

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Count Casimir Pulaski Ga7

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Transcribed by Will Graves

9/30/09

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or 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 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. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

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Pulaski, Count Casimir

Correspondence relative to the bounty land claim of the heirs of Count Casimir Pulaski

[fn p. 18]

Last will of Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski, made in Poland before coming to USA

Translation from Polish language.

Augustyn Bogatko, subperfect, commandant of general forces in the County of Brezesko Kujawski,

By virtue of the law the following testamentary instrument was executed before me today: In the year of 1776 on the 3rd day of September appeared before us, personally known his honor Lieutenant of the 3rd Legion of Infantry, Mr. Casimir Pulaski and the assistant Lieutenant of same 3rd Legion of Infantry, Mr. Casimir Kozlowski and they both made the following declaration:

We, brothers going with our commander in chief Thaddeus Kosciuszko to America hereby are executing the following testamentary instrument;

We always want to live together, if that will be possible, and always to be one of the other, if one of us should be sick, wounded or taken as prisoner of war or in any calamity then the other Brother should take care of him, in any necessity help him out, protect him, also all his property, equipment, documents, armor, anything that is in possession of the brother any personal property also estate if any, in case of death one of us whether by natural death, whether by wounds in the field of war, whether in captivity, surviving brother should take care of him and to anything [that] will be necessary, he has full power and authority to take in his possession all documents, equipments, horses, armor and his estate consisting of chattels or a real estate of the deceased brother to his own disposition and use, in accord promising solemnly and actually everything to perform.

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<sup>1</sup> The file on Count Casimir Pulaski is misfiled in both the HeritageQuest and Footnote.com versions. Both services place the digital images of his file in the file otherwise relating to Shadrach Pugh R8514. In Footnote.com, the materials relating to Pulaski begin on page 17 and run until p. 120 of the Pugh file.

We confirm this with our own signatures, so help us God and Holy Trinity.

(signed) Casimir Pulaski Lieutenant

(signed) Casimir Kozlowski assistant Lieutenant

The identity of the foregoing instrument hereby certify under my hand and seal

(signed) Augustyn Bogatko, perfect

(signed) Stanislaw Biesiukierski castellan

Piolonowo Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1776

L. L. (signed) Lukasz Rozdziewicz clerk of Municipal Court

[fn p. 61]

[In a response dated February 18, 1928 from the War Department addressed to the Chairman of the Committee of History for the Pulaski Post No. 86, American Legion, the Secretary of War wrote:

"Dear Sir:

I have your letter of February 13, 1828, relative to the biography of Casimir Pulaski, and I am directed by the Secretary of War to state that the information on file in the War Department relative to this officer is very meager and I can amplify but little the information given in Heitman's Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army, and unofficial publication entitled to credit, which shows, "Casimir Pulaski (Poland) Director General, Continental Army, and Chief of Dragoons, September 15, 1777; designated as Commander of an Independent Corps known as the Pulaski Legion, Marched 28, 1778; died October 11, 1779 of wounds received October 9, 1779 at the siege of Savannah."

It appears that by Resolution of Congress of March 28, 1778 (see Journal of Congress, Volume 2, page 492) it was "Resolved that Count Pulaski retain his rank of brigadier in the Army of the United States, and that he raise and have the command of an Independent Corps to consist of 68 Horse and 200 Foot, the Horse to be armed with lances and the Foot equipped in the manner of Light Infantry, the Corps to be raised in such way and composed of such men as General Washington shall think expedient and proper."

The organization was in service until the latter part of 1780, when it appeared to have been incorporated with Colonel Armand's Corps, by Resolution of Congress of November 14, 1780. It may be of interest in connection with your inquiry to know that General Bancroft, Acting Secretary of War, addressed a letter dated June 4, 1845 to Honorable James Buchanan, Secretary of War, as follows:

"In answer to yours of the 2nd instant, enclosing a copy of a note from the Russian Minister at Washington, making inquiry at the instant of his Government, relative to Casimir Pulaski, a Polish General who served with distinction in the American Army in the War of the Revolution, I respectfully transmit here with a report of the Commissioner of Pensions more fully describing the count and distinguished officer supposed to be

referred to by the Russian Minister."

It is suggested, in view of this letter of the Secretary of War, that further information pertinent to your inquiry may be obtained from the Commissioner of Pensions, and your letter, therefore, has this day been transmitted to the Commissioner of Pensions, this City, from whom you will doubtless receive a reply in due course.

Considerable information relative to Count Pulaski may be found in Lossing's Field-Book of the Revolution, a publication fully index, which may be consulted in almost any extensive public library, also in Justin Winsor's Hand-Book of the American Revolution published by Houghton, Mifflin Company, in 1893, reference is made therein to Sparks' Life of Pulaski and articles by us Sparks appearing in the North American Review, Volumes 20 and 23.

Yours very truly,  
Secretary of War

[fn p. 59: letter dated February 28, 1928 from the Commissioner of Pensions addressed to the same person as the above letter, reading in part as follows:]

"Sir:

Your letter addressed to the Honorable white F. Davis, Secretary of War, has been referred to this Bureau for further information in regard to the biography of Casimer Pulaski. There are no Revolutionary War documents on file in this Bureau relative to Count Casimer Pulaski.

The report of the Commissioner of Pensions referred to in letter of June 4, 1845, as quoted in the War Department letter of the 18th instead, may be found in Executive Document No. 120, of the 49th Congress, Second Session of the Senate. No act of Congress was passed on said document which was ordered to be printed March 3, 1887 and "laid upon the table." No further action was taken on that document.

Said document may be found in any large public library.

Respectfully  
S/ Winfield Scott, Commissioner"