

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Lee W9117

Drusilla Lee

f56VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/19/13

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

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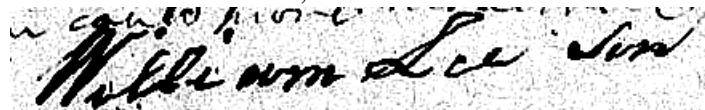
State of Kentucky Green County Sct.

On this 27th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court in the Green Circuit court before the Judge of said court, holden for Green County Kentucky William Lee a resident citizen of said County aged 78 years on the 24th of January last past, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress of the 7th day of June 1832, who makes the following declaration to wit – That he was drafted and served in the militia of the state of Virginia from the County of Buckingham as a soldier of the United States in the revolutionary war under a Captain who marched with a company to the Albemarle Barracks who returned home & when he reached the Barracks at Albemarle he thinks the company was attached & was commanded by Captain William Benning though he does not recollect whether there was any officer from his own County who commanded there nor does he recollect the name of one, it was in the summer of the year 1778 that he performed this service, the service was rendered in guarding Burgoyne's prisoners as they were then called at the Albemarle Barracks a short distance above Charlottesville in Albemarle County Virginia, the precise length of time he served in this tour he could not state but was of opinion it was two months – whatever time it was he served the tour out & was discharged, & has lost or mislaid it. He served as a volunteer, from Buckingham County in the fall 1778 as he thinks, though of this he is not certain the company with which he marched in this tour was without officers from the said County, they started out with a view to join General Steuben, and at some place on their tour drew arms & ammunition their first place of destination was a Point of Fork on James River in Virginia, but before they reached that place, their March was changed and they marched in a direction to old James Town, though they did not go to that place, he in connection with the balance of the volunteers from Buckingham, joined a larger body of troops in that section of country somewhere though he cannot say where as it was to him then & now a strange part of the country, where they joined the troops named before, they were put under officers, though he does not recollect the officers names for they were strangers to him, he presumes they were Steuben's troops – he recollects on this tour that on a certain occasion while he was marching with the Army, to have seen a field officer whose name he inquired and was told it was Marquis Lafayette – this tour was a short one, about one month, he was discharged, though his discharge is lost, and he cannot say where he was discharged – He served as a militia man being drafted from the same County in the year 1781 under Captain William Cannon who commanded a rifle company which he served in, This company was

attached to General Lawson's Brigade, in this company he served as 2nd Sergeant, he recollects, Colonels Holcomb, B. Randolph & Tucker who commanded regiments in Lawson's brigade, in this service the Company he belonged to marched to the South, and he with them was in the Battle of Guilford Court house in North Carolina [March 15, 1781] – where he discharged about six rounds of firing in his company; he recollects that in that engagement there were 3 captains killed from Bedford County with all of whom he was well acquainted, Jacob Moon, William Jones & Thomas Helm, in this tour he served to the best of his recollection three months, he served the whole time out, he thinks & was discharged at Ramsour's mill in North Carolina, the battle was fought 15th of March 1781 – he was discharged after this but how long he does not recollect. The discharge he obtained he has lost, if he obtained one, though he thinks the company was discharged by the Captain without written discharges. He served a fourth tour from his County aforesaid in 1781 under Captain Thomas Leftrich or Leftrige [Thomas Leftwich] in this tour he thinks he was called out for three months but most of the men ran away, he served he thinks two months and was discharged August 10, 1781 by Major Thomas Watkins commander of the 2nd Battalion as will appear by his discharge here with file which is the only discharge he has preserved. This discharge was at Camp Miacins [sic, McCord's] old field – The Colonel's name of the Regiment he has forgotten – he served a 5th tour in the Virginia militia in the company commanded by Peter Garren, in the Battalion commanded by Major Wood Jones from Amelia in this tour he served also as a Sergeant and marched to the Siege of Little York, where he was engaged until the surrender [October 19, 1781], this tour was for 3 months, but he was taken sick & did not serve the tour fully out, he thinks he served from one and a half to 2 months of the time he was discharged from the service by a Lieutenant for at the time the company had no officer of higher rank – this discharge he has also lost – He has no other documentary testimony of his services as above stated –

He was born in Albemarle County Virginia but in that part of it now included in Buckingham, he resided there wholly except a very short time in Prince Edward County till he moved to Kentucky in the fall of the year 1788, and settled first in Mercer County Kentucky & from there he moved to Green County Kentucky in the year 1794 in December and has continued to reside in Green County ever since. He has never drawn or applied for a pension before – And he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present and he declares his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State whatever. Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid – said Lee also stated that he did not now know of any living witness by whom he could prove his service as above stated unless he can by William McKinney formerly of Adair County Kentucky, but where he is now he does not know.

S/ William Lee, Senr.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Lee Senr". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The letters are connected and fluid, with a prominent "W" at the beginning and a "J" at the end.

[Thomas Gaines, a clergyman, and Samuel White gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Camp Meacords [Camp McCord's] Old Field Augt. 10th The two Companies from Bedford Commanded by Captain Leftwitch & Early having Deserted except 3 William Lee being one of them the Comdr thinks proper to Discharge him although his time of Service has not yet expired.

Thos. Watkins Majr. Comdt. [Thomas Watkins]

2nd Brigade Milta.

Camp Meadors Old Field Aug. 10th 81
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 Second Brig. Mead

[p 9: On February 2nd, 1839 in Green County Kentucky, Drusilla Lee, 75, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of William Lee, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Buckingham County Virginia on the 24th day of January 1783; that they were married by the Reverend Mr. McIllroy; that her husband died February 12, 1835. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 6: certificate from the clerk of the Buckingham County Virginia court saying his records reflect the clerk being authorized to issue a license for the marriage of William Lee to Drusilla Staples consented to by her father Samuel Staples January 13, 1783.]

[p 17: On July 30, 1839 in Adair County Kentucky, Grisham Lee gave testimony that he was well acquainted with William Lee and Drusilla Lee his widow being there son; he states that the family Bible contains the record of his father's marriage and the births of his children and that said Bible is now in his possession; that the record consist of the following words "Viz. William Lee and Drusilla Lee married January 24th in the year 1783. On the same register he sees it entered William Lee born January 24th, 1754 and immediately under this is entered Drusilla born in the close of December 1764 and immediately below the entry is another viz. the day married I was 29 years old she Drusilla was 18 years and about one month old. The deponent further states that in the same family Bible and register under the head of births he sees entered in the following words viz. Maryan Grisham Lee born January the 10 1784 Saturday one or 2 after night Samuel Lee born Friday the 12th May 1786 about 8 in the afternoon, William Lee Junior born Wednesday at 8 or 9 in the afternoon the 17th February 1789. And so continues the register until all of the children's ages of William & Drusilla are registered all of which registering is in the hand writing of his father...."

Grisham Lee

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$39.16 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private & Sergeant for 9 ½ months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[Note: Beginning on page 42, this file contains the pension application of a totally different veteran by the name of William C. Lee [S41757] who states he was 65 years old in 1820 having served in the Continental line under Colonel John Parker and Captain Robert Porter, under General John Smallwood in the Maryland Continental line.]