Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Lemuel Lee R6253 Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

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State of North Carolina, Johnson [sic, Johnston] County: SS

On this 10th day of September 1834 personally appeared before us Nathan T. Allen & William D. Allen two of the Acting Justices of the peace and Justices of the Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions in & for the County aforesaid, Lemuel Lee a Resident of the State & County aforesaid, aged about Eighty One 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 of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers & served as herein stated – viz. -- That as near as he can recollect or find out, he Enlisted in June 1778 in a Company of Light Horse or State Troops commanded by Captain John Whitley – Kedar Powel [Kader Powell] Lieutenant, that he Enlisted for three years or during the War, & that by agreement he was to perform sundry Duties – that is, that he was always to be ready at a moment's Warning, to march any where directed to aid in Suppressing Riots, Disturbances or insurrections that might happen in this or any of the adjacent Counties, as also to aid & assist in procuring & driving Cattle & Hogs, from wherever they might be procured to the public Stores or Military Ware Houses, being Houses where provisions & clothing for the use of the American Army was deposited there being three of them in Johnson [sic, Johnston] County at different points along the River Neuse -- & One in Dobbs County now called Wayne, which Captain Whitley's Company had to attend to – he was also to be ready at all times to Wagon or Carry provisions or clothing to the American Army – whenever ordered – he together with others Enlisted on Sunday in the month of June -- & in a week or two afterwards he was called into Service – he Company being divided into Squads or Small Companies. Some waggoning Corn & Fodder, others driving Cattle & Hogs – some Killing & Butchering; some Salting & packing away in the public Store Houses, they would continue thus Employed until the news of some riot or insurrection of the Tories in any of the adjoining Counties, would reach the Camps when the whole Company would rendezvous at a certain point, & march to the place, whence the alarm issued -- & from thence would return to their former avocation, each man as he was Ordered by his Officers – we continued to be thus Employed, until some time in the month of July after Major Gregg or Craig [James Craig] Evacuated the Town of Wilmington, when we were Ordered to march towards New Bern, as I understood with the intention of Joining some other Companies in order to intercept Major Gregg or Craig in his march, when they got below Kinston in Lenoir County the sentinels one night took a Tory prisoner next morning three of the Company were sent with the prisoner to our Camp in Dobbs County, the rest went on, & when we got to Trent River we met Major Craig with a Regiment of British soldiers we had some skirmishing with them, but our Company being entirely too few in number we had to retreat -- & returned to our former Camps & became actively employed as before

¹ Probably a reference to the engagement at Webber's Bridge, August 17, 1781. http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution webbers bridge.html

stated – and so continued until the end of the War-- 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 or (if any) only on that of the State of North Carolina.

Sworn to, & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Nathan T. Allen, JP

S/ Lemuel Lee

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S/Wm B. Allen, JP

Interrogatories propounded to the applicant by the Justices of the Peace & Justices of the Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions for Johnston County:

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

Answer: I was born in Johnston County State of North Carolina March 5th, 1853 Question 2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Answer: I have often seen my age in an Account Book where my Father recorded it – but I do not know what has become of it Lately.

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: I was living in Johnston County, have lived there ever since, & am still living there not exceeding eight or 10 miles from where I was born & Raised.

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

Answer: I was neither Drafted nor a Substitute. It was called Enlisting, Certain duties being proposed to me, for me to perform, as Stated in my application, which I agreed to, my name was then Enrolled in the Company, whether it ought to be called Volunteering or Enlisting I am unable to Say. Question 5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: From the nature of my Services, I had no Acquaintance with any regular Officers or Regiments either Continental or Militia.

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: I never received a written discharge from the Service – when the news of peace arrived, our Officers told us that [they] had no further use for us & Every man went his own way Rejoicing.

Question 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer – Among them others I might name I well State the names of the Reverend Jesse Adams of the Baptist Church, & William Bryan a respectable Citizen of this County. Also the names of John Lee² & Dickson Fail³ who were acquainted with Some of my Services in the revolutionary War.

Sworn to the day & year first above written.

S/ Nathan T. Allen, JP

S/ Lemuel Lee

S/Wm B. Allen, JP

3 Sic, Dixon Fail S6833

² **John Lee R6251**

[Jesse Adams, a clergyman, and William Bryan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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I John Lee of the County of Johnston State of N. C. do hereby certify, that Lemuel Lee the Applicant did Enlist & Served as by him Stated in his Declaration, having Enlisted & Served in the same Company, although not always together.

Sworn to the day & year first above written.

S/ Nathan T. Allen, JP

S/ John Lee Senr.

S/Wm B. Allen, JP

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I Dixon Fail of the County of Johnston & State of N. C. do hereby Certify that Lemuel Lee did Enlist and did Serve as by me [sic] Stated in his Declaration and did Enlist under Captain John Whitley and did Served to my knowing in the Light Horse company. Sworn to the day and year first above written. S/ John Lee, JP

S/ Dixon Fail, X his mark {Seal}