

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Youen (Edwin) Carden S8178
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia Fluvanna County to wit on this 23^d day of March 1835 personally appeared before the Court of said County Youen Carden aged about seventy three years who being first sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the 1781 with Lieutenant Benjamin Garnett and served in the 7th Regiment of the Continental Line in a troop of Cavalry under Captain Baylor [Walker Baylor, pension application X53]. That he was enlisted in the County of Cumberland Va in the Spring of 1781 by Lieutenant Garnett to service during the war, that Garnett was recruiting men in that County and this declarant remained with him in that County until they were orderd to march with the men they had toward york Town, that they impressed Horses to mount the men enlisted and marched to york Town & were under the Command of Captain Baylor, that after the siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] the company of cavalry under Baylor together with other troops were ordered to Charleston S Carolina. that they marched through Petersburg and through the Lower or Sandy parts of North Carolina to Charleston. this declarant recollects that Col'n [Henry] Lee had the command of the Cavalry, Col'n [William] Washington having been taken prisoner by the Brittish some short time before [at the Battle of Eutaw Springs, 8 Sep 1781], that Genl Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] had the command in chief that he remained in South Carolina in active service princpally in Charleston & its neighborhood until after peace was made with Great Brittain, when he was discharged, that he remand in Charleston some time after his discharge expecting to be sent on to Virginia by water, but the yellow fever breaking out at Charleston, this appliant with others left Charleston on foot he thinks in August 1783 and returnd to Va that some of the Cavalry took their horses at valuation in lieu of wages, but this declarants Horse being unsound he did not think proper to take him, that this declarant was in several slight skimishes with the Tories, & that not far from Savanna the detachment was attacked in the night by a party of Indians [at Ebenezer GA, 23 Jun 1782], that the night was dark & rainy The attack a violent one, and repulsed with great loss to the assailants. he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid
Youen hisXmark Carden

State of Virginia Fluvanna County Towit
this day [31 Jul 1835] William Moody [pension application S38233] a creditable person, a resident of the County of Fluvanna personally appeard before me George Stillman a justice of the peace in & for the County afosaid and made oath in due form of Law, that he is well aquated with Yeuen Carden who is now personally present, that he first became acquainted with the said Carden in the State of Georgia during the Revolutionary War, that the said Carden was then a private Soldier in Col'n Washingtons Regiment of Horse, the said Moody then belonged to Washgton infantry. from Georgia this affiant marched to Ashley Hills in S Carolina in Compy with the s'd Carden & from thence to Charleston S Carolina, and that he personally knows that the said Carden remaind in Service untl the Troops were discharged at Charleston after the close of the war.
William hisXmark Moody

Youen Carden this day personally appears before me a justice of the peace in & for the County afosaid and on oath states that, when he inlisted he recd the bounty money to which he was entitled – he thinks five pound, that when he left Charleston he applyed to his officers for money but did not get any and that he never made any application afterwads for his pay neither did he ever receve it – that shortly after the passage of the act of Congress grantg pensions he applyd to V M Southall Esqr of Albemarle County to get his pension for him, that the applicaiton was made on two succeedg court days when M Southall was

too much engaged to attend to it – that shortly after he moved to the County of Fluvanna where he was a stranger & knew of no person to apply to until recommended to George Stillman.

Youen hisXmark Carden

Fluvanna Sep 4 1835

Yowing Carden an applicant for a pension, lived in the employment of the late Thomas Jefferson as a miller for many years during which time I knew him well and saw him almost daily, having to superintend him in the discharge of his duties. I believed him strictly honest and whatever he asserted was to be believed
Thomas J Randolph [grandson of Thomas Jefferson]

Albermarle [sic: Albemarle County]
State of Virginia

I William F. Carden of the County and State aforesaid, aged fifty three years old, do hereby certify that my Father cannot write his name; and upon looking over his papers I find his name spelt several different ways. I have seen it spelt Youing, Ewuel, and Ewin. When he lived with Thomas Jefferson Esq'r (late President of the United States) I had the reading of the notes that Mr. Jefferson sent to him; and he seldom spelt his Christian name twice the same way. Ever sence I was old enough to be conversint with the history of the war of the Revolution; I have often heard my Father and others say; he was in the Revolutionary War. He has a scare [scar] on his right leg, which I have often heard him say; he receivd, while in the service of his Country, for he always spoke of it, with great apparent satisfaction. The tour he served was in the Light Horse. given under my hand this twenty ninth day of August 1845

Wm. F. Carden

The affidavit of Thomas Jefferson Randolph given on the 28 of october 1845 at the house of Hugh Minor in the county of Albemarle and state of Virginia

I am now fifty three years old and have known Mr Carden since 1806 he about that time entered the employment of the late President Jefferson and continued in his employment to about the time of Mr Jefferson death [4 Jul 1826] Carder is an ignorant man not knowing how to read or write and having a singular christian name which he could not write himself no one knew exactly what the name was. it was written by Mr Jefferson Youen. he was sometimes called Yowan Ewen and sometimes Edwin. he was always deemed an honest truth telling man and was trusted by Mr Jefferson with great confidence which he deserved. He often spoke of his revolutionary service. showed a wound on his leg which he stated he got at the battle of Eutaw [sic] When I was a lad he often spoke to me of his service during the revolution and mentioned a fact mentioned by Lee in his southern campaign of the night attack of a body of Creek Indians on the lines of the American army before Charleston after the battle of Eutaw which he was not likely to have known if he had not been present as I have seen it mentioned in no other history of the war I have heard Mr Jefferson speak of his revolutionary service and I had never supposed a doubt existed of the fact. I had previously given a deposition in relation to Mr Carden being requested to do on a public occasion when I had little time to recall conversation and fact occurring nearly forty years ago. Many facts then omitted having since occurred to me I have now added them [signed] Th. J. Randolph

NOTES:

A certificate from the Treasury Department shows payments to "Edwin Cardin" on 1 Jan 1785. A letter dated 23 July 1845 states that supporting statements were to be obtained from John Jacobs (pension application W9071) and Dennis Dailey (S30375), who had served with Carden.

The file contains a certificate that "Edward alias Youen Cardin" died at home in Greene County VA on 21 March 1850 leaving William F. Carden as the only known surviving child, and that two other children, Judith and Mary Carden, had moved to parts unknown and not been heard from for 20 years.