

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Petition of James McCan VAS1914

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Transcribed by Will Graves

4/25/15

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Mecklenburg County Legislative Petitions

[Note: A substantial portion of the image posted online of the following document is illegibly faint. Gaps in the text are indicated by blank brackets thus "[]". Even what I think I see too often does not make sense. Use with extreme care. If anyone has a better transcription we would welcome the opportunity of posting it in our database.]

To the Hon. Members of the assembly of Virginia the Petition of Dr. James McCan
Humbly Sheweth

Your Petitioner being under General Stephens [Edward Stevens] [] in the Virginia line of Militia & [] an Hospital at Salisbury in N. C. for the reception of about Sixty five [men?] for about two months & Petitioner was obliged to furnish them with necessary Provisions chief of the time especially when the Hospital under General Stephens thought it necessary to retreat by the rapid motion of Cornwallis & from Petitioner's care of the troops should not fall into the Enemy's hands & the Commandant of the Town not being convenient to sign their discharges delayed Petitioner until Petitioner was taken Prisoner by Cornwallis (& Petitioner being formerly in the British employ raised an Emulation [] in Cornwallis he rebuking Petitioner for taking part on the contrary side especially maintaining an Hospital Petitioner was totally [] during Petitioner's absent Petitioner's Land in Macklenbg [Mecklenburg County] was Escheated & sold for fifty pounds that cost seventy-five, all Petitioner's stock, goods, chattels & Medicines totally destroyed to the amount of three hundred Pounds in []. The said Petitioner was brought to Charleston & Petitioner made his escape to New Providence expecting to get passage from thence to []. From where Petitioner could have a chance to get passage to America when to the Petitioner's great mortification the Spaniards came & took the Island & sent Petitioner in a Cartel to old Spain & meeting Adm. Stow [?] in the Western Teas [?] turned the Cartel into Kingsale in Ireland & the Cartel being an old Ship wanting repair delayed her there a considerable time when an order came from Court if she was fit for sea to repair to Portsmouth the very instant the Royal George sunk & liked to have taken the Cartel down with her Petitioner was retained at Portsmouth until an Order came to repair to Landguard Fort for exchange of Prisoners. Petitioner being at this time under the miserable Allowance of Rations when Petitioner was freed Petitioner went to Ireland & waited for a Passage. Petitioner was under the necessity of [acting as?] Shipping Doctor of a vessel loaded with Servants not having wherewith [wherewithal] to pay Petitioner's passage & Petitioner being then too late to redeem Petitioner's Land arrived at Baltimore consigned to Stewart & Co. & two Ships with Servants being sickly Petitioner

received ten pounds for Attendance which was every shelling Petitioner had to begin. That every Prisoner is in actual Service during the time he is in that unhappiest situation which Petitioner was detained for better than a year and almost two before Petitioner could return Which Petitioner hopes your Honours will consider. Petitioner being deprived twice of Petitioner's Living & the British debts coming against Petitioner while the means of redress Petitioner was deprived of. Petitioner is married & has a family which must come to penury if not Assisted by Your Honours. Petitioner being advanced in years & hardly able to ride about.

May it therefore please your Honours in your Accustomed Clemency to take the aforesaid into consideration & order such relief for Petitioner as in your wisdom shall seem meet & Petitioner will be ever in duty bound to pray

S/ James McCan, M: D:

James McCan M: D:

[Reverse]

Dr. McCan's Petition
November 10 [Nov. 10, 1790]
To Claims
Rejected
Report

[another file]

To the General assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia,
the petition of James McCan a Citizen of Mecklenburg County humbly sheweth, that your petitioner in the time of the War between America and Great Britain acted as a physician to the Militia of this State on their march to South Carolina under the Command of General Edward Stephens [Edward Stevens], your petitioner being then an inhabitant of the town of Salisbury in North Carolina through which the said troops passed in their march; that your petitioner finding great numbers of the troops were sick and distressed made a tender of his personal services to the said General Stephens for their assistance and relief; your petitioner furnished a house at his own expense for the reception of the sick and supplied them with medicine, and many other necessaries which they could not get from the Army; your petitioner can prove by certificate signed by General Stephens, & others which he produces herewith to this honorable house that his aforesaid allegations are true, and that he paid particular attention to those who were placed under his care; your petitioner has heretofore received no reward for the services which he thus rendered to this State, and hopes this house will be pleased to take his case into their consideration, and make him such compensation as shall justly appear to be his due, and your petitioner shall ever pray &c

S/ Jas. McCan

Jas. McCan

[Reverse]

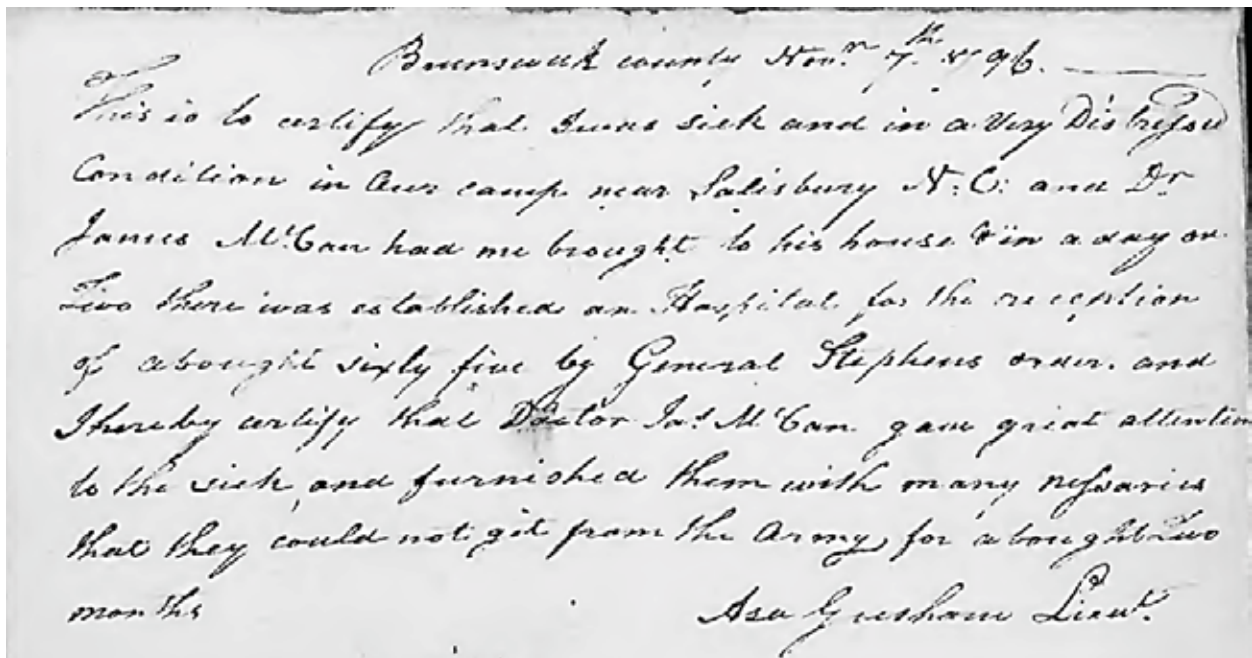
Jas. McCan's Petition
December 16, 1797
Claims
Reasonable
Reported

I know of no allowance having been made for the within claim
Auditor's Office
15th of December 97 S/ Shepard

Brunswick County November 7th 1796

This is to certify that I was sick and in a very Distressed Situation in our Camp near Salisbury N. C. and Dr. James McCan had me brought to his house & in a day or two there was established an Hospital for the reception of about sixty-five by General Stephens' order, and I hereby certify that Dr. James McCan gave great attention to the sick, and furnish them with many necessaries that they could not get from the Army for about two months.

S/ Asa Grisham Lieut.



Brunswick County Nov. 7. 1796.
This is to certify that I was sick and in a very Distressed
Condition in our camp near Salisbury N. C. and Dr
James McCan had me brought to his house & in a day or
two there was established an Hospital for the reception
of about sixty five by General Stephens order, and
I hereby certify that Doctor J. McCan gave great attention
to the sick, and furnished them with many necessaries
that they could not get from the Army for about two
months
Asa Grisham Lieut.

I hereby Certify that in the year 1780 on my marched to South Carolina with the Virginia Militia I passed through Salisbury in North Carolina such a number of the men was so Sick as made it necessary to establish a hospital for them at that place. Dr. McCan, who was then an inhabitant of that Town made a tender of his personal Services with medicine [took?] charge of the Sick and also furnished a house for their reception. And do believe from the Accounts received from many of the Sick left in his care he paid great attention to them.

S/ Edward Stevens
S/ Jas. Lucas

Trinity College, Hartford, Conn. in the year 1833, in my march to the National
with the American Association, I have the honor to say, I have the honor to say, I have the honor to say,
through the labors of our North Carolina, such members of the medical
as well as our duties for the establishment of the Hospital for the most part
place. Doctor McLean, who was then in the list of the Trustees of
a board of the personal services, with medical labors, and of the
such and his services were the subject of his reception, and he has been
from the accounts received from many of the best physicians, and
he paid great attention to them.

Yours
J. Lucas