

276 Lansdowne Drive
Verona, PA 15147-2845
December 13, 2004

Mr. Michael Milliken
6478 Heatherfield Way
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Dear Mr. Milliken:

A year or so ago I began to research "Milligan/Milliken" for a prospective member of our DAR Chapter. I had e-mailed you for information and used your web site.

NSDAR requires proof of service [1. military; 2. a civil position supporting the "rebellion"; or 3. evidence of support for the cause for which he/she was paid.] Since no proof of military service was available for Thomas Milliken I looked to other sources for help.

Upon searching supply tax records I found an error in the PA Archives and looked up the original tax records for Cumberland County, Milford Township. The error was that the Township tax record shows that the *heirs* of Thomas Milliken paid the tax in 1780 not "Thomas Milliken" as stated in the PA Archives.

Thomas Milliken made his will in April of 1778 and the Inventory of his estate was dated April 1778. This man did not live long after he made his will.

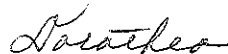
Milligan Widow paid the taxes in 1779, 1781, 1782. Thomas Milligan's heirs paid the tax in 1780. On this basis Mary McConnell Milliken, Thomas's wife, is the "Patriot" under which Roberta Miller has become a member of the DAR. Thomas Milligan will require further proof before prospective DAR members may join using his name.

It was difficult to establish Isaac as the son of Edward, son of Thomas and Mary Jane. No birth, baptism, will or other obvious records. They lived in the same Township in Westmoreland Co. and obviously Isaac was living on land previously owned by Edward...no deed transfers, etc. By this proximity and tax records plus Ralph M. Bell's family records we were able to comfortably establish the connection.

I found another piece of information. Euphania (various spellings) *Crooks* is the name of Isaac Bell Milliken's first wife. In a Westmoreland County PA Deed Book, Vol. 22, page 421, dated January 5, 1837 Isaac Milliken and wife Effy, formerly Crooks, sell to William Crooks (?brother) a portion of land for \$40.00. The paper is signed by Isaac Milliken and Erephenia(?) Milliken. This land was part of an inheritance from her father, William Crooks, deceased. Her sisters, Elizabeth Cross (John Cross) and Eleanor Youkins (John Youkins) do the same. Their sales appear next to the one of Isaac and Euphania. William's widow, Euphania Crooks, appears in later tax records paying the tax on the 100 acres she inherited. 7514

I thought you would like the above information. Roberta Miller's application was approved last Saturday and we were so pleased. There are other loose ends which need to be cleared up. But we are happy with the outcome.

Sincerely,



Dorothea Rose Lazar
Massy Harbison-Fort Hand Chapter NSDAR

e-mail: dorjeolaz@aol.com

276 Lansdowne Drive
Verona, PA 15147-2845
January 5, 2005

Mr. Michael Milliken
6478 Heatherfield Way
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Dear Mr. Milliken:

Sorry to be late in replying to your e-mail. We have just returned from D. C. having spent the holidays with family.

Let's see if I can answer your questions. Mary McConnell Milliken is the "Patriot" as it is called in DAR terms. She is the person, of whom it can be proven, who provided support for the American Revolution by reason (and proof) of her paying the Supply Taxes for the land/estate she inherited on the death of her husband in April 1778.

There are four channels through which a person may be declared eligible to be a "Patriot." They are: Signers of the Declaration of Independence, Military Service, Civilian Service, and Patriotic Service. The DAR handbook lists examples for each category and the dates are 19 April 1775 and 26 November 1783. I have not seen Roberta's approved papers. They will become available soon. I am assuming that Mary McConnell Milliken's service will be "patriotic." She is approved, not through Thomas Milliken, but on her own by having paid those taxes which were supporting the "cause."

I found that Thomas Milliken had died in April, 1778. On one of the approved applications on file it had stated that Thomas paid the Supply Tax in 1780. I questioned the timing. When I read the original(copies) of the County's tax record, not the Pennsylvania Archives record, I found that the Archives' copyist had erred. The Thomas Milliken heirs had paid the tax, not Thomas Milliken. When I conferred with the DAR staff I found that Mary, who was the heir, was then eligible to be the Patriot.

One of our problems then became finding the proof that Edward's son Isaac was really his son. We found no birth, baptism, marriage, deed transfer, etc. which connected the two. Only family histories which had no specific resource listed were giving Isaac as Edward's son. I had to use a Bell Family history written by Ralph Martin Bell, who has great credentials, local tax records from Allegheny Township of Westmoreland County and Edward and Isaac's death record to prove the connection.

The genealogists at DAR do not like to use "Family" history books. Often there are not sufficient resources to back up the statements given by family members. It's something like using County Histories which are considered "vanity" publications. One can obtain good leads from the information included in both sources. I usually do follow up on any information obtained therein.

Anyone wishing to join DAR will be referred to Mary as opposed to Thomas I believe. I tried to find information on the group that Thomas Milliken joined, the campaigns he was in and local histories which might have included some reference to his military life. What a pity he and many others are denied their rightful honors because someone lost a list, forgot to record a group or whatever was the cause of the oversight. Considering the campaigns in which he is said to have been involved I can believe that he died because of disease or injury sustained during battles/marches.

I hope this clears up the questions you asked. If not, e-mail and I'll try to answer any you have. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,



*Sorry about the print!
I obviously need ink!*