

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Lee R6252

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky, Barren County: SS

On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Barren County, now sitting, Joseph Lee aged 76 years the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September 1834 a resident of said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1834 [sic, 1832].

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein Stated:

He was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September 1758 in the State of Virginia. He believes he was born in South Hampton [Southampton] County; but will not be positive, for when he was very young he was taken to Cumberland County North Carolina on Deep River. From thence he was taken to Rutherford County North Carolina on Broad River, where he continued until he entered the Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War.

He enlisted in Rutherford County under Captain Francis Prince, and joined the Company at said Prince's own House in (he thinks) the year 1774, while he was quite young. His recollection as to the year is very weak owing to the lapse of time, and the fact that he did not then, nor since, pay particular attention to dates. He remembers that the time of his enlistment as aforesaid was before any fighting took place in the South although it was every day expected. He therefore can't say that he first enlisted in the year 1774, but it is his impression that it was in that year. He is now under the impression that the House of Captain Prince where he joined the Company was over the line in South Carolina; but be that as it may he enlisted in Rutherford North Carolina. In Captain Prince's Company Edward Hampton was the 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, Field Farrow 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, and Thomas Prince Ensign, and he thinks that one McMahon, whose given name is not now remembered was one of the Sergeants. He does not remember the names of the other Company Officers. From Prince's House he went to Charles town and joined the troops there which we were then Commanded by General Gatson [sic, Christopher Gadsden?], but in a very short time after Applicant went to Charles town General Lee [Charles Lee] took the command. Applicant was marched with the rest of the Troops, or rather transported by water to Sullivan's Island, and was in the Battle on that Island between the British & American armies [very probably the engagement at Fort Moultrie, June 28, 1776 based on the assertion that Charles Lee was in command at that time].<sup>1</sup> During the Battle he remembers, that the American Artillery sunk one of the British ships. After the Battle applicant returned to Charles town and

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_ft\\_moultrie\\_1.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_ft_moultrie_1.html)

was then marched under one Captain Tutt [Benjamin Tutt] to the Cherokee Towns,<sup>2</sup> and there assisted in destroying the towns & Corn of the Indians. His Company on arriving at the Towns had joined some Troops commanded by General Williamson [Andrew Williamson], a Scotchman. When cold weather came on Williamson and his Troops left the Towns, the Indians having sued for peace; but Tutt & his company including this Applicant wintered at the Towns. In this Excursion against the Indians applicant was in several Battles or skirmishes, and in one of them was wounded by a Ball in the thigh, and the scar remains to be seen to this day. At the end of the Winter Applicant went under Captain Tutt to a little Town then called Ninety Six, where he remained some time when Tutt told the Company that he would march them down to the Congaree Stores where they might all get Discharges from a Field Officer. Applicant marched down to the Stores where there was one Merry McGuire a Sergeant Major, who was the enlisting men for the Continental service and offering \$30 as a bounty to those who would enlist for three years. This applicant was pleased with the offer, and accepted it, thinking that \$30 was a good round sum of money for a poor soldier to have all at one time. Up to the time of his enlistment by Merry McGuire at the Congaree Stores he (applicant) had served fifteen months as a Private, although he had only at first enlisted under Prince as a Private for 6 months. However he enlisted by Merry McGuire enlisting master for three years service in the Regular Army, in the Company of Captain Robert Goodwin [Robert Goodwyn], 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Field Farrow, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant William Thompson [William Russell Thomson], Ensign John Goodwin, Sergeant McMahan [John McMahan], and Sergeant Thomas Collier, as he thinks. In this Company applicant belonged to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of South Carolina Troops commanded by Col. William Thompson [William Thomson] the father of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant William Thompson. General Lee was Commander in Chief of the Division. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiments were together.

During his services he remembers to have seen General Lee, General Gatson, General Isaac Hughee [sic, Isaac Huger], and General John (he thinks) Hughee [sic, John Huger], two brothers. General Lee was involved as was then reported, in difficulties by a woman whom it was said then he kept, and was taken by the enemy. General Howe [Robert Howe] then took the Command, and applicant often saw him. After applicant's enlistment he was marched to the Eutaw Springs, at which were the Head Quarters. Here applicant remained near a year; and then marched into Georgia to Fort Barrington on the Haltamahaw [Altamaha] River. Here he remained for some time, and in the midst of Peach time took shipping and went to Charles town, then still under Captain Goodwin & Colonel Thompson. At Charles town Captain Goodwin resigned and went home and applicant was then placed under the Command of Captain Robert Lyalls or Loyalls [Robert Lyle]. Applicant was then again marched to the Eutaw Springs where he continued some time; thence he was marched to Savannah; thence to Midway Meeting House; thence back again to Savannah where the Battle took place with the British which resulted in the loss of Savannah [December 29, 1779].<sup>3</sup> The troops Compelled to retreat in disorder, were, some of them at the least & this applicant among the rest, assembled at Purysburg on the South Carolina side of the Savannah River. After the Battle Howe was arrested for misconduct and applicant saw him no more. General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] arriving at Purysburg with 1600 men, took the Command. Before the arrival, however, of Lincoln the troops under the Conduct of the Generals Hughee [Huger] fought a battle with the enemy on the Georgia side of the Savannah River and were defeated.<sup>4</sup> Applicant was then marched, under General Lincoln

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<sup>2</sup> probably the engagement described in

[http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_cherokee\\_expedition\\_1776.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html)

<sup>3</sup> probably a reference to the engagement resulting from the invasion of Savannah by British forces under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell. See, <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/781229-savannah/>

<sup>4</sup> I can't identify this engagement. If anyone has a suggestion, I would welcome it.

with the troops against Savannah,<sup>5</sup> the Americans being seconded by a great body of French. But the American Army was repulsed, and Lincoln retired to Charles town; and this applicant under Captain Lyals or Loyalls and Lieutenant Colonel Mason [James Mayson?] went to Head Quarters at the Eutaw Springs, where applicant was Discharged having served three years as a private in the Regular Army. His Discharge signed by James Mason, the aforesaid Lieutenant Colonel, was many years ago lost by this applicant while he was gathering whortle berries<sup>6</sup> in a Swamp.

After this Tour Applicant served several Militia Tours, but he is advised that it is not necessary to mention or set them forth here, as his services as above set forth are amply sufficient to entitle him to the benefit of the Act of 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832. He hereby relinquishes every claim 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.

Sworn and Subscribed the day and year first aforesaid.

S Joseph Lee, L L his mark

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<sup>5</sup> Siege of Savannah <http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/siege-savannah> & <http://www.historynet.com/siege-of-savannah-during-the-american-revolutionary-war.htm>

<sup>6</sup> Also called bilberries, these berries were thought to have medicinal value, as described by Dr. Nicholas Culpeper in his The English Physitian, (London, 1652), pp15-16: *“The black Bilberries are good in hot agues and to cool the heat of the liver and stomach; they do somewhat bind the belly, and stay vomiting and loathings; the juice of the berries made in a syrup, or the pulp made into a conserve with sugar, is good for the purposes aforesaid, as also for an old cough, or an ulcer in the lungs, or other diseases therein. The Red Worts are more binding, and stops women’s courses, spitting of blood, or any other flux of blood or humours, being used as well outwardly as inwardly.”*