

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Peter Lesley S4540

fn22NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/13/10

[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. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Please call them to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Davidson County

On the 25 day of October 1832 Personally appeared in open Court -- Before William Williams, Jesse Whorton, & Enoch P. Connell Esquire Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions for the said County of Davidson at Nashville now sitting Peter Lastley a resident of Davidson County State of Tennessee 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 the 7th day of 1832 that he was born in the State of New Jersey the 13 Day of January 1761 agreeable to my Father's Record given me and moved to Guilford County North Carolina where I was raised and in the month of March 1780 I was drafted in Guilford County North Carolina & mustered into service at Guilford Court House for three months under the command of Captain William Bethel Richard Vernon Lieutenant & Robert Nelson Ensign we stayed in Guilford about eight days we then set out for Charlestown in South Carolina by the way of Salisbury then to Camden then to Munks [sic, Moncks] Corner there we stayed a few days when Colonel Washington and his horse were routed with Pulaski and White by the British under Colonel Talton [sic, Banastre Tarleton]: then Captain Bethel's Company marched the next day about 30 miles crossing the Santee at Nelson's ferry we there met General Caswell with one thousand Militia where we joined him on the Santee River and guarded them Nelson's ferry and Dupree's Ferry until we heard that Charlestown had surrendered to the British then we marched to Camden and on our way we met General Buford with 300 regulars and one Field piece we all marched to Camden then Buford marched to Salisbury and we went Caswell marched to Pedee River at the Cheraw Hills then we marched to Fayetteville in North Carolina where we staid a few days Colonel McDowell & part of his Regiment were sent to guard several wagons loaded with salt for the Army to Mecklenburg & ~~Rowan~~ Counties & when Captain Bethel's Company reached Guilford County Colonel McDowell discharged us for we had served on little over 3 months -- I was at home about one month and my stepfather John Willey [John Wiley?] of Guilford County North Carolina was drafted to serve three months tower [tour] for which I went & served in his place under the command of Captain Forbas [probably, Arthur Forbes] and William Gilmore Lieutenant & Alexander Ellison Ensign & was marched into service in Guilford County North Carolina on the 25 Day of August 1780 and marched to Salisbury then to Crushy Camp [?] Where we joined General Davidson then we marched to New Providence there Colonel

Christian County: Set

This day came William Gambell before me a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and made oath that Peter Lasley did serve a tour of 6 months in the Army in the Revolution War in the North Carolina Militia under General Davidson Colonel John Paisley and James Rutherford Captain Arthur Forbes Lieutenant William Gilmore Ensign Alexander Allison under his these officers the said Lasley served one 3 months tour, and also one 3 months tour under General Griffith Rutherford & Captain George Stewart and I William Gambell have been acquainted with said Peter Lasley ever since and know him to be the very same man. Sworn to this 7th day of June 1831.

S/ John Spurlin, JP

State of Tennessee Davidson County: Personally appeared Richard Vernon aged between seventy-four & five before me William H. Nance an acting Justice of the peace for said County and made oath that he was acquainted with Peter Lesley in two Towers of duty in the Revolution War that in March 1780 we rendezvoused at Guilford Courthouse State of North Carolina he the said Lasley was a soldier under Captain William Bethel and I was Lieutenant in said company and Robert Nelson Ensign we then took the line of march to South Carolina by way of Salisbury where we met with General Rutherford who ordered us to march to Charlestown by way of Camden to Moncks Corner where we understood that the British had surrounded Charlestown so that we could not get in there where we lay a few days and was raughted [sic, routed] by the enemy under Colonel Taulton [sic, Banastre Tarleton] -- from thence we retreated to the North side of the Santee River where we lay killed the arrival of Brigadier General William Caswell from North Carolina we then formed a Regiment called the third Regiment of North Carolina militia Colonel James Branon our field officer where we continued as guards for the ferries on said River until we heard that Charlestown had surrendered to the British we then retreated to North Carolina by way of Camden from thence to the Cheraw Hills on the Pedee River from thence to Fayette [sic, Fayetteville] in North Carolina where we were detached under the command of Colonel McDowell to guard some wagons loaded with public salt to the County of Mecklenburg North Carolina our time of service being out when we was disbanded and returned home -- where I remained until about the 25th day of August 1780 and then was called on another tower of duty for 3 months which tower I served as Lieutenant in a Regiment of Militia commanded by Colonel John Paisley of Guilford County North Carolina and under General Brigadier Davidson and this tower we served in the Counties of Roan and Macklenburge [sic, Rowan and Mecklenburg] and says that he is satisfied that said Peter Leasley was in service at that time from several events which took place which we both recollect command John Brawley getting shot through and fell dead accidentally and said Regiment was discharged about the 25th of November 1780 and further this deponent saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of August 1832.

S/ William H. Nance, JP

S/ Richard Vernon

State of Tennessee Davidson County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for said County Peter Lastley who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positive as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades first I served 3 months as a drafted militia man from the month of March

1780 as a private in Captain Bethel's Company -- and a second Tower from the 25th of August 1780 I served 3 months as a private in Captain Forbes militia Company and a third Tower I served as a volunteer from January 1781 three months under Captain Forbes and Stuart as an orderly Sergeant and the same year I served ten days in Randolph County after the Tories under the command of Captain Gillespie of about 75 men we whipped several Tories and cut John Dickey very bad with a sword again I served ten days in Randolph County under the command of Captain Whitsell after the Tories about 75 of us caught several Tories at a wedding as per Declaration and last of all I served ten days thrashing the Quakers' wheat as per Declaration in all I think I served at least ten months seven of them as a private soldier and three months as an orderly Sergeant -- the above is offered as a supplement to my declaration and which is not named the first ten days I served in Randolph County after Tories and for which I claim a pension.

Sworn to in open court October 24th 1833

Test: S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk

S/ Peter Lesley

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$31.10 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months and 10 days service in the revolution.]