

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Presley Larkins R6168

f43VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/2/13

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Indiana Floyd County: SS

On this 8th day of February 1835 personally appeared in open Court Prestley Larkins, a resident of said County and State aged 72 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he was born March the 14th 1763. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in Virginia, as fifer, in the year 1777, with a Lieutenant he thinks by the name of Lyles, in his 12th or 13th year and served in the same company with his father, Anthony Larkins, who was also a regular –. He does not now recollect the Regiment, or the officers. He served as fifer during the war, and thinks he was discharged in the year 1782 or 1783. He thinks he enlisted during the War, and served until the War expired and the Army was disbanded. That he lived near Stover town in Virginia, was in several Indian skirmishes – two at Paxson's Glades – one at Fort Chisel [Fort Chiswell] – both on New River in Virginia. He was also in several Indian skirmishes at Watauga and on Holson River [probably Holston River] in the same State, in which he remained during the service. He does not know, but supposes his name will be found on the Virginia roll.

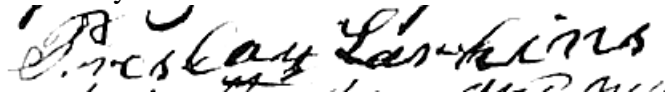
The said Prestley Larkins also states on oath in open Court that he enlisted [several words written over and blotted out by an ink blot] the age of about 28 years in Tennessee under Captain Jacob Tipton for six months, and before his term had expired, he enlisted for three years being then at Fort Washington – now Cincinnati, under Lieutenant Pastors, belonging to the company of Captain Joseph Munford in the first Regiment of light infantry. He still remained in Captain Tipton's Company until his term of six months expired, while in said Company he was in the engagement in which General St. Clair was defeated, commonly called St. Clair's defeat. He then joined Munford's Company, who being killed in the last mentioned battle, Lieutenant Pastors took command. He had his leg broke in [word blotted out]ling to build a Fort Jefferson, from whence he was carried to Cincinnati on horseback – being unable to walk – thence to Vincennes where he recovered. He remained at Vincennes until Wayne's Treaty, when he was by Captain Pastors, recommend to the proper officer for a discharge.

The said Prestley Larkins further states on oath in open court, that he enlisted in first Regiment of light infantry at New Port in Kentucky between 1810 and 1811, at the age of 47 or 48 years, under Lieutenant Brison – from whose Company, he was transferred to that of Captain S. [name written over and blotted out], where he served his full term – being five years. He was in two skirmishes on the Mississippi River with the British and Indians. During his stay at New Port he had his hip mashed by a box of guns falling on him. He further states on oath in open

court, that he was Honorable discharged by General Smith at St. Louis in 1815, which discharge was placed into the hands of a lawyer to enable him to obtain a pension for this declarant, and has not been seen or heard of since.

He, the said Larkins, hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any State.

S/ Preslay Larkins

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Preslay Larkins". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid.

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State of Indiana Floyd County: SS

Be it remembered that on this 19th day of March 1836 before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace of the County aforesaid Personally came Peter Stout¹ and being by me duly sworn deposes and says that he is well acquainted with Presley Larkins of said County of Floyd – That he became acquainted with said Larkins as early as the year 1777 as he believes – That when he first became acquainted with him, he the said Larkins was a Fifer in the American Army about that time at Staunton in the State of Virginia, – That he continued to know said Larkins from that time (1777) to the close of the war, 4 or 5 years – That from his intimacy with said Larkins he has no hesitation in saying that he the said Larkins continued in the American service from the time deponent first knew him until the action at the defeated Camps (or it was then called, now Crab Orchard in Kentucky) which was as near as deponent can recollect about the close of the war – Deponent was in the American service as a minute man and was during the whole revolutionary war either in active service or on furlough – He well remembers that said Larkins was very young when he first knew him. That the soldiers would frequently make fun of him the said Larkins on account of his extreme youthfulness. They nicknamed him from that circumstance "Larkin Wisdom" – And further this deponent saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of March 1836

S/ Samuel Wilson, JP

S/ Peter Stout, X his mark

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Floyd County Kentucky December the 9th 1843

The deposition of Robert Macbride [Robert McBride] taken before Lindsey Layne a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Floyd and State of Kentucky he deposes and saith that he was well acquainted with Presley Larkins who now lives in the County of Johnson and State of Kentucky who is an applicant for a pension as a revolutionary soldier he states that his first acquaintance with him was in the State of Virginia he states that his first acquaintance with him was in the year 1777 or 1778 that he was then an enlisted soldier a Fifer and war his uniform dress as a musician he was then engaged in the recruiting service, I seen his Captain he was a dark complected man and a Frenchman his name I don't now recollect as it was a singular name this was at a place called Paxton's Glades I then seen him in service as a recruiting Fifer at Chissels mines and at that place the company that he belonged to was sent for to join the main Army and Presley Larkins was left for I recollect that he had the smallpox and was blind with the disease he then afterwards got well and I then seen him at Tolbert's Fort on the Watauga River

¹ [Peter Stout S32541](#)

still in the service as a Fifer I seen him on his return from Kings Mountain battle he was all the time I speak of a Fifer and in the enlisted Service amongst the regular troops and from the time I seen him at Paxton's Glades until the last time I seen him at Tolbert's Fort was upwards of 3 years during all the aforementioned time he was in the Regular service as a musician, a Fifer. I afterward served with him in Wayne's Army and we were both at St. Clair's defeat now Indiana during the last mentioned campaign Presley Larkin got his leg broke at Fort Jefferson in repairing the Fort a log fell on him and mashed his ankle and broke his leg and made him a [indecipherable word] cripple he then was under Captain Pastors and Colonel Hamtomack he states when he first seen Presley Larkins at Paxton's Glades, he was very young to be in the service he looked to be a boy about 15 years of age or probably not more than 14.

S/ Robert Macbride, X his mark

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Declaration

Amended Declaration of Presley Larkins who is an applicant for a pension as a revolutionary Soldier he declares that while he was in the service as an enlisted Soldier in General Sinkler [St. Clair] Army under Captain Thomas Pastors and Colonel Hamtomack that in the year of 1792 that he was wounded in his leg and ankle in the raising a knew [new] addition to Fort Jefferson now Indiana he declares that a log fell of [off] the building on him and mashed his ankle and broke his leg and has made him a cripple so that his leg has furrished [sic?] and is the time a cripple and much smaller than the other he further states that he has become almost helpless not able to work but very little he lives alone in a small house by himself and has become a County Charge to the County of Johnson and he therefore asked of government to aid him under the laws of Congress granting pensions to invalid and crippled Soldiers.

S/ Presley Larkin, X his mark

[Attested in Johnson County December 18, 1843]

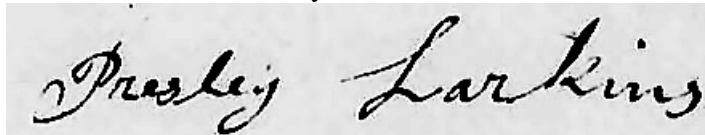
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Declaration

The declaration of Presley Larkins who is an applicant for a pension as a Revolutionary Soldier aged about 80 years – Born in the year 1764 in Shenandoah County Virginia – He states that he enlisted as a soldier and was a Fifer and was engaged in the Service of his country between 3 and 4 years – but being very young – he does not now recollect the names of the officers under whom he served – as they were often changed But his services then rendered was in the Western part of Virginia – He further states that in the year 1791 about the last of April or the first of May – that he enlisted under Captain Jacob Tipton and his Colonel's name was Dark = when he enlisted then he lived near a place that is now Jones borough in the State of Tennessee – and as he understood then was Weston Virginia – he states that he marched with Captain Tipton across the Ohio River – and they crossed at a place called Fort Washington – now Cincinnati. He further states that Captain Tipton got killed at the Battle of St. Clair defeat in which he was a soldier under Captain – He further states at the expiration of his 6 months Tour – or a few days before that he enlisted for a 3 years term under Captain Joseph Munford & under Colonel Hamtomack in the first Regiment – his Lieutenant's name was Thomas Pastors – he further states that his Captain got killed at a place called Fort Jefferson – and that his Lieutenant Thomas Pastors was then Promoted to Captain. He states that he served 3 years as an enlisted Soldier – under Captain Munford and Captain Pastors – in the first Regiment as before stated Hamtomack still being the

Colonel. He further states that after the expiration of the 3 years Term – that he enlisted again for 3 years more continuing in the service without intermission under the aforesaid Captain Thomas Pastors & Colonel Hamtomack General Anthony Wayne was a portion of the time the commanding General and says he saw him at Post then sends. He further states that he was discharged at then sends for his last 3 years service in October 1797 – And he therefore refers to the War Department and the records thereof to show a as he has lost his discharges and humbly ask for such a Pension as the Acts of Congress of the United States have allowed for similar services rendered to the Government – as a Soldier in the Army of the Revolution.

S/ Presley Larkins

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Presley Larkins". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and characteristic of the early 19th century.

[Attested in Johnson County Kentucky November 2, 1843]

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State of Kentucky County of Johnson: SS

On this the 4th day of November 1851 personally appeared before me an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Presley Larkins a resident of the County of Johnson and State of Kentucky aged 91 years who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of Congress or made by the act of Congress passed.

That he was a recruiting fife major in the Company commanded by Lieutenant Lyles in a recruiting party in the war of the revolution, that he enlisted at Staunton Virginia in the fall of 1778 as near as he can recollect, he states he enlisted during the war and started from Stanton Virginia in a recruiting party between Stanton & Lexington says they drew their clothes at Lexington, he says they went down as far as Millerstown to the reviewing of recruits, there they were sent back to New River Virginia for more recruits and he was taken with smallpox on the road & left blind at a place where the recruits were stationed near what was called Paxton's Glades where he remained for about one month when his Mother came after him and carried him to East Tennessee on Watauga River where he remained until he entirely recovered. When he recovered Colonel Tipton sent after him to carry Expresses to Fort Chisel. After which time he was kept by the Colonel as express Carrier until the close of the Revolution. Sometimes for Colonel Sevier Some time Colonel Campbell & at other times under Colonel Tipton & was discharged from under the command of Captain Caldwell shortly after peace was made. He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the amount of pension that may be found due him.

Att: S/ R. K. Graves
S/ Wm M. Smith

S/ Presley Larkins, X his mark