



Rutherford County Historical Society
 P. O. Box 906
 Murfreesboro, TN 37133-0906

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NEW MEMBERS - Paula Owen, Tommy Rasmussen, Mike Waller, Gary L. Windrow

NOT A BOARD MEETING IN MAY

Monday, May 18, 2015, Regular Meeting - 7 pm at Rutherford Co. Archives, 435 Rice St., Murfreesboro - Speaker: Bethany Hawkins, Program Manager for American Association for State and Local History. Prior to joining the staff of AASLH, Bethany was Director of Marketing at the Lane Motor Museum. She also spent seven years as Executive Director of the Sam Davis Home and Museum in Smyrna as well as several years as an interpreter and administrative assistant at the historic site. Bethany has a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Master of Arts with an emphasis in Public History from Middle Tennessee State University. She is a Rutherford County native and currently lives in the Walter Hill community with her husband and two children. Bethany Hawkins will speak on "Powell's Chapel: A Church and Community." Her presentation will focus on the first hundred years of the history of Powell's Chapel Baptist Church and the stories of the people who founded the church and the changes experienced by the congregation and community from 1875 to 1975.

All meetings are free and open to the public. Membership in the Rutherford County Historical Society is open to all persons. Annual membership dues of \$25 per person/family are to be paid by September 1st of each year. Each annual membership is entitled to 6 issues of "Frow Chips". Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month [except November and December] at 7:00 p.m. The November meeting is set aside for the Annual Membership Banquet. There is no meeting in December. Regular meetings will be held at the Rutherford Co. Archive, 435 Rice St.

Monday, June 15, 2015, Regular Meeting - 7 pm at Rutherford Co. Archives, 435 Rice St., Murfreesboro - Speaker: TO BE ANNOUNCED

Web site [includes publication list]:
www.rutherfordtnhistory.org

Publications for sale:

For past publications, please contact Gwen Boyd (615) 895-0028 or Susan Daniel (615) 849-3823 or write the Society at the above address.

RANSOM SCHOOL HOUSE IS OPEN ON SATURDAY MORNINGS

The RANSOM SCHOOL HOUSE is now open on Saturdays, 9-12 a.m. If you would like to come and do research using our publications, purchase any of our publications, or just take a tour of the 1920s classroom and the building itself, someone will be there to greet you and assist you. We also need members to greet visitors. For further information or to sign up, contact: Gwen Boyd - 895-0028

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FROM THE PRESIDENT: The Rutherford County Historical Society appreciates the Murfreesboro Symphony Orchestra asking the Society to set up a display at their April 16th concert. Greg Tucker, Gwen Boyd, Vicki & Russell Norton, Bruce Johnson and I exhibited some of RCHS books, plus a few Civil War items owned by local collectors, such as those of Jonathan Parker. Thank you all for your participation. April passed quickly and May is filled with graduation activities.

Please contact Gwen Boyd at gwenboyd2@bellsouth.net and volunteer. We need your help. Tell Gwen or me how you would like to contribute.

Joyce Johnson, President

CANNON CEMETERY

By Virginia G. Watson

Virginia Gooch Watson wrote an article "Cannon Cemetery, Rutherford County, Tennessee" which was published in THE RUTHERFORD COURIER, Thursday, March 2, 1972, page 12 under the caption "Canon Cemetery Obscured By Time and Elements." [see below]

Recently, Virginia states she read the article in the newspaper last year "Rutherford Historians Use Tech to Map Cemeteries" and that Toby Francis, John Lodl, and field researchers from MTSU were marking and taking pictures of the Rutherford County cemeteries, and in particular, Cannon Cemetery in Smyrna. Since all of my father's people were from Rutherford County, not only have I done extensive research on the lines but on Cannon Cemetery as so many were buried there. I wrote an article on the cemetery with all the sources given as I did a title search back to the land grant, named the Revolutionary War soldiers buried there, one with a DAR marker too, other facts I'm sure people would like to know and have.

The last recorded burial in the cemetery was that of my great aunt, Miss Amanda Elizabeth McLaughlin, who died 15 October 1951 at which I was present. In 1972 I learned from my 1st cousin, Ben H. Johns, of Smyrna, that there was a man buried there after our great aunt, Miss McLaughlin, either 1951 or 1952, and Ben arranged for his burial and was the only person present for the burial. I assume Walter King Hoover was in charge of the burial. I do know there was no visitation or funeral, just the burial. Ben is Ernis Johns' 1st cousin—Ben's father was Hubert Johns who married my aunt, Mary Law Gooch.

Virginia also has pictures of Major John Sharpe, his wife, Theophilus A. Canon and his wife, Jemima A. Sharpe Canon, the Edmonson burials, and the earliest Gooch to Rutherford County, Nathaniel Gooch and his wife, Martha (Patsey) Tait Gooch, as well as their son, Dr. John Claiborne Gooch & family, the owner of Goochland that was located on what became Sewart Air force Base. Virginia also wrote the article about Dr. Gooch and his home, Goochland, that appears in the RCHS Publication No. 12.

The tombstone for Dr. Gooch was a beautiful monument, two columns arched at the top with their inscriptions at the bottom—unfortunately, vandals used a sledge hammer to destroy the top part, but I have pictures of the original as well as those of his family and of Nathaniel & Martha Gooch. The U. S. Corps of Engineers maps for Cannon Cemetery are probably at the Linebaugh Library I'm sure, as well as the Smyrna Library. I do know they are at the TN State Library and Archives.

There was a racetrack on Goochland property and near it was a slave cemetery for the Gooch slaves and possibly other slaves. There were two articles about the Slave Cemetery: first one in THE NASHVILLE BANNER, July 2, 1969 front page titled "Slave Cemetery Found" with a picture of the only tombstone left which was that of Slave "Edmund Weakley, True & Faithful until death Aged 80 years" - the Staff Sgt. at the base found 33 graves marked with small rocks and ordered crosses from the base which he erected. Another article "Airport Slave Cemetery, A Clue to Smyrna Past" was published March 18, 1992 in Murfreesboro's THE DAILY NEWS JOURNAL, pp 1-2. At this time 80 slave graves were found & additional information on Edmund Weakley's tombstone and that he had two wives.

The last article Virginia knows about being published about Cannon Cemetery was published in THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN, May 28, 2001 titled "Rutherford Cemetery in Disrepair" for which I was interviewed although many of the remarks were distorted. She said at the time she would never return to Cannon for many reasons, but foremost was when she and her husband were last there taking pictures in the 1980s, vandals were in the opposite end from the entrance using their sledge hammers so we left unseen. That was probably when they were destroying Dr. Gooch's tombstone. They were at the north end which bordered the John Edmonson property (who was my great, great grandfather and where my father was born and raised). My Gooch grandparents, family members McLaughlin, Edmondson, Weakley Randolph were buried at that end and

removed to the Mt. Juliet Cemetery because of the Percy Priest Dam, as my father, Johnny Gooch (John B. Gooch) signed for all the family members to be removed as he was the oldest. I just wish the older Gooch graves could have been removed to Mt. Juliet as well.

CANON CEMETERY OBSCURED BY TIME AND ELEMENTS

By Virginia Gooch Watson—30 January 1972



Cannon Cemetery, where once the revered dead lay in quiet dignity amid well-groomed trees, shrubs, and flowers, now is overgrown with long twisting vines, dense undergrowth and rancid decay. The ravages of time, weather and vandals have taken their toll on the tombstones, some of which are broken, scattered, illegible, or buried. This cemetery, typical of many small burial grounds dotted around the county, has been abandoned by the living and nature has once more reclaimed her own.

This deterioration is an example of the declining values we have come to place on our hard fought for and proud heritage. Within the two acres comprising the cemetery lies vital links to the past and to the rich history of the surrounding area.



It all began April 27, 1793, when the State of North Carolina granted William L. Alexander a 2,500-acre tract of land for services rendered during the Revolutionary War [Land Grant No. 1644, Book E-5, p. 120-121, located in the Land Office, Tennessee State Library and Archives,

Nashville, TN) and Major John Sharpe, another Revolutionary War soldier, bought the grant October 3, 1803 for \$5,120. [Rutherford Co., TN, Deed Book A, p. 9]

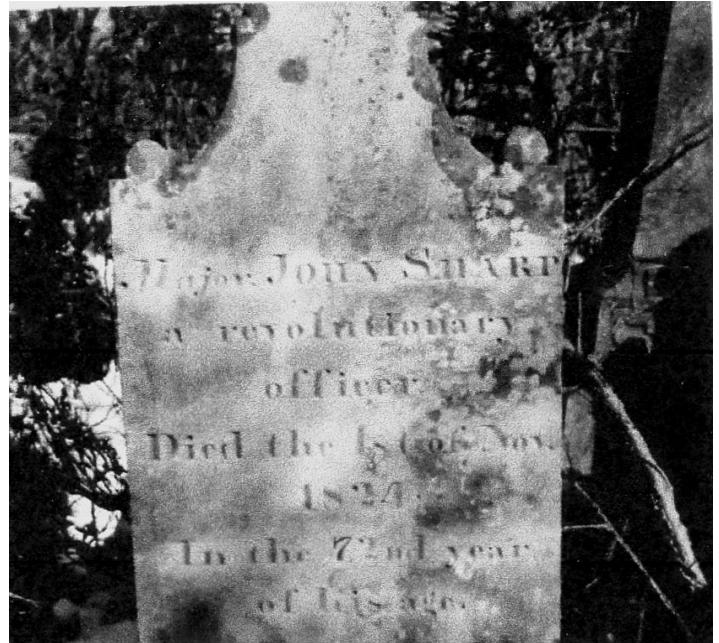
Major John Sharpe sold 601 acres on his southern boundary September 28, 1805, to his future son-in-law, Theophilus A. Canon. [Rutherford Co., TN, Deed Book B, p. 98]. Theophilus and John Sharpe's daughter, Jemima A., were married a year later on December 11, 1806 [Sharpe Bible, owned by Mrs. Oscar Gray, Sr., Little Rock, Ark., and filed in the "DAR Bible Records, 1964-1965, v. 4, p. 139," in the Tennessee State Library and Archives, and the DAR Library, Washington, D. C.], and settled on the land.

As the community grew and the need for a community burial ground arose, the Canon family donated the land for this purpose in 1812 and it was officially dedicated as such at that time. [Tennessee, Records of Rutherford County, Cemeteries. Historical Records Project. Copied under Works Project Administration, 1938.] The Cannon Cemetery, as it came to be known, was situated on a small knoll on the northern boundary overlooking Finch's Branch which ran parallel to the northern boundary and emptied into Stewart's Creek to the east. The cemetery was laid out in the form of a square. A center roadway barely wide enough for a horse-drawn hearse, extended from the gateway located midway on the south line northward about two-thirds the length of the Cemetery. The original spelling of the name "Canon" was changed in years past to "Cannon."

Across Finch's Branch to the north of Cannon Cemetery was the 348-acre tract of land then owned by John Edmondson. Originally it was included in the Major John Sharpe grant, but by gift and deed, John McKneth Sharpe, Major Sharpe's son, acquired this tract along with many more surrounding acres. He, in turn, sold it to John Edmondson in the fall of 1830. In 1832, John Edmondson built a log dwelling not far from Cannon Cemetery. This same structure was added to through the years and was occupied by his descendants until 1966 when the U. S. Government purchased the land for the J. Percy Priest Dam and Lake Project. The old home was destroyed by fire early in 1967.

From a survey of the tombstone inscriptions conducted in 1964, the

some of his family would have been buried there since there are 10 unmarked graves near one another and very close to Martha Sharpe's marker.

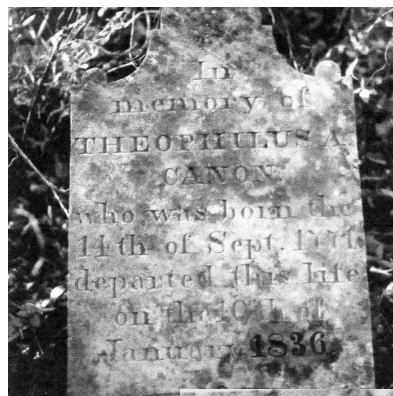


A short distance inside the south gate and on the right of the roadway is a cluster of Sharpe and Cannon graves among which is that of Major John Sharpe, husband of Martha. His marker reads "Major John Sharp, a revolutionary officer, Died the 1st of Nov. 1824. In the 72nd year of his age. [Sharpe Bible]. In 1911, the Tennessee Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, erected a tall, shaft-type monument to Major Sharp which was known to be standing in 1969.

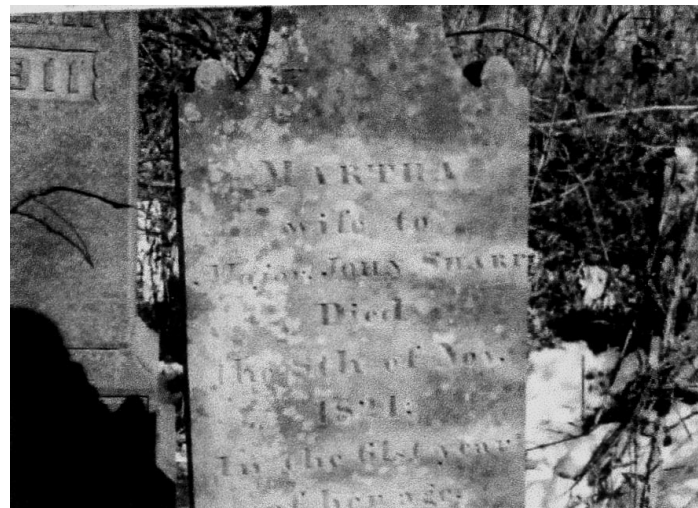
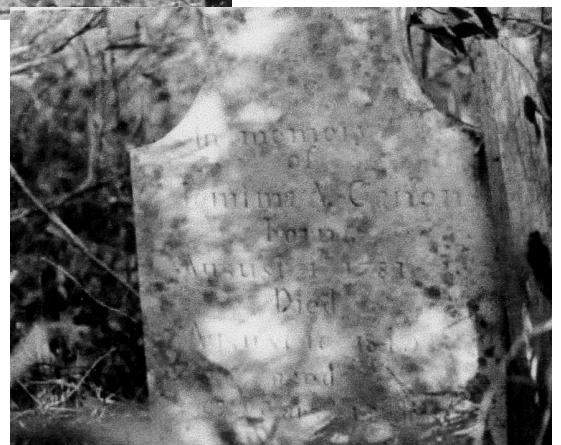
Adjacent to these burials are those of Theophilus A. Canon and his

wife, Jemima A. Sharpe Canon, whose markers read: "In memory of Theophilus A. Canon who was born the 14th of Sept. 1771, departed this life on the 10th of January 1836," and "In memory of Jemima A. Canon born August 4th, 1781, Died August 16th 1849 aged 68 years and 12 days." [Sharpe Bible].

The names of the early permanent settlers that remain



in Cannon today and were not reinterred and appear as follows: To the left of the center roadway are Lt. Col. Clement (Sept. 1, 1803-Sept. 22, 1869) and L. A. Clement; John Martin and family; William



earliest burial recorded is Major John Sharpe's wife, Martha Young Sharpe, who died the 8th November 1821, [Sharpe Bible] nine years after the dedication in 1812. In retrospect, it seems unlikely that valuable cleared land would be named as a cemetery and then wait nine years to bury its first occupant. A more logical explanation would be that bodies were buried there first then official declared a community burial ground. To help support this logic, a likely first occupant would be the brother to Major John Sharpe, James Sharpe, also a Revolutionary War soldier who died in 1811. [Sharpe Bible]. He was known to have lived in the neighborhood and since no grave has ever been found for him, it seems logical he and maybe

and Nancy Robb, the Canon family which include Alexander T., d. Sept. 8, 1829; Rachel L., d. Aug. 20, 1825; Murry, d. Aug. 17, 1822; Cyrsu, d. Sept. 14, 1833; Mary S., d. Aug. 12, 1853; Joseph, Oct 17, 1777-Oct 14, 1857; infant son of Mouson [sic] and Elizabeth Canon; Elizabeth G. Cannon (Dec 16, 1814-June 26, 1825); Josiah Martin (Oct 15, 1757-Sept. 17, 1835), a Revolutionary War soldier and his family; Neal; Finney; Hartman; Owens; McConnell; Hager (including Samuel E. Hager, Jr.); Hunter, including Rev. John H. Hunter; Britt; Lenoir; Leak; Williams; David W. Edmondson and family; Hoover; White; and Keatley. [U. S. Corps of Engineers, Relocation Section, Map of Cannon Cemetery (No. 63) in the J. Percy Priest Project and the Field Survey Book].

On the right of the roadway, the front row begins with M. D. LaFayette Walker and his family; followed by Nance; Martha Louise Sharpe Wilson; Cyrus Sharpe (d. July 4, 1823), both children of Major John Sharpe; Major John Sharpe and his wife and other family members; then a long line of Gooch monuments. Upright tombstones mark the first Gooch to settle in Rutherford County in about 1818 or before (he purchased land in 1818), Nathaniel Gooch and his wife, Martha (Patsey) Tait Gooch. Their markers read: "Nathaniel Gooch Born Oct. 10th 1768 And died Oct. 30th, 1841," and "Martha wife of Nath. Gooch Born Nov. 6h 1777 And died Sept. 18th, 1827." One of their sons, Dr. John Claiborne Gooch and his wife, Eliza A. Saunders, are buried adjoining Nathaniel and Martha Gooch. The double monument marking their graves read: "Dr. John C. Goch Born Sept. 4, 1800 Died Nov. 30, 1853," and "Eliza A. wife of Dr. John C. Gooch Born July 28, 1814 Died April 26, 1877." This Dr. John C. Gooch was the building of the home "Goochland" which stood a short distance away. The mother of Eliza A. Saunders Gooch, Cynthia Saunders, and her son, Robert L. Saunders, are buried next. Children of Dr. John C. and Eliza Gooch who are buried there include William, John C., James P., Claiborne A., Martha Tait (Mattie), wife of William H. Sikes, Allen T., and Eliza Gooch. [U. S. Corps of Engineers, Relocation Section, Map of Cannon Cemetery (No. 63) in the J. Percy Priest Project and the Field Survey Book]. Another son, Col. John (Jack) Saunders Gooch and wife, Evie Hume, were buried here but reinterred in Mapleview Cemetery in Smyrna many years prior to the incoming lake.

Other names on the right side of the roadway are Whitehead; Gregory; Joseph F. and Martha L. Hibbett; Mullins; Kneeland; DeBow; Theophilus A. and Jemima A. Canon and family; Hunt; Davis; Bradford; Furman M. Weakley and wife; Robert Locke Weakley (1824-1879), grandson of Col. Robert Weakley and wife, Jane Locke); Evaline Belmont Morford Weakley (Jan 30, 1804-March 9, 1888, wife of Robert Locke Weakley, the son of Col. Robert Weakley); Lemmons; Peyton; Hight; Brackin; Tucker; Chapman; Holland, possibly for whom the Hollandale community was named; Berryman Furgason and family; White; Farner; Thompson; Goodwin; Mullins; Smith; Clark; Northway; Wagner; Sanders; Goodloe; Ralston; Ridley; and Stiles. [U. S. Corps of Engineers, Relocation Section, Map of Cannon Cemetery (No. 63) in the J. Percy Priest Project and the Field Survey Book].

A total of 447 interments were recorded in the cemetery in 1964-65 by the U. S. Corps of Engineers for possible relocating, but only 88 graves were moved. These were reinterred at Mt. Juliet Cemetery, Mt. Juliet, TN, in June 1968. Among those reinterred were: Mr. and Mrs. George Washington Gooch, and their son, Connor Claiborne Gooch; Miss Amanda Elizabeth MacLaughlin and her mother, Mrs. Harriet Amanda (Edmondson) MacLaughlin; Robert Payne Edmondson, Confederate soldier; John Gooch; Mr. Martha Jane Randolph Gooch; Mr. and Mrs. Allen Beverley Gooch; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pinkney Edmondson and their children, Thomas H. Edmondson, Hattie M. Edmondson, and Christine Edmondson White; Sarah Edmondson Finch, and Harriet J. Sanders, wife of W. C. Edmonson; Dr. and Mrs. John A. Ewing; White; Sanders; Weakley; and Alexander. [U. S. Corps of Engineers, Relocation Section, Map of Cannon Cemetery (No. 63) in the J. Percy Priest Project and the Field Survey Book].

A strange event came to light when the U. S. Corps of Engineers made their first survey. Henry Connor MacLaughlin's body was not buried neatly beside his wife as the marker would have one believe nor was his date of death correct. Actually, he died and was buried exactly one year earlier in the Ridley Cemetery across from the Sam Davis Home on property which later became known as "Kingsley."

A man of Cannon Cemetery is available to the public in the Relocation Section of the U. S. Corps of Engineers office, Old Federal Courthouse, 8th and Broadway, Nashville, Tennessee. The map graphically shows all the graves and whether or not any particular grave had a tombstone at the time of the survey. Also available is the original field survey books in which the tombstone inscriptions were copied. The Tennessee Division of Vital Statistics has a copy although general public use is discouraged. The Tennessee State Library and Archives Manuscript Unit has lists and maps of only the disinterments.

The last recorded burial is that of Miss Amanda Elizabeth (Miss Peachie) MacLaughlin who died October 25, 1951. However, an unauthenticated report says a LaVerne man was buried there at a later date.

While neither the first nor the last burial can be ascertained with any degree of certainty, it seems as though Cannon Cemetery can almost be considered a closed book. Opening the covers now reveals only history as it can be recorded—the personal accomplishments with its frustrations and the inter-personal relationships, one with the other, will forever lie with their owners and life has come full circle. Perhaps Cannon Cemetery, with other cemeteries like it, is complying with the passage in the bible which says, "For dust thou art, and to dust shall thou return."

The writer is a descendant of the Gooch, MacLaughlin, and Edmondson families mentioned in this article, being the great, great, great granddaughter of Nathaniel Gooch; the great, great granddaughter of John Edmondson, and the great granddaughter of Henry Connor MacLaughlin.

MEMORIES

by Mark S. Womack - 12 March 2015

I surely do enjoy my membership and reading about events in my hometown and county.

Mainly I want to comment on what you said about Frank Edwin Allen, in "From the RCHS Files."

I well remember him. He drove a one-seater Coupe, would keep his left hand on the steering wheel and wave at people he was passing with his right.

His daughter, Mrs. Hogood, was my first year (High School) Latin teacher. I don't know now why I changed for Latin II to Mrs. Florence McFerrin, who died a few months ago. Furthermore, I don't know why I took only two years of Latin, when 4 were offered.

Years later beginning as a GI in France, I got interested in French. After my discharge in February 1946, I entered MTSC and took 3 years of French, under Miss Elizabeth Schardt. Then some years later, after some dormancy, I got my interest in French sparked and now read some French mainly religious devotionals. I am far from conversant in French, but can read it fairly well when I have a French-English dictionary nearby to scotch me. This is one of several interests I have. I do, tho's regret not going on with Latin in high school, since I have also developed an interest in words generally, and am somewhat of a successful author, principally of railroad nostalgia.

Some years ago I was in Murfreesboro and made some visits at Adams Place including visiting Mrs. Hobgood. When I told her who I was I added: "I never accented the peanut," i.e., the last word in a paragraph. I remember her stressing that rule. She complimented me on being a

"good student." Really tho' I wasn't that good. I got better in College and still better in what is called Course of Study School, at Emory University in Atlanta. This was a program for second career teachers which I had become after my railroad retirement. In parts of several summers at Emory, I had 20 courses, one B+ and the rest A or A+. One does mature.

I well remember Baxter Hobgood, Mrs. Hobgood's husband. He was Asst. Principal of Murfreesboro Central High School, when I was a student there and when I had Mrs. Hobgood in Latin I.

That building burned on March 30, 1944. Our oldest son was born earlier that day. He will be 71 on March 30, 2015 (I am 91, my birthday being on New Years Eve). I was in the Army on March 30, 1944, was given a 30day pass to come home on account of the (then) baby's birth.

I was stationed at Camp Robinson, Arkansas, near Little Rock. Not too far away from Murfreesboro but I spent most of the 3 days traveling to and fro.

In your entry in Frow Chips, I also remember Mr. Brown. I remember visiting his shop. I sort of remember Charles Cawthon, a relative. Leonard Cawthon was a schoolmate at CHS.

Carriage Lane at 337 East Burton is a former residence of ours, in the early 1930s, for a few years. I clearly remember walking from there to Crichlow School for the 3rd grade. My teacher was Miss Carmine Jackson. [I] changed to the "raining school" for the 4th grade. My teacher being Miss Frances Gerhardt. She later became Mrs. James K. Clayton.

For the 5th grade my mother, having just returned to teaching, and had been given Bethel School, I went to Bethel (on the Sulphur Springs Road). My brother, John, was in the 4th. Again, I do appreciate my membership.

TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

W O R K S H O P S E R I E S

Surveying Tennessee's Digital Resources

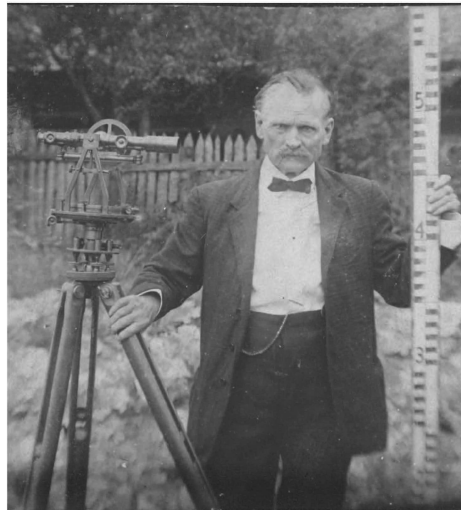
The Tennessee Virtual Archive and Civil War Geography of Tennessee

Saturday, May 30, 2015, 9:30 a. m. - 11 a. m.

TSLA Auditorium

Join Tennessee State Library and Archives' (TSLA) staff members, Jessica Short, Genny Carter, and Dr. Wayne Moore as they guide you on a journey to discover the wealth of information that can be found online through TSLA's digital resources. In this workshop, our staff members will provide hands-on training and helpful advice on navigating the complex world of digital imaging through the Tennessee Virtual Archive and through our two major Civil War GIS projects.

The *Tennessee Virtual Archive (TeVA)* is a digital repository of Tennessee history and culture, providing a searchable array of historical records, photographs, documents, maps, postcards, film, audio and other original materials of enduring value. The *Tennessee Civil War GIS Project* and *Landscape of Liberation: The African American Geography of the Civil War* provide users with interactive maps showing the landscape of war and emancipation as it unfolded from 1861 to 1865. Every point on the map is linked to primary documents and images that tell the story of people, places, and events.



Those wishing to attend this free workshop must contact TSLA to make a reservation as the number of seats is limited. Parking is available in the front, on the side, and in back of the Library and Archives building. Patrons can register by telephone by calling (615) 741-2764, or by e-mail at: workshop.tsla@tn.gov. For more information contact:

TSLA PUBLIC SERVICES

403 SEVENTH AVENUE NORTH

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Phone: (615) 741-2764 Fax: (615) 253-6471

Email: workshop.tsla@tn.gov

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS IN RUTHERFORD COUNTY

by Susan G. Daniel

The National Archives has made available in digitized and printable form (subscription about \$50 a year) military records of soldiers in all the American wars. Of particular interest to me are the many declarations made by the veterans of the Revolutionary War. A regular soldier, who had served a required number of months for his country, was allowed to make a declaration request for pension for his service by an Act of Congress in 1832. Prior to that time, the requests for pension were extremely restrictive as to the basis for allowing pension payment. In 1832 the "floodgates" opened with many old veterans applying for pensions. Many were born in the 1750s and 1760s and by 1832 were advanced in years. Their memories had faded to exact dates and places, but their memories about the battles they fought in seemed to remain clear. On the 1840 census there were listed over 32 "pensioners" of the Revolutionary War. They were between the ages of 73 and 91. These declarations are full of risks, valor, courage, bravery, gallantry, and fortitude, as well as remarkable descriptions of minute by minute battles. The veterans had to try to remember various officers under whose command they served. Especially difficult given that many of the lengths of service were about 3 months. They would be discharged and sent home, and then later they would be called up or re-enlist to serve for another 3 or 6 months. Often these service terms lasted on and off over the 8+ years' length of the war, 1775-1783. In order to obtain the pension, clerks in Washington searched the service records to verify the service. In cases where the service records could not be found, the veteran had to provide declarations from fellow soldiers or people who knew of his service. Don't forget this was 1832, nearly 50 years since the close of the war, and many veterans had moved several times from their homes until they reached Rutherford County. Remembering details of one's service to one's country was quite an assignment for these aged veterans.

1840 RUTHERFORD CO. PENSIONERS

[in some instances widows or heirs]

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Head of Family in which resides</u>
Cornelius Saunders	79	Cornelius Saunders
William Burnett	91	William Burnett
John M. Leak	88	John M. Leak
George C. Booth	82	George C. Booth
John Etter	81	John Etter
Joseph Bennett	83	Thomas Bennett
John Bruce	45	John Bruce
Peter Jennings	88	Peter Jennings
William Mitchell	75	William Mitchell
William Leckie	77	William Leckie
A. [Ann] Miles	91	Patterson Miles
John Bradly	84	John Bradly
Samuel Killough	77	Samuel Killough
Joshua Ford	83	Joshua Ford
James Saunders	77	Mary Acuff
John Brown	80	John Brown
John Stephenson	87	Enos McKnight
John Barclay	77	John Barclay
Jordan Williford	85	Jordan Williford
Benjamin Todd	78	Benjamin Todd
Daniel Bowman	82	Daniel Bowman
John Newman Sen.	85	John Newman Sen.
Thomas Blanton	78	Thomas Blanton
Stephen White	77	Stephen White
Joseph Newman	81	Joseph Nesbitt
Timothy Parker	81	Timothy Parker
George Bruce	81	Joseph Arthur
John Stone	76	John Stone

Daniel McCoy	89	Thomas Dalton
Nathaniel Winston	73	Nathaniel Winston
Sylvania Tucker	84	David Tucker
John Clark	80	John Clark

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE PENSION RECORDS

Cornelius Saunders, Sen. - born 10 March 1762, died 1854 (will dated 16 May 1848, probated 23 March 1854). He was living in the part of Edgecombe Co. that became Ashe Co., NC when he enlisted for service in the Revolutionary War in 1781. He participated in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. His grandfather on his mother's side was Cornelius Jordan. He lived in Edgecombe Co., NC until 1808 when he removed to TN and settled near the Rutherford and Wilson counties line.

William Burnett - On 27 August 1832 he applied for pension, at which time he was 73 years old. He was born in King & Queen Co., VA. About the first of September, year not remembered, he was living on [?Meherrins] river in Mecklenburg Co., VA. He first entered service by enlisting for 3 months and guarded the Magazine on the Roanoke River. The second time, about Jan 1781, as a substitute where he was marched to the Dismal Swamp. The third time he was drafted and was at the siege of Yorktown. He returned to Mecklenburg Co. after the Revolution and remained for some time, then came to Rutherford Co., TN and lived there about 30 years. His will is dated 25 May 1840, probated Aug 1845.

John M. Leak - born in 1758 in Amherst Co., VA, where he enlisted three separate times, one month each, in about the year 1777 and served at Albemarle Barracks guarding prisoners. He served 3 months in late 1780, and 3 months in August 1781 and was at the siege of Yorktown. He died 24 August 1840 in Rutherford Co. His son Mark Leak was living in 1840.

George C. [Conway] Booth, Sen. - Buried with his third wife, Anna Nelms (1756-1822) in the White Cemetery off Hollandale Road. He was born 6 October 1758 in Northumberland Co., VA where he enlisted for three years in 1778, and died 3 August 1843 in Rutherford Co. He was at the battle of Camden (SC).

John Etter - enlisted in 1778 in Virginia and served as a dragoon in Colonel Washington's Dragoons until he was furloughed in 1783. He was born June 1760 in Pennsylvania, and died 19 Feb 1851 in Rutherford Co. His grave is a pyramid of cut limestone located near Stewartsboro School on what was called the Old Peebles farm.

Joseph Bennett - He was living in Mecklenburg Co., VA where he enlisted. He served as a private in the 11th Regt. of VA Continental troops for 9 months in 1776, and 6 months in 1781. He filed for a pension in Mecklenburg Co., VA in May 1833, at which time he stated he was 76 years old. In 1838 he was living in Tennessee "to be near his children."

William Bruce - Unable to identify this pensioner.

Peter Jennings - His declaration for pension is printed below in full. Charles Ready certified his death on 22 January 1842 in Rutherford Co. According to a story appearing in the "Murfreesboro News Banner", 22 November 1900, the first house erected on the corner of Vine and Church Street, a one-story frame building, was occupied by a "free Negro, named Peter Jennings, as a baker." A friend, also a free man of color, Elijah Smith, stated that he "was about 5 feet, 6 inches, stout made, black color, cut on the right ear, another on his forehead, and a shot wound on the right knee, has been occasionally at sea." Also a statement made by William T. Christy ". . . the general opinion here is that he served as a soldier in the Revolution, heavy set man; could read and write, quite intelligent, having been bred a sailor in the English navy about twenty years. . . Very talkative.

He had seen much of the world and could tell what he had seen with interest. He was a favorite with store boys and others [who] were pleased to hear his sea tales. He claimed to have been in the battle of 'Waterloo' between the English and French."

William H. Mitchell, Sen. - Presbyterian Church records state that William Mitchell, Sen. "died 27 January 1850, age 87." He was born May 1765 in Orange Co., NC. His wife was, Ann [Currie], born 3 July 1773, died 7 April 1828. He was living in Caswell Co., NC when he enlisted. He served with a brother, David Mitchell, who died in Caswell Co. William engaged in the battles of Cowpens, Guilford Courthouse, and King's Mountain. He emigrated to TN about 1803. He is buried on the Mitchell farm which was part of the Stones River Battlefield.

William Leckie - In June 1835 he applied for pension as a resident of Pittsylvania Co., VA. He was born 9 July 1764. He enlisted as a substitute in Caroline Co., VA in September 1780, and thereafter, always as a substitute. In 1843 his widow applied for a pension. She stated her husband "departed this life on 15 October 1842. John S. Hardy, aged 43, stated that he has now in his possession an old Bible containing a record of the marriage of William Leckie, late of Rutherford County, deceased and Elizabeth S. Leckie and reads as follows: Wm. Leckie & Elizabeth Straughn Leckie were married October the 20, 1790." Griffin Leckie was the oldest child and was born according to the record 4 March 1792.

Thomas Miles - He was born in Charles City Co., VA. He moved when "a boy" with his stepfather, his name not given, to Cumberland Co., VA, and thence to Caswell Co., NC. He was residing in Caswell Co., when he volunteered and served with the NC troops in 1776 or 1777 and was in several skirmishes with British and Tories. In 1780 he was in the Battle of Gates' Defeat. In 1781 he was in the battle of Whitsall's Mills and battle of Lindley's Mill. He continued to live in Caswell Co. until 1798 and then moved to Davidson Co., TN, in 1804 moved to Williamson Co. and there about 10 years, when he moved to Wilson Co., TN. He died 15 September 1838. He married in February 1773, Ann, whose maiden name is not given. She was allowed pension 1 February 1839, at which time she was 89 years old and a resident of Rutherford Co., TN. There is a record of the names and births of their children in the pension file: Heartwell or Hartwell, b. 17 Apr 1774; John, b. [illegible]; Ann, b. 4 June 1778; Thomas, b. 20 July 1780; Betsy, b. 9 Sept 1782; Byrd, b. 4 Apr 1785; Fanny, b. 28 Jan 1788; Patterson, b. 11 or 14 Mar 1790.

John Bradly or Bradley - He was born in Culpeper Co., VA in 1756. His wife was Mary "Mollie" Vance, daughter of Joseph Vance. He enlisted in Culpeper Co. in the Virginia troops in the Fall of 1777 for 3 months. In Feb 1778 he enlisted for 2 years. Afterwards served a short term as a substitute and was discharged Sept. 1781. He did not engage in any battles. His service records state he served as Pvt. and Sgt. in the 3rd, 7th and 11th Regt. of the VA Continental Line in Capt. John Robert's Co. He is said to have donated land where the first Bradley Academy was located [near Walter Hill].

Samuel Killough - He was born 10 September 1763 in Chester Co., SC, where he enlisted in August 1781 and served for 3 months guarding prisoners on Turkey Creek. In the fall of 1782, he moved, with his father, to Wilkes Co., GA. He enlisted there and served nearly 9 months as an Indian spy with the troops stationed between the Ocomee and Appalachee Rivers. He lived in GA until 1804, then moved to Rutherford Co. His wife was Mary. In his application for pension in 1832 he stated a neighbor was "Col. Robert Jetton," and his son, Isaac, lived in in Allenton, AL.

Joshua Ford, Sen. - He was born about 1755-1756 near Baltimore, MD. His father moved the family to NC, then to SC on the Savannah River in

the Edgefield District for 1-2 years, then to Richmond Co., GA where he enlisted for service in the Revolutionary War, and served as a private and Indian spy. He married 1788 in Edgefield District, SC, Nancy Cox. He died ca 1844 in Rutherford Co.

James Saunders - Not identified.

John Brown, Sen. - He was born 25 January 1761 in Lunenburg Co., VA. He wrote his will dated 3 June 1846, probated March 1849 in Rutherford Co. In May 1780 he was drafted into service for 2 tours and engaged in Gates Defeat. He applied for pension in 1833 in Lunenburg Co., VA. Then in May 1836 he requested that his pension be transferred to Rutherford Co., TN. His reasons being that first he owned a tract of land in VA that had ben much worn and exhausted from tillage and he had previously visited Tennessee and discovered he could sell out in VA and buy land in Rutherford Co. much to his advantage; and secondly, part of his children were living in Rutherford Co. and "the balance of his children agreed to move and did move with him from Virginia to Rutherford Co.

John Stephenson - He was born 10 Nov 1755 in Mecklenburg Co., NC. While a resident of Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co., NC he enlisted sometime in February 1780 with the NC troops. He was at the siege of Charleston and taken prisoner there and detained about ten days, was paroled later and returned home. He subsequently served as private in the NC troops, marched to Wilmington, was in engagements with the Tories at "Rock Fish, Rafts Swam, and White Marsh." He was in service at the time of Cornwallis surrender. He moved from NC to Tennessee. On the 1810 census he was listed as "a free person, not Indian, and not taxed." **[Note:** Owners of slaves were taxed for adult, male slaves.]

John Barclay or Barkley - He was born 13 February 1763 in Rowan Co., NC, where he enlisted in September 1781 serving 4½ months in the NC troops; again for 3 months in 1782. He died 3 July 1850. It is not stated whether he was ever married. His brother, James Barkley, has the family Bible and lives in Warren Co.

Jordan Williford - He was the son of William Williford or Willeford, born 30 May 1759 in Southampton Co., VA, where he enlisted in the VA troops in 1778 for 2 weeks, in the spring of 1780 for 45 days, in March 1781 for 9 weeks, in August 1781 for 9 weeks. He was in the battle of Yorktown. He married in February 1783 in Surry Co., VA, Charity Holloman. In 1855 he was living in the McKnight's District of Rutherford Co. He was "small and slender. . .and lived to be nearly one hundred years old."

Benjamin Todd - He was born ca 1761-1762 in Northhampton Co., PA. He appears as 89 living in the Youree's District of the 1850 Rutherford Co., TN census. DAR records show he married 24 Jan 1783-1784 in Rowan Co., NC, Margaret Barclay/Barkley who died before 1850. In 1777 he was living in Rowan Co., NC when called into service all 4 of his tours and continued to live there for several years. He then moved to Madison Co., KY and resided there about 10 years. Then he moved to Rutherford Co. where he has resided ever since. He applied for pension in Rutherford Co. in August 1833.

Daniel Bowman - He was born 15 March 1759 in Frederick Co., now Washington Co., MD, where in March 1780 he enlisted for twelve months, and subsequent tours, in what was called the Continental Boats Service which transported supplies on the Potomac River for the "western army." October 1832 he applied for pension. His will was probated January 1844. DAR records stated he was the son of John and Catharine Bowman and married 1784 Susannah Margaret Horn, who died ca 1845-46. It was said that Daniel not only could read and write but spoke 2-3 languages, including German and English.

John Newman - He was born ca 1755-1759. He was living in Buckingham Co., VA at the time of his enlistment. He served as a Private in the 2nd GA Battalion and received a disability pension from 13 December 1786. In 1837 he was living in Rutherford Co., age 78.

Thomas Blanton - By the Act of Congress of 1818, Thomas Blanton was able to apply for pension in Rutherford Co., TN on 30 April 1823 for service in the Revolution. He stated he had enlisted for the term of 2 years in 1779 in the VA lines. He was in the battles of Guilford Courthouse, Camden, Ninety-Six, & Eutaws. On 20 April 1849 his widow, Mrs. Scilly Blanton, age 86, a resident of Rutherford Co., requested a pension based on her husband's claim. Scilly Anglen married Thomas Blanton on 28 October 1783 in Cumberland Co., VA. They were both of Littleton Parrish. She stated that Thomas Blanton died 27 May 1846.

Stephen White - He was born 25 November 1762 in Granville Co., NC where he resided until 1784. He enlisted in August 1780 and served as private in a NC company. In 1781 he served for twelve months in the NC Quartermaster Department. He stated that in the last named service his step-father, Zachariah Williams, served with him. In 1784 he moved to Madison Co., KY and in 1805 to Rutherford Co., TN. He died 9 March 1846.

Joseph Newman - He receive pension under the Act of 1828 in Rutherford Co., TN. He first enlisted in 1776 on the Virginia line of the Continental Army. He was discharged at the close of the war at Richmond, VA. In a deposition John Newman stated he was the brother of Joseph Newman. Joseph wrote his will 6 April 1848, probated December 1849.

Timothy Parker - He was born 17 August 1760 in Berkley Co., VA. He applied for a pension in Nov 1832 in Rutherford Co. He resided in Salisbury, Rowan Co., NC and was 17 years of age, when he volunteered for service 20 July 1777. He was marched to Charlestown, to Savannah, to Parisburgh on the Savannah river, then to Augusta in GA, then down to the black swamp, and to Camden, SC where he was discharged in May 1778. He later enlisted for 12 months in July 1778, with skirmishes in the Salisbury area, taking prisoners and holding them in Salisbury jail. After the Revolution he moved from Salisbury to Washington Co., TN where he lived 22 years. Then moved to Garrard Co., KY where he lived 2 or 3 years, and then to Rutherford Co. where he has lived ever since. He died 29 Sep 1854.

George Bruce - He enlisted 9 March 1776 in NC. He was in the battles of Brandywine, Monmouth, and Stony Point. He was taken prisoner at Charleston and held six months. He was then pressed into the British naval service, made his escape, and returned to his own country. He applied for a pension in Rutherford Co., TN on 25 Aug 1821, at which time he was about 60 years old.

John Stone - He enlisted in January or February 1777, in Jonestown, Lancaster Co., PA. He served as a private in Hampton's PA Regiment. He was in the battle of Brandywine, where he was wounded and taken prisoner and held ten months. He was discharged from service 24 March 1781. He applied for a pension in September 1825 at which time he was 64 years old and living in Moulton, Lawrence Co., AL. By 1828 he was living in Bedford Co., TN to be with his children. In 1825 he referred to his wife, Mary, age about 55; to his daughter, Polly Tucker, about 35 years; and to Polly Tucker's son, Jackson Tucker, aged about 5 years; and to a grandson, Earl Baylies, aged about 2 years, whose mother was dead. Another daughter, Nancy Marrs and her husband, John A. Marrs, were referred to living in Shelbyville, Bedford Co., TN.

Daniel McCoy - He filed for pension October 1832 in Rutherford Co. at

which time he was 81 years old. He enlisted in August 1778 in Chester Co., PA. Died in 16 May 1841 in Rutherford Co. On 9 March 1842 his widow, Jane, applied for pension in Rutherford Co., aged about 76 years. She, Jane Parrish, married Daniel McCoy on 9 October 1787 in Goochland Co., VA. In a deposition dated March 1842, Martha Dalton states she is the youngest daughter of Daniel and Jane McCoy.

Nathaniel Winston - He was born in Franklin Co., NC., where he enlisted in December 1780. He was in an engagement at Brier Creek and several skirmishes with the Tories. After the war he lived in Franklin Co., and then moved to Rutherford Co., TN. He applied for pension October 1832 in Rutherford Co. and died 26 February 1856. His wife's name was Queen Esther ? (1760-1845).

David Tucker - He applied for pension in Bedford Co. 10 August 1832, aged about 78 years. He volunteered as a private soldier shortly after the Declaration of Independence in 1776, in the county where he lived, Bute Co., NC, later divided into 2 counties—Franklin & Warren. He was born in Halifax Co., NC and was at the time of enlistment between 21 and 22 years of age. He went to Norfolk (VA) and then to Wilmington (NC). After the War he lived in Duplin Co., NC until he removed to Rutherford Co., TN about 20 years ago. About 10 years ago he removed to Bedford Co., TN where he now resides. In Rutherford Co., TN on 30 January 1838, his widow, Sylvania Tucker, aged 81 years, requested pension. She married David Tucker in August 1775, who died 6 January 1836. In a deposition, George A. Sublett stated he first became acquainted with David Tucker in 1774 when George was about 12 years old and has known him ever since. He has known their oldest son, Elijah Tucker, who (in 1838) was about 62 years of age.

John Clark - He was born November 1761 in Lancaster Co., SC where he enlisted "the year before Charleston was taken" and served part of the time as a substitute for his father, William Clark. He remained in SC after the war and then moved to Rutherford Co., TN in 1806. His will is dated 23 May 1856, probated September 1857 in Rutherford Co. On the 1850 Rutherford Co. census John Clark was 68 years old and Elizabeth Clark was 66 years old.

PETER JENNINGS

One of the more interesting declarations made by a Revolutionary War veteran and citizen of Rutherford County, is that of Peter Jennings, a "man of colour." He had been a part of a Black [African-American] Regiment attached to General George Washington, and as such, was involved in some very famous battles of the Revolutionary War. He was allowed a pension for his service and appears on the 1840 Pension List as 88 years old. Here is his declaration in its entirety.

State of Tennessee, Rutherford County - Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, August term 1832.

On this 23rd day of August 1832, personally appeared before Henry Trott, V. D. Cowen & James C. Mitchell, Esquires, Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the county and state aforesaid, now sitting in open court, Peter Jennings, a man of colour, a resident of the Town of Murfreesboro in the county & state aforesaid, aged eighty years, four months and twenty-one days [born 2 April 1752], who being first 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 the 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States, according to the best of his recollection in the year 1776 with Corporal Edenton and when he entered the service, he belonged to the 5th Regiment of Artillery of Blacks, in the Continental line, under the following named officers. He belonged to Capt. Vener Angel's company, in which a man by the name of Hawley, whose given name he does not now remember, was first Lieutenant, and a man whose name was Ray, Second

Lieutenant, his given name not remember. The Regiment was commanded by Col. Edward Oney, and a man whose name was Halsy, was first Major, and he things his given name was Joseph. Who his Second Major was, he does not remember. He thinks his Regiment joined General Washington's army at West Point, and after remaining there a few days, marched to Saratoga, where they remained a considerable length of time. At the same time they were encamped at Saratoga, thinks that Gen. Dickson of Dickenson was encamped there with a division of Virginia militia, and he thinks he remembers Colonels Campell & Forguson were there in the Virginia militia. After remaining at Saratoga several weeks, he thinks his regiment was divided, and a part of it attached to the troops under the command of Gen. Green, part of it to the troops under the command of Gen. Gates, a part of it probably to the troops under Gen. Cadwallader; and a part of it Gen. Washington retained with the troops under his immediate command. He remained with troops under Gen. Washington's immediate command, and he thinks the regiment to which he was attached, was commanded b Col. Clifford, to whose regiment a Major Talbot belonged but he does not remember whether he was first or second Major. He does not remember the number of Col. Clifford's regiment, nor does he remember the Colonel's given name, nor the given name of Maj. Talbot. He thinks James Starling was at this time his Captain, and that his Lieutenant's name was Bloomfield, but his given name, is not remembered. Shortly after this division was made of the black regiment, he thinks the battle of Trenton took place, and he well remembers he was in that engagement. He has a distinct recollection that on the night of the 25th of December after he first entered the services as a regular soldier, which would be December 1776 if it was in that year he enlisted, and he thinks it was, Gen. Washington crossed his troops over the Delaware about nine miles above Trenton and marched upon the enemy and attacked them by surprise. A part of the American forces he thinks were commanded by Generals Ewing & Cadwallader, the former of whom belonged to the Virginia troops. The forces under their command he thinks were to cross the Delaware, higher up than the point at which declarant crossed with Gen. Washington, and were to attack the left wing of the enemy, but he well remembers the[y] did not cross over, which he thinks was owing to the ice, for it was with extreme difficulty that Gen. Washington got his troops over, on account of the ice and the extreme cold weather. On account of Generals Ewing and Cadwallader, failing to cross the river as had been previously arranged, we were compelled to make the attack with such forces alone as crossed over with Gen. Washington. The enemy so little expecting an attack from us, were thrown into great confusion, and we obtained a complete victory over them, killing many of them, and taking several hundred prisoners, who were principally Hessians. We also took a large amount of military stores, a number of pieces of cannon, and a great many small arms. He thinks the greater portion of the enemy's forces were killed & taken prisoners. He thinks there was a Colonel, commanding in the Hessian troops killed, but does not remember his name. There was but few on the side of the Americans killed and not many wounded; amongst the wounded the wounded, he thinks there was a Captain Washington, which he remembers from his being of the same name of his General Washington. After this engagement he states he marched back across the Delaware with the prisoners and captured stores, and the prisoners, he thinks were conducted to Philadelphia. In a few days however, he returned with Gen. Washington to Trenton. They had not been long in possession of Trenton, when the British forces collected and marched towards Trenton for the purpose of giving battle, as was supposed; in fact they had actually commenced firing on the American troops in the evening and considerable cannonading took place between the two armies. The firing from our [?military], somewhat checked the advance upon us, and night coming on, they halted on the opposite side of a creek from us, and ceased firing. It was then supposed that they intended making a general attack upon us the next morning. We were ordered to light fires along our lines in our front,

for the purpose, as declarant afterwards discovered, of deceiving the enemy, for instead of remaining at the fires we were marched off with all possible expedition towards Princeton where some regiments of the British troops were quartered. We reached there very early the next morning and made a vigorous attack upon them. Declarant has a perfect recollection of an occurrence which took place during this engagement, which will never be effaced from his memory. A part of our troops were driven back by the British and were thrown into much confusion. Gen. Washington perceiving it, seized a standard and rushed in front of our troops, and dashed several paces ahead towards the enemy, exclaiming "come on boys," or some such expression. His example had the desired effect of rallying our troops, and they followed the Commander with renewed ardour. While Gen. Washington was between the two armies at least one round was fired on each side, and he remained untouched. Soon after this occurrence, the British troops gave way and retreated into some public building, where we pursued them and kept up such a play of artillery upon them, that all those who had taken refuge were compelled to surrender to us. In this engagement, the British were completely routed and defeated. Many of them were killed & wounded and a great number taken prisoners. The loss on the American side he thinks was inconsiderable. He remembers that General Mercer, who he believes belonged to the Virginia troops was severely wounded in this engagement, and thinks he shortly died of his wounds.

After the battle of Princeton we marched to Morristown and took up winter quarters and remained there until some time in the Spring. From Morristown, he marched to Middlebrook; from there to Peekskill where some fortifications were erected. From this point he marched towards the Delaware river and the "army" was occupied for several weeks in advancing & receding, marching & counter-marching, sometimes towards Philadelphia, and then towards the Delaware, for several weeks, until the battle finally ensued at Brandywine. This engagement commenced early in the morning, and the attack was brought on by the British who were under the command of Lord Cornwallis. They crossed the creek about April above our forces, and made an attack upon our rear. We were about the same time attacked in front by a British General whose name is now not remembered. The American troops were compelled to retreat with great loss. He thinks they retreated towards Chester and was pursued a considerable distance by the enemy. He well remembers seeing Gen. Lafayette in this engagement, and saw him receive a wound, which he thinks, was in his right leg. He also remembers that there was another American General wounded, but he has fogotten the name. He thinks Gen. Lincoln was in this battle. Two or three weeks after the battle of Brandywine, Gen. Washington having received a considerable reinforcement from Virginia, marched us to Germantown and made an attack upon the British stationed there. The attack was made early in the morning, and from its sudden & unexpected character, the British forces were thrown into great disorder but it being a cloudy, foggy morning it was difficult for our troops to keep in regular order, which caused considerable confusion amongst us; and the enemy rallying from the confusion into which they had at first been thrown, drove back our troops, and we were at length compelled to retreat with great loss. In this engagement an American General - Nash, was killed. After recovering from this defeat, we marched to a place called Whitemarsh, where we remained some time in expectation of an attack from the British, who had taken a position not far distant from us, they however, withdrew without making an attack, and we were marched to Valley Forge where we took up winter quarters.

Declarant was at the battle of Yorktown. When he reached there, Lafayette had been engaged in some [??] fighting with the enemy. The principal fighting however after he reached the place, was with the artillery, with an alost constant cannonading was kept up. He well remembers the position of the French fleet on this occasion, which had taken a stand in the Potomac river to prevent Cornwallis from being reinforced by the British troops under the command of Sir Henry Clinton. e remembers that about

two days before the surrender fourteen of the British soldiers deserted and came into the American encampment and surrendered themselves, and that from them we received a good information about affairs in the enemy's camp. The surrender he thinks was on the 18th of October 1781. He has a most perfect recollection of the circumstances which occurred when Cornwallis surrendered up his sword, for he was present and saw this transaction. Cornwallis offered his sword to Gen. Washington, who stepped back and declined taking it, when Gen. Lincoln, who it had been he thinks previously agreed should receive it, stepped forward and accepted it from him. Declarant remained at Yorktown several weeks after the surrender; he thinks, however he marched to Winchester, Virginia with the British prisoners, and that Cornwallis was in company. After he returned to York from Winchester, he remained there five or six days, at the end of which time he was discharged from the service. He received a written discharge from Captain Edgar by whom his company had been commanded for some time, his former Captain having been compelled to retire from the service on account of bad health, when Capt. Edgar succeeded to the command. He lost his discharge a few years after the

war was over he thinks, on the eastern part of the Bahama Islands, where he was shipwrecked, being on a voyage in a merchantman bound from New York to Teneriff [sic] on a trading expedition.

It is impossible for declarant to remember every place through which he marched during a service of five or six years, or to detail all the occurrences with which he met during that time and in which he acted a part. He can only pretend to state important transactions, and occurrences to which his attention was particularly directed by some peculiar circumstances, upon which the mind would then fasten, so as not to let escape the recollection of the event.

Declarant enlisted in Providence, Rhode Island, where he at that time resided. He was born at Perquanock, three miles east of Fairfield, Connecticut.

He has never received a pension for his services and he hereby relinquishes any claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and he declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Peter his X mark Jennings

Sworn to & subscribed this day & year aforesaid - J.R. Laughlin Clk

IN MEMORIAM

BETTYE JANE HUGGINS 7 November 1931 - 7 March 2015

CLARENCE ELKINS 1938 - 31 March 2015

MARY KATHERINE "KATHY" USELTON 1951 - 1 April 2015

RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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