

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Callahan S2417

f15NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/31/10 & rev'd 6/11/18

[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 Tennessee Giles County: At the dwelling house of John Callahan in said County.

On this 12 day of February A.D. 1833 personally appeared before me William M Shields a justice of the peace for said County & State John Callahan a resident of said County and State – aged eighty-seven years the 15th day of January 1833, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following statement, or 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. That is to say – He states that some short time after the Declaration of Independence (he cannot now say precisely how long) he volunteered & went into service under Captain Jacob Nichols – Lieutenant David Henry, and Ensign William Dawkins. When he volunteered for this service & entered into same, he resided in Rowan County in the State of North Carolina, perform said service under the command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. He was marched out of North Carolina during this service into the Cherokee nation of Indians. He was in no battle on this expedition. The Indians having always fled before the American troops. This term of service lasted something over three months during all of which time Applicant was constantly in the service. He was marched on into the said County of Rowan, here he received a discharge from Captain Nichols which he has since lost – during this expedition, the Americans took five or six prisoners, among them were three or four Indians & two white men by the name of Scott & Hicks –

He next entered the service under Captain Jacob Nichols in Colonel Matthew Locke's Brigade sometime in June 1780. He was marched out of Rowan County on this tour into Mecklenburg County & was at Charlotte town in said last mentioned County, where they stayed a considerable time. The object of this service was to watch the movements of the British & Tories and to prevent them from coming up to Charlotte. He was a drafted militia man in this service. He was then no engagements with the enemy on this tour, that he now remembers, he was in this service for about the term of three months. He states he got a discharge from Captain Nichols at the expiration of this service, but has also lost it. He next entered the service under the command of Captain Haden [sic, John Harden] in Colonel Matthew Locke's Regiment in General William Davidson's Brigade. Sometime early in the month of September in the year 1781 and continued in the said service until the close of the war. He cannot tell now precisely how long this last service continued, but it must have been more than a month. He was in the service & in a great many scouting parties during the war, but he cannot now recollect any particular terms so as to state them, except what is above set forth. He now remembers & further

sets forth that in the term of service above mentioned before & next to the last mentioned term, he was in a battle at the Shallow Ford [October 14, 1780]¹ on the Adkin [sic, Yadkin] River in the County of Surry in said State of North Carolina. Said engagement was fought with Tories in which they killed several of the Tories, & wounded many others and the Americans only lost one man to wit: Captain Birch. He was also in a battle on Rocky River with the Tories again under the command of Colonel Davidson [William Lee Davidson]. But he cannot remember on what expedition; Applicant being very aged & infirm, he cannot state with the precision the length of his service in the Revolution, his memory being impaired by age but he believes he served in all at least seven months & one half besides the scouting parties that he [several words interlined and illegible]. He has lost all his discharges – And has no documentary evidence and knows of no person by whom he can prove any of the above facts.

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.

S/ John Callahan, X his mark

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer – he was born on Brandywine Pennsylvania & in the year 1746 – January 15th

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer – I have now in possession at home in my family Bible

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer – When I was called into the service I lived in Rowan County North Carolina State that I live in the State of Georgia a short time & then moved to Giles County State of Tennessee where I now live.

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

Answer – I was drafted

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer – General Rutherford & Colonel Locke the general circumstances of my service is set forth in my declaration accompanying this the No. of Regiment I do not recollect –

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

Answer – I received two discharges by Captain Jacob Nickells [sic] & have lost them both

7th 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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. I am known to Alexander McDonald, Simeon Marsh, Leander M. Shields, William Jones, William Ussary, John C Walker & many others in my present neighborhood who will testify that I am a man of veracity & that they believe I served as I state in the declaration.

S/ John Callahan, X his mark

[Alexander McDonald, a clergyman, and Simeon Marsh gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$25 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for seven months and 15 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_shallow_ford.html