To the Honorable The Speaker and members of the General Assembly of Virginia

The petition of Ruth Canterbury widow & Relic of Joseph Canterbury Deceased Humbly represents to your Honorable body that Joseph Canterbury her late husband enlisted in the Service of the United States in the revolutionary war for three years under Captain __ Tollaver [Taliaferro?] in the 1776 or 77 leaving your Petitioner with eight small Children to support by her Labour, and that the said Joseph Canterbury never returned to his family after he entered the Service of the United States, and died in the Army, as your petitioner was informed.

Your petitioner would further represent to your Honorable body that her Labour and industry and without any aid whatever She Supported her children and raise them up to manhood, and that they are now dispersed and Scattered in three or four States of the Union.

Your Petitioner would further represent that she is about Eighty-five years of age a Citizen of the County of Giles and through the blessings of God have enjoyed good health until about three or four years past, when she became Paralyzed, and lost the use of her arms so that she cannot now Support herself by Labour, which she heretofore did. She therefore prays that your Honorable body will take her humble petition into Consideration and grant her a small pension to support her through the evening Shade of Life.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c

S/ Ruth Canterbury

[Attested in Giles County Virginia November 26, 1825]

[The file contains an affidavit signed by several residents of Giles County as to the reputation for honesty and indigency of the petitioner.]
[Note: John H. Gwathmey, comp. *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution: Soldiers, Sailors Marines: 1775-1783*, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc., reprint 1979 contains the following information regarding a veteran named Joseph Canterbury:

- Canterbury, Joseph, in Benjamin Taliaferro's Company, Morgan's Rifleman. Of Giles [County Virginia]
- Canterbury, Joseph (Canteberry) 6 CL [6th Virginia Regiment of the Continental line]
- Canterbury, Joseph Jr., 6 CL]