

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Cannon S8187

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/7/07 rev'd 10/24/14

[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.]

State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District

On this 29th day of September, 1832, personally appeared in open Court, Court of Sessions of Common Pleas, now sitting Henry Cannon aged 81 years the 11th day of April last a resident of Greenville District State of South Carolina, 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. I volunteered and entered the service of my country about the 1st of October, 1775, under the command of Captain McClanniham.¹ I do not nor can I recollect the precise day on which I entered the service. I resided, when I volunteered, in Culpeper County State of Virginia. I was marched to a place called the long Bridge in the State of Virginia where I was in a small engagement,² the regiment was commanded by Col. Stevens [Edward Stevens]. I do not recollect the officers present on that occasion, except a Captain Fountain from about the mountains. The killed and wounded amounted to 26 or 28 in number. I was then marched to Norfolk where I continued till about the last of April, 1776 where during the winter we were much harassed by Lord Dunmore [John Murray, Earl of Dunmore, last Royal Gov. of the colony of Virginia] who left his castle and together with the enemy lay in the vessels from which they would frequently fire on the Americans. About the last of April, 1776 the Americans set fire to about half the town and left it; the other half having been previously burned by the British. I then returned home where I think I staid about the space of two months perhaps not so long. I then was marched to old James Town Virginia, still under the command of Captain McClanniham nothing material occurred and about the last of November we were dismissed. I do not recollect that at this time any of the regular troops were present it being the commencement of the Revolution as I distinctly recollect we ran Lord Dunmore from his castle as it was then termed into the vessel, where he remained until we left Norfolk. I was in actual service about 13 months. I have no documentary evidence, and I know of no person whose testimony will be of service to me or who can testify to my service. I was born in Stafford County Virginia on the 11th of April 1752 as I have been informed and believe. I have no record of my age. I was living in Culpepper County Virginia when I volunteered. I lived in the same County after the end of the Revolutionary War till 1784 when I moved to the State of South Carolina Spartanburg District where I resided till about 22 years ago when I went to Greenville District State of South Carolina not far from the line between Greenville and Spartanburg.

1 This MAY be a reference to a Capt. William McClanahan of the Culpeper County, Virginia militia; McClanahan being described at <http://www.cmmsar.com/history.html> as a Baptist minister who regularly preached to his troops.

2 This is probably a reference to the Battle of Great Bridge which was fought December 9, 1775, in the area of Great Bridge, Virginia, during the American Revolutionary War. The victory by the Continental Army was responsible for removing Lord Dunmore and any other vestige of English Government for the Colony of Virginia during the early days of the Revolution. Shortly thereafter, Norfolk, (at the time a Tory center) was captured and destroyed, cementing Continental hold on Virginia.

I volunteered. I do not believe the Continental Army was in existence when I was in the service as it was at the beginning of the war. I never received any written discharge. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

To the questions proposed by the Court I answer: --- 1st I was born in Stafford County Virginia, 11th April 1751.--- 2nd I have no Record of my age, and only know, by the information of my Elder Brother who knows of my birth.--- 3rd I resided in Culpepper Virginia when I went into service and have resided in South Carolina since the war.--- 4th See the written declaration.--- 6th I never had a written discharge.--- 7[th] I refer to the Reverend Ellis Cannon to Jesse Green and Jesse Rector who will know my Character for truth and moral deportment.

S/ Henry Cannon

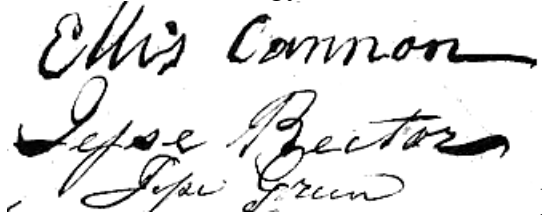


Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John B. O'Neill

Pres Judge

[Ellis Cannon, a clergyman, Jesse Rector & Jesse Green gave the standard supporting affidavit.



The State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District

Personally appeared before me, the under signed, a Justice of the Peace, Henry Cannon, who being duly sworn, deposeseth & saith, that by reason of old age, and 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 period mentioned below and in the following grade: I volunteered my service as a private for the term of twelve months to the best of my knowledge and belief in Culpepper County Virginia on the first of October 1775 under Captain McClannaham. I was discharge the last of November 1776 having served thirteen months. In answer to the fifth Interrogatory I do not believe the Continental Army was in existence at the time I volunteered and served. If it did then exist it was not at Norfolk to the best of my knowledge and belief. My services were rendered at the commencement of the Revolution.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me the 23rd day of September 1833.

S/ Henry Cannon

S/ H. J. Dean

J.P.

State of South Carolina Spartanburg District

Personally appeared before me the Subscribing Justice of the Peace in & for said district Henry Cannon, who being duly sworn deposeseth & saith, in addition or explanation of his original Declaration & amendment thereto, that upon reflection he finds he must have been mistaken in declaring he volunteered his services in the Revolutionary War: that he came to the conclusion he volunteered from the fact that he entered the service voluntarily – But to the best of his knowledge & recollection on the

first of October 1775 he enlisted in the State Troops of Virginia, for the term of twelve months, in Culpepper County Virginia, under the command of Capt. McClannigham [sic] & was still a minute man. That when he returned from Norfolk he remained at home about two months – and was then called on to fill out the Term of his enlistment; that when so called on he served until the last of November 1776 when he was verbally discharged by Capt. McClannigham at Old James Town Virginia, having been in actual service eleven months, exclusive of his two months stay at home – And that he has in his declaration confounded his liability to serve with the service itself, as he ever, during his stay at home, held himself in readiness to march when called on: and was not employed in any civil pursuit while at home – he therefore came to the conclusion he had served thirteen months.

S/ Henry Cannon

Sworn to & subscribed before me the 22nd day of January 1834

S/ H. J. Dean

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 10 months in the Virginia militia.]