

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Hanway R4583

f13VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/11/14

[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.]

State of Virginia County of Monongalia: SS

On this 23rd day of December in the year 1833, personally appeared in open court before the County Court of Monongalia now sitting Samuel Hanway a resident of said County aged ninety years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832.

That in the spring of the year 1775 as well as he can now recollect, he raised and commanded a company of volunteers in the County of Amelia Virginia to march against [paper damaged and text missing] at Williamsburg – that this company he raised in a few days and amounted to above [paper damaged and text missing] that on arriving at Williamsburg, he joined Captain Scott (who was afterwards a General officer and he believes Governor of Kentucky) with a company of volunteers, raised in Cumberland County who had arrived a day or two before – other companies arrived soon after – that it was during the same year, the plan was adopted by the Convention of Delegates assembled at Richmond as he believes for raising minute men, and he was then commissioned as a Lieutenant in Captain Lewellin Jones' company, with whom he marched to Norfolk, a few days after that town was burned [Norfolk was burned on January 1, 1776] – that the principal part of Jones' company was raised by himself – that his impression now is that the said Captain Scott or Archibald Carey was Colonel of the Regiment & General Woodford [William Woodford], commander in chief – that during the year (as he believes) 1776, he was engaged in preventing the enemy from committing depredations, the Roe-buck [*Roebuck*] and another British frigate lying at anchor in Hampton roads – that during the winter he was ordered to an estate near Willoughby point, and had about two hundred men placed under his command by order of General Woodford, that he remained at this post [paper damaged and text missing] the winter sending such prisoners as he took under a Sergeant's guard to Norfolk –

That in the spring of the year (as he believes) 1777 complaints were sent to camp of depredations committed on James River, and he was ordered by General Woodford with a sufficient guard to take possession or post on the Lightfoot estate on that River, no person then living on it, but an overseer and Negroes – that he marched about 70 or 80 men to that estate, and remained there until sometime during the summer, when he believes all the minute men were disbanded and discharged.

That being very desirous of getting into the Naval service, he applied for and obtained a Captain's commission of Marines in the fall of the year (as he believes) 1777 and took with him several of his minute men, and was ordered on board of a vessel lying at Hampton commanded a gentleman from Hampton or Norfolk, whose name he has entirely forgotten – that he continued

in this service, for three, four or five months when he became tired of so idle a life, and seeing no prospect of the vessel being actively employed, and himself and his men only an expense to the state, he resigned and gave up his commission at Williamsburg –

He is confident he served a period of not less than six months as a Captain of the company of volunteers he raised in Amelia.

That he served a period of not less than twelve months as a Lieutenant of minute men under Captain Jones, and

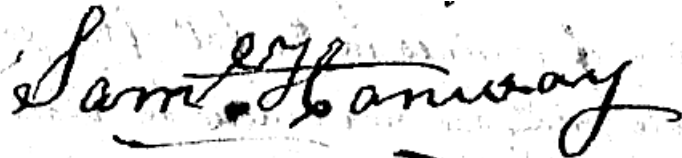
That he served a period of not less than three months as a Captain of Marines.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

That he was born in Chester County Pennsylvania on the 26th of September 1743, that he does not know what has become of the record of his age – that he removed from Pennsylvania to Charles City County Virginia in the year 1768, and removed from thence near Petersburg and was engaged in trading to the West Indies and from Petersburg neighborhood removed to Amelia County, where he was engaged in merchandise, until he raised his company of volunteers to go against Dunmore [John Murray, Lord Dunmore, last Royal Governor of the colony of Virginia] – that in the year 1781, he removed to this County, where he has ever since resided, and on the 3rd of June 1783 he was commissioned surveyor of said County and continued to hold said office until the 27th of June 1831 – that he cannot recollect by whom his commission was signed, that his commission as a Lieutenant in the Minute men was upon the recommendation of the court of Amelia County, that this commission he is now inclined to believe was left at a friend's house a Mr. Jackson in Chesterfield, who is long since dead – the commission as a Captain of Marines he gave up has before stated at Williamsburg – that he has been for a great many years personally acquainted with Dudley Evans, John Evans Junior, Matthew Gray, William Haymond, Reverend Asby Pool, Joseph A. Shackelford and many others who he believes can testify as to his veracity and their belief in his services in the Revolution – that he knows of no witness by whom he can prove his services.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Saml Hanway

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel Hanway". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Joseph A Shackelford, a clergyman, and Matthew Gay gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Sunday May 5th, 1776

Ordered that Captain Samuel Hanway do Rendezvous his Marines at Sandy Point as soon as his Proportion of the Company is complete, that he repaired to and continue at the Stationed for the Protection of the Inhabitants, until the Vessel he is to go on board of be ready, and thereupon the Militia stationed there be discharged. Of which notice is to be sent to the County Lieutenant. Ordered a Warrant to Captain Samuel Hanway for £29 .10 .04 advanced pay to his recruits, enlisting expenses & half pay for himself for one month

Wednesday the 15th May 1776

A Warrant to Captain Lewellin Jones for £39.0.0 4 far age for himself Lieutenant Hanway & Ensign Foster of the Amelia Minute men.

Extracts from Journal of the Committee of Safety Pages 99 & 108
S/ Jas. E. Heath, Aud. [Auditor]
Aud Off. Jan. 31, 1834

Lieutenant Benjamin Pollard is recommended to his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable the Council as a proper person to be appointed to the Command of Captain Samuel Hanway's Company of Marines who hath resigned his commission.

Signed

John Hutchings 1st Comr. Pre.

Extract from the Navy Journal page 125

S/ Jas. E. Heath, Aud. [Auditor]

Aud Off. 31 Jan 1834

The following letter is from the file of John Burdin (Verdin), pension application S12369, transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. The reason given for suspension of the pension application of Samuel Hanway was that the evidence was deemed insufficient.]

Morgantown 22^d April 1834

Jas. L Edwards esq'r/ Com'r of Pensions/ Dear Sir,

I have just this moment received your letter of 14th and at the request of Col. Hanway inform you that you have misunderstood the extracts which I handed you from the committee of safety in supposing that these extracts alluded to two men of the same name.

Col. Hanway clearly states, that he served as a captain in 1775 of a volunteer company and not minute men" as you state, to march against Dunmore – that during the same year the law passed to raise the "minute men" in which he was appointed a Lieutenant in Capt. Jones' company, which he resigned and was appointed a captain of Marines. he is mistaken in the year that he received the latter appointment – it was evidently in 1776.

The extract of the 15 May 1776 is merely (as well as I recollect) an order for the pay't. due to Hanway &c as a Lieutenant.

When I wrote his declaration, he could not fix with certainty the periods he served under these several appointment, but relied upon the records at Richmond & Amelia county. I wrote to Rich'd Booker esq'r. of Amelia to procure a copy of the order appointing Hanway, a lieutenant of the Amelia minute men, as the records of the committee of safety do not go back to 1775, in order to show you the date of that appointment – which I requested him to send to you.

By reference to Honb'l. E C Wilson you will be satisfied that there is not a more honorable man in his district.

I have no doubt that he served as a captain of the volunteer company untill fall of 1775

As a Lieutenant from fall of 1775 untill May 1776

As a Marine captain from May to Dec'r. 1776 – but as soon as you receive the document from Amelia it will fix the period of his appointment as a Lieutenant.

I have seen David M Hoge, before whom the declaration of Everly [Simeon Everly S8446] was made. he says his signature is genuine. I wish to take the deposition of Wm. Wilson to prove the length of Everlys service under Clarke, which I expect to get in a few days and will then transmit you the original papers.

According to your directions, I again wrote the declaration of John Verdin or Berdin since which his papers have been returned to you, he is unable to make further proof – he is willing to take a pension for his services under Capt. Perry it is all he can prove. I was waiting to get Wm Hall's testimony again, when I received it with your letter – he served under Perry without any doubt.

I am very respt'y/ Your ob't. serv't/ Thos. P. Ray