

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements  
**Pension application by widow and heirs of Thomas Brooks R1243**  
**Affidavit of Jeremiah Brooks**

State of Tennessee  
County of Henderson

On this 5th of September AD one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, personally appeared before me, a Justice of the Peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, **Jeremiah Brooks**, aged 58 years, a resident of Henderson County, who being duly sworn according to law, declares upon his oath that he is the son of **Thomas Brooks** who was a private in **Captain Wilson's** company of the 10th Regiment and served during the war. He further declares that his father died in the county of Wilson in the State of Tennessee in the year 1822 on the 13th of June leaving a widow **Angelico Brooks** to whom he was married in the county of Hyde in the State of North Carolina. **Jeremiah Brooks** further declares that his mother, **Angelico Brooks**, remained a widow until her death which transpired in the county of Henderson in the State of Tennessee in the month of October 1847 and it is believed on the 5th day of that month, leaving four heirs, to wit: **Christopher, Stephen, and Jeremiah and Midget**. He further declares that his father **Thomas Brooks** enlisted in the State of North Carolina and that he never received any pension nor his mother **Angelico Brooks**. He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the Act of Congress of July 7th 1832 for himself and brothers.

/s/ **Jeremiah Brooks**

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written. And I hereby certify that Jeremiah Brooks is a good and creditable witness.

/s/ **Eli Teague**, JP for Henderson County

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**Affidavit of Elisha O'Neal**

State of Tennessee  
County of Henderson

On the 5th day of September A.D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty three (1853), personally appeared before me, a Justice of the Peace within and for the county and State aforesaid, **Elisha O'Neal**, a citizen of Madison County in the State of Tennessee, who declares on his oath that he is personally acquainted with **Jeremiah Brooks** and that he was personally acquainted with his father, **Thomas Brooks**, and his mother **Angelico Brooks** and that they lived together as man and wife and were so regarded in the community where they lived. He further declares that after the death of **Thomas Brooks** that **Angelico**, his widow, remained a widow until her death.

/s/ **Elisha Oneal**

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written. And I hereby certify that the above affidavit of **Elisha O'Neal** was taken in the presence of **Jeremiah Brooks**.

/s/ **Eli Teague**, JP for Henderson County

State of Tennessee  
County of Henderson

I, **Jesse Taylor**, Clerk of this county court of said county do hereby certify that **Eli Teague** is an acting Justice of the Peace of said County duly qualified according to law [rest to blurred to read]. Given under my hand and seal of office September 5th 1853.

/s/ **Jesse Taylor**, Clerk

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**Affidavit of Custes O'Neal**

State of Tennessee  
County of Decatur

On this seventeenth day of August AD one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, personally appeared before me, he undersigned, a Justice of the Peace within and for the county and State aforesaid, **Custes O'Neal**, a good and creditable witness, who being first duly sworn, doth on his oath declare that he is personally acquainted with **Jeremiah Brooks** who lived in Henderson County in the State of Tennessee and that he is the son of **Thomas Brooks** who formerly lived in the county of Hyde in the State of North Carolina, and removed to Green County in the State of Tennessee and then to Wilson County in the aforesaid State, where he remained until he died. He further declares that the said **Thomas Brooks** and **Angelico Brooks** lived together as man and wife, and were so regarded in the

community where they lived, and that from an acquaintance of thirty years standing he never heard one word to the contrary. He further declares that **Angelico Brooks**, the widow of **Thomas Brooks**, died a short time since in the county of Henderson in the State of Tennessee, and that she remained a widow until her death.

/s/ **Custes O'Neal**

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written. And I hereby certify that the above affidavit was taken in the presence of **Jeremiah Brooks**.

/s/ **P.W. Austin**, JP for Decatur County

State of Tennessee  
County of Decatur

I, **Samuel A. Yarbro**, Clerk of the County Court of County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that **P.W. Austin**, Esq. before whom the foregoing declaration was made, was at the time an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said county and State and that the signature purporting to be his is genuine.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of our said County at Office in Decaturville this 17th day of August 1853.

/s/ **Samuel A. Tarbro**, Clerk of the County Court

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### Letter to L.P. Waldo - Pension Office

Spring Creek, Tenn.  
September 1st, 1853

Hon. **L.P. Waldo**

Dear Sir:

I send you for file with the application of **Tho. Brooks** for \_\_\_\_\_ of pension due them. Some six or seven weeks ago I addressed you a letter containing several applications for bounty land also for \_\_\_\_\_ of pension and mailed it at Lexington in this state from which I have received no answer. If you have received please let me know. I mailed one from the same place a short time since.

Yours & c.

/s/ **G.W. Talbot**

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### Letter from Pension Office to G.W. Talbot, Spring Creek, Tenn.

Octr. 14, 1853

Sir:

The application of the heirs of **Angelica Brooks**, widow of **Thomas** of Tennessee, has been received and filed. Whenever there is any evidence of military service submitted, this case will be taken up for examination.

/not signed/ [more than likely a letter from **L.P. Waldo** of the Pension Office in Washington, DC]

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### Letter from George W. Talbot to L.P. Waldo

Spring Creek - Dec. 26th '53

Hon L.P. Waldo,

I addressed you today in regard to an application made by **William Estes** for the pension money due his mother-in-law **Catherine Bridges**. If Mrs. Bridges failed to apply for the money due her during her life can not her children now obtain the same?

In regard to your letter of Oct. 14th, 1853 informing me that the application of the heirs of **Angelica Brooks**, widow of **Thomas Brooks**, had been filed and would be taken up as soon as evidence of service was submitted. The heirs are satisfied that their father served, that he was in the continental line in the State of North Carolina and served during the war, and remained in service after hostilities ceased. Since they made application they remember much about his services and although they have no discharge they remember having heard him converse with old soldiers about his service. They differ about his Captain, some contend that he was with **Mason** for a short time, others that he was not, but as he was in the continental service I think his services could be established.

Your serv't.,

/s/ **George W. Talbot**

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Letter to Hon. L.P. Waldo, Commissioner of Pensions

Spring Creek, Madison Co., Tenn.  
April 2nd, 1854

Sir:

Enclosed you will find a certificate from the court of the tenth judicial circuit for the county of Henderson, State of Tennessee in the case of **Angelico Brooks**, widow of **Thomas Brooks**, a soldier in the Revolutionary War in the Continental line of North Carolina. It is probable that the family record of the parties has been sent you before this from the State of Missouri which contains the record of their marriage and the births of their children.

The services of Thomas Brooks can be established by the record of North Carolina and as soon as you are satisfied with the proof of marriage, dates of death, heirship, etc. I will forward the certificate of my Clerk.

Your obd'nt serv't,  
/s/ **George W. Talbot**

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It is hereby certified that satisfactory proof has been exhibited before the court of the tenth judicial circuit for the county of Henderson in the State of Tennessee by the affidavit of **Midget Brooks**, a resident of Henderson county in the State of Tennessee and who is entitled to credit; that Thomas Brooks, a soldier in the Revolutionary War in the State of North Carolina, died in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-two.

It is further certified by the affidavit of **Augustin P. Lipscomb**, a resident of Henderson County in the State of Tennessee, a resident of Henderson County, and who is entitled to credit; that **Angelica Brooks**, the widow of Thomas Brooks, died in the county of Henderson, state aforesaid, on the fifth day of September AD one thousand eight hundred and forty seven, and the children--the offspring of the parties aforesaid, now surviving, are **Christopher Brooks, Stephen Brooks, Jeremiah Brooks and Midget Brooks**.

In testimony whereof I have set my hand and seal of office this twenty eighth day of March AD one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

/s/ **R.B. Jones**, Clerk Circuit Court Henderson County, Tennessee

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Proof of Deaths

State of Missouri  
County of Jefferson

On this 29th day of April AD 1854, personally appeared before me, an acting Justice Peace in and for the County of Jefferson, **James R. England** and **George Willson**, who being sworn upon their oath, say that the book called the "*Fletcher's Appeal*" containing the family record of **Thomas Brooks** and **Angelica Brooks** his wife, between the pages ten and thirteen are lost and destroyed out of said book and that said affiants further state that the time of the deaths of **Thomas Brooks** and **Angelica** his wife are recorded in the family Bible of **Stephen Brooks**, son of said deceased. **Thomas and Angelica Brooks** said record reads as follows:

**Thomas Brooks** departed this life June 1st 1822  
**Angelica Brooks** departed this life September 19th 1847

/s/ **George Willson & James R. England**

Sworn and subscribed to before me day and date above mentioned.

/s/ **Wm. Foxton**, JP

I, **Tho. C. Fletcher**, Clerk of the County Court within and for County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that **William Foxton**, before whom the within affidavit was made, was at the date thereof an acting Justice of the Peace, duly qualified and commissioned as such and that the signature purporting to be his is genuine. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said Court at office this third day of June 1854.

/s/ **Tho. C. Fletcher**, Clerk

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Affidavit of Stephen Brooks

State of Missouri  
Co. of Jefferson

On this 29th day of April AD 1854, personally appeared before me, an acting Justice of the Peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, **Stephen Brooks**, aged sixty-two years, a resident of Jefferson County, State aforesaid, who being duly sworn according to law declares upon his oath that the book called the "*Fletcher's Appeal*" containing the family record of **Thomas Brooks** and his wife, **Angelica Brooks**, which he has forwarded to the Commissioner of Pensions for inspection, has been in his possession about twenty years and that his mother **Angelica Brooks** lived with him nearly twenty years previous to her death and this affiant further states that he does not know who recorded the marriage of his father & mother in the *Fletcher's Appeal*, and that the record as aforesaid was between the pages of page ten and page thirteen of the book aforesaid and that the pages aforesaid have been lost out of said book, and this affiant further states that his mothers death was recorded in his family Bible sometime in February last by **James R. England** of Jefferson County, Missouri and that his mother died September 19th 1847 in the State of Tennessee.

/s/ Stephen [x] Brooks

Sworn and subscribed to before me day and date above written.

/s/ **Wm. Foxton**, JP

I, **Tho. C. Fletcher**, Clerk of the County Court within and for said County, do certify that **William Foxton**, before whom the foregoing affidavit was made and whose genuine signature is thereto attached, is and was at the date thereof an acting and duly commissioned and qualified Justice of the Peace within and for said County and that all his official acts as such are entitled to full faith and credit. In testimony whereof I hereto set my hand and affix the seal of said Court at office May 5th 1854

/s/ **Tho. C. Fletcher**, Clerk

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### Letters to Hon. L.P. Waldo, Commissioner of Pensions

Spring Creek, Tenn.

May 17th '54

Sir:

Enclosed I send you the affidavit of **Stephen Brooks**, son of **Thomas and Angelica Brooks**, who has kept the family record of the parties previous to their death and since. The record has been forwarded to your office and I hope it will reach you.

Your obd'nt serv't,

/s/ **George W. Talbot**

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Spring Creek, Tenn.

May 17th 1854

Sir:

Enclosed is the family record of **Thomas Brooks** and his wife, **Angelica Brooks**. You will see on an examination of the record that the eldest child of the parties was born in 1785. This will establish the marriage prior to 1794.

Your obd'nt serv't,

/s/ **George W. Talbot**

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### Letter from Pension Office to G.W. Talbot, Esq. of Spring Creek, Tenn.

May 30, 1854

Sir:

I have received and filed the volume entitled "*Fletcher's Appeal*" and deem the record therein of the marriage of **Thomas & Angelico Brooks** satisfactory to establish its date prior to 1794; and when the record ordered of the service of the said Thomas is produced, will further consider the claim.

/not signed/

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### Letter to L.P. Waldo, Esq., Washington, DC & reply

Spring Creek, Tenn. - June 16, 1854

Sir:

Enclosed you have additional testimony in the case of **Angelica Brooks**. I do not regard it of any importance but as you require much testimony and that every point should be covered, I have concluded to forward it. It was sent me some time since but did not have the certificate of the Clerk and his seal of office and I returned for proper authentication.

Your obd'nt serv't,  
/s/ **George W. Talbot**

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Pension Office - June 26, 1854 to **Geo. W. Talbot** of Spring Creek, Tennessee

Sir:

The additional proof in the case of **Angelica Brooks**, deceased, widow of **Thomas** of Tennessee, under the Act of July 7, 1838, has been received and filed; the credibility of the witnesses, not being certified.

No evidence of service has been filed.

/not signed/

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### North Carolina Comptroller's Office Records

State of North Carolina  
Comptroller's Office

I, **William J. Clarke**, Comptroller of public accounts in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears of record in my office among the payments made to sundry persons for military services in the Revolutionary War as follows, to wit:

**Thomas Brooks**

Printed Book Page 10 - €103.S15.d9 Specie

Book No. 1 Page 1 - €15.S4 Specie 1782

Book No. 2 Page 36 - €14.S9.d2 Specie 1782

**Thomas Brooks** also appears on the original roll of **Maj. John Nelson's** Company for the month of February 1780. Mustard [sic] at Charleston, South Carolina as having enlisted in the 1st Battalion of North Carolina forces in the service of the United States commanded by **Col. Thomas Clarke** on the 1st day July 1777 for the period of three years.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of office June 29th 1854.

/s/ **Wm. J. Clarke**, Compt'r.

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### Letter to Hon. L.P. Waldo, Commissioner of Pensions & reply

Spring Creek, Tenn. - July 10, 1854

Sir:

Enclosed you have the certificate of the Comptroller in regard to the service of **Thomas Brooks**. Having thus far furnished all you desired in the way of evidence, I hope you will allow the claim.

Very respectfully  
Your obd'nt serv't,  
/s/ **George W. Talbot**

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Pension Office - July 20, 1854 to **Geo. W. Talbot** of Spring Creek, Tennessee

Sir:

The certificate of the Comptroller of NC showing payments to a man named **Thomas Brooks** has been received but there is no evidence on file to show that the **Thomas Brooks** who received these payments was the husband of **Angelica Brooks** of Tenn. where children are applying for the benefits of the Act of July 7, 1838. This proof must be supplied by witnesses who knew that he did render said service.

/not signed/

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## Letter to L.P. Waldo, Esq., Washington, DC & reply

Spring Creek, Tenn. - August 11, 1854

Sir:

It is impossible for the children of **Thomas and Angelica Brooks** to prove the services of their father by "living witnesses". At an early day **Thomas Brooks** removed from North Carolina into East Tennessee where he remained until about 1814 when he removed to Wilson County in the Middle Division of Tennessee where he died.

There are but few persons now living that was acquainted with the old man and I have conversed with but one, and he informed me that he had heard the old man (as he called **Thomas Brooks**) frequently speak about his services in the Revolutionary War.

I have the most satisfactory evidence of the service of **Thomas Brooks**, and it is this, in the month of June 1853 I met with **Midget Brooks**, a son of **Thomas Brooks**, near his residence in Henderson County and I inquired of him if there were any of the soldiers of the late war in the neighborhood, or the widows of Revolutionary soldiers? He stated to me that his father was a Revolutionary soldier and that his mother died without having received anything. I inquired of him the nature of his father's services and he informed me that he served in North Carolina and was in the regular service. In August following I was in Henderson County and another son of **Thomas Brooks, Jeremiah Brooks**, called on me and related his father's services which corroborated with that of his brother, who resided some twenty miles distant from him, and from whom he had not heard. He stated that several years previous he called on a lawyer to make application for the pension due his mother, and that the lawyer promised to attend to it. Now, the truth is, **Thomas Brooks** served and he was a regular soldier and he was at one time in the same company or Regiment with **Caleb Mason**. His children have heard them converse about their hardships frequently. **Thomas Brooks** said in 1812, 13 and 14 to his children and neighbors that if he had strength he would enter the service again, that he has through the entire war of the Revolution and he would like to enter the service again.

**Thomas Brooks**, the father of the parties who have applied, served, but his children can not prove by persons who were in position to know the facts about which they testify because such persons are dead and if such proof could have been made a certificate would not have been purchased from the comptroller of North Carolina. If additional evidence will do, that can be furnished.

Very Respectfully

Your obd'nt svt.

George W. Talbot

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Pension Office - August 24, 1854 to **Geo. W. Talbot, Esq.** of Spring Creek, Tennessee

Sir:

I have received and considered your letter of the 11th instant in relation to the claim of **Angelica Brooks**, widow of **Thomas**, for pension for his services in the Revolutionary War. I can only say in answer that any evidence filed in the case will be carefully considered but its effect cannot be anticipated.

Very Respectfully,

/not signed/

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## Affidavit of Custes O'Neal

State of Tennessee

County of Decatur

On this 4th day of November AD One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four personally appeared before me, an acting Justice of the Peace within and for said county, **Custes O'Neal** of said County, aged sixty-two years, who being first duly sworn according to law, declares upon his oath that he was intimately acquainted with **Thomas Brooks** from his boyhood and earliest recollection up to the period of the old gentleman's death, and also with his wife, **Angelica**, till the time of her death and with the children of said parties, and that **Stephen, Jeremiah and Midget Brooks** are the only surviving children thereof [notice that **Christopher Brooks** is not mentioned here]. Affiant has always understood that the said **Thomas Brooks** was a Revolutionary soldier, that he claimed to have been such and that affiant's own father, **John O'Neal**, was also a soldier in the same war and went from the same neighborhood in North Carolina that Brooks did. That Brooks said he got his monthly pay for said service--that he resided in that part of North Carolina called Hyde County since his first recollection at the time he enlisted and entered the service and that he enlisted for five years or during the war and actually continued in such service for the whole time and perhaps for sometime after peace was made except for a short time when he was permitted to return home on

furlough, after which he returned to service again.

Although affiant is not of sufficient age to prove the actual service of **Thomas Brooks** as a Revolutionary soldier, yet he can not doubt the fact from his long standing acquaintance with him and his family and that the **Thomas Brooks** he refers to as the husband of **Angelica** to be the identical individual who served as a Continental soldier and went from the particular part of the State of North Carolina already above indicated.

He is fully satisfied that the aforesaid **Stephen, Jeremiah, and Midget Brooks** are the identical children of the said **Angelica**, who was the wife of said soldier. Affiant further says that the said **Thomas Brooks** was living with him for more than two years before his death and that he died at his house, and that his wife, the said **Angelica**, also lived in his family at the two years before his death and that he died at his house and that his wife, the said **Angelica**, also lived in his family at the time of her said husband's death and where she continued to reside the most of her time till her own death about six years ago, the time not being definitely recollected, and not being at his own house, he has not the advantage of records. But to conclude, affiant further states that the **Thomas Brooks** now referred to, was the very Continental soldier who did the military service referred to above, at any rate, he always so represented it and such was the opinion of his wife, the said **Angelica**, during life, and of all their children since the death of their said parents and no one so far as he knows ever doubted the foregoing facts who had any knowledge of the family and circumstances connected with it. That he has no pecuniary? interest in the results of the case in question.

Attest: **T.B. Murphey & Gabriel Scott**

/s/ **Custes Oneal**

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the date and year above written and I hereby certify that **Custes Oneal**, the above affiant, is a good and credible witness.

/s/ **Daniel H. Murphey**, JP for Decatur County

State of Tennessee

County of Decatur

I, **Samuel A. Yarbro**, Clerk of the County Court of County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that **Daniel H. Murphey**, Esq., before whom the foregoing affidavit of **Custes Oneal** was made, was at the date thereof an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said county and state and that the signature purporting to be his is genuine.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of our said county at office in Decaturville this 7th day of November 1854.

/s/ **Saml. A Yarbro**, Clerk of the County Court

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### Letter to Hon. L.P. Waldo, Commissioner of Pensions & reply

Spring Creek - Nov. 24th 1854

Sir:

You will herewith please find additional proof in reference to the claim of **Angelica Brooks**, widow of **Thomas** of Tennessee. But when your letter of 20th July last is considered, it seems scarcely worth while to offer any proof short of the testimony of contemporaries of the soldier and who were present at his marriage to claimant and have known his widow and children from that till the present time. And if the literal requirements of that letter can neither be relaxed nor modified, in some degree, it is vain and unnecessary to offer such testimony as can be obtained at this period.

The letter referred to says "There is no evidence on file to show that the **Thomas Brooks** who received these payments was the husband of **Angelica Brooks** of Tennessee whose children are applying for the benefits of the Act of July 7, 1838. This proof must be supplied by witnesses who knew that he did render said service." Now in what way could this proof be supplied in the manner required, except by those who served in the Revolutionary Army with the said **Thomas Brooks**, and moreover, were present with him and witnessed his settlement with the Auditor of Public Accounts in the State of North Carolina, and have since that time been conversant with his wife and children. Such requirements as those just referred to, without any sort of qualification, bears no resemblance to that spirit of liberality in which our pension laws were made, and would seem to be disguised to dispose of all cases of this class in the most summary manner and without the trouble of inquiring into the nature and character of the circumstances connected with same.

A careful examination of the original declaration in this case and all the proof conducted therewith, including the affidavit of **Custes Oneal** now offered, will put it out of the power of any man, to believe that the said **Angelica Brooks** was not the very person who was the wife of the identical **Thomas Brooks** who was paid and served as claimed in the \_\_\_\_\_. **Jeremiah Brooks**, the son of these parties, and who is known to be a man of unquestioned veracity, swears that his father, **Thomas Brooks**, was a private in **Captain Nelson's** Company of the 10th Regiment

and that he entered the service on the 1st of July 1777 and first and last served in several Company's, and among the others he is of opinion that at one time he served in the Company of **Captain Caleb Mason**, and at another time under **Captain Wilson** who was perhaps the first Captain under whose command he did serve. He also informed me that his said father performed a part of his service in the State of South Carolina; that he belonged to the Continental Line and continued in service about two years after the close of the war in order to complete his term of enlistment.

The above statements when applied to the payments received by the Brooks in question, taken in connection with the records of the Continental establishment & all the proof and circumstances belonging to the case, cannot leave the shadow of a doubt as to who are the rightful claimants.

**Custes Oneal** in his affidavit informs us that he was acquainted with the said **Thomas Brooks** from his earliest recollections to the period of the old gentleman's death and that he always understood that he had been a Revolutionary soldier--he mentions the name of the county in North Carolina in which the old soldier lived when he enlisted into the service; that this same **Brooks** was the husband of the said **Angelica**, the mother of the identical children now applying for the pension money due her.

The fact of the service of **Thomas Brooks** claimed to have been rendered and the fact that the aforesaid **Angelica** was his wife, have been sustained by such a connected chain of collateral evidence to say nothing of the other proof, and which circumstantial evidence could not have existed except in connection with the Revolutionary service claimed to have been performed by the said **Brooks**, and which it would seem should dispense with the consideration to make the proof in the direct manner required in your letter already referred to, and more especially when that has become impossible. The history of the times and the circumstances of this case fully settle the identity of all the parties. Neither the records of the Continental Line or the Auditor [last line of page is missing] **Brooks** in the State of North Carolina, can show the names of any other Thomas Brooks that could by any legitimate mode of construction be applied to the **Thomas Brooks** we claim as having been the husband of the said **Angelica**.

And if this claim cannot be allowed on the testimony already offered, we are unable to see how any claim of this kind can be established at \_\_\_\_\_ when there are so very few persons living who were contemporaries with the soldiers of those days. When and where allowed us to enquire, can it be supposed that any one could find witnesses who know what he did under said service? Is this requirement any thing less than it would be to discourage witnesses by whom to prove the actual term of service? We are aware that it is your duty to be fully satisfied as to the merit of any claim and that over views, when not sustained by proof, can make no difference in your action, but at the same time we must implore as much relaxation in your requisitions as may comfort with duty. See opinion of acting Secretary **S.C. Goddard** 102 --page 533. **Mayo vs. Montlon?**

We are fully satisfied as to the justice of this claim and would not be willing to see it closed against the parties without further efforts if required.

We are respectfully your most obt. servants,  
Talbot & Jayne, for claimant

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Pension Office - Decr. 5, 1854

Gentlemen:

I have re-examined the papers in the case of **Angelico Brooks**, widow of Thomas of Tenn. under the Act of July 7, 1838, and so far from perceiving "such a connected chain of collateral evidence" "which circumstantial evidence could not have existed except in connection with the Revolutionary service claimed," I confess my utter inability to perceive any thing like satisfactory evidence in the papers that her husband ever served a day. The declaration made in 1853 declares for service under **Captain Wilson** and to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the War. The record of service for a man named **Thomas Brooks** indicates, it is true, a long period of service but does not show any service under a man named Wilson. Indeed if it is true that he was a Continental soldier, there is every reason to believe that the certificate of the comptroller of NC filed in the papers does not refer to him at all for the comptroller's certificates indicate the pay of militia and not Continental soldiers. No witness has testified to the service who could by any probability know anything of it. A man of her husband's name seems to have enlisted for three years in 1777, but he enlisted in Charleston, SC under **Col. Thomas Clarke**. In 1780 a man of his name was in service under **Major John Nelson**. None of this service was mentioned by the applicants. Where then is the "connected chain of collateral evidence?" I still insist that the requirements of my letter of July 20 must be complied with.

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Letter to Geo. C. Whitney, Commissioner of Pensions & reply

Decaturville, Tenn. - April 18th 1857



Sir:

I am requested by **Jeremiah Brooks** to write to you and request that you forward the family record of his father, **Thomas Brooks**, to his address at Cottonwood Point, Pemiscot County, Missouri. The record was filed with the application of the heirs of **Thomas Brooks** who applied for the pension due their mother, **Angelica Brooks**, for the services of her husband, **Thomas Brooks**, in the War of the Revolution.

Very Respectfully,  
Your obd'nt serv't.,  
/s/ **Geo. W. Talbot**

No date on note and not signed: "Letter to G.W. Talbot of the 30th of May 1854 admits that the date of the marriage is proved. Record returned by request to Jeremiah Brooks at Cottonwood Point, Pemiscot Co., Missouri."

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Pension Office - Apl. 30, 1857

Sir:

The frequent applications made to this office for information about particular claims for bounty land pending before it, render it proper to call particular attention to some suggestions, a careful observance of which, by those thus applying, is necessary to enable the office to give the information desired.

The system of the registration of such claims requires that both the *name of the applicant* for land and the *number of his application* be stated, in order that the office may readily turn to the papers in the files. In all acknowledgments of the receipt of applications at this office the number of each application is given, and by reference to those the numbers can always be ascertained. If however, from not having received any such acknowledgment, or from having subsequently lost it, the number cannot be stated, the particular time--the month and the day of the month--when the application was forwarded to this office should be stated as nearly as may be.

Without these particular statements this office cannot undertake, with the force now at its command, to make those examinations for particular claims which are necessary in order to give information about them. The amount of time and labor which would be required in a general examination for a particular application among the over two hundred and thirty thousand now received, will readily be seen.

**Geo. C. Whiting**, Commissioner

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### Letter from Geo. W. Talbot to Commissioner of Pensions

Decaturville, Tenn. - May 13th, 1857

Sir:

In reply to the enclosed circular, I would say that the heirs of **Thomas Brooks** applied in the year 1853 for the pension due their mother. They did not apply for Bounty Land, but for an unclaimed pension due their mother, **Angelica Brooks**. At the time the application was made the parties resided in Henderson County in this state but have since removed to Missouri.

Very Respectfully,  
Your obd'nt serv't.,  
/s/ **Geo. W. Talbot**