application for John Miller

S.44540

State of New York

County of Montgomery SS

On the nineteenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty two, personally appeared in open Court, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said County, now sitting, John Miller, a resident of the town of Canajoharie, in the County & State aforesaid, aged eighty two years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he enlisted into the Army of the United States in the year seventeen hundred & seventy six, with Capt. Dickson, and served in the first New York Battalion of the line, under the following named officers.~

That he enlisted in the City of New York, in a company under the command of Capt. Dickson & Lieut. Dunscomb, other officers not recollected, and was joined to the Regiment under the command of Colo. Lasher & Major Stockholm; that he so entered the service the latter part of June 1776, and was kept on duty in the City of New York until the month of August following (as he believes) when we were marched to Long Island, where we were stationed at short time, when we were again marched to the City of New York, that we remained there a short time, when we were compelled to retreat, marched to Kings Bridge, near Haerlem [Harlem] where a part of the main army were then under the command of Gen. Washington, that the next day we were marched to Haerlem to fight the enemy who had then made an attack upon that part of our Army, that we arrived there after the battle was over, but assisted in burying the dead that had been killed during this engagement, and then were marched back to King Bridge, where we remained about three weeks, were called out & engaged in frequent skirmishes with the enemy and in this period.

That from thence we were marched to White Plains in Westchester County, where we remained until in November following, that three or four days after our arrival at this place, we had a severe engagement with a the enemy & the remainder of the time we were kept on duty, making intrenchments, [entrenchments] fortifications, cannonading & frequent skirmishing—that we were then marched up the Hudson River to a place called Peaks Kill, where we were stationed & remained until the time of his enlistment had expired & on the first day of December of that year when he was discharged—that he then went from that place up the Mohawk River to the town of Canajoharrie [Canajoharie] in said County of Montgomery to reside.

That in the month of April 1777, he was drafted & entered the service of his country in the militia, marched from Canajoharrie up the Mohawk River to Fort Stanwix, in the County of Oneida, with a company of men commanded by Lieut. George Reisner—that when we arrived at Fort Stanwick [Stanwix] we were commanded by Colo. Gansevoort, where we were kept on duty, fatigue & guarding against the Indians about three weeks, besides about two days to go & two to return—that a few days after their return to Canajoharrie aforesaid, he, with a number of other men were

required to & did go to the little lakes in the County of Herkimer to take or destroy a number of Tories said to there doing mischief, that when we arrived the tories had fled & we returned home, were out on this tour about three days.

That soon after he, with others, was required to & did go out on a scout to head the Indians supposed to be in or about the place last above mentioned, were absent about two days.

That about the first of August in the same year he was called out in a company commanded by Capt. Abraham Copeman & Lieut. George Reisner in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Ebenezer Cox,—that he with the whole company marched to Herkimer, remained there a few days, were then marched to Oriskany in the County of Oneida, where we were engaged in the battle with the enemy on the sixth day of August aforesaid, we were there commanded by Gen. Herkimer who was wounded & Colo. Cox who was killed, that several days after the battle we returned home.

That about a week after his return, he was again called upon to go to Fort Stanwix

That we marched to Herkimer where we joined a body of men then under command of Gen. Arnold, that while at this place the enemy left the siege at Fort Stanwix, we then returned home, were absent this time about a week.

That in the fore part of October in this same year he was again called on & marched to join in the Battle with Burgoyne's Army at Stillwater in the County of Saratoga—that when we arrived near Schenectady we were informed that the battle was over & we returned—were absent at this time about three days.

That in the month of November of this year he was again called to Cherry Valley, was then under the command of Colo. Clyde, kept on duty to guard the inhabitants against the distruction [destruction] by tories & Indians, was kept there about a week & including going & returning was out in all nine days.

That in the fore part of June 1778, he was again called upon & sent out to Springfield with scouting parties, at different times, and he with his party fell in with a party of Indians west of Springfield, near the Little Lakes, when we fired upon them & the Indians fled, was also called to Cherry Valley when it was destroyed [destroyed] by the Indians & tories, did not arrive there until its distruction, was called out during this season at different times & directed to different places with the command of Scouting Parties, more times than he can now recollect & state, but that he can freely state that the service he done during this season in the deffence [defense] of his country amounted to at least two month service & that [too?] of the most perilous kind, and that during this time he acted as the first sergent. [sergeant]

That about the first of May 1779, he was again called to Fort Plank by Capt. Crossman above mentioned, was there again put on duty in charge of scouting parties to Fall Hill, Palatine, Stonearabia, Otsego Lake, north of the Little Falls and in different other directions, which is utterly out of his power to recollect & mention.

That during this season he with the company to which he belonged was a part of the time stationed at Fort House on eth north side of the Mohawk River to guard it against a threatened attack of the enemy, after which he, with a part of the company

to which he belonged, was ordered to Fort Dayton in the County of Herkimer to guard the Fort, was there commanded by Capt. Bowman, were out about twelve days, when we returned home in the fall, was there kept out scouting as before until about the first of December, when he was allowed to return home, & that during this season the various duties done by him the service of his country amounted to at least five month[s] actual service as he verily believes—that during this service he was also first sergeant & acted as such.

That in the month of June 1780, he was again called to Fort Plain, was then sent in charge of a party of men scouting south to Bowman's Creek, soon after we returned—That the men under command of Colo. Clyde were marched to Fort Stanwix to guard the government boats with provisions &c, for that Fort.

That we returned in about ten days; that he was then at different times sent out a scouting with parties in different directions to fall hill, Herkimer & other places which he cannot recollect or mention.

That about the twelfth of October following we were ordered to march against the enemy then commanded by Sir John Johnson, who was burning & destroying along up the north side of the Mohawk River, that they marched across the river under command of Colo. Clyde, then joined a body of troops under command of Colo. Dubois & a body of militia men under Gen. VanRensselaer, we then pursued the enemy up the river towards East Canada creek where we overtook them, commenced an engagement near dusk, fought some time when the enemy returned, and that night crossed the river & marched westward—

That the next morning, we marched in pursuit of them several miles but finding they had got out of reach we returned—that he continued to do duty & out in scouting parties as required until some time in the month of December following when he was again allowed to go home, & that during this season the various duties done by him in the service of his country amounted to full four month[s] actual service as he verily believes, and that he continued to serve in the capacity of first sergeant.

That some time about the first of April 1781 he was again called into service by the said Captain, was sent from Fort Plain out in scouting parties at different time & kept on duty at the Fort almost constantly until about the middle of July when he with the men were then commanded by Colo. Willet were marched to Sharon in the County of Schoharie to attack a party of Indians & tories about three hundred, commanded by a tory by the name of John Dockstader, that we marched to a place called Turlock where we fell in with the party, fought & routed them, that we then returned to the Fort, where he continued to do duty & was called out in scouting parties in different directions, as circumstances required the most of the time until about the twenty fourth of October following, when he was again marched with men under Colo. Willet to Johnstown, was there engaged in the battle against a party of British troops, Indians & tories under command of Colo. Butler & Major Ross; that after the battle he, with men under Colo. Willet, marched up the Mohawk River, then to the north to the West Canada Creek, where saw fighting was done, Butler killed, the enemy moved off & we then returned back—that the precise amount of duty done by him during this

season, he cannot state, but that he did, as he believes, at least four months actual service for his country, and that he was first sergeant.

That he has no documentary evidence, & that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to all his service.

That [he] was born in German in December 1749, came to America in 1775.

That he was living in the City of New York when he first entered the service.

That he has lived since the Revolutionary War, and now lives in the town of Canajoharie, County & State aforesaid.

That he was called into service at the different times & in the manner above mentioned.

That he cannot State the names of regular officers with troops where he served, Continental or other regiments or the general circumstances of his service, other than as the same is above stated.

That he has had a discharge & that he has long since lost the same.

That the Reverend Jonas Diefendorf & Nicholas Dunckle of Canajoharie are the names of persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.—

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) John Miller

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Geo: D. Ferguson, Clerk

Letter in folder dated December 21, 1934, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information in regard to Johannis Muller, a Hessian sent from Germany, and served in the War of the Revolution.

Revolutionary War data furnished by this office are obtained from claims made to the United States for pension and bounty land, based upon military service of soldiers in that war.

A search of the records fails to show such claims on file on account of the Revolutionary War services of Johannis Muller or John Muller.

The record of John Miller, who was born in Germany and served in the War of the Revolution from New York, has been found and is furnished herein. It is hoped that this record may be of interest to you.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.44540, based upon the service of John Miller, during the Revolutionary War.

John Miller was born in December, 1749 in German, and came to America in 1775; the names of his parents are not given.

While residing in New York City, he enlisted in June, 1776, served in Captain Dickson's company, Colonel Lasher's New York regiment, did guard duty in New York City, was in the battle of White Plains and in several skirmishes and served until the December following. He served from in April 1777 at various times, was under

Lieutenant George Resner in Colonel Gansevoort's regiment at Fort Stanwix, guarding against the Indians, was in the battle of Oriskany in Captain Abraham Copeman's company, Colonel Ebenezer Cos's regiment, in November 1777 went under Colonel Clyde to Cherry Valley to protect the inhabitants against the Indians and Tories. He served from in June, 1778 as 1st sergeant in Captain Copeman's company, was in a skirmish with the Indians, and out on other alarms until the close of that year. He served from in May, 1779 as 1st sergeant in Captain Copeman's Company, out in several scouting parties, and was stationed at various places along the Mohawk River, length of this service five months. He served in 1780 as 1st sergeant under Colonel Clyde, was in several scouting parties, and in October 1780 marched against Sir John Johnson, who was burning and destroying property along the Mohawk River, had an engagement with the enemy and served until in December, 1780. He served from in April 1781 in Captain Copeman's Company in scouting parties, and was in an engagement with Indians and Tories at Turlock and in the battle of Johnstown under Colonel Willett.

The soldier, John Miller, applied for pension September 19, 1832, at which time he was living in Canajoharie, Montgomery County, New York; he had moved there after the expiration of his first tour. The pension was allowed. He died at his residence in Canajoharie, April 1, 1833, survived by his widow, Susannah. She was living in Canajoharie in 1834. There is no further reference to her, and no reference to children.