

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Virginia documents pertaining to George Brent VAS2629
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). The papers in this file are alleged in the rejected claim that follows to have resulted in the heirs of Private George Brent of Lancaster County VA receiving the bounty land that should have gone to the heirs of Lieutenant George Brent of Stafford County VA.]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session, 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 24th day of Feb 1784, in the name of George Brent as a Lieutenant Cav. for £179.4.2 which Certificate appears to have been delivered to himself.

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 20th day of February 1833.
J. E. Heath AUDITOR.

I Thomas N. Lawson [Thomas Newton Lawson] of Lancaster County, now in Northumberland County State of Virginia – Now in my Sixty ninth year of my Age do perfectly recollect that George Brent entered in the Service of the revolutionary War, State line in the year One Thousand seven hundred, and seventy seven as a Lieutenant of Cavalry or Infantré under the command of Capt. Burgess Ball [Burgess Ball BLWt252-500] a Revolutionary officer, and served between three and four years, in the Army before he returned to Lancaster County Virginia. After his return, in the year 1781 the aforesaid George Brent went to Gloucester County opposite to York in Virginia as a Lieutenant in a Company of Calvary commanded by Capt. Thomas Pollard, afterwards commanded by Capt Cany, I was a man of the said Company after the surrender of CornWallace [sic: Cornwallis at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781], I returned with George Brent to Lancaster County

Given under my hand, and seal this 21st of February 1833 Thomas N. Lawson

Richmond February 28th 1833

To his Excellency Governor Floyd

Sir I have this day received by mail the accompanying deposition of Thomas Newton Lawson proving the services of Lt George Brent dec[ease]d in the revolutionary war, at the instance of the heirs I would beg leave to lay it before you with the Auditor's certificate shewing the amount of depreciation pay rec'd by the said Brent; the heirs hope that the evidence is such as to induce you to allow them land bounty for the services of their ancestor.

I would beg leave to say that Mr. Lawson is the only person now living in Lancaster who was connected in any way with the land service; I have often heard Mr Lawson speak of his being at York in October 1781 though then very young.

I have known Mr Lawson for more than twenty years he is a Gentleman of unimpeachable character. Very respectfully, Sir your/ Obt Ser't/ Th H Harvey

[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#). Parts of the following were missing from the online images and are inferred in brackets. The file also contains a copy of Thomas N. Lawson's affidavit above as Exhibit No. 1.]

No 5

District of Co[lum]bia }
Washington County } to wit

I hereby certify that on this 7th day of November 1842 [pe]rsonally appeared before the Subscriber, a Justice of the [P]eace in and for said County, George Downman, of [Nort]humberland County, Virginia, and made Oath in due form of Law, that he was well acquainted with George Bren[t] of the County of Lancaster in the said State, long since [dec]eased, and has heard him say repeatedly, th[at] he was in the Army of the Revolution, and served as [a] Common Soldier, and was never a Commissioned Offic[er] either in the Virginia Line, or the Continental Line of the Am[er]ican Army – and the said George Downman fur[ther] certifies that he does not believe there was any [pe]rson by the name of George Brent of Lancaster County aforesaid who served in any capacity in the American Army during the Revolution.

[illegible signature]/ Justice of the Peace

No. 3 State of [Vir]ginia – Prince William County – to wit

On this 28th day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty five[?] personally appeared b[e]for[e] the Subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in and for said [Cou]nty, Mrs Euphan[?] Brent, and made oath in due form [of] Law that she was well acquainted with the late Colonel George Brent of Stafford County, Virginia, and knew hi[m] to be an officer of the Army during the American Rev[ol]utionary war and she understood and believes that [his]rank was that of Lieutenant. She further makes [oath] that she has no Interest in any Claim which the Representatives of said Colonel George Brent may [?] of the Revolutionary Services

Sworn to before & certified by me/ Laurence G [undeciphered] JP

[undeciphered word] original in Pension [O]ffice

28 Ma[undeciphered]

Sir/ Charles Bell aged 71 years, a native of Stafford County [part may be missing] of Washington that he was a near neighbor of the late Colonel George Brent of the said County of Stafford during the war of the Revolution and knew him well: that the said George Brent was as the Deponent knows, an officer of the Army of the Revolution, and as he understood and believes held the Commission of Lieutenant of Cavalry – that he remained in the Army til the end of the war; and the Deponent well recollects when the war terminated and when Peace was proclaimed; that he cannot be mistaken as to the time the war ended because it was a matter of general Conversation and notoriety. This Deponent does not know in what Regiment the said George Brent served, nor in what Battles he was engaged during the war. He served himself as a Private in Captain Thomas Mountjoy's Company of Militia at the Siege of York and the Capture of Cornwallis and his Army

Washington – District of Columbia/ 22^d February 1850

To His Excellency/ The Governor of Virginia

Your Memorialist respectfully represents that he is the Attorney and one of the Heirs of the late Colonel George Brent, of Stafford County, Virginia, who served in the War of the Revolution as Lieutenant of Cavalry, in the Virginia Line.

That the claim of said Representatives for Bounty Land was presented several years ago (in 1843) to the Pension Office in Washington and appeal [undeciphered word] from the decision of the Secretary of War to the Congress of the United States, by whom finally your Memorialist was sent for relief to the State of Virginia on the ground that it is a Case for the Consideration of her officers before provision can be [undeciphered word] for it by the Federal Government.

Your Memorialist having been lately informed that by a recent Law of the State of Virginia all claims growing out of the Revolutionary Services must be presented by Memorial to his Excellency the Gover'r before the 1st day of March next, or the case may be subject to the Statute of Limitations, begs leave most respectfully to notify your Excellency that it is the intention of the heirs to present their Claim, in a proper form and at an early date, for the Consideration and decision of the proper State Authorities, and hold themselves prepared to show from the Records at Richmond

1st That Catherine P Pollard, Frances Brent and George Brent received from the State of Virginia the

following number of acres of Land: to wit: on the 30th day of March 1833 1777¹/₃, and on the 4th April 1833 888²/₃ acres.

2^d By the Oaths of George Downman, of Northumberland County, that the heirs of George Brent of Lancaster County, Virginia, who thus obtained the Land Bounty of Lieutenant of Cavalry, were not entitled to it, as the man of that name, of Lancaster County, was only a private; and that, hence, as they believe, there had been an evident fraud practised, by which the heirs of George Brent, of Stafford, have been wronged, and that this will further appear by reference to the affidavit of said Thomas Lawson of 21st February 1833, now on file in the Executive Department, Richmond, and on which and by which [undeciphered word] said Warrants were issued to the heir of George Brent, of Lancaster County Your Memorialist h[as] applied to the Commissioner of Pensions in Wash[in]gton, for certified Copied of Downman's Affidav[it] and the other certificates, being Evidence in the Case, and been answered by said Commissioner that the office do[es] not give Copies. He proposes appealing to the Sec[ret]ary of the Interior or War, for an order for said Copie[s.] Until that application can be made and attended [to], he beg leave to annex Copies of said Affidavits a[nd] Certificates, among the Papers in the case, and which he [b]elieves and appears to be true and fair transcript. The [br]ief time before the Statute of Limitations may take effect a[nd] the apprehended delays of proceeding in the Public Office [t]hen induce him to hope and pray that, in anticipation of authenticated Copies yet to be obtained, those now offered may be received.

3^{dly} By the af[fi]davits of Charles Bell and Mrs Euphea[?] Brent deceased, (copies of which are [undeciphered word] and mark[ed] respectively Exhibits No 3 & 4, that Colonel George Brent of Stafford County, deceased, was a Lieutenant of Cava[lry] in the Virginia Line and continued to the end of the War [of] the Revolution.

4^{thly} By a Lette[r] from the Commissioner of Pensions of 20th[?] July 1843, to [yo]ur memorialist's Father, the late Colonel William Brent, i[n s]aid City, and Brother of said Col George Brent, it appears that George Brent, Lieutenant of Cavalry, on the 24th February 1784, received in person a Certificate for £179.4.2, which Letter is hereto annexed and marked Exhibit No 6.

When your Memorialist shall be prepared to present his Claim more formally and fully official and authentic Copies of these original Affidavits and other Evidence in behalf of the Claim will be offered to the proper tribunal or Authority Commissioned to take cognizance of and decide matters of the Sort, and in the mean time most respectfully pray that your Excellency will receive this Memorial as intended to bring the case within the Saving Clause of the Law referred to, and which, otherwise, might prejudice his and the rights of the other Heirs and Representatives

All which is respectfully submitted by/
John Carroll Brent
one of the Heirs & Attorney for the/ Heirs & Legal Representatives
of the late Col George Brent of/ Stafford County, Deceased.

15th March '50

This claimant has already been allowed his land bounty. If the proper heirs have not drawn it, their recourse must be against those persons who have, or against the Register of the land office.

Approved/ [Governor] J. B. Floyd

1850 Sept'r 18. Advice approved & Mr. J. C. Brent informed & directed to Washington City.