

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Ferdinand Oneal (O'Neal) R16846

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Georgia } On this 30th day of March A.D. 1853, Personally appeared before us Noah B
City of Savannah } Knapp, Montgomery Cumming & James E Godfrey Justice of the Superior Court
Chatham County } for the County of Chatham, State aforesaid Mrs Margery Oneal aged 57 years a
resident of the County of McIntosh, State aforesaid who being duly sworn in
open Court according to law, declares that she is still the widow of Charles Oneal who was the son of
Captain Ferdinand Oneal and his wife Mary Ann Oneal both now deceased, the former having served in
the Revolutionary War against Great Britain, that his services were rendered in the State of Virginia, by
reference to the annexed certificate from the Secretary of the Commonwealth of said State, the fact will
more fully appear; that the fruit of their said marriage were the following named Children Joseph, Eliza,
Ferdinand, Henry, Ferdinand A, James G, Charles, Mary S, George W, Thomas R, Mary A and Sarah Jane
Oneal; that they are all now deceased, that the last surviving Child was Charles Oneal, who departed this
life on the 13th of October in the year 1854. that she was married to the said Charles Oneal on the 24th of
September in the year 1840, by the Rev'd Mr. John Winn a Minister of the Gospel, that her name before
her marriage was Margery Caulder, she declares that the prayer book which she now present to the
Court, contains the births of the family of the said Captain Ferdinand Oneal and his wife Mary Ann
Oneal, that it is in the hand writing of some one of the family, that she also causes to be attached to this
declaration, a memorandum found amongst the papers of the late Mrs. Mary Ann Oneal, also are caused
Copies of the Wills of Captain Ferdinand Oneal and his wife Mary Ann Oneal. She declares, that Captain
Ferdinand Oneal died on the 13th of November in the year 1816, that his wife Mary Ann Oneal survived
him, and died on the 23rd of July in the year 1834. She claims the half pay due the late Captain Ferdinand
Oneal for his services rendered in the Revolutionary War against Great Britain in the line of the State of
Virginia, deponent claims the amount due as the only surviving legal heir and as Administratrix on the
Estate of the said Captain Ferdinand Oneal. She also claims a Bounty land warrant under the Act of
Congress. In relation to the death, marriage and services as obtained from information derived from her
late husband Charles Oneal, and the production of the certificate. She further declares, that the cause of
her filing her declaration in the City of Savannah is from the fact of the facility of having the application
[?]ted correctly and the procuring of the Witnesses residing in the City of Savannah.

[signed] Margery Oneal

State of Georgia } On this 30th day of March A.D. 1853, Personally appeared before us Montgomery
City of Savannah } Cumming, James E Godfrey and Noah B Knapp Justices of the Inferior Court
Chatham County } for the County of Chatham, State aforesaid, Colonel William J McIntosh aged 72
years formerly a resident of McIntosh County now a resident of the City of
Savannah, State aforesaid, who being duly sworn in open Court according to law, declares, that he knew
Captain Ferdinand Oneal in his life time and heard this deponent's Father repeatedly converse with the
said Captain Ferdinand Oneal in relation to the Revolutionary War, and services that were rendered in
said War by him against Great Britain, that the said Ferdinand Oneal entered Lee's Legion first as a
Sergeant and subsequently promoted to a Captancy, that he was intimately acquainted with the family of
the late Captain Ferdinand Oneal, his wife's name before marriage was Miss Mary Ann Woodruff, that
they lived together as man and wife and were universally reputed as such, and were persons of high
respectability in the community in which they resided, that the fruit of their marriage were the following
named children to the knowledge of this deponent Joseph, Ferdinand, George, Eliza, Henry and Charles
Oneal, all of the children are now deceased, Charles Oneal was his last child who died in the year 1834,

that to the best of his recollection and belief Captain Ferdinand Oneal died in the year 1816, that his Wife Mary Ann Oneal survived him, and died in the year 1834. Mrs Margery Oneal was the Wife of Charles Oneal, the son of Captain Ferdinand Oneal now deceased, and who is still his Widow, that her name before marriage was Margery Caulder. Deponent declares the he has no interest in the claim, or does he expect to receive any reward as compensation for filing this affidavit. [signed] W. J. McIntosh

[The following additional documents are among records of [Revolutionary Bounty Warrants in the Library of Virginia](#):]

I certify that Capt. Ferdinand O'Neal has served as an Officer in Lee's Legion from 1st May 1778 to this 17th of July 1783, for two years of which he has been entitled to the rank of Captain. He was when he entered the service & is now a Citizen of Virginia. Jos. Eggleston/ Ma. Lee's Legion [Joseph Eggleston]

I hereby certify that Ferdinand O'Neal enlisted as a Dragoon in [Theodorick] Bland's Regiment when it was first raised in this state, & that he continued in said regiment untill he was appointed an Officer in Lee's Corps in 1778: He served in said Corps untill the end of the War, at which time he had attained the rank of Captain. He was always mustered as a Virginian, & I believe he was born & enlisted in the County of Loudon [sic: Loudoun].

Given under my hand this 26th of December 1801. Jos. Eggleston
formerly Major of Lee's Legion

I was a Member of the Assembly of Virginia when Colo. Bland and a Number of other Gentlemen were appointed Officers of Cavalry, which was previous to the 12th November 1776, when I was appointed Colonel of the 12th Virginia Regiment – I Continued from my appointment to the end of the war, & received my proportion of Land for seven years service. 7th January 1802.
James Wood late B. G.

I hereby certify that Ferdinand ONEal enlisted as a private in cavalry under my command in July or August 1776 shortly after I was appointed Captain & that he was promoted to the rank of Captain of dragoons in the P. Legion [Partizan Legion], in which charater he served to the end of the war. August 24th 1807.
Henry Lee/ Lt. Col. Com. P Legion

Ferdinand ONEal has drawn for his 7th years service as a Capt. and no more – Wm. Price Reg'r/ Augt. 25 1807
Ferdinand ONEal appears to be entitled to additional land bounty for four months more than 7 years Sam'l Coleman

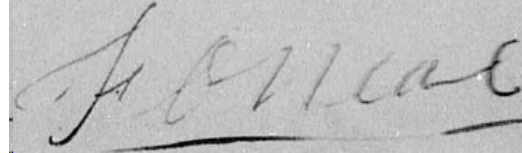
Georgia }
Oglethorp [sic: Oglethorpe] County }

I do hereby certify that Ferdinand Oneal served as a Captain in the Virginia continental line in the service of the United States, for seven years and ten months, for which time he is entitled to land as an officer in said service –

Given under my hand this 4 day of August 1810 Geo Mathews Col of the Late Va R
attest/ Chas. L. Mathews J.J.C. [George Mathews (W8394)]
Thomas Wagoner Jun'r.
His excellency The Governor of Virginia

NOTES:

Oneal was in Jefferson County GA on 18 Nov 1801 when he certified the service of Joseph Owens (S36200) in Oneal's Second Troop of Lt. Col. Henry Lee's Legion. On that document and on his will as shown below, Oneal appears to have spelled his name without an apostrophe, but most military documents include an apostrophe.

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "J. Oneal". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured surface.

On 24 April 1855 Mrs. Jane Delegal, 77, stated that Mary Ann Oneal had told her that before her marriage "whilst travelling with her father they were attacked by a party of Tories and rescued by the gallantry of Captain Ferdinand Oneal."

Ferdinand Oneal's last will and testament dated 25 June 1808 in McIntosh County GA includes the following provisions:

That his "beloved wife Mary Ann, and my children, Joseph, Henry, Ferdinand, James Gunn, Charles, George and Sarah Jane be maintained out of my Estate until a deviation takes place."

That "the negroes willed to my children, shall work together, until the [they, presumably the children] arrive to the age of Twenty one years, or day of marriage, and that each shall draw equal to their number of workers any surplus that may remain after paying their respective expenses...."

To beloved wife Mary Ann "provided she relinquishes her Dowery to my real Estate, my Plantation I now reside on, household furniture, horses, cattle &c... my Cook wench Betty, my negro wench Jude and her children ten Negroes (which she name) and my front lot on the Bay in the Town of Darien McIntosh County

To son Joseph 500 ± acres in Bulloch County and 287 acres ± on Altamaha River, and five Negroes.

To Major John Pary and Ebenezer Stark in trust for daughter Eliza Mann and her children 287½ acres on Altamaha River.

To son Henry Lee 287½ acres on Altamaha River in Tattnall County, 350 acres in Bulloch County, and five Negroes.

To sons Ferdinand, James Gunn, and Charles equal shares of his proportion of Creighton Island; son George W. to have a share equal to theirs.

To sons Ferdinand, James Gunn, and George Washington five Negroes each.

To daughter Sarah Jane 500 ± acres in Camden County and five Negroes.

To any child of his born after his death equal shares with the other children.

To grandson Ferdinand Mann his back lot in the Town of Darien.

Executors to be his wife Mary Ann, Major John Pray, Francis Hopkins, Luke Mann, and Ebenezer Stark.

A codicil directed the executors to divide the Negroes willed to his children Joseph, Henry Lee, Ferdinand, James Gunn, Charles, George Washington, and Sarah Jane as they reach age 21 or marry.

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "J. Oneal". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured surface.

Mary Ann Oneal's last will and testament dated 18 April 1834 made the following provisions:

That son Charles Oneal manage her estate until debts were paid.

To John A. Mann and Edward P. Postel in trust for son Charles Oneal and his wife, should he marry, 500 ± acres known as the Woodruff Tract in McIntosh County and the following Negroes: Plenty; Bess;

Patience, Romeo; Jacob; Maria; Hannah and her children Nero, Shadrack, and Meshack; Moses; Charles; Francis; Lucy; Hetty and her children John and Lucky. And if Charles Oneal should predecease her without children then the above property to go to her grandson John A. Mann.

To John A. Mann in trust for her son Henry L. Oneal the following Negroes: Peggy, Abby and her children, Molly, Joe, and Eddy.

That her son Henry L. Oneal have a share of profits from the slaves bequeathed to John A. Mann but be excluded from control of them.

That if son Henry L. Oneal dies without issue the property bequeathed to him to be divided between son Charles Oneal and grandchildren Ferdinand O., John A., and Harriet A. Mann.

To granddaughter Harriet A. Mann a Negro slave, Sarah.

To son Charles Oneal the residue of her estate.

The family record from an Episcopal prayer book and the memorandum of deaths are transcribed below. The file also includes copies of the license for the marriage of Charles Oneal and Miss Margery Calder issued in McIntosh County GA on 18 Sep 1840, and of the minister's return. Eugene M Caulder, 25, stated that he had been at the wedding of Charles Oneal and Margery Caulder.

Joseph Woodruff Oneal Born February 17th 1788

Eliza Oneal Born March 14th 1789

Ferdinand Oneal Born Dec'm 22nd 1791 Died February 5 1793

Henry Lee Oneal Born October 3rd 1792

Ferdinand A Oneal Born July 7th 1794

James G Oneal Born Nov'r 14th 1796

Charles Oneal Born May 1st 1798

Mary G Oneal Born Jan'y[?] 17th 1800 Died March 11th 1800

George W Oneal Born May 1st 1801

Thomas R. Oneal Born May 22nd 1803 – died July [?] 18[??]

Mary A Oneal born March 18th 1805

Sarah Jane Oneal Born February 11th 1807

John A. Mann Born Oct 29 1808

[Three illegible entries.]

My Dear husband died the 13 of November, 1816

James died the 8 of October 1817

George died the 23 of October 1817

My Dear mother died, 2 of November 1817

Joseph died the 29 of March 1818

My Dear Eliza died, the 27 of March 1820, and Henry the 7[?] April

[Change of handwriting]

My dear beloved old Mother died on the 23rd of July 1834

John A Mann[?] Died 26 July 1836