

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander Sproul (Sprowl) R10020 ½ Jane f60VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 4/11/12

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Clinton County: On this the 18th day of March 1845 personally appeared before me S. McKeel [?] a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid Jane Sproul widow of Alexander Sproul Deceased whose statements are entitled to full Credit and after being duly sworn for that purpose on her oath makes the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of the 4th July 1836. She states that her father William Beard and her husband's father William Sproul lived about 4 miles apart in Augusta County State of Virginia and that she was well acquainted with her Deceased husband and his Father's family from the time she could recollect until she was married to her deceased husband. Declarant states that she well knew that he heard Deceased Husband before her marriage with him volunteered to serve his country early in the spring in McIntosh's Campaign under Captain Samuel McCutchen. She recollects [indecipherable word] went into service and continued in the service until sometime in the month of October and her Deceased Husband came to her father's House soon after he returned home – And she well recollects his telling about his trip being long and severe and well recollects his saying that while in service on some occasion the soldiers were compelled to eat the skins of animals to sustain life. She knows that at that tower [tour] her husband must have served over six months. She states that she was married to her husband were then married, in the month of May – the 15th day by John Brown a Presbyterian preacher and in a short time about three weeks after they were married she and her Husband moved into a house near Wm Sprowls Father's about 1 mile. She states that in 2 or 3 weeks after they were moved into the house that her husband went a Drafted Soldier under Captain Cunningham and Declarant remained at the place and she made a crop in the absence of her Husband. She states – That her Deceased husband was at the taking of Cornwallis [October 19th, 1781] and that through the balance of his life that he often talked of seeing Wallises Army stack up their arms and conversed of the various trips and Difficulties he underwent during these towers – She further states that she heard after the surrender of Cornwallis that Wallis had surrendered and that her Husband was sick. She then hired her brother-in-law – James Sproul to take a wagon and go to Yorktown where her husband was sick, and bring him home and he was brought home in a wagon she cannot recollect the day he arrived home but she recollects that his brother started for him shortly after the surrender and that he made the trip – and returned the 1st of November 1781 – and lay sick for some considerable time. She states that she and her Husband moved from the State of Virginia Augusta County to the State of Kentucky Cumberland County where she has lived ever since. She further states that her husband went into the late war a volunteer in Shelby's campaign under Captain Ward and died in the service in the State of Ohio at the pickaway Plains – She states that her son Joseph Sprowl went with his Father the same Soldier but returned home and his Father died. She states that her husband when he found he could never reach home sent a scalp of an

Indian home by James Williams a Soldier who was with him. She states that the Certificate of the priest marked S [?] who married them which she makes a part of her Declaration was kept by her Husband during his life and since by her to this day. She states that her husband was a faithful soldier in the Revolution as she has always learned from and served these towers she has above described and went a volunteer in the late war and died in service. She also makes the kept in a small Bible marked O [?] a part of her Declaration. She further states that she was 18 years of age when she was married [several lines too faint to discern] She states that she engaged a man to attend to her case and could have proved her marriage and services and [text too faint to discern] service by her brother John Beard but before she could get the proof her Brother died and she has not made application until the present. She states that she is a widow helpless to a great extent and [text too faint to discern] the laws passed by Congress for the benefit of Revolutionary widows.

S/ Jane Sprowl, X her mark

[f p. 11]

The Amended Declaration Jane Sprowl Claiming a pension under the act of Congress of the 4th of July 1836 She states that she was well acquainted with her deceased Husband as she has stated in her original declaration and well recollects that he went a six-month Tower as she has stated under Captain Samuel McCutchen and in McIntosh's Campaign. She states that from the great length of time she cannot state the exact day that he entered the service but well recollects that it was early in the spring of 1780. She knows it was as early as the 1st of April that he continued in service until October or November – She is quite confident it was as late as October. She states that the weather was cold he returned when that her deceased husband shortly after he came home he came to her father's house that he was frequently at her Father's house from that time until Declarant and the soldier were married May the 15th 1781, that she and her husband moved into a house to themselves in about three weeks after they were married and in about three weeks thereafter he was drafted that they have not been living to themselves more than three weeks and to the best of her recollection he started into service about the 1st of July under Captain Cunningham she is the most positive it was not later than the 10th of July. That he returned home the 1st of November 1781. This is as nigh as she can state about these towers. She states that at this Tower he was gone at least 3 months and a half.

Sworn to and subscribed this 25th of July 1845 before me

S/ S. M. Keeton

S/ Jane Sprowl, X her mark

[f p. 2: family register:

Jean Sproul was Born April 5th 1782

William Sproul was Born January 22nd 1784

Alexr Sproul was Born March 12th 1786

Polly Sproul was Born March 23rd 1788

Samuel Sproul was Born May 12 1790

James Sproul was Born September 25th 1792

Joseph Sproul was Born [illegible] Anno Domino 1795

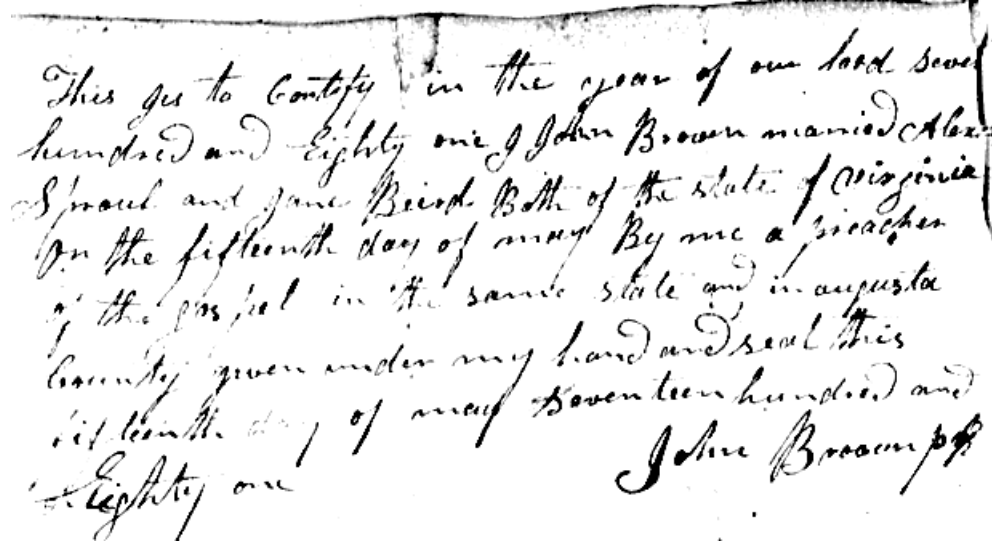
John Sproul was Born August Anno Domino 1797

Nansy Sproul was Born 31st January Anno Domino 1800]

[f p. 5]

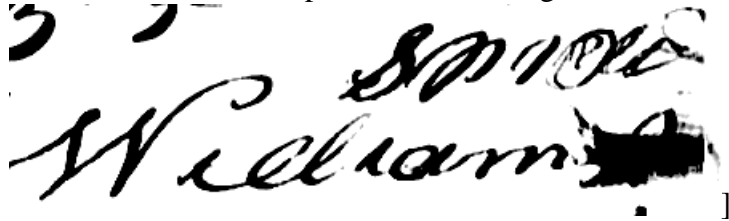
This is to Certify in the year of our Lord 1781 I John Brown married Alexander Sproul and Jane Beird Both of the State of Virginia on the 15th day of May By me a preacher of the gospel in the same state and in Augusta County given under my hand and seal this 15th day of May 1781

S/ John Brown, pg



This is to Certify in the year of our Lord seven hundred and Eighty one I John Brown married Alex. Sproul and Jane Beird Both of the state of Virginia on the fifteenth day of may By me a preacher of the gospel in the same state and in Augusta County given under my hand and seal this fifteenth day of may Seven hundred and Eighty one
John Brown

[f. p.12: Own July 25, 1845 in Clinton County Kentucky, William Sproul gave testimony that he is 61 years of age last January; that he is the son of Alexander and Jane Sproul; that he often heard his father and Captain William Long discussed their services in the revolution



William Sproul

[The file a large number of affidavits from neighbors who testified as to their recollections of what the veteran said concerning his services in the Revolution, but none of these affidavits contain any details of such service—just vague statements as to the veteran's having stated repeatedly that he did serve in the Revolution. Some of the affidavits relate to the veteran's services in the War of 1812.]