

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of David Callaham S16695

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia, } S.S.

Campbell County }

On this 10 day of Dec. 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Campbell, now sitting, David Callaham, a resident of the Parish of Russel [sic: Russell] in the County & State aforesaid, aged 74 years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832 in relation to the officers and soldiers of the revolution. He saith, that he commenced service in the year 1776 as a substitute for his late Father Nicholas Callaham deced, in the militia of Lunenburg County va; enlisted as a minnute man for one year, under Capt. Samuel Garland; he rendevoused at Lunenburg Courthouse, marched from thence to Petersburg va. where Major [John] Glenn commanded; afterwards marched to Williamsburg, where we were stationed in the grove; remained but a few days, when we were marched to Burrels ferry [Burwell's Ferry from Carter's Grove to Hog Island], on James River, where we remained some time, when we marched lower down, to a place, the name of which he don't recollect; remained some time; but being sick, he got a furlow and returned home; this time, in actual service, was not a full year, but rising[?] of six months he was regarded as being in the service at that time one year being home on a furlow, and a sick man the balance of the time. In the winter of 1778 he was drafted from the militia of said county; and with others, marched with the county officers to the town of Fredericksburg, where the militia from various counties rendevoused; and were place under the command of a continental officer, ordered there to receive them. His officers name was Cunningham, don't recollect whether Captain or Colonel. He marched us immediately to valley forge Penn. where general Washington, with the army lay encamped. Soon after the British Army marched out of Philadelphia, that spring; Genl. Washington broke camp, and marched us five or six days in succession. At the battle of monmouth Courthouse [28 Jun 1778] that year, soon after, he was placed on the guard that took charge of the Baggage, left in rear of the army, during the battle, and was thus prevented from being in the engagement. He continued with Genl. Washingtons army, after that battle as well as before, until it crossed the North river in to the State of New York; He was at the white Plains above the City of New York during a part of the summer; and, then at Stony point Fort, on the North River. He was discharged in the Spring following, after reentering at middlebrook, if he recollects the name right, and went home. It was the Spring of 1779. He was in actual service this time 14 or 15 months, in all two years & 3 months. After he joined the army at valley forge, he was at first attached to the 6<sup>th</sup> regiment, Colo. or perhaps Capt. John Stokes Commadant – but that regiment being weakened, he was afterwards transferred to the second Regiment; Captain Cunningham the officer who marched him from Fredericksburg Commanded him in the second regiment. General Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] was his Genl. under Genl. Washington. He also served two tours in the militia from the same county, both at the time of the Seige of Corn Wallis [sic: Siege of Cornwallis at Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], the first one about six weeks, & the last one not so long. He has lost his discharge; and is not able to prove his services, either by writing, or otherwise.

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 whatever.

David Callaham

Questions by the Court to David Callaham.

1<sup>st</sup>. Where & in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in July 1758 in Lunenburg Co. va.

2 Have you any record of your age, & if so where is it?

Ans. I found a record in my father's bible. I took it from there, & have it at home.

3 Where were you living when called in to service; where have you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live?

Ans. When I went in to the service I lived in Lunenburg Co. va since that time, I have lived in Nottoway & Charlotte Co. but mostly and now I live in Campbell Co. va.

4 How were you called in to service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? and if a substitute for whom?

Ans. I first volunteered, in the minnute service as a substitute for my Father, Nicholas Callaham. After that I was drafted to go to the north for one year.

5 State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the troops where you served; such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect; and the general Circumstances of your services.

Ans. In the first there was Major Glenn Capt. James Garland, then Capt. Cunningham, besides Genl. Washington & Genl. Muhlenburg – there are many circumstances, but my declaration contains the most of them.

6 Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Ans. I rec'd. discharge from my northern Campaign; at middlebrook; but what officer signed it I don't recollect, yet I think his name was Cunningham. It is lost.

7 State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Ans. Wm. King, Adam Clement, Reuben Rugby, and Wm W. Matthews – & others.

Campbell County, }

Virginia, to wit, } [27 May 1833]

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, David Callaham, who being duly sworn, deposes and saith; that, by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service in the revolutionary war; but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades. to wit, nine months, as a private in the militia of Lunenburg County va, under capt. Samuel Garland, in the year 1776 as a substitute for his Father, the late Nicholas Callaham. That he served a second tour in that war, also as a private, under Capt. Cunningham who marched the men from Fredericksburg to the north; where he joined the army of Genl. Washington; this tour was at least fourteen months. That he as a private, served a third tour in the militia of said County of six months, at the seige of York; came home and went again; and served in that last tour, also at the siege of York, four weeks; His time of service was in all two years, one month and two weeks. He believes that he served rather longer than the time now mentioned; but he served in each tour as long at least, as is herein stated.

David Callaham

[14 Oct 1833] The amended declaration of David Callaham; his second amendatory statement, explaining the circumstances of his service during the revolutionary war.

The said Callaham, after being duly sworn, states on oath as follows.

That, after having served nine months, as a private in the militia of Lunenburg County as one of the muinete men Va. as a substitute for his Father Nicholas Callaham, in the year 1776, he served a second tour of duty at the north; under Genl. Washington; the most arduous and difficult service he ever performed. The circumstances of this tour were these; there came a call in 1778 from the northward, on

the County of Lunenburg for a certain number of men, to march to the north, and supply the place as he believes of the two years men whose time of service was about to expire; this call extended through all the neighboring counties, and the men marched to Fredericksburg, where the rendezvous was appointed; and where a continental officer rec'd. them, and marched them to the army of Genl. Washington, at valley forge. All the young men in the county were called upon; and a draft made of one man, out of a certain number; he does not recollect how many; he well remembers that many of the young men got married the night before the draft was made, in order to avoid standing a draft. It is certain he, & all were then militiamen; but when they reached Fredericksburg, there were no officers but Continental officers had charge of the men; the militia officers who marched us to that place, returned home. Captain or Colo. Cunningham, though I don't know which, was the continental officer who marched us on to the main army at valley forge; he belonged to the second regiment of the Continental line; (I suppose.) being an officer of the regular army under Genl. Muhlenburg; he Callaham never signed an enlistment roll; did not volunteer; but [illegible word] was called out, or drafted; being one of the militia of said County; and thus went on to the regular army under Genl. Washington & immediately after we reached the army, in the month of march he believes; he Callaham, and eight or nine others; (some of their names he recollects; to wit – James Hoopper [probably James Hooper, pension application W4457], John Hicks, two by the name of Granger; one Breedlove; he don't recollect any more names but John Hudson.) were transferred from the 2<sup>d</sup> regiment under Capt. or Colo. Cunningham or from the care of [illegible word] he marched to the north; to the sixth regiment, commanded by John Stokes; he was however, some time afterwards during that campaign, transferred back to the second regiment. Colo. Cunningham, the officer who marched us to the north, was desirous that we should remain with him; join his regiment; but we from being attached to each other; and meeting with both officers and men, of our acquaintance in the 6<sup>th</sup> regiment, we petitioned to be thereto attached. and Genl. Muhlenburg allowed us to join the 6<sup>th</sup> regiment. He don't know whether he was drafted to fill a vacancy in the state troops or not; he thus joined the continental army; yet he was a militia man when he left home; was drafted as such and never either volunteered, nor enlisted during that northern tour. However unusual it may have been, these are the facts; and he relies upon his good name to prove it; there being no living witness known to him

David Callaham