

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension application of James Cuningham (Cunningham) S8273

fn11SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/10/11

[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. 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 fails 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of South Carolina, Laurens County: In the Common Pleas

On this seventeenth day of October personally appeared in open court before Richard Gantt one of the Judges of the court of common pleas now sitting James Cunningham a resident of Laurens District South Carolina aged 79 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> 1732. That he entered the service of the United States under he following named officers & served as herein stated—He entered the service as a volunteer in the year 1776 under Capt. Kilgore [Benjamin Kilgore], Major Downs [Jonathan Downs],<sup>1</sup> Col. James Williams & Genl. Williamson [Andrew Williamson] & went on an expedition against the Cherokee Indians & was absent upon duty No. 1 at least 5 months—then returned home but received no written discharge.

In 1779 he again volunteered & acted as Captain under Col. Williams & Genl. Williamson & marched to Liberty Hill near Augusta (head quarters). From that point was frequently out upon scouting parties; remained there in that kind of warfare No. 2 at least 4 months service was then discharged after coming up to Ninety Six. He again volunteered [&] joined Greene's army & was at the Siege of Ninety Six. During the Siege was under militia officers [whose names are] not recollected—When Greene retreated , he returned home. He has no documentary evidence but Zachariah Bailey will testify to my services in the Indian expedition & Robert Hannah<sup>2</sup> will testify as to my services in expedition to Liberty Hill—Joseph Babb & \_\_\_ will testify as to my character for veracity & good behavior. I was living in Craven County now Laurens District when I entered the service.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name in not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

I was born in Bedford County Virginia in the year 1753.

I have a copy taken from the original record of my age as recorded by my father.

I was living in Craven County now Laurens District when I entered the service & have lived here ever since.

I performed all my Revolutionary services as a volunteer.

I have no recollection of the names of the regular [army officers] except Greene.

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1 [Jonathan Downs W21000](#)

2 [Robert Hanna S22290](#)

I never received a discharge or commission.

The Rev. Joseph Babb and H. C. Young are persons acquainted with me in my neighborhood and can testify as to my character for veracity & good behavior and Zachariah Bailey & Robert Hannah will testify as to services.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Jas. Cuningham



S/ John Garlington, Clk. L. Dist.

[Joseph Babb, a clergyman and H. C. Young gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

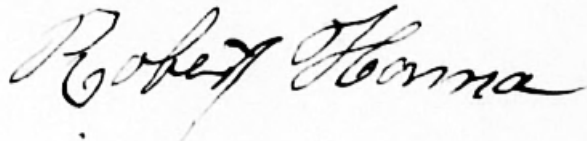
State of South Carolina, Laurens District

A personally appeared in open court Robert Hannah [sic] & being duly sworn according to law on his oath saith that he is well acquainted with the applicant James Cunningham, and well knows that he was on the expedition to Liberty Hill near Augusta in 1779 under Col. Williams & General Williamson. This deponent knows this from the fact: that he himself was to have gone on the same expedition, but being quite young his father procured a Substitute to take his place.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & date aforesaid.

S/ Robert Hanna

S/ John Garlington, Clk L. Dist.



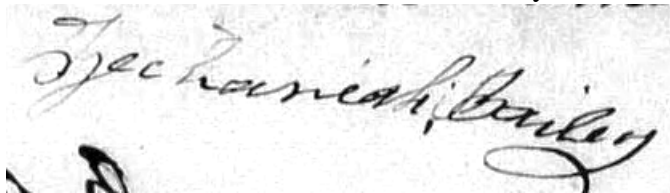
State of South Carolina, Laurens district

Personally appeared in open court Zachariah Bailey & being duly sworn doth on his oath saith that he was acquainted with the applicant James Cunningham in the Revolutionary War & well knows that the applicant was on the Indian expedition in 1776 under Major Downs, Col. Williams & General Williamson, as this deponent was on the same expedition at the same time.

And sworn to & subscribed the day & date aforesaid.

S/ John Garlington, Clk L. Dist.

S/ Zechariah Bailey



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]