

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joel Callahan S21110

f62NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/11/07 rev'd 10/20/14

[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.]

South Carolina, Greenville District

On this the tenth day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court in of Common Pleas and General Sessions now sitting Joel Callahan a resident of Greenville District and State of South Carolina aged seventy-eight 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 June 7th 1832.

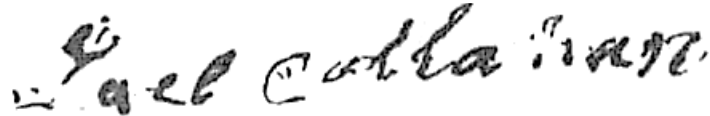
That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated – he thinks he entered the service for the first time in the fall of '77 under Captain Goode [Richard Goode] Colonel Christie [sic, William Christian], Colonel Williams [Joseph Williams] and Major Winston were also in command – he went against the Cherokee Indians on Tennessee River -- the first time he was gone under the above named officers about eight weeks – he marched in the Spring following against the Indians under Colonel Shelby [Evan or Isaac Shelby] and Colonel Robinson down the Chickamauga Nation, burnt the Indian towns, we destroyed their property and took their livestock – was gone on this expedition about eight weeks – came home again and in the year '80 [1780] or '81 [1781] Colonel Sevier [John Sevier] raised men and this applicant was one of them and marched against the Cherokees-- crossed French Broad [River] about 4 miles, came across a party of Indians and killed a parcel of them – then retreated back into “Big Island” and lay until Colonel William Campbell came up – then marched against the Indians again and killed some and destroyed their houses &c was gone about eight weeks in this expedition – After coming home in the year “81” [1781] or “82” [1782] Colonel Sevier gave this applicant a commission of Captain and wrote to him to raise men and meet him on Chucka [sic, Nolichucky River] at what was called the greasy Cove – he met there and had but five men -- went to the Valley Towns on the head of Tennessee [River], was gone two weeks, killed 20 or 30 Indians and took a good number prisoners he then returned home – was again written to by Colonel Sevier to raise a number of men out of so many companies and if the men could not be raised otherwise to draft them, then marched under Colonel Sevier, Colonel Robinson and Major Walton down to the High Hills of Santee, joined General Marion [Francis Marion] was under General Marion three months – went in September and returned home in January, served a three months tour – He thinks he served all together one year and suffered a great deal – He lived in Watauga West Tennessee [sic, then North Carolina] when he entered the service – He volunteered every time he went out – He was in no battles of any importance – he marched through Camden and the Waxhaws –

and whilst with General Marion, Col. Mayum [Hezekiah Maham] and Colonel Horry [probably Daniel Horry, but possibly Peter Horry or Hugh Horry] commanded the Horse – He has no documentary evidence – knows of no one whose testimony he can procure, except Mr. Abner Thompson [sic, Absalom Thompson¹] who served with him in the second campaign against the Indians. 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.

He was born in Virginia Pittsylvania County about the year '54 [1754] – has no record of his age – has lived since the revolution in South Carolina –has received a discharge but lost it-- was given by Colonel Sevier – did receive a commission from Col. Sevier but it is lost – did serve as a Captain about four or five months – besides serving as a Captain at Beans' fort--[illegible first name] Pickett, Mr. Blythe, Mr. Russell and others of his neighbors can testify as [to] his character for truth and good behavior.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Joel Callahan



S/ J McDaniel, C. C. P.

[John B. Chappel, a clergyman, and John Whitten gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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South Carolina, Greenville District

Personally came Absalom Thompson Esq. Before me the Subscribing Justice and made oath in due form of law that he is well acquainted with Joel Callahan, who has lately made application for a pension under the laws of Congress, as a revolutionary Soldier and who is now about 78 years of age, and has been from about the year 1773 up to this time, that he has during that time been regarded and esteemed a true friend to his Country – that in or about the year 1776 the said Callahan done a tour of duty as a private soldier under General Christie [William Christian] marching from then North Carolina now Tennessee against the Cherokee Indians – then about 1779 he the said Callahan done another tour of duty under Colonel Evan Shelby against the Chickamauga Indians – that about the year 1780 he the said Callahan was first Lieutenant in a company commanded by Captain William Bean, which company was ordered to march and join the Army under the command of Colonel Isaac Shelby in North Carolina – that the said Callahan was reputed to have performed many other tours of duty in the American Service – Such as scouring the Country in search of the enemy, guarding the fort &c &c – and that he the said Joel Callahan has been a resident of Greenville District & State aforesaid for the last 30 years and also that the said Joel Callahan has, during his acquaintance with him sustained that character of an honest individual Citizen.

Sworn to & subscribed this 10th May 1833 before me.

S/ Silas R. Whitten, JQ

S/ Abs. Thompson



1 [Absalom Thompson S21533](#)

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South Carolina, Greenville District

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for Greenville District South Carolina Joel Callahan, who being duly sworn Deposeth 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, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades – For eight weeks I served as a private under Captain Goode in the year 1777 against the Cherokee Indians and was under the command of Colonel Christian – For eight weeks I served as a private under Captain Henry Clark in the Spring of 1778 against the Chickamauga Indians under the command of Cols. Shelby and Robinson – For eight weeks I served as a Captain under Colonel John Sevier in 1781 against the Cherokee Indians but cannot prove that I had a commission and the commission is lost, and therefore I am under the necessity of claiming pay as a private – for two weeks I served as a Captain under Colonel Sevier in another expedition against the Cherokee Indians during the same year, but claims pay only as a private. For three months I served as a Captain under Colonel Sevier, Major Jesse Walton in South Carolina near the High Hills of Santee, was under the command of General Marion – For three months I served as a Lieutenant in a Fort on the Holston River, under the command of Captain Jacob Wammack [sic, Jacob Womack?], but claims pay as a private in an as much as his commission was lost and he cannot prove it – I also served in frequent reconnoitering expeditions, and also under the command of Captain William Bean [?] -- but I cannot state with precision the length of my services at each time. I am sure that I served not less than one year and claims pay for that length of time as a pensioner.

The deponent states that he was born in Virginia – Pittsylvania County – has no record of his age – I was born in the year of our Lord 1754 – lived in Tennessee – Washington County when he entered the service – and has lived since the revolution and South Carolina – did receive a discharge from Sevier – did also receive a commission of Lieutenant and Captain from Colonel Sevier but has lost them. These questions the deponent has already answered in his declaration and all others required by the War Department. Sworn to and subscribed this May 12th, 1833.

S/ Richard Thruston, JP

S/ Joel Callahan



[p 10: In an affidavit dated January 26, 1853, Catherine Compton, 60, a resident of Greenville District swore that she and her brother, John Callahan (who last lived in Louisiana), are the only surviving children of John Callahan who died in Spartanburg District in 1847; that John left no widow. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 17: Other records in the file refer to John Callahan's wife as being named Sarah and that she predeceased him, dying 'some 30 thirty ago' in Greenville District South Carolina at John McAfee's [in affidavit dated January 28, 1853 and given by Portman Howard]

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State of North Carolina Comptroller's Office

I William J Clarke, Comptroller of Public Accounts in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears of record in my office, among the payments made by said State to sundry persons for Military services in the Revolutionary War as follows, to wit:

Joel Callihan

Indent or Army Certificate issued by the Auditors of the counties of Washington & Sullivan
No. 753 June 1783 £8S15D6 specie

Ditto June 1783 £25 specie No. 1292

Ditto " " £4S14 " (four) 997 Capt. Joel Callihan

Ditto " " £24S14 " 998 Ditto

Book No. 24 page 80 £11S17D6 specie

" " " " 103 £20S5

In testimony whereof I have hereunto inscribed my name and affixed my seal of office this 14th day of January A.D. 1853

S/ William J Clarke Comptroller

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40.22 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 12 months in 2 days in the North Carolina militia.]