

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Tidence Lane W377

Mary

fn53NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/1/10

[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 Tennessee Jefferson County

On this 3rd day of September personally appeared before me Robert McFarlane Jr a justice of the peace for the County of Jefferson Tidence Lane a resident of Jefferson County, and State of Tennessee, aged seventy 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 passed June 7th, 1832.

That the Declarant Tidence Lane was born in Randolph County, North Carolina on the waters of Deep River, in the year 1763. At the age of 18 years he removed with his father to the mouth of Boon's Creek on the Watauga River, in Washington County, then a part of North Carolina now one of the counties of East Tennessee. In the year of his removal, 1781, in the winter of said year, early in February, he was drafted, at the house of Captain Elijah Witt, near the Buffalo Ridge, by Captain Elijah Witt to march in an expedition against the Cherokees on the Tennessee. Our rendezvous was at an old field on Watauga River. Colonel Sevier took the command of the men at the old field, where we remained about 2 weeks, when we returned home and made preparations for the expedition, and in a few days repaired to the place of rendezvous on Camp Creek, where we remained 2 weeks, waiting for the collection of the man. Colonel Sevier commanded the expedition. Colonel Robertson and Major Wharton were the regimental officers. From Camp Creek we marched across the Bald Mountain and encamped the first night on a little Creek on the other side of the mountain. The three succeeding days we spent in marching to the River French Broad, which we swam, those of us who crossed, where we first struck the River -- the balance of the Company marched higher up the River and forded. That night we encamped on the other side of French Broad; thence we marched on crossing Pigeon River, to the Tennessee, and in 3 or 4 days reached the middle Settlements of the Cherokee Nation. When we got within a mile of the Settlements, our men were divided. There were one hundred forty-four men in the expedition. Colonel Sevier attempted to cross the mountain with one part of the man, and Colonel Robertson took the road around the mountain with the balance. When Colonel Sevier, in whose division, Declarant was, reached the top of the mountain, he found it extremely difficult, on account of its steepness and the rocks, to get down, and therefore returned and took the road. We soon overtook the other division, and entered the Indian towns together. The Indians retreated before us, and deserted their towns. A small force 15 or 20 men, who were on foot, was left at the first town. We marched through all the towns in the middle settlements and after burning the towns 10 or 12 in number, we returned back to the town, which we first entered. We there found that the Indians had taken the cattle that we had gathered there before we left -- and one of the men, Jess Terry, was shot in the thigh by the Indians. When we

got to the town, first entered, the Indians from the surrounding hills fired upon us. We returned their fire. That night the Indians fired on our encampment. One of our men was slightly wounded and a horse killed. The next day we started for home. On our return, we divided, some taking a new route -- the others keeping the old track, by which we had marched down. We got to our homes and were discharged at Jonesborough late in the month of May -- after a tour of 3 months -- The Declarant received his discharge from Captain Elijah Witt -- in whose company he was. Declarant does not recollect the names of the other officers if there were any: -- but believes that there were none. We were all mounted and declarant believes that we had no lieutenants or Ensign or sergeants. The Declarant gave his discharge to his Captain who took it to the officer or committee, appointed by the Legislature of North Carolina to adjust the claims for militia service, and received from him or them a certificate of his being entitled to pay for a tour of 3 months, which certificate is Declarant sold to one of the merchants of Jonesborough for 4 or \$5.

The fall of 1782, in the first of September, the Declarant was again drafted at the house of Elijah Witt, the muster ground of the Company, by Captain Thomas Hardiman; lieutenants, Ensign and sergeants, if any, are not recollected. We were mounted men. Our place of rendezvous was at Evan's ferry on French Broad River. Colonel John Sevier again commanded us; the other officers are not recollected. There were 6 or 700 men on this expedition. We crossed French Broad at Evan's ferry; thence on an Indian trace to the Chota Ford on the Tennessee River -- thence to the Tellico plains. At the Tellico plains, we fired on the Indians and pursued them through the plains -- killed several and burnt the towns. Then crossed the Tellico marched to the Hiwassee and burnt a town there; then marched up the River and crossed it -- thence to the Coosa River, where we burnt several towns; here we remained several days. We kept down the Coosa, crossing and recrossing it repeatedly, burnt several towns on the Coosa, went down the Coosa to the Big Swamp Spring. We remained for some time on the Coosa River, burning the towns and pursuing the Indians -- killing some and taking some prisoners. We then returned nearer the mountain. One part of the men attempted to return through the mountains and got lost. Major George Russell piloted them to the old trace. The declarant belonged to the division, which returned by the old trace, after they struck the Hiwassee River. The Declarant was discharged by Captain Hardiman at Jonesborough, and disposed of his discharge in the same way, as before -- receiving a certificate for 3 months pay, which he sold for a trifle -- the State not being able to redeem them with silver, and the paper paid by it being greatly depreciated. This declarant served the 2 tours above mentioned -- in the year 1781 and 1782 -- each tour being one of 3 months -- making a service of 6 months during the revolution. The Declarant was in General Martin's campaign in 1786 -- and was in the battle at the lookout Mountain under that officer -- in which battle his Captain John Hardin was killed. The Declarant was afterwards in General Dougherty's Campaign in 1791. For these two last tours he does not claim a pension, the act of June 7th not providing for the services rendered in them. The declarant removed to the mouth of Boone's Creek on the Watauga in 1781 and remained in Washington County 5 years -- he then removed to Greene County, that part of it which now forms Jefferson, where he now lives on the waters of Bent Creek and where he has lived for forty-seven years. The Declarant has no documentary evidence of his services, and knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service in the Revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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.

Question 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer 1st: I was born in Randolph County North Carolina, on the waters of Deep River,

in the year of our Lord 1763 12th day of May.

Question 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer 2nd I have a record of my age in my Bible at my house.

Question 3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer 3rd: When called into service, I was living at the mouth of Boone's Creek, on Watauga River, in Washington County. Since the revolutionary War, I have lived in Washington County and in Jefferson County to where I now live

Question 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer 4th. In the two tours, in which I was engaged during the Revolution, I was drafted.

Question 5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer 5th. There were no regular officers with the troops where I served. The general circumstances of my service are detailed in my declaration. The first expedition in which I was engaged, numbered 144 mounted men, under the command of Colonel John Sevier -- against the Cherokee Indians. The 2nd expedition, numbered 6 or 700 men under the same officer, against the Cherokee Indians. There were 2 other expeditions mentioned in my declaration, which did not take place during the Revolution and are not provided for by the present law.

Question 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer 6th. I received a discharge at the end of each of the tours. I served during the revolution. They were given by my captains Captain Witt and Captain Hardiman and were returned to them by me and they procured certificates for the payment for the tours, which I got and sold for a trifle.

Question 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer 7th. I would refer to the Reverend Pleasant A. Witt, Captain John Riddle, Archibald Austin who can be examined and will testify as required by the War Department. Sworn & subscribed to before me

S/ Robert McFarland, JP

S/ Tidence Lane

[Pleasant A. Witt, a clergyman, John Riddle & Archibald Austin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 19: on January 20, 1844 in Jefferson County Tennessee, Mary Lane, 77, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Tidence Lane, a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution; that she married him on October 23, 1783; that her husband died January 25, 1841.]

[fn p. 16 family record]

Lydia Lane was born the 6th of January 1786

Isaac Lane was born the 8th of August 1788

Nancy Lane born the 24th day of July 1791

Esther Lang was born the 6th day of November 1793

John Lane was born the 4th day of June 1796

Noah Lane was born the 18th day of October 1798

Mary Lane was born the 20th day of November 1800

Right Lane was born the 7th of June 1803

James Madison Lane was born the 3rd day of November 1805

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum for 6 months service in the revolution under Colonel Sevier.]