

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Lemon (Lamon) S16916

fn49NC [sic PA]

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/31/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of Missouri County of Boone

On this 26th day of June 1833 personally appeared in open court before David Todd Judge of the Circuit Court for the County of On State aforesaid now sitting, Robert Lemon, resident of said County & state, aged seventy-eight 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, he entered the service in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania on the 25th of August 1776 under Captain John Hopkins, who was appointed Captain from some source, he cannot tell from where, to enlist soldiers for twelve months to do ranging services against the Indians in the Western part of the State, toward Pittsburgh, where the Indians had become very troublesome, he enlisted or joined the company for that purpose, Colonel John Proctor from same County was our Colonel we marched on scouting on our frontier till sometime in December of that year there was no General with us then, in December an express came to our Colonel with word that the British were over running the Jersey, and that we must join General Washington at Morris town, his head quarters, at that time the Maryland & Virginia troops had the smallpox very bad among them, on our march from the Western part of the State on our arrival at Lancaster our Colonel left us being as he understood a member of a convention, that was about to meet at Philadelphia, we were then placed under Colonel Lohary¹ who was before our Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Campbell was then promoted from Major to Lieutenant Colonel & James Wilson was made our Major, who had before that together with Gutry & Lonbun furnishing us a commissary. We left Lancaster for Morris town where we arrived in 26 miles of Philadelphia we took up the road to Connell's ferry and crossed the Delaware [River] at that place, passed several small places called towns, one was Veal Town, others not recollected, sometime in January 1777, we joined Washington at Morris town his head quarters, the day we arrived General Washington received us, the next day we left there under General Maxwell, went up through a little town called Chatham, and arrived at Springfield that night, next day through Westfield to Spank Town in Jersey, a mile & a half from Amboy where the British lay we were stationed there that winter, we had small skirmishes most every day until sometime in February we had an engagement with the British at what was called the Ash Swamp, between the Westfield & Spank Town at place we killed a great many of the British as the deserters who came to us informed us, we remained at Spank Town, till in March about the last of it, we were then

¹ The War Department's summary of this application indicates that this is probably a reference to an officer named Lochry.

marched back to Morristown, from there General Washington sent us to Philadelphia where we were discharged the 25th of May 1777 having served nine months. We were discharged before our time was out having turned out for twelve months, the reason for our discharge before our time was out he believes to be this, that most of the officers & man had families in Westmoreland the officers insisted on being permitted to return to that part of the country on account of the Indians who had become very troublesome & accordingly we were discharged to go home for the better securing our families, he got a written discharge signed by his Captain & Colonel, he kept it for many years, but thought it of no service to him & has long since lost or destroyed it. On his road home, he met his father & family retreating from the Indians, he turned back with them & went up into Cumberland County, he states that during the whole of his tour it was in the capacity of orderly Sergeant. He had four brothers all older than him, & who are now all dead, they were in the service with him: one of them first Lieutenant and another of the 2nd Lieutenant of the company.

He remained in Cumberland County until in August of that year 1777, Captain George Crawford on whose plantation his father had settled, was called on to raise troops, and on the 10th of that month he turned out a volunteer for 3 months under him. William Duffield was our Colonel, & his oldest son was our Lieutenant. We left there immediately and joined Washington at his head quarters at or near the White Horse near Philadelphia recollects that there was the first place he saw Generals Lafayette & Wayne, who were both there the General who was his immediate commander was by the name of Stephens from Virginia, who at the battle of Brandywine got drunk as it was said, and ordered a retreat when he should have ordered a charge, for which he now thinks he was broke, at least he never commanded him after that day, -- We left headquarters with all the men that was there, with General Washington at their head, we went on down & met the British who had come across the country from the Head of Elk at Brandywine, sometime in September, was in that battle which lasted 2 or 3 hours, when the retreat was ordered, or we most certainly, as he thinks, would have whipped them, recollects that General Wayne was stationed down on the Creek at the Ford and now believes that he brought on the action, after a while General Wayne left them to go up the Creek further where the British was crossing in order to surround us. General Stephens was called to the place where he left & when we were ordered to retreat the Creek was almost stopped from running from the number of the British that was in it, we killed a great many of them in the Creek, on our retreat he was overtaken by a light horse man, who cut at him often, he understood guarding very well which he done with his gun and got it cut nearly to the hollow, [indecipherable word or words] time, at length he got into a ditch and got time to fire his gun which relieved him, as the rider wheeled he was shot. After that battle, we marched up to the Valley Forge & and was moving about round in that quarter till the 25th of October when we were discharged, our time being most out and it became impossible to get provisions to keep us together, having served 2 months & 15 days, but his 3 months tour was expired before he got home, he got no written discharge. This tour was discharged as a private soldier, he returned again up into Cumberland remained there till the first of May 1778 when he turned out as a volunteer under Captain William Love who was then forted up at Fort Wallace in Westmoreland County, he on what was called the black lick Creek on the right of the Main road heading from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, William Lemon the Brother of this applicant was the Lieutenant & acted as a spy from one Fort to another, he remained there having repeated skirmishes with the Indians, John Shields was the Colonel at that time, but we appeared to be principally under the command of our Captain he remained there till his 3 months had expired, and got home sometime in August having served three months that tour as a private

soldier, he received no written discharge on his return up into Cumberland he remained there making repeated scouts and excursions, against the Indians for near two years, without being able from the unsettled state of the country to do much else, except to watch the Indians who had become very troublesome in the Western part of the State, until in August 1780 he removed to North Carolina, Mecklenburg County Charlotte Court House I remained there that fall and winter and the next spring in the month of May 1781 and on the 15th of that month he turned out as a mounted volunteer under Captain Thomas Patton who lived on the Catawba River in that County, we turned out at the order or instance of Colonel Dixon, he now recollects his given name to be James, he was our Colonel we marched on directly to McCord's ferry on the Congaree River, crossed the River over to Fort Motte on the South side of said River, there we met with, as he now believes his name to me, General Middleton, who took the command of us the troops from the high hills of Santee, crossed the River at Nelson's ferry & we joined them under General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] & General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] as he now recollects. We were marched on through or rather down the Country where we joined General Greene who came across the County over on to the South side of the Congaree River where he thinks it more than probable was the first place he joined General Greene, but cannot from the great length of time recollect precisely where it was, after being with Greene only about one day we overtook the British at the Eutaw Springs we had an engagement at that place a short distance before we arrived there we, or our front guard, had repeated firing with the British, but they continued to retreat until we came up to the Main battle, the battle was fought sometime about the last of July as he now thinks, at least, he knows it was an immense warm day, we whipped the British in that fight & kept the ground, after the battle we returned back, crossed the Congaree, at the same ferry, that we crossed in going out, we had left General Greene with the Main Army and returning back to Mecklenburg under our Colonel Regiment was kept together on account of the Tories, until we arrived at home where we were discharged at Hill's iron works in that County, on the 25th day of August 1781 -- having served 3 months and 10 days as a private soldier. He afterwards resided at McCord's ferry near 2 years, was at Nelson's ferry on the Santee at the time Colonel Washington, Colonel Lee disbanded their troops in the year 1782.

He states that he has no documentary evidence of his services, and does not know of any person by whom he can prove the same, and believes that such witness cannot be had.

He states that he was born in Ireland in the County of Tyrone in the Kingdom of Great Britain, in the year 1755. He has no record of his age at home in his Bible taken from his father's Bible. After he left the service, he first lived at the court's ferry, as stated from McCord's ferry he returned back to Pittsylvania, to his father's from there he went to Berkeley County Virginia, where he lived 9 years & married, from there he moved to Kentucky Scott County, from there he moved to this County & State in the fall of 1824 where he has resided ever since. He states that General Richard Gentry [?], Thomas C. Maupin, Major Minin Neal, Saml. Walls, and many others of his neighborhood who can testify as to his veracity and their belief of his having served as a soldier of the revolution. He states that during his service he was stationed so short a time at any one place, & being young can not paying attention to any other officers, except those who commanded him, he cannot now with certainty undertake to state the names of officers in the service at the time he was, he recollects that when stationed at Spanktown, as above stated, that General Lee was taken by the British about 12 miles from that place.

He hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Robert Lamon

[Richard Cave, a clergyman, and Samuel Wall gave the standard supporting affidavit.]
State of Missouri County of blown: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace in and for said County & State Robert Lamon, who being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades, for nine months I served as an orderly Sergeant, I served as a private soldier in the different tours above described 8 months and 25 days and for such service I claim a pension. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ Robert Lamon

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 26th day of June 1833

S/ John Henderson, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$74.43 per annum for 9 months service as a Sergeant and 8 months 25 days service as a private.]