

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Luke Cannon S46373

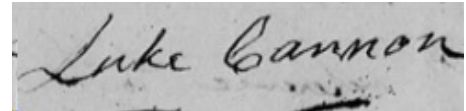
VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 Dec 2018.

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of an Act of the Legislature of the United States entitled an "Act for the relief of certain surviving officers, & soldiers of the Army of the Revolution," approved on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, 1828, I Luke Cannon, of the County of Prince William, in the State of Virginia, do hereby declare that I was an officer in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, & served as such to the end of the War; at which period I was, as I believe, entitled, according to the ordinary rules of promotion, to the rank of Captain; but I have no evidence of having attained a higher grade than that of first Lieutenant in the fourth Virginia Regiment to rank as such from the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1778, as will appear upon reference to the certificate of Colonel Christian Febiger herewith exhibited [not found]. I submit the question of my rank at the close of the revolutionary War, whether it should be that of Captain, or of first Lieutenant, to the constituted authority, after a reference which I cannot, situated as I am, make to the military Archives of the United States; insisting, however, that I ought to be regarded as holding that rank to which I was entitled according to the ordinary, & acknowledged rules of promotion, and which would have been regularly established, & recognized but for the troubles, & disorders of the times; so that, if, after the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1778, there was a vacant Captaincy in the 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line, to which I was next in succession, I ought to be considered as filling it.

I, also, declare that, I, afterwards, received certificates (commonly called commutation certificates,) for a sum equal to the amount of five years' full pay; which sum was offered by the Resolve of Congress of the 22<sup>d</sup>. of March, 1783, instead of the half-pay for life, to which I was entitled under the Resolve of the 21<sup>st</sup>. of October, 1780.

Witness my hand this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1828.



[9 May 1856] I do hereby Certify that I was well acquainted with Lieut. Luke Cannon; that I first knew him about the year 1812 and from that time till his death, which occurred 29<sup>th</sup> February 1829 we were upon intimate terms and living in the same town (Dumfries Prince William County Va) and that he was always reputed as an officer of the Revolutionary Army (a Lieutenant I believe) I also certify that I am well acquainted with his surviving children and lawful heirs to wit: Thomas T. Cannon Mary B. Cannon Mary Cannon and Edith A Norvill.

W. D Dowell

The undersigned at the request of Mr. Thos. T. Cannon of Dumfries Virg' a hereby certifies that he was well acquainted with his father Major Luke Cannon for at least thirty years before his death in 1829 the latter part of the time intimate and have with many others been entertained with a recital of his service in the Revolution. At the battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] he led a company to the charge and he said on that occasion his subaltern faltered and fell back to the rear. His post was immediately supplied by a stout young lieutenant from Maryland named Davis. I saw once a meeting between these two old soldiers they embraced and were much affected. The Major said to us standing around him: "this, gentlemen is the bold Davis you have heard me mention so often."

The files in the war department will show his rank and service in the Revolution, but I may mention also his ranger service in Kentucky at the Commencement of the Revolution in connexion with Taylor Crittenden Craghan Clark, Bullitt Boon and Calloway. Many thrilling incidents were encountered by him in defending the settlements against the Indians.

The undersigned hereby identifies the heirs of Major Luke Cannon as follow vizt Thos. T Cannon Mary B. Cannon and Edith Norvell his children now living near Dumfries and Mary Cannon (widow of Col. Barnaby Cannon son of Luke) and Margaret Ann Goods his daughter who reside in Dumfries. When

the British fleet ascended the Potomac in 1814 Major Cannon then upwards of seventy years of age was active on horseback in Camp and one night rode up (to where the undersigned who had a detachment and had built a fire) and commanded the fire to be extinguished saying the light and smoke would discover our position and cause the enemy to fire on us. He acted as a sort of Volunteer aid and as well as I recollect was with us most of the time.

Washington County/ Dis. Col'a.

W. S. Colquhoun

[The following is among [bounty warrants in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

May 14 1783

I Do Certify that Lieut Luke Cannon intered the service the 21 of July 1777 Continued in actual service until the first of Jan'y 1783 Since the Date last Mentioned he is become a Redundant officer according the Resolve of Congress Gus't. B. Wallace [Gustavus Brown Wallace]/ Lt. Colo 2<sup>d</sup> V R.

I do hereby Certify that Lieutenant Luke Cannon [one or two illegible words] a Quarter master to the[?] Second Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment from the fifteenth day of November one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight till seventeenth day of July one thousand seven hundred and eighty one having been regularly appointed for that purpose.

Given under my hand this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 1783 Gus't. B. Wallace/ Lt. Colo 2<sup>d</sup> V R

[The following are among the [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#) Other papers in the online file are illegible.]

Prince William Coity Court March 7<sup>th</sup> 1833

The Court doth assign John Williams Guardian to John F. B. Cannon and Margaret Ann Cannon Orphans of Barnaby Cannon dec. and [undeciphered word] the said John Williams with Robert [undeciphered] his security, entered into and acknowledges a bond [two undeciphered words] penalty of \$600 [two undeciphered words] according to law which bond is ordered to be recorded.

A Copy/ Teste Jn Williams [undeciphered word]

[6 Jul 1835] Memorial of the heirs of Luke Cannon to the Executive of Virginia

Your memorialists represent to the Executive of Virginia that they are all the heirs of Luke Cannon a Capt Lieut [see endnote] in the Virginia continental line during the war of the revolution and that they reside in the County of Prince William Virginia. They have been informed and believe that the said Luke Cannon entered the Va Continental line at an early period of the war and they find from the proceedings of the Board of Officers assembled by order of Baron Steuben at Chesterfield Feb'y 10 - 1781 that the said Luke Cannon is reported a Capt Lieut in the 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment formerly of the 11 Reg't. It also appears from the records of the office of the Register of the Land office of Virginia that the following bounty land warrants were issued for the military services of the said Luke Cannon as Lieut Viz 2666b acres 31 May 1783, for 3 years & 148 acres for 4 months over six years service 12 Feb'y 1783. Your memorialists contend that as they never have received the difference in bounty land due a Capt Lieut that they are yet entitled to that difference and respectfully request the Executive of Virginia to direct the Register of the Land office of Virginia to issue bounty land warrants to our attorney in fact John P DuVal for the additional bounty land due us as the only heirs of said Captain Lieutenant Luke Cannon

Signed by the heirs/ Penelope Cannon Mary B Cannon Thomas Cannon  
Edith A Cannon Nath R. Cannon

Jno Williams Guardian of Jno F Cannon & Margaret A Cannon orphans of Barnaby Cannon dec'd

NOTE: A Captain-Lieutenant commanded a company but held the rank of a Lieutenant. Often such an arrangement was made in order that the Colonel of a regiment could be nominally the Captain of a company.