

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Van Mater (Van Marter) R20190
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

NJ

State of New Jersey } Ss.
Monmouth County }

Before me William Lloyd one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Monmouth in the State of New Jersey Personally appeared William Van Mater who being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God did depose and say that he enlisted for three years or during the war, in the year 1779 under a Captain Rudolph [Michael Rudolph BLWt945-300] who at the time, commanded a Company of Infantry, that this deponent was enlisted, to serve in the Troop of horse belonging to [Henry] Lee's Legion; that after his enlistment he joined Captain Armstrongs [James Armstrong] troop, and went with him to the South, where he remained in service, until the end of the war, at which time he recieved a discharge from General [Nathanael] Greene – That this deponent has not his discharge at this time, but believes the same to be on file at one of the offices in the City of Washington, as he several years ago recieved a letter from Captain James Heard [pension application S540] (who had a command in a Troop of horse attached to the same Legion) informing deponent that he was entitled to one hundred acres of Land from the United States, and offering his services to obtain the same for Deponent, that deponent delivered his discharge to Captain Heard who caused his papers to be prepared, that the son of Deponent went to Washington, with said Papers among which was his discharge, and obtained a certificate or deed for the Land, and left the papers at some one of the offices but at which, Deponent is unable to say, that the said James Heard is since dead as this deponent is informed, That deponent knows of no person living by whom he is able to prove the fact of his enlistment or the time of his service but believes by reference & search at the proper office at the City of Washington his discharge will be found, and further saith not Sworn and Subscribed before me this 23rd day of June AD 1828

William hisXmark Van Mater

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of “An Act for the Relief of certain surviving officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution,” approved on the 15th day of May 1828 – I William Van Mater, of Howell, in the County of Monmouth, and State of New Jersey, do hereby declare, that I enlisted in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, for three years or for and during the war, and continued in its service until its termination: at which period, I was a Private in Captain James Armstrongs Company of Cavalry, it being the first troops of “Lee's Legion; That I have never recieved a certificate for the reward of Eighty dollars to which I was entitled under a resolve of Congress Passed the 15th day of May 1778, but that I did some years ago, through the instrumentality of Captain James Heard who had a command in the same Legion, receive one hundred acres of Land in the western Country – And I do further declare that I was not on the 15th day of March 1828 on the Pension List of the United States. [certified 23 June 1828]

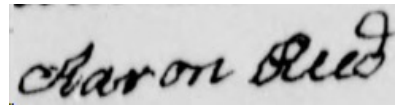
William hisXmark Van Mater

State of New Jersey }
Monmouth County } Ss

Before me William Lloyd one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Monmouth in the State of New Jersey Personally appeared Aaron Reid [Aaron Reed S743] who being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God; did depose and say that he is well acquainted with William Van Mater above named, that he has known him well since the year 1777 or thereabouts, that he well recollects about the year 1779 hearing it said that William Van Mater had enlisted for during the war in Major Lee's corps, and remembers that the father of the said William Van Mater called upon Major Lee and endeavoured to procure his discharge William at that time being young, and that Major Lee refused to let him go, saying “that he would not take two men for him” That Deponent was present at the time when

application was made to Major Lee, that Deponent served in the State Militia but was never enlisted and is about 72 years of age, that William Van Mater after his enlistment went with Major Lee to the South and after the war, returned to Monmouth County where he has continued to reside ever since and further saith not

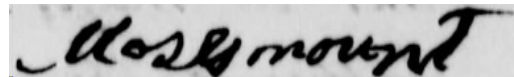
Sworn & subscribed before me this 23rd of June AD 1828



State of New Jersey }
Monmouth County } Ss

Before me William Lloyd one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Monmouth in the state of New Jersey Personally appeared Moses Mount [W7474] who being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God did depose & say that he is well acquainted with William Van Mater above named, that he has known him ever since he was a boy, remembers that about the year 1779 when Lee's Corps was in the County of monmouth, that William Van Mater enlisted in Lees Corps, that his enlistment was said to be during the war, that he went with Lees Corps to the south and there remained as deponent believes until the end of the war, that deponent recollects of Van Mater having done duty in Lee's Corps while the same remained in the County of Monmouth, that Deponent is about seventy years of age and served in the Militia of the State at different times during the war – and further saith not

Sworn & Subscribed before me this 23rd day of June AD 1828



[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#), Some words not legible in the online images are transcribed from copies in the federal pension file.]

William Vanmarter a soldier in the first troop of Legion Cavalry haveing serv'd the time he was enlisted for, is entitled to a discharge he has received no pay since the first of April 1780

[signed] James Armstrong, Capt.

[Different handwriting on same paper]

The term of enlistment of the above Dragoon expired on the 23^d inst. as appears by a certificate from the officer who inlisted him, his time of service being returned unknown in the muster-roll, and his absence at the time of inspection preventing any enquiry from being made into that matter.

26th Sept. 1782, [signed] J. Cernan

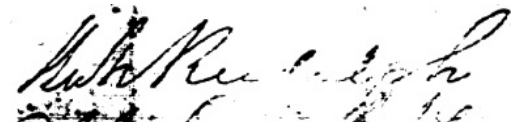
The above Soldier is hereby discharged from the Legion of Lt. Colonel Lee.

[Nathanael Greene]



I do certify that Will'm Van Marter a Dragoon of the 1st Troop Legion Cavalry Enlisted the 23rd of Septemb'r 1779 for the Term of three years which time expired ye 23rd day of Sept 1782

[Michael Rudolph]
Capt'n Legion Troop

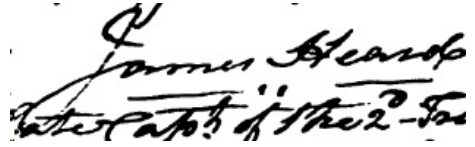


I do certify that William Van Marter enlisted in the Legion Commanded by Lt. Colo. Henry Lee, as a Dragoon in the year seventeen hundred & seventy nine and continued to serve as such until the year

seventeen hundred and eighty two, and served agreeable to his enlistment three years.

Princeton Sept'r 25th 1821

James Heard
late Capt. of the 2^d Troop
of Dragoons – Lee's Legion



James Heard
late Capt. of the 2^d Troop

New Jersey }
Monmouth County Ss }

personally appeared before me John Headden one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County – David Sutphin [S4519] – and being duly sworn, Deposeth and Saith that William Van Marter of the County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey, was in service of the United States in the year of Seventeen hundred & seventy six, under Capt. John Walton & this Deponent was out under the said Cap Walton at the same time & further saith not.

Sworn & subscribed to before me John Headden one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County this 11 day of Oct. 1821.



David Sutphin

NOTE: Van Mater's claim for a pension was rejected because he did not serve until the end of the war (15 Nov 1783) as required under the act of 1828.