

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Robert Lard (Laird) S32369

fn46SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 10/12/08

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and 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 on footnote.com 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.]

State of George, Clark [sic, Clarke] County

On the Eleventh day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight Hundred & thirty three Robert Lard [sic], a resident of Clarke County and State of Georgia aged ninety 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 provisions made by act of Congress passed June 7, 1832:

That he entered the service of his country as a private in the year 1775 with Capt. Nance and served in the militia under the following officers, Capt. Peter Nance, Col. Michael Dickson in the State of South Carolina. The name of the district in not recollected. I served at that time eight weeks. The expedition was against the Tories.

I again entered into service in 1778 as 1st Lieutenant of a company of Militia commanded by Capt. Benjamin Kilgore in Ninety Six District South Carolina and served three months and lost a very valuable mare. Col. Andrew Pickens was commander of the Regiment to which I belonged. The expedition was against the Indians.

In 1779 I was elected Captain of a militia company in Col. James Williams' Regiment and stationed on the line of the state of Georgia to prevent the incursions of the Indians and remained at that Station six months. We had no engagement.

During the time Genl. Greene was at Ninety Six I think in 1780 I was Capt. of a company of Militia in that District and was engaged during his (Genl. Greene's stay) in receiving the submissions of the Tories and conveying them to Genl. Greene. Col. James Williams was still Commander of the Regiment.¹ We had no engagement during that time but after Genl. Greene left Ninety Six I was sent as commander of a company of mounted infantry to the line of the State and continued there until the end of the war about the end of 1781.

I was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in the year 1742. I have no record of my age but know it by information from my parents and relatives. I lived in South Carolina when I entered the service and continued there until the end of the War. I removed from thence to Clarke County and have lived here ever since.

I never was drafted but always served voluntarily.

I never received any discharge as the Col. of my Regiment was also killed at King's Mountain and his successor² was also killed by the Tories in Ninety Six Dist.

¹ The applicant is clearly mistaken in this recollection as James Williams died on October 8, 1780 from wounds sustained the previous day at the Battle of King's Mountain. Greene's siege of 96 occurred in the spring of 1781, not 1780 as recalled by the applicant.

² Reference is to Joseph Hayes who was killed by William Cunningham and his Tory militia in November 1781.

I received a commission through Col. Williams. I think from Gov. Rutledge but it has been long lost.

Archibald Henderson³ who served under me can prove my service and the truth of my declaration.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Robert Lard, his mark

Sworn to and subscribed in open court on the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Robert Ligon, Clerk

[John C. Wright, clergyman, and William Dicken gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Georgia, Clarke County

Personally appeared before me Archibald Henderson, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he has been acquainted with Robert Lard the Declarant in the above application for 60 years past, that I served under him for some time during the war of the Revolution and I know that he performed the service stated in his declaration -- and that he now resides in Clarke County State of Georgia.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Robert Ligon, Clerk

S/ Archibald Henderson

Georgia, Clarke County

Personally came before me Robert Lard & after being duly sworn makes the following additions to his declaration in order to obtain a pension under the act of 7th of June 1832. That he entered the Service of his Country under General Greene in August 1781 instead of the year 1780 as set forth in his declaration & that his services as Captain under General Greene continued 16 months.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 7th February 1834.

S/ Robert Lard, X his mark

S/ Isma W. Wooldridge, JIC

[On February 9, 1835, William Lard & Elizabeth Lard, declaring themselves son & daughter and only legatees of Robert Lard granted a power of attorney to Robert M. Goodwin.]

[Fn pp. 3-4 document dated February 12, 1834, purporting to be the last will and testament of Robert Lard in which he names, daughter Sarah, granddaughter Ruth, son James, heirs of son Samuel, son Archibald, son Robert, daughter Mary, son William, daughter Elizabeth; he left the residue of his estate including any pension paid him by the US to his son William and daughter Elizabeth to be shared equally between them. The will was probated in Clarke County, Ga. September 1, 1834.]

[fn 28-29 is a 2-page letter dated March 29, 1833 from Samuel Hammond, Secretary of State (of SC) to T. L. Edwards, Pension Commissioner, saying that the records relating to commissions granted during the administration of Governor Rutledge (John Rutledge) had been lost by fire; that the records of the SC Comptroller clearly show that 'he'

³ FPA R4866

[meaning presumably Lard] was a militia captain during the time he claims. Hammond uses the letter to inquire of the status of his own application for a pension.]