

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Cannday (Canady) S9161

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } Ss:

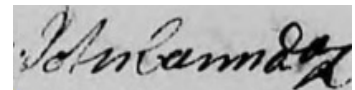
County of Stafford }

On this 10th day of December 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before Thos. Tauson, Thomas Hill, Geo. M Cooke & Jas. Briggs the Court now sitting, John Canaday, a resident at and keeper of the mill of Samuel Marquess, in the county of Stafford in the sixty eighth year of his age, 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States, under the following named Officers and served as herein stated. That he enlisted in the month August 1778 (as well as he now recollects) under Midshipman Benjamin Strother [pension application R97], to serve three years in the Virginia State Navy. That a short time after his enlistment, he went agreeably to orders to Frazier's Ferry, on Mattapony River [sic: Frazer's Ferry on Mattaponi River], where he entered the service on board the Ship Tempest, Commanded by Capt. Celey Sanders [sic: Celey Saunders]; first Lieutenant Michael James [R47], second Lieutenant, William Steel [sic: William Steele, R96]; first Midshipman Benjamin Strother, Second Midshipman John Robbins; Third Midshipman John Peirce, Almand Saunders Gunner & Boatswain. John Wilkinson Boatswains Mate, John McNickle Surgeon, Thomas Landrum Surgeons Mate,

The said Ship sailed to the Chesapeake bay, which was her general cruising Ground. was at Hampton Fort, where they lay some time, had a skirmish with a British Brig, off Hog Island, which they captured [1779]; The Ship Tempest mounted 21 Guns. – Beside the Tempest, Capt Celey Sanders had the Command as Commodore of the Ship Dragon, commanded by Capt. [Eleazer] Callender, and the Tartar, Commanded by Capt. William Sanders [sic: William Saunders, R89]. The said Canaday states that he continued on board the Tempest, until she was blockaded in Chickahominy River in 1781, when she was deserted by her crew, to escape being taken prisoners by the enemy. Her crew remained at and about New Castle [now Old Church] in Hanover County Va. The said Canaday being there, until the siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], when they marched thither and assisted in the siege, till the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, when the said Canaday was discharged, having served a short time over the term of his enlistment. That he has no written discharge, and has no documentary evidence except John Higdon's affidavit, filed in the war office and that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service.

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. Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.



Interrogatories propounded to John Canaday, by the County Court of Stafford on Monday the 10th day of December 1832.

1st. Where, and in what year were you born?

Ans'r I was born in Westmoreland County Va. about two miles of Mattox Bridge on the 21st. of August 1764 as I am informed.

2^d. Have you any record of your age; and if so where is it?

Ans'r. My age was recorded in my Fathers register, in Westmoreland, but I have it not

3^d. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary war,

and where do you now live?

Ans'r. I lived in Westmoreland when I at first enlisted; since the revolutionay war I lived five years in Fairfax County Va. about fifteen years in Fauquier having followed the seafaring life until 1804, the present year I have lived in Stafford County Va.

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

Ans'r. I enlisted for three years, as stated in my declaration.

5th. State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the Troops where you served; such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans'r. Whilst in the naval service the officers are named in my declaration who commanded us. When I was in the foot service at the Siege of York Gen'l. Washington was commander in Chief; I served under Capt Alexander Parker who was afterward promoted to be Colonel.

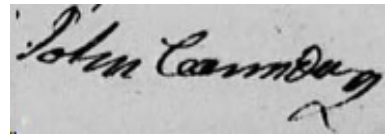
6 Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and, if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Ans'r. I never received a written discharge, my term of service was not out, by near two months, when we were ordered to quit the shipping, and the remainder of my service was at the siege at York, where I stayed a considerable time after my term was at an end, and after Cornwallis surrendered.

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 of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Ans'r. I am not personally acquainted with as many persons in Stafford, as I am in Fauquier County, but among them I refer to Samuel Marquess, my Employer, to Edward Burrage Sen'r George W. Stone & Francis Curtis.

Signed & Sworn to by the said John Cannaday in open court this tenth day of December 1832



[The following are among the [bounty warrant papers in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

The Governor of Virginia

Your Petitioner John Cannaday of the County of Stafford Respectfully States

That at an early period of the Revolutionary war he enlisted on board of the Ship, Tempest under the Command of Capt. Celey Saunders of the Virginia State Navy and remained in Service three years having enlisted to serve that length of time.

Your petitioner was on board a greater part of the time in the character of a Powder Boy – being young and small at the time

Your petitioner would have asked before this for his Bounty Land so justly due him, but as there was no land to be got from Virginia until recently as he has been informed, he applied to the Gen'l. Government & failed in his application because he was not on Continental Establishment.

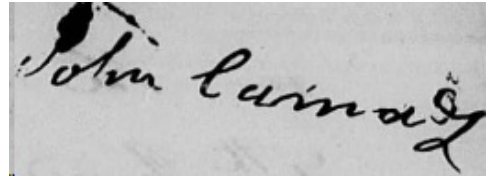
Your petitioner now prays that your Excellency will accord to him his Land to which he knows he is so justly entitled and hopes the evidence accompanying this application will be satisfactory

And feels himself in duty bound ever to pray –



I Charles Higdon do certify that John Cannady is the identical man he represents himself to be and that his servises were of the kind he represents them to be, to my knowledge – I was with him in service – As witness my hand this the 2nd April 1832 Ch. Higdon

NOTE: In a letter dated 10 Oct 1836 Cannday signed as follows:

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "John Cannady". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The letters are connected and fluid, with a prominent loop at the end of the word "Cannady".