Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Cain R1587 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

On this 2nd day of April 1833 personally appeared before the County Court of Christian County State aforesaid John Cain aged sixty six or sixty seven years who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the united States in the year 1781 with Captain Lemuel Cooper and served in the Regiment Commanded by Colo Swearongen or Swanagan [sic: Van Swaearingen] in the Continental line under the following officers, Generals [Daniel] Morgan & Dark, Colo Swearengen or Swanagan in the Company Commanded by Capt Lemuel Cooper. He will remark that he is unable to name the Regiment by No as he was aged only about fifteen or sixteen years and immediately after enlisting he was taken by Capt Cooper as a waiter. That he left the service in the month of August or Sept 1782. That he lived in Winchester Virginia at the time of enlisting, that he marched from thence to Monmouth, where the regiment to which he belonged was stationed as a guard to take care of prisoners [taken at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781]

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present, and he declares [that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.] In answer to Interogatories. He states, That he was born in Manbridge Ireland. He cannot say what year he was born He has no record of his age. He lived in Winchester Virginia as before stated when called into the service. He lived a short time in Pensylvania after he left the service and then went on board the brig Betsey & made two Voyages He was some time on Board the gun Boats. He then lived twenty five or thirty years in Shanadore [sic: Shenandoah] County Virginia. He then lived in the State of Ohio and then lived near Hopkinsville Christian County Kentucky where he now lives.

He enlisted in the Regular Service during the war He has stated as far as he can recollect the names of all the officers, Regiments and general circumstances so far as recollected. He received discharge at the time of leaving the service either from Capt Cooper or Capt Downey, and lost it in a few weeks after receiving it

He will name Capt Daniel Henry, Col Wm Henry and Joseph Sively who live in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution Sworn to & subscribed the date first above stated

John his Xmark Cain

State of Kentucky } SS. Christian County }

On this 4th day of February 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Christian County Court now sitting John Cain aged sixty seven or sixty eight years – who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

That he was born in Manbridge Ireland in the year 1765 or 66 and came from thence to the United States and lived in Winchester Va. He has no record of his age. That in December 1781 at Winchester Va He enlisted as a private for and during the War of the Revolution with one Capt Lemuel Cooper in a Regt. Commanded by Col. Swarengen or Swanagen of the Continental line & Commanded by Gen'ls. Morgan & Dark. He is unble to state the no of the Reg't. as he was only about sixteen years of age and shortly after his enlistment was taken by Capt Cooper as a Waiter – That they remained in the Town of Winchester Va in Winter quarters and guarding the Prisoners until Ap'l 82 and then marched on with the

Prisoners Crossing at Harpers Ferry. Went through Hagerstown – Harrisburgh [sic: Harrisburg] on to Philedelphia and then returned through Bristol – Trenton – Woodbridge – to Elizabeth Town New Jersey and lay there until we were discharged in August 1783 That he received a Discharge from Capt Cooper or Capt Downey but lost it in a few weeks afterwards – he has no documentary evidence nor does he know of any person by whom he can proove his actual service That he has stated the names & Ranks of the Officer he served with so far as he now recollects them – that after he quit the service of the United States he lived a short time in Pensylvania and then went on board the Brig Betsy & made two Voyages he was some time on board the gun Boats. He then lived twenty five or thirty years in Shenandoah County Va and a short time in the State of Ohio and from thence removed to Christian County Kentucky where he now resides.

That from his best recollection he served at least Twenty months in the service of the United States during the War of the Revolution

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or anuity, except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any State [signed] John Cain

NOTE: On 19 Jan 1842 Margaret Cain, aged 85 on 4 June 1841, living 9 or 10 miles from Hopkinsville, applied for a pension stating that she married John Cain on 22 Nov 1786, and he died on 25 Dec 1840. The file includes by mistake papers relating to a different John Cain, pension application R1588.