



The continuing hunt for William Romulus Poe's parents

1 message

Thu, Mar 30, 2017 at 1:37 AM

Hi William,

I've now obtained the pension file for WRP's widow - his second wife Mary Jane. There is not much information in it though her physical description of him 'to her best recollection' is of interest.

The main difference between it and the papers which I got from NARA as the result of his daughter Lucy's application for the Daughters of 1812, is that the wife's pension record identifies a different William Poe who served in the 1812. The wife's claim is against a Private William Powe who enlisted in KY (the daughter Daughters application links to Corporal William Poe who enlisted in VA).

My inclination is to take the daughters identification as more likely to be correct as the mother was evidently illiterate and seems not to have recalled which unit he served in. How someone identified it as the fellow who served under Captain Hook is not clear. There is also a notation that he had served as a substitute for a William Leusieur and claimed a land bounty. The daughter's identification was apparently confirmed by authorities after her Daughters application, though the details match so well someone may have suggested them to the daughter I guess.

The only thing the wife seems clear of is that he claimed a land bounty. While the file for Corporal William Poe makes no mention of this it looks like a muster roll in the Library of Virginia includes him in a list of soldiers who claimed a land bounty.

I'm not sure about what next steps are worth taking and would value any suggestions you may have.

I think the options could be:

Check out the Bureau of Land Management records to see if any which are clear those for WRP have any notation of military service (from memory only one did but that was someone else's land signed over to him).

See if I can get the muster roll reference from the Library of Virginia.

Check the land records from NARA related to Private Poe on Mrs Poe's pension papers, if I can't track this otherwise.

In any case, none of these seem likely to get me any closer to the next generation back.

Also, I prodded professor Poe but didn't get any response.

Best wishes,

Leon

 **WRPWidowsPension.pdf**
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