

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Lydford Berry S39193

f16DEL

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/13/14

[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 South Carolina Williamsburg district: In the Court of Common Pleas

Personally came and appeared before me Langdon Cheves one of the associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the said State Lydford Berry Senior a native of the State of Delaware but at present a resident and citizen of the district & state last aforesaid who being duly sworn deposed and saith that during the revolutionary war he enlisted in the Continental establishment in the said State of Delaware sometime early in the year 1777 under Captain Allen McLean. That the Company went filled was attached to one of the sixteen additional regiments of the Pennsylvania line commanded by Colonel John Patten and Brigaded with four regiments of Virginia troops under General Scott [Charles Scott]. That after the battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] Patten's Regiment to which deponent belonged was drafted and put under the command of Colonel Markham and stationed at Fort Arnold at West Point. That late in the fall of the same year Markham removed down to a settlement called Haverstraw near Stony point on the North River. That the ensuing Spring (1778) the Regiment with others under General Sullivan was ordered against the Northwestern Indians. The expedition failing for want of provisions returned sometime in the summer of the same year. That in the course of that summer McLean's Company was transferred to Major Henry Lee's [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee's] Command and under that officer deponent was at the storming of poles Hook [Paulus Hook, August 19, 1779] where he received two bayonet wounds in the right thigh. That late in the year 1780 deponent still under the command of Lee who in consequence of the affair of poles Hook had been promoted to Colonel came on to South Carolina. The Company to which he belonged under the command of Captain George Handy who had risen from the resignation of Captain McLean. That the Regiment arrived in South Carolina sometime early in the year 1781 and halted at General Green's [Nathanael Greene's] head quarters at a place called the Hickory Grove on Pee Dee [Pedee] River. Deponent further saith that Captain Handy as he believes was made a prisoner by the enemy at Orangeburg sometime in the year 1781 & that upon which Lieutenant Laurence Manning [Lawrence Manning] rose to the command of the Company. Deponent continued in this Company & Regiment until the enemy evacuated Charleston [December 1782] when he received an Honorable discharge from the service which deponent much regrets has long since been lost. Deponent further saith that he served continually for upwards of nine months. That as before stated he entered in 1777 and was not discharged until sometime in 1780 to the precise time deponent does not recollect. Deponent is upwards of 63 years of age poor and infirm having been for upwards of seven years laboring under a rheumatic & paralytic affliction and that consequently he is unable to work and stand greatly in need of the assistance of his

Country for support & further Deponent saith not.

Sworn to before me this 20th day of October A.D. 1818

S/ Langdon Cheves

S/ Lydford Berry, X his mark

State of South Carolina Williamsburg district: SS

In the Court of Common Pleas & General Sessions held for said district at its March Term A.D. 1821 it being a court of Record established by the laws of said State, and proceeding according to the common law as far as it has been recognized by the laws thereof, with a jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount and keeping a Record of their proceedings, having criminal and civil jurisdiction and also the power of fine and imprisonment. On this the ___ day of March aforesaid in the year of our Lord as aforesaid and of American independence the forty fifth year personally appeared in open court before the associate Judges of said court, established, authorized and empowered as aforesaid, Lydford Berry aged sixty-six years and some months, Resident in said District and State aforesaid about thirty-seven years, who, being duly first sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served agreeably to the best of his Recollection in the Revolutionary War five years and seven months: that he was enlisted by Captain Allen McLane, in the County of New Castle, in the now State of Delaware, as a private, on the 7th of February 1777, in a company of Infantry commanded by the said Captain Allen McLane; that this company afterwards joined a Regiment of Infantry, at Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania, commanded by Colonel John Patton; that he this deponent served in the Land Regiment until it was reduced by the casualties of the War, that the part of it left was taken to fill up other regiments and to do other detached services; that he this declarant, served as a private in various Stations and on different duties, at the northward, until what was then called Major Lee's Legion was raised, composed of infantry and dragoons, with which commanded by the said Major Lee (afterwards Colonel) he marched on towards South Carolina where he the said declarant continued to serve in the said capacity to the termination of the War; that he received during the period of his services to wounds, by which and bodily infirmities increased by age, he is disabled to support himself by entering into any employment, and therefore is induced to apply for the benefit of the provisions of this act: that he has heretofore received the pension allowed by the Act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 under a certificate from the War Department of the United States, dated the 5th day of March 1819 and numbered seven thousand two hundred and sixty-five – and I the said Lydford Berry do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th 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 18th 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, to wit one horse & 10 head of hogs, that this is the whole and my personal The state, clothing and bedding excepted together with some few articles of household furniture and I do not own house right or title to any Real estate whatsoever, that my family consists of my wife, aged Seventy-one years and so infirm from age as to be unable to do scarcely anything for our support; one daughter aged about twenty-two years, who attends to the economy of our scanty house (for the use of which and a small portion of land around it we are dependent upon the liberality and kindness of a fellow citizen) and takes care of an attends to the infirmities of her mother & one grandchild

aged about eight years and I have had paralytic affliction's of my lambs for nine years which have been so continued and inveterate as to render me incapable of performing any other work, then sometimes attending to my Stock enumerated above and occasionally with the hoe the land around the house in which we live.

S/ Lydford Berry

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing October 20, 1818, for service as a private for 4 years in the Delaware and Virginia service.]