

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Canter S42642

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Ohio     }

Jackson County   ss }

Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Jackson and State of Ohio aforesaid May term 1824 and the 27th day of May aforesaid personally appeared in open court this court being a court of record in and for the County aforesaid John Canter aged about seventy years and resident in the said County of Jackson who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he was in the year 1779 & 1780 a citizen of Virginia and was in 1779 & 1780 he does not now recollect distinctly which and during the Revolutionary War drafted as a soldier for Eighteen months sevice in said war and served out a part of said time in the company of Captain Bedinger or Berdinger in the Regiment commanded by Col Darks or Dark under General Daniel Morgan that before the said time of service expired in Winchester Virginia he the said John Canter enlisted into the service of the Government as a soldier during the war in the Company of Captain Finly or Findley that he was enlisted by Col Holmes in may 1781 as near as he can now recollect and was put into the company of the said Finly in a Regiment commanded by one Colonel Dark or Darks under the command or in the Brigade of General Morgan that he served as a soldier from the time of his said enlistment during the said War and was honorably discharged at the end of the war in 1782 or 1783 that he received a certificate of discharge which he has lost & is not now able to produce and that he has no other proof of his service than his statement aforesaid and the affidavit of Thomas Canter a brother hereunto annexed the number of the Regiment and the Christian names of the Officers otherwise than as above stated he does not now recollect that at the time of his said enlistment and ever since he has been a Citizen and resident of the United States and that he the said John Canter at no time before or since the first day of March 1818 by gift sale or in any manner has disposed of his property or any part thereof with a view or intent thereby so to diminish it so as to bring himself within the provisions of an Act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary War passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that he has not nor has any person in trust for him any property securities contracts or debts due to him nor hath he any income other than what is mentioned in the schedule here below and by him subscribed to wit one horse of the value of fifteen dollars and one cow of the value of seven dollars

John hisXmark Canter

And the said John Canter doth further declare that by occupation he is a farmer and of an age incapable of doing much labour has a wife aged about sixty and quite infirm living with him and a Daughter Mary fifteen years old a son Hiram 27 years old who is a lunatic both living with him and wholly dependent on him for a support and four other sons John 39 years old, Henry 26 years old, James 30 years old married and Daniel 23 years old unmarried all living abroad and not in circumstances to render him any assistance and that he is actually in needy circumstances and has no expectation of relief from any other quarter than the government

John hisXmark Canter

[Thomas Canter certified that he knew of John Canter's service as stated.]

The State of Ohio Jackson County Ss [23 Dec 1824]

Personally appeared before me John B. Gilliland Justice of the peace of said County John Canter a Citizen of the County aforesaid aged about seventy years who being sworn according to law saith, he hath no other evidence within his reach of his Inlistment and service as a soldier in the revolutionary war than the evidence of Thomas Canter mentioned in his former declaration and Martha Dawson hereunto annexed. That the cause of his not making earlier application for a pension at the war office was, that

when he was informed of the passage of the acts of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818 for the relief of the Officers and Soldiers who served in the revolution he was also informed, that those who were well able to labour and had a family able to work and support them were excluded. That after some of his family married and left him, and he became more unable to labour, he applied to a Mr. Beckley at Burlington in Lawrence County Ohio Who drew his Declaration and present it to the court, but the President Judge informed him that his Declaration was informal and that he had better draw another; and at the next term the same Mr. Beckley drew him another which he was also informed was deficient and informal. That he then moved to this said County and made his declaration which he forwarded to the War office. He further states that he hath since the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818 sold one horse beast to Abjah Pauson for the amount of thirty Dollars for which he received the amount in grain to support his family (he thinks in March 1822) Also one mare & colt which he exchanged to William Danson[?] for a horse worth about \$15.00 which horse he owned at the time of making his Declaration and the only one he now owns. That with with the exception of some sang [ginseng], tallow and some small articles of but little value which he has exchanged at stores for little necessities for himself and family he has not parted with any property or articles of value since the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818, that they in all would not amount to more than fifty dollars. The said John Canter further states that the reason as he believes of his name not being found on the rolls is, that some men being inlisted for three years, and others during the war which he was one and both doing duty in the same company, That of the surrender of Cornwallis they were sent to guard the Magazines and on Jays[?] treaty, the discharges came to those who were inlisted during the war (which he was one) and he has good reason to believe that when the old rolls was defaced and worn out in the officers pockets that on making out new rolls, those men which had been inlisted during the war was discharged that their names was not imported, and he thinks that this is the reason of his name not being there – for they received nothing but their naked discharges and parted each man his own way – and further saith not

John hisXmark Canter

State of Kentucky  
 Rockcastle County Sct.

This day [10 May 1826] Truman Canter of this County personally appeared before me John H Slaughter a Justice of the peace for the s'd County of Rockcastle and made oath that his brother John Canter formerly of Frederick County State of Virginia and now a Citizen of Siota County state of Ohio did in the year 1780 or 1781 in the town of Winchester Virginia enlist as a regular soldier for during the war in Gen'l. Daniel Morgans Brigade, Colo. Joseph Darks Regiment and Capt. Finleys Company and that he saw the said John Canter in actual service in the afs'd. Regiment.

The State of Ohio     }  
 Jackson County ss    }                   [18 Jul 1826]

Personally appeared before me John Horton a Justice of the Peace for the said County Thomas Canter a respectable citizen of the said County who being swon agreeable to law saith on his oath that he is knowing to the inlistment of John canter in the Revolutionary War at Winchester Virginia by Col Holmes of the United States Army sometime in the year of 178[?] as near as he can now recollect that he served during the war in the company commanded by Captain Finley of the Regiment commanded by Col. Joseph Dark & in Gen Morgans Brigade but he cannot recollect nor has he any means of informing himself or his recollection of the no. of either the Company Regiment or Brigade he further states that the said John Canter was discharged after the close of the war on James River –

he further states that John Canter did serve as a Drafted soldier in the revolutionary war as he has stated in his declaration of the 27<sup>th</sup> May 1824 in Jackson Common Pleas & further he saith not

Thomas hisXmark Canter

NOTE: A letter dated 7 Mar 1842 inquired on behalf of John Canter of Scioto County whether he was entitled to seven or eight years of pension ("back rations," as he expressed it) for the period between passage of the pension act in 1818 and his receipt of a pension.