

Pension Application for David Lamb

S.22875

Continental

New York

Penn.

To Dr. Hand of Lancaster Co., Pa a [blot] Commission.

To Robert McGaw a Major's Commission – together with eight Commission for Captains whose names the applicant could repeat, if necessary—Among others, -- Commissions for Captains issued to James Chambers of the West end of Cumberland County & William Hendricks of the east end of the same county.

I enlisted at or about the 25th of June 1775 in the town of Carlisle Pa Major Robert McGaw enlisted me, and directed me to join Captain William Hendrick's Rifle Company, then in Carlisle. I joined the Company accordingly. About the first of July, same year, Captain Chambers marched his company to Carlisle, where it united with Captain Hendrick's, and about the fourth of July (same year) they marched from Carlisle together. We crossed the Susquehanna at Harris' Ferry, where the town of Harrisburg is now erected, and from thence marched to Reading where we joined Captain Dondles Rifle Company.

The Regiment to which we belonged was the First Rifle Regiment of Pennsylvania. From Reading we proceeded to Easton (the whole three companies together) where we crossed the Delaware River—We proceeded through New Jersey to Sussex Court House, where the Companies separated. Hendrick's Company to which this applicant belonged, crossed the Hudson River at Fishkill Ferry, and took the road direct to Hartford in Connecticut. From thence we took the upper road) to Boston and [?] for a short time at Roxbury in sight of Boston. The British troops were then in possession of Boston. We shortly afterwards encamped on a pleasant Green between Roxbury and Cambridge, when we received tents and other camp equipage. Some two or three weeks after our arrival as aforesaid, an express from Cape Ann informed General Washington that a number of British Vessels were off the Harbour. For the purpose of preventing serious consequences, every other man of the Regiment was detached, and marched to Cape Ann, until the militia could be collected to defend the place.

On this service among others the applicant marched, where he remained about two weeks. On the return of the detachment Arnold's expedition to Canada was projected. Arnold requested the Companies of the Riflemen to accompany him. A draft was made, and fell upon Capt Daniel Morgan, Captain Smith (of Paxton, then Lancaster now Dauphin Co, Pa) & Captain William Hendrick's Companies; to the latter this applicant as before stated belonged.

We marched from Cambridge Green in September 1775, straight to Newberry Port where we embarked on board vessels and from thence we went to the month of the Kenneback River & up that river as far as it was navigable to a place called Fort Western, where we went on board bateaux and ascended the river 20 miles to a place called Fort Halifax, where we took in our provisions for the expedition—we then

ascended the river till near the mountain where we were obliged to land, and had 10 miles to carry our batteaux provisions and baggage, with great labour and fatigue.

About three miles from where we left the Kennebeck we crossed a small Lake and encamped on the shore, when our Ensign, Matthew Irvin, who was also Surgeon for the three rifle Companies, and had the care of the medicine chest, sent for me. I called on him and found him in a deplorable condition from sickness, viz:-- Rheumatism and Dysentery. It had been agreed amongst the Officers that he had better remain there for sometime, and the applicant (with three others) was detailed to attend him. Next morning we built a Cabin and were furnished with provisions.

We remained at the encampment, until all the troops passed us, which consisted of two regiments, viz Arnolds & Enos. When the troops had all passed, we concluded, from a review of our condition which was no very pleasant one, to follow after. We had our batteaux, provision, baggage & Doctor Irvin to carry. This cost us four trips, the distance of the portage being three miles. We succeeded in reaching Dead River, which we ascended and encamped, and soon after discovered fires above us. We soon learned that it was Enos' Regiment turning back for want of provisions. At this place two sick riflemen, also on their return, delivered a letter from our Captain, Hendricks, with a request that if the Doctor (Irvin) was not able to proceed, and carry his baggage, for us to take him back to the inhabited parts. We then descended the Dead River to the portage before mentioned and procured aid to carry to the Kennebeck. We then descended the last river to the settlements, procured good quarters for the Doctor, left two men with him (viz Thomas Pry & Henry McKinney) and Isaac Thompson (of Hendrick's Compy) and the applicant set off for the Camp near Boston. We went by the way of Portland Portsmouth & Newbury port, to the camp on Prospect Hill, where I arrived the day before Christmas 1775.

About this time General Charles Lee was ordered to take the command of the Army in Canada. There was a life guard raised for him of 105 men commanded by Captain James Greer, Lieut. Taylor & Ensign How. Three of us, viz. Isaac Thompson, Thomas Poy & the applicant requested permission to be placed in the life guard, that we might have an opportunity of joining our company in Canada. This was granted.

We left the Camp on the 8th day of [Ja.?] 1776 and took the road direct to Hartford, from thence to New Haven, from thence to New York. Whilst at New York the unfortunate news reached us of the death of General Montgomery, and the defeat of his troops. General Lee was soon afterwards ordered to the South.

We started from New York, probably about the first of January 1776, perhaps later, passed through New Jersey to Trenton & thence to Philadelphia thence to Lancaster, thence to Little York, where a number of the Yankee troops took wick with the small pox, and were left behind. Those who were able to march (of which the applicant was one) proceeded onward to Hanover, thence to Tarrytown, Fredericktown, and crossed the Potomac at Nowland's ferry, thence down the river to Leesburgh, thence to Fredericksburg in Virginia at the month of Pappahannse River, from thence westward for Williamsburgh, but before we reached that place we were met by a deputation from that town, who were alarmed in consequence of the troops having had

the small pox amongst them, and by arrangement we encamped on James' Island, where we lay until a new life guard was enrolled to accompany General Lee further south.

We marched back, sometime in April 1776 to New York, under the command of Capt. Greer. We were then ordered to join a rifle regiment on Long Island commanded by Col. James Chambers. We crossed over & joined the Regiment, then lying between New Ettrick and Flatbush on the South side of the Island where the applicant remained until the expiration of the time for which he was enlisted, viz, one year. He Applicant then received his discharge from Col. James Chambers, discharge has been long since lost.

The day the applicant received his discharge the British fleet come in sight and anchored opposite the camp. The Drums beat to arms, and I joined the ranks, resumed my rifle, and continued doing duty until the fleet passed up to Staten Island, and landed the British troops. There was at that time a new Regiment raising in New York and Long Island to serve for five months. I enlisted in the company of Captain Thomas Mitchel & joined the Regiment aforesaid commanded by Col. Malcomb. I remained in that Regiment in or about three months, until we were driven from Long Island, and also from New York.

The army being in want of a Waggon-master, I was recommended by Captain Mitchell to the Quartermaster General, Hugh Hughes, as a suitable person, and received a warrant of appointment, and performed the duty of Waggon-master for three years, or thereabouts, during the whole time in the command of General Israel Putnam.

The foregoing is the nature and amount of the applicants service. He recollects the names of many of the Officers belonging to the army. He saw General Washington at Prospect Hill. He has named, already, the officers of his regiment. There were eight companies, belonging to the Regiment, commanded by Captain Thomas Clugget, Capt. James Chambers, Captain William Hendricks, Captain Doudel, Capt. Smith, Capt. Ross, Capt Craig of Northampton & Captain Nogle of Reading. He also recollects Captain Loudon of Northumberland Co. Pa. and Captain Morgan of Virginia who joined the Regiment with his Volunteer Company.

The applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. (Signed) David Lamb.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day year aforesaid. Jas. Gilliland Proth.

Letter in folder dated August 29, 1936, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you furnish further information in regard to Henry McEwen, or McKuen, and request also the record of David Lamb, both Revolutionary soldiers of Pennsylvania.

The records of David Lamb and Henry McEwen are furnished herein as found in pension claims based upon their service in the Revolutionary War.

DAVID LAMB—S.22875

David Lamb was born January 7, 1754 in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.

While a resident of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, he volunteered June 25, 1775, in Carlisle, in said Cumberland County, served as private in Captain William Hendrick's company, Colonel William Thompson's Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, marched to Cambridge Green, near Boston, and in September 1775 volunteered to go on Arnold's Expedition to Canada, went as far as Fort Halifax, where he was detailed and went with Matthews Irvin, Surgeon of the Rifle Regiments, who was very ill, to Prospect Hill, where he arrived the day before Christmas; he then joined Captain James Greer's company, assigned as life guard to general Charles Lee who was ordered to command the Army in Canada, left camp January 8, 1776, arrived in New York in February, from there went to Williamsburg, Virginia, returned to Long Island and was discharged at the expiration of a service of one year. Immediately after, as the British fleet came in sight and anchored opposite Long Island, he volunteered and served three months as private in Captain Thomas Mitchell's company, Colonel Malcolm's New York regiment; he enlisted next in the Quartermaster Department, Hugh Hughes, Quartermaster General, and served three years as wagon master, during which he was engaged in the vicinity of North Castle, Peekskill and Fishkill, New York.

David Lamb was allowed pension on his application executed November 26, 1832, at which time he resided in Walker Township, Centre County, Pennsylvania; he had resided in that vicinity for forty years. The soldier died February 12, 1837; he was survived by a widow, whose name was not given, who died March 7, 1845. There were no surviving children.

In 1851, in the Orphans Court of Centre County, Pennsylvania, William Smythe, Junior, and Henry F. W. Schultse were certified as Executors of the estate of David Lamb, the deceased soldier of the Revolutionary War.

In 1833, Henry Petrikin of Bellefonte, Centre County, Pennsylvania, and his brother, James M. Petrikin, also of Centre County, stated that their father and David Lamb, the soldier, married sisters, but they did not state the name of their own mother.

It was shown also, that David Lamb, the soldier, had been an elder in the Presbyterian Church of Liek Run in Centre County, Pennsylvania, as early as 1809.

HENRY MCEWEN—W.3275.

Henry McEwen volunteered in July 1775, served as private in Captain William Hendirck's company, Colonel William Thompson's Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment; he marched from Carlisle, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania and arrived in camp near Boston in August, in September 1775, he volunteered to go with his captain on Arnold's Expedition to Quebec, and was at the storming of Quebec, where wounded in the head by a bayonet, [sic] was taken prisoner, December 31, 1775, was paroled, August 3, 1776 and exchanged in the fall of 1778. about two months of his imprisonment he was "confined in Irons".

He was allowed pension on his application executed April 28, 1818, at which time he was sixty-five years of age and living in Potter Township, Centre County, Pennsylvania. He was also pensioned by the State of Pennsylvania.

The soldier, Henry McEwen, married July 11, 1786 in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, Elizabeth Gregg. He died October 9, 1825.

His widow, Elizabeth McDwen, was allowed pension on her application executed March 18, 1839, then aged about seventy years and living in Potter Township, Pennsylvania.

Reference was made to their children, four of whom were under twelve years of age in 1820; the only name designated being Henry McEwen, who was living near Hubersburg, Centre County, Pennsylvania, in 1877.

Francis McEwen in 1818 made affidavit in Centre County, Pennsylvania, and William McEwen stated in 1819 that he was well acquainted with the soldier, Henry McEwen, in 1775. It is not shown that they were related to each other, or were related to the family.