

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Jacob Lamb R15747

MD

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Indiana }
County of Marion } Scilicet
City of Indianapolis }

On this twenty third day of May in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and sixty one personally appeared before me, Samuel E. Perkins, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of Indiana, in and for the State of Indiana, Jacob Lamb, a resident of the City of Indianapolis, Marion County and State of Indiana, who being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says as follows, I am aged ninety five years, and make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832.

On account of my advanced age and infirm health, my memory has become impaired somewhat, and I pray to Department to bear with any deficiencies, which may appear from that cause. I was born in Baltimore in the State of Maryland, on the 19th day of March AD seventeen hundred and sixty six. There was a record of my birth in our family bible, made over fifty or sixty years ago, but the record was burned with my other effects, when my house was burned in Kentucky. I was an Apprentice in Baltimore while the revolutionary war was going on, to a man named Hollingsworth, and my business was that of pumping rum and other liquors; I called him old Jesse Hollingsworth. I entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers, and served as hereinafter stated. I entered the service of the United States under the following named officers. I joined a company of Maryland militia during the revolutionary war which was mustered into service, at a place called "Soldier's Delight" about nine miles from Baltimore [at present Owings Mills]. I think I was drafted, and went as a substitute for another man, whose name I cannot recollect. I am not certain, but that I volunteered, but my best impression is that I was drafted. Of my own memory, I cannot state the precise month and year when I so joined said service. but it was four months at least before the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown [19 Oct 1781]. The Captain of my Company was James Winchester [see endnote]. I have thought over the matter a good deal, and feel very confident that I have stated his name correctly. I sometimes have got the names of officers in the different wars I served in confused. I served under Major Winston, one Gideon Guess or Guest (called Gid Guess familiarly) [Gideon Gist?] was drummer. A man named John Dunn was the fifer; one Jacob McLean, I think was in the Company. My impression is also that one Evan Price was the Lieutenant. I get that name though sometimes confounded with the Captain Price under whom I served in the Wabash Campaign [probably during the period of the Battle of the Wabash, 4 Nov 1791]. I cannot state the names of regular officers, who were along with us. I think that Colonel Samuel Rollins was connected with the expedition; I think there were two or three continental regiments in the Expedition, and some ten or twelve militia regiments, but I cannot state the officers names of any of them. I think one Joshua Towles was there. We marched from the Soldier's Delight to Baltimore, where we met other troops. We then marched through Maryland into Virginia and down through the Country into Yorktown. We were stationed near Yorktown at the time when Cornwallis surrendered. Several hundreds of British prisoners were committed to our care, to march back. We went with the prisoners back, I think through Hagerstown. It seems to me that we met Col. Samuel Hughes at Hagerstown. We marched to Frederick or Fredericktown, and from there we went to Little York in Pennsylvania. We there gave the prisoners over to other troops which were garrisoned there, I think, and we marched back to Fredericktown, and we were finally discharged at Baltimore. I was discharged honorably by Capt Hollingsworth, I think and I had my discharge tacked in my Bible, to preserve it, but it was also burned with my other effects. Our company was engaged, and I assisted in it also in putting log chains, lapped together, across the Potomac river for the purpose of preventing the passage of the British forces [see endnote]. My company and

others then out, I suppose were called out by the State of Maryland, though whether a special act was passed, or the Congress did it, I was too young to tell. I was a private the first two months and an orderly sergeant after that for six months. Winchester was appointed to a higher command, and then Hollingsworth (Christian name forgotten) took his place as Captain, and had command of the Company. After I was discharged, I went back to Hollingsworths, and staid about a year. He gave me a horse and saddle, and I started out for the back woods. I stopped and settled in Fayette County, Kentucky, and have lived in Kentucky until about two years ago when I moved to this place, where I have since resided on New Jersey Street first, then on Market Street, with my daughter, Mrs Frances Cropper. I am unable to give the testimony of any surviving witnesses of my services. I believe they are all dead. Some years since, I made an affidavit in behalf of Benjamin Haydon [S37972], who was a Revolutionary soldier, and applied for a pension from Henry County, Kentucky. I recollect that I made similar affidavits for one Van Horn, and one Gasham Lee, or for Gasham Lee's widow, perhaps both [not found]. I think I made these affidavits in Henry County. I do not recollect whether I made any statements about my own services therein. My recollection was better then upon some points than it is now. I never made application before because pensioners were looked down upon in Kentucky, and I was able to get along without asking my country to help me. I have been successively the sheriff, a Justice of the peace and Constable of Henry County Kentucky. After the Revolutionary war ended, I came to Kentucky to the County of Fayette, about seven or eight miles from Lexington. There I married Mary Nuttall and after my marriage I went out in the service of the United States as a Private in Captain William Price's Company of mounted volunteers under Brigadier Genl Charles Scott in an expedition against the Kickapoos [Blackberry Campaign of 1791]. My impression is that Billy Lewis was a Lieutenant. George Matterson an ensign, and one John Curd orderly Sergeant. We took Indian prisoners to Fort Steuben. After that I went home, and again started out in Wayne's war [Anthony Wayne, Northwest Indian War of 1794] under I think a Captain Maxwell, our company guarded the pack horses. I am now very old and infirm and need help. My bodily infirmity prevents me from appearing in open Court. On recollection I think the man I was a substitute for in the Revolution was named Sherman. During all of the time of my revolutionary service, I was not engaged in any civil pursuit. I have no documentary evidence of my service, and I know of no person living by whom it can be proved. I could refer the department to many persons in Kentucky who can certify to my veracity and to their belief in my services as a soldier in the revolution. I will mention James Bartlett, Anthony Bartlett, Judge Elijah Nuttall, Judge Pryor & Wesley Masterson. Here I have not so many acquaintances, but will refer the department under the rule to Mrs Matilda Adams, of Indianapolis; Mrs Jane and Mr George McOuatt, William Sullivan Esq. Dr Jamison, James Griggsby & wife, and Reuben Adams, all of the same City who can certify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a Soldier in the revolution. Affiant's service was field service. He cannot state particularly by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, but according to the best of recollection, he states on oath that he served not less than the period mentioned below, for the United States in the Revolution, and in the following grades for two months as a private and for six months as an orderly Sergeant.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any State of States whatever. He constitutes and appoints Messrs Stotsenburg & Brown of New Albany in the State of Indiana his Attorneys to receive his certificate and prosecute his claim and to use all lawful and proper means therefor. Jacob hisXmark
Lamb

[Veracity and reputation as a soldier weere certified by William H. Kendrick and George McOuatt.]

NOTES:

There was a Capt. James Winchester (pension application W23), but he was in the 3rd Maryland Continental Regiment rather than the militia. I could find no record of any of the other officers mentioned by Lamb. Militia records are quite incomplete.

The Potomac River did not figure in the Siege of Yorktown.

Service in the militia could be proved merely by a credible declaration of service and the testimony of two neighbors as to the applicant's veracity and his reputation as a Revolutionary soldier. Lamb's application was rejected, presumably because of imperfections in his declaration of services.