

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Walter Lane Price S35036

f17VA [sic, PA]

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/24/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Maryland Anne Arundel County October 1818

Walter Lane Price of the City of Annapolis in the said State and County appeared before me the Subscriber Chief Judge of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial district in the said State and being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposed said and declared as follows, to wit.

That he the said Walter Lane Price served in the War of the Revolution for a Period longer than nine months, in the Naval Service of the United States, to wit, on Board the *Alliance*<sup>1</sup> Frigate commanded by Commodore Barry from the month of May in the year 1778 till the month of November in the year 1779 – that he entered as a Master's Mate, and after so serving about five months received on Board the Frigate from Commodore Barry a Commission as Lieutenant therein which has been long since lost. That during the time aforesaid the said Frigate was employed in serving [?] against the British in different Latitudes in the course of which she frequently returned and put into Boston, and that in November 1779 being in bad health he was permitted by Commodore Barry to leave the Service, and went to his Residence in Philadelphia where he remained sick a long time and did not afterwards Join the said Frigate – and further that by the lapse of time and the death or Removal of Persons who knew of his service he has been unable to procure the testimony of witnesses to those facts.

That the said Walter Lane Price also served during the said war in several armed Vessels from the State of Virginia, but has no means of ascertaining with certainty whether they were employed by or considered in the Service of the United States.

The said Walter Lane Price further deposed, said and declared himself to be yet a Resident Citizen of the United States to wit then Residing in the City of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County aforesaid, and by reason of his reduced Circumstances in life in need of Assistance from his Country for Support.

Sworn to before

S/ Jeremiah Townley Chase

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<sup>1</sup> Ken Kellow says the following about the Alliance:

*Alliance*.

Buel:87, frigate, newly constructed in 1778 at Salisbury, MA, Capt John Barry, 32 guns, 250 men. Smith:176-177, 286-291, Continental Navy frigate manned by captured British seaman, almost recaptured in a takeover plot in 1777. Capture:9-10, SchV:44, American ship, 40 guns, which captured the *Atalante*. Howard:157-161, in 1783, the *Alliance* went to the West Indies and on the return, fought the *Sybil*, a British frigate. The *Alliance* survived the war and was sold at auction in Aug, 1785. It was frequently mentioned in records of Cont. Congress.

<http://www.awiatsea.com/Other/Hough%20List%20A.html>

State of Maryland Anne Arundel County to wit

On this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 1820 personally appeared in open Court in the County Court of Anne Arundel County the same being a court of record Walter L Price age Sixty-seven years resident in the City of Annapolis in the said County who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows, On board the frigate *Alliance* commanded by Commodore James Barry [sic, John Barry]<sup>2</sup> according to the

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<sup>2</sup> Ken Kellow says the following about Commodore Barry:

John Barry was born in Ireland in 1745. [NOAR, 17] Barry lived in Philadelphia most of his life. He was tall (6'4"), Roman Catholic, and known for his violent temper. He was a merchant skipper for the firm of Willing & Morris, and commanded their ship *Black Prince* in September 1775, when he arrived at Philadelphia from Europe, bearing letters which had an influence on the birth of the Continental Navy. Barry probably helped supervise the conversion of the *Black Prince* into Continental Navy Ship *Alfred* in November-December 1775. He was commissioned a Captain in the Continental Navy on 6 June 1776. Barry commanded the Continental Navy Brig *Lexington*, in which he captured the British tender *Edward*. Barry was ranked seventh on the Captains' List of 10 October 1776 and was assigned to the new Continental Navy Ship *Effingham*. Barry served as presiding officer at the trial of Master William Whitpain (of the Continental Navy Sloop *Independence*) on 10 June 1777. On 21 July 1777 he was the senior officer to whom the Continental Navy Lieutenants handed the infamous "strike paper." [NRAR, 50] On 26 November 1777, Barry at Bordentown, reports to Marine Committee on court martial held on ship *Lion* for trial of men from *Repulse*. Read 5 December and referred to Marine Committee. [NRAR, 58] n 19 December 1777 Robert Morris (Manheim PA) to Henry Laurens (President of Marine Committee) related that John Barry wished to relate his reasons for dispute with Navy Board, Morris wanted to hear both sides, not one, Barry considered himself able to defend himself against the board. [NRAR, 62] On 29 January 1778 the Marine Committee issued orders to Barry for a cruise on the Delaware (Barry at Bordentown?). The Middle Navy Board ordered to assist in every possible way. [NRAR, 65] On 11 March 1778 the Marine Committee congratulated Barry in his success on the Delaware River and discussed prize money. On 26 March the Marine Committee discussed future operations, prize money, and stealing by militia. [NRAR, 68] On 24 April 1778 the Marine Committee ordered Nicholas Vandyke (of Newcastle Co. Del) to forward the Continental share of Barry's prizes or give it to the Navy Board at Baltimore. [NRAR, 71] On May 30, 1778 Barry is informed he is appointed to command *Raleigh* (then at Boston) by Marine Committee. He is to follow orders of Eastern Navy Board. (Barry in Delaware River). [NRAR, 74] On 24 August 1778 the Marine Committee to John Barry (Providence, RI?) with instructions for a cruise in the *Raleigh* with Captain William Burke in the *Resistance* under his command, along the Atlantic coast from Delaware Bay to North Carolina. Orders to Burke to join Barry. On 28 August 1778 Barry is ordered by the Marine Committee to act as convoy, with Burke, for vessels sent to sea by Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth. (Barry in Hampton, Va?) [NRAR, 81] On 28 September 1778 the Marine Committee wrote Barry (at Boston) to proceed to sea when *Raleigh* was armed, go to Portsmouth, Virginia and cruise on that coast. If the *Deane* were in company he was to attack the British frigate *Perseus* off Carolina. [NRAR, 85] On 25 October 1778 the Marine Committee wrote to the Eastern Navy Board regarding the loss of the *Raleigh* and a court of inquiry on Barry's conduct. [NRAR, 87] On 20 November 1778 the Marine Committee issued instructions to Barry for an expedition against East Florida. [NRAR, 90] On 15 February 1779, Barry was commissioned as commander of the Pennsylvania Privateer Brigantine *Delaware*, with ten guns and a crew of forty-five men. *Delaware* was owned by Thomas & Mathew Irwin of Philadelphia. [NRAR, 265] On 6 November 1779 the Marine Committee informed the Eastern Navy Board that Barry had been appointed to the *America*. Haste in completion was urged. [NRAR, 122] The same day Barry (in Philadelphia) was ordered to Portsmouth to expedite completion of the ship, any advisable alterations to be reported to the Marine Committee. [NRAR, 122] On 20 November 1779 the Marine Committee informed Barry (then at Portsmouth?) that Captain of Marines George Jerry Osborne was appointed to command Marines on the *America*. [NRAR, 125] On 31 January 1780 the Board of Admiralty wrote to the Board of War as to accommodations for Barry's horses. [NRAR, 133] On 5 September 1780 the Board of Admiralty appointed Barry to take command of the *Alliance*, Barry at Philadelphia. Captain Hoysteed Hacker (Philadelphia) appointed as her senior lieutenant. [NRAR, 160] On 12 September the Board of Admiralty reported to Congress on the troubles on the *Alliance* and that the Eastern Navy Board was consulting with Barry and William Ellery on the matter. [NRAR, 161] On 22 September 1780 the Eastern Navy Board notifies Landais that he is suspended from command of the *Alliance* and that Barry is appointed to take command. [NRAR, 162] On 10 November 1780 the Navy Board of the Eastern Department sent an order to John Barry, at Boston, for the trial of Peter Landais and James (Arthur) Degge, and in a separate letter the Board added

statement contained in his Original declaration made on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 1818 and transmitted to the War Department and that he has heretofore received a pension Certificate signed by the Secretary of War dated the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 1819 and numbered 7362. And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818. And that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed:

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more charges against Landais. On 17 November, more charges were added by the Board. [NRAR, 165] On 18 December 1780 Landais requests an adjournment. [NRAR, 168] On 26 December 1780 Landais requested an adjournment. [NRAR, 168] The Landais affair lasted from 20 November 1780. The trial of Pierre Landais began, on board the *Alliance* in Boston, with John Barry as president of the court. It lasted from 2 January until 6 January 1781. [NRAR, 170] On 23 March 1781, Barry, at L’Orient, ordered Captain Gallatheau of the *Marquis de Lafayette* to prepare for sea. [NRAR, 173] The *Marquis de Lafayette* and the *Alliance* capture the *Mars*, 3 April 1781. [NRAR, 188] In a letter from the Navy Board of the Eastern Department to the Board of Admiralty, it is noted that Barry has been urging the promotion of John Buckley to a lieutenancy on the *Alliance*, dated 21 July 1781. On 25 July Barry notified the Board of Admiralty that he was nearly recovered from his wound and would soon be able to attend the needs of his ship. Barry in Boston. [NRAR, 182] On 13 October 1781 Barry wrote to Thomas McKean regarding the court-martial of three men then in Boston. Barry in Philadelphia. [NRAR, 186] On 5 January 1782, Morris wrote to Barry with a list of articles desired from Paris. [NRAR, 187] On 18 January 1782, James Wilson of Philadelphia, as agent for owners of *Marquis de Lafayette*, writes to Congress, praying that proceeds from sale of the *Mars* be equitably divided between the *Marquis de Lafayette* and the *Alliance*, to this end prays an appeal be allowed from Massachusetts authorities to the United States Court of Appeals. On 19 January this was referred to a committee., which reported favorably on 22 January. The same day William Robeson (at Nantes) wrote Barry with reminiscences and questions for the future. [NRAR, 188] On 22 May 1782, Barclay at L’Orient, writes to Barry regarding prize money. On 25 May 1782, Robert Morris orders Captain John Hodge of the *Active* to put himself under Barry’s command. On 6 June 1782 Morris informs Barry that he is unable to secure a Delaware pilot for Barry, and that Congress has taken no action in regard to *Alliance*’s mutineers. [NRAR, 190] On 15 June 1782 the committee of the Continental Congress reported on Barry’s testimony concerning loss of the *Marquis de Lafayette*. On 24 July 1782, Barry, at New London, forwarded to Thomas McKean, President of the Continental Congress, extracts of *Alliance*’s log book on the same matter. On 1 August 1782, Barry sent various other papers concerning the *Marquis de Lafayette* to Charles Thomson, Secretary of the Congress. [NRAR, 191] The next day he forwarded an attested copy of his testimony before the committee. [NRAR, 191-192] The officers of the *Alliance* gave Barry power of attorney for them in prize matters on 17 November 1782. On 27 November, Thomas Barclay, at L’Orient, wrote Barry, approving his conduct toward his subordinate officers. [NRAR, 193] On 29 March 1783 Morris wrote to Barry with instructions for repairs to, and stores for, the *Alliance*. [NRAR, 194] Robert Morris replied to Barry, Read, and others, as to petitions for relief, on 6 October 1783. [NRAR, 197] On 25 December 1783, Barclay at Paris, writes to Barry regarding prize money. [NRAR, 199] On 10 May 1784 various members of the *Alliance*’s crew presented Congress with a petition for wages and prize money. A committee reported on this matter the same day, referring it to the Agent of Marines. On 1 July 1784, Barry presented his account against the *Alliance*: \$1,599.94. [NRAR, 203] A letter from Thomas Barclay at L’Orient, dated 12 January 1785, with an account of the monies paid to the *Alliance*, and the profit on shares purchased for Barry and John Brown. [NRAR, 205] On 24 September 1785, Barry and THOMAS READ sent a letter and petition to Congress asking for increased pay for themselves and others. The petition was read on 26 September. [NRAR, 209] He conspired with JAMES NICHOLSON to block JOHN PAUL JONES’ promotion to Admiral. Barry had notable fights in May 1781 with HM Sloops *Atalanta* and *Trepassy* and in 1783 with HM Frigate *Sybil*.

<http://www.awiatsea.com/Officers/Officers%20B.html>

Two Pine Tables	1	2 Iron Pots
1 Looking Glass		1 (Praying) Pan
1 Wooden Hook & 3 Chairs		1 Iron Gridle
4 Knives & three Forks		2 Axes Irons
5 Plates & 4 Cups & Saucers		2 Flat Irons
6 Pewter Spoons		1 Axe & 1 Hatchet
1 Candle stick & Wooden Board		1 Lead Pot & 1 Coffee Pot
2 Trunks		1 Washing Tub
2 Spirit Bottles		1 Wooden Pail

Value as by the Court at Twenty dollars

My occupation was formally that of a sailor but I am now too old and infirm to pursue a Seafaring life and besides the usual weakness & disease incident to my advanced period of life, I am frequently confined to my room and experience much suffering from a wound which I received in fighting for the Liberties of my Country. My only means of support except what the charity of my neighbors affords are derived from a small per diem allowance which I received for acting as messenger to the Court of Chancery. And even this small pittance for which I am indebted to the Generosity of the Chancellor must I fear soon be withdrawn from me for my infirmities or so rapidly increasing that there is little probability of my being able much longer to discharge the duties required of me. \$129 was the sum paid me for acting as messenger during the last year but as the allowance depends on the number of days the Court is in session it is uncertain whether it will ever again be as much even if I retain the place \$96 a year I am obliged to pay for the rent of a house scarcely large enough to contain my family.

My family consist of a wife and four small children all residing with me. My wife's health is so delicate that during the greater part of the year she is incapable of taking in work or even of attending to her household affairs the names of the Children are Margaret aged eleven years, James Maddison aged nine years, Eliza Ann aged three years and Mary Jane aged about two years.

S/ Walter L. Price

[A note in the file indicates that the veteran died April 13, 1824.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per month commencing March 12, 1818, for service as a Lieutenant on board the *Alliance* under Commodore Barry.]