

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Leard S40936

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/15/13

[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.]

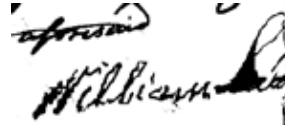
Lancaster County State of Pennsylvania Sct.

On this 2nd day of June in the year of our Lord 1818 before me the Subscriber President Judge of the Courts of Common Pleas in the 2nd Judicial district of the State aforesaid appeared personally William Leard, aged about 64 years, who being by me first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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". That he the said William Leard entered at Sharpsburg, in the State of Maryland, in the year of our Lord 1775, in Captain John Reynolds's Company in the 7th Regiment in the Maryland line in the Continental service, commanded by Colonel Gunby, in which he remained until the Battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], when about 4 days afterwards he was taken a Prisoner by the Enemy near the Paoli Tavern having been detained by his [indecipherable word] and that he was exchanged shortly after the Battle of Germantown [October 4, 1777], when he entered the 6th Regiment of horse, Captain John Swann's [John Swan's] Troops commanded by Colonel Bailey [sic, George Baylor], and that he remained in that troop until the Peace, when he was discharged near German Town. That he was severely wounded in the Breast at the Battle of Brandywine – as also in the upper lip [could be hip]¹ – and that at the Battles of Savannah he was again desperately wounded in the thigh by a bayonet². That he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support and that he has no other evidence of his Service in his Power. He also states that with the exception of three or four weeks shortly after he entered the Army, he always filled the Station of a Sergeant.

Sworn and declared before me the day and year aforesaid

S/ Walter Franklin

S/ William Leard [?]



[p 5: On June 26, 1820, the veteran applied in the City of Philadelphia for a new pension certificate in which he refers to himself as having served in the light dragoons commanded by

1



² at the bottom of this page the following appears: "Baylor's it should be JLE" indicating that instead of Colonel Bailey, JL Edwards, Commissioner of pensions, thought the officer referred to was Baylor

"Colonel Beeler (the third troop)". This document he signed with a much clearer signature as follows:

Wm Beeler
[Handwritten signature]

[p 13]

Baltimore 14 December 1819

Sir,

I received your letter of the 12th ins. [instant] in which you mentioned serving with me in the 3rd Regiment of Dragoons during the Revolutionary War of which I have a vague recollection; the lapse of years since added to a Paralytic Stroke which chiefly rested on my head has impaired my memory greatly yet I have a faint recollection of you & have no hesitation in saying you were in the Service with me but cannot say as to the length of time. I am sorry I cant be more particular.

And Remain

Your Hbl Servt.

S/ John Swan

late a Captain on the

3e Virga. Dragoons

Mr. William Lard [sic]

John Swan
Wm Beeler
late a Captain on the
3^d Regt. Dragoons

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 2, 1818, for service as a private for 6 years in the Virginia Continental line.]