Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Lansdale W13604 Cornelia Lansdale MD Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 30 Nov 2015.

District of Columbia. Washington County to wit:

On this Twenty fourth day of August in the year eighteen hundred and thirty eight, personally appeared before the subscriber, chief Judge of the Circuit Court for the District of Columbia, Cornelia Lansdale, a resident of Washington County, in the District of Columbia, aged seventy five years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836. That she is the widow of Thomas Lansdale who was a Major in General Smallwoods [William Smallwood's] Brigade of the Maryland line, that he enlisted as a lieutenant early in the revolutionary war, & was taken prisoner in Fort Washington [16 Nov 1776] – was afterwards present at the surrender of Yorktown [19 Oct 1781] & continued in service during the whole war, having been twice taken as prisoner – and before the close of the war was promoted to the rank of Major and so continued to the end of the war.

She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Lansdale on the twelfth day of February, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty two, that her husband the aforesaid Thomas Lansdale died on or about the seventeenth day of January in the year eighteen hundred and three, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear, by reference to the proof hereto annexed Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written

Cornelia Lansdale

State of Maryland } [1 Mar 1827]

County of Prince Georges } I Samuel Sprigg in behalf of my wife Violetta, Daughter, and one of the heirs at law of Thomas Lansdele late of the County of Prince Georges deceased do upon oath, testify and declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the said Thomas Lansdele was a Major in the Maryland line of the Continental Army of the revolutionary war and served as such to the close of the war. Also I do further testify and declare that I have never received a warrant from the U. States for the quantity of land due the said deceased from the U. States nor do I believe that he ever received it or transferred his right to it in any manner during his life time. [Power of attorney follows.]

Land Office, Annapolis, 5th Sept'r 1838

Sir [James L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions], In reply to Mr. John M. Thomas's [grandson of Cornelia Lansdale] letter of the 1st Ins't. which he desires shall be addressed to you, I have to state, – that it appears by the papers relating to the revolution, and on file in this office, that the late Major Thomas Lansdale was commissioned a Major, the 19th of February, 1781, – vice Major Steward [sic: John Stewart] promoted, Major Lansdale appears to have served until the close of the war.

Very respectfully/ Yr. Ob't. S't./ G. G. Brewer

NOTES:

The name of Captain Lansdale appears on a document headed "A Comparative View of the Officers who are on Parole by Permission of the Commanders in Chief of the British and American Armys Estimated under the Tariff of Exchange as their Ranks do not properly oppose each other," dated 21 Mar 1780 at Perth Amboy NJ, with a "valuation by tariff" of 16.

On 1 March 1827 Samuel Sprigg listed the other heirs of Thomas Lansdale as follows: "William M. Lansdale of Harford County Maryland, Conelia Thomas of Ann-Arundel [Anne Arundel] County Maryland, Eliza Cox, City of New York, Philip Lansdale of Annarundel County Maryland, and Violetta Sprigg of Prince Georges County Maryland." The file contains a family record certified by Cornelia

Lansdale as being in the handwriting of her husband, transcribed below.

T Lansdale & Cornelia V. Horne was married February 12th 1782
William M. Lansdale was born 1 Dec'r 1782
Cornelia Lansdale was born May 17th 17[illegible; a typed summary states May 7, 1784]
Violetta Lansdale was born February 2^d 1787
Eliza Lansdale was born May 18 1789
Philip Lansdale was born August [illegible; typed summary states 8]th 1791
William M Lansdale & Eliza C Moylan was married March 16th [possibly 10th] 1807
Philip J. [or I.] Thomas and Cornelia Lansdale was married Novem'r. 8 1804