Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of David Stern (Sterne) W25145

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Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 25 Dec 2010.

State of Virginia } S.S. County of Caroline

On this 22 day of December, in the Year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty three, personally appeared before me Muscoe Boulware, a Justice of the Peace, in and for the County and State aforesaid, Mrs. Lucy Sterne, a resident of the County of Caroline, in the State of Virginia, aged 57 years, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on her oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefits of the provision, made by the Law of the United States, passed the 3rd of Feb'y A.D. 1853, granting Pensions to the widows of persons, who served during the Revolutionary War; that she is the Widow of David Sterne Dec'd. who was a Dragoon in the first Regt. of Cavalry, on the Continental Line, of the Army of the Revolution, commanded by Capt [Berryman] Green and Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene]. That the said David Sterne Dec'd. was pensioned, during a portion of his life, as a Dragoon at the sum of \$100 pr. year, under the "Act" of the 15th of May A.D. 1828. The Papers and evidence of his service are filed in the proper Department in Washington City (See pension certificate No: 908. [not in the file]). She further declares that she was never pensioned under any "Act" of Congress

She further declares, that she was married to the said David Sterne dec'd. on the 31st day of Dec'r. A.D. 1814, that her said husband, died at his residence, on the 23rd day of October A.D. 1837, That she was not married to him prior to the 2nd day of Jany Eighteen hundred, but at the time above stated. She further declares, that there is no private or public record of her said marriage, and that she is still a widow and the widow of the said David Sterne dec'd. [Power of attorney follows.] [signed] Lucy Stern

[David Stern deposed as follows in support of the pension application of William Allen (S37655):] I David Stern of the county of Caroline & state of Virginia do hereby certify that William Allen of said county & state who has made the annexed declaration enlisted in the southern army in the year 1780 and served with me nine months or more in the first detachment of eighteen months men in said army. Given under my hand this 13th of April 1818. [signed] David Stern

NOTES:

A size roll compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse after 1 Sep 1780 includes the following: David Stern/ age 18/ height 5 10¾/ planter/ born and residing in Caroline county/ dark-brown hair/ gray eyes/ fair complexion/ enlisted 23 Sep 1780 for 18 months.

On 12 Apr 1855 Lucy Sterne (as she signed) applied for bounty land, giving her age as 56 and stating that her name was Lucy Beazley when she was married to David Sterne in Caroline County by a Baptist minister named Hipkins Pitman.

On 17 Apr 1866 Jos. W. Kay of Port Royal in Caroline County wrote to the Commissioner of Pensions as follows: "Mrs. Lucy Sterne of this county – the widow of David Sterne who served in the Revolution, has been pensioned by your office for years till the 4th of March '61 and we suppose her name has been stricken from your list. She is now in great need, having nothing left but a small piece of poor land. She was & has been opposed to the Rebellion from the beginning. Please write us what steps are necessary to have her reinstated & to enable her to get her pension." On 27 May 1866 Lucy Sterne applied to be restored to the pension roll, stating that during the Civil War "her means of subsistence have been such as she could glean from the hire of a few servants & the rest of a small piece of poor land; that now she has her land only."

D. S. Cash applied for reimbursement of a medical bill for the last illness and for the burial

expenses for his grandmother, Lucy Sterne of Port Royal in Caroline County, who died of "old age" on 28 Oct 1878. Cash stated that her property consisted only of "some little house furniture of no market value." On 5 Apr 1879, however, G. S. Sterne of Caroline County wrote as follows: "My mother Lucy Sterne who was an revolutionary Pensioner died on the 27th of last October having a small annuity of Pension due her at the time of her death. Some short time thereafter I addressed the Agency in Tenesee setting forth the fact and received his answer which I herewith inclose My mother left a sufficiency to pay her expence during her sickness and expences thereto after death, as she owened a farm which would have been a sufficiency without any moiety from the Government. I understand that a petition has ben sent to the Department setting forth that she did not leave assets enough to defray the expences of her sickness and funeral expences and if such be the fact a fraud has been practiced on the department."