

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Canterbury [Canterbury] VAS1997 Ruth Canterbury 4
Transcribed by Will Graves 5/16/15

[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](#)] Giles County Legislative Petitions

To the Honorable

The Speaker and members of the General Assembly of Virginia

The petition of Ruth Canterbury widow & Relic of Joseph Canterbury Deceased Humbly represents to your Honorable body that Joseph Canterbury her late husband enlisted in the Service of the United States in the revolutionary war for three years under Captain ___ Tollaver [Taliaferro?] in the 1776 or 77 leaving your Petitioner with eight small Children to support by her Labour, and that the said Joseph Canterbury never returned to his family after he entered the Service of the United States, and died in the Army, as your petitioner was informed.

Your petitioner would further represent to your Honorable body that her Labour and industry and without any aid whatever She Supported her children and raise them up to manhood, and that they are now dispersed and Scattered in three or four States of the Union.

Your Petitioner would further represent that she is about Eighty-five years of age a Citizen of the County of Giles and through the blessings of God have enjoyed good health until about three or four years past, when she became Paralyzed, and lost the use of her arms so that she cannot now Support herself by Labour, which she heretofore did. She therefore prays that your Honorable body will take her humble petition into Consideration and grant her a small pension to support her through the evening Shade of Life.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c

S/ Ruth Canterbury

[Attested in Giles County Virginia November 26, 1825]

[The file contains an affidavit signed by several residents of Giles County as to the reputation for honesty and indigency of the petitioner.]

[Reverse]

Ruth Canterbury's [sic]
Petition praying for a Pension
December 21st, 1825
Referred to Claims
1825

December 26 Rejected
27 Reported

[Note: John H. Gwathmey, comp. *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution: Soldiers, Sailors Marines: 1775-1783*, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc., reprint 1979 contains the following information regarding a veteran named Joseph Canterbury:

Canterbury, Joseph, in Benjamin Taliaferro's Company, Morgan's Rifleman. Of Giles [County Virginia]
Canterbury, Joseph (Cantebery) 6 CL [6th Virginia Regiment of the Continental line]
Canterbury, Joseph Jr., 6 CL]