

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James McPherson W5896

Nancy Cannon<sup>1</sup>

f23SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/26/09: rev'd 2/5/17

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

[p 5]

State of Georgia County of Walton: SS

On this 25th day of December 1851 before me Thomas J. Trammell one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of said County personally appeared Mrs. Nancy Cannon a resident of said County aged 84 years (the said Nancy Cannon being unable from bodily infirmity to attend in open Court) who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by Congress in the act passed 7th of July 1838 and other acts making provision for the widows of Revolutionary Soldiers. That her maiden name was Nancy Spaulding that her parents resided during the war in the State of Virginia that soon after said war they moved near to Columbia South Carolina, that she this deponent there became acquainted with James McPherson and was legally married to him on the 1st day of March 1785, by an old church minister whose name is now forgotten, that her husband the said James McPherson was a private soldier in the war of the Revolution and served in the State of South Carolina under the command of Col. Thomas Taylor and other officers whose names are forgotten, that she knows nothing in regard to the service of her said husband only what she frequently heard him say and others who served with him that she often heard him speak of performing a good deal of service under Col. Taylor, that Col. Taylor resided near to her and her husband, that she was well acquainted with him and heard him speak of her said husband being a faithful soldier, but that she cannot at this late period recollect to give a definite history of the service performed by her said husband, she further declares that her first child Thomas McPherson was born in April 1786, and her second child James McPherson, was born in January 1788. That her husband the said James McPherson died in Richland District South Carolina 3 years and 11 months to a day after their marriage as stated above, leaving this deponent a widow with two small children above named, that she still lived in Richland district and again married to Roger Cannon on the 9th day of September 1790, that they then moved to Sumter District where her second husband the said Roger Cannon died in the year 1805 or 6 leaving this deponent again a widow, that she remained in Sumter District until the year 1823 or 4 when she removed to Georgia Monroe County where she lived about one year, then moved to Walton County Georgia where she still lives a widow, and has never married since the death of Roger Cannon in 1805 or 6 as stated above.

This deponent further declares that she has no documentary evidence in support of her

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<sup>1</sup> Former widow

statements above except a record of the births of her two children above named, which is in the hand writing of her first husband James McPherson, that it has been kept in her possession and has undergone no change.

She further states that she made the same statements in the form of a declaration for a pension in the year 1845, but from neglect the declaration was never filed and cannot at this time be found, that in support of her claim she depends upon the proof that may accompany this declaration and she hereby authorizes George H. Jones of Washington City to prosecute the above claim for her.

S Nancy Cannon, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 25th day of December 1851

S/ Thomas J. Trammell, JIC

[p 2]

Thomas McPherson Was Borne the 19 Day of N Aprill in the Year of our Lord 1786

James McPherson Was Borne the Year of 1788 in January the 28 Day

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[p 9]

State of South Carolina District of Richland:

Personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Magistrate within and for said District Thomas McPherson who being duly sworn according to law saith, That he is now upwards of 80 years of age and remembers clearly and distinctly the War of the Revolution and that at the time of said war he lived in what is now Richmond District South Carolina and in the same neighborhood where he now lives, and was at that time as he was informed by his parents 16 years of age at the time the British took possession of Charleston South Carolina [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]: That he was drafted to serve under Col. Thomas Taylor on the Whig side but was excused on account of his early age: That he distinctly

& perfectly recollects the fact of his eldest brother James McPherson's serving under said Col. Thomas Taylor and Capt. Strother [Kemp T. Strother] in the American cause in that War: at and before his brother's going out as aforesaid he and said Col. Thomas Taylor both lived in same neighborhood with this Deponent. That this Deponent's said brother James McPherson was a private horseman in said service under said Col. Taylor and said brother told deponent afterwards that in the said service he had been to Orangeburg and Charleston & was in the battle at Camden and had gone to Virginia under said Taylor: That after said brother came home from said service which was performed in different years for 2 or 3 years under said Col. Taylor and within 3 or 4 years after said war said brother married Nancy Spaulding, and that they had two sons Thomas and James McPherson the first of whom was within about four and the latter within about six years after the close of said war: That said brother James McPherson, to this Deponent's own certain knowledge served under said Col. Taylor, married as aforesaid, and died at the house of this Deponent's mother within 7 or 8 years after said war and near where Columbia in said District now stands. That afterwards said Nancy his said brother's widow married Mr. Cannon and moved beyond Camden in this State: That her son James moved, as he said deponent understood then, to the West and the last this Deponent's saw of said Mrs. Nancy Cannon was about seventy-six or seven years ago and while yet said Col. Taylor was living and in said neighborhood, That Thomas Brown lived soon after said war in same neighborhood and in the same District William Meyer Justice of the Peace lived: that this Deponent is entirely disinterested in any amount which said Nancy Cannon may recover on account of this Deponents said brother's services as aforesaid.

Sworn to and subscribed this 13th day of October 1851 before me

S/ A. Fitch, Magistrate

S/ Thomas McPherson, X his mark

[p 21: SC Comptroller General's certificate reflects that the veteran served 277 days "as Private on Horse at 20/currency per day from 5 Augt. 1780 to 1 April 1782 in the militia.... under "Col. Thomas Taylor...at Ancrums under the Command of Capt. Strother...30 days as horseman...at Orangeburgh under command of Capt. Campt Strother... 60 days as horseman...."]

[Veteran's former widow was granted a pension at the rate of \$38.66 per annum for her former husband service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]