

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Brooks R1264

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[The following appears to have been written by Susanah Chedester, daughter of William Brooks.]

Rheatown East Tenese

Mr A Burdem 14 Febuary 1857

M William Brooks servd under Captan Richard yancy [Richard Yancey] and ben stevans [Benjamin Stephens] I think it was Bangamin he was his magor he served a part of his time as ordler sergant he cut his hand a bad sword cut after that he servd as comesery and in the hospitle he servd three or four year at the close of the ware I was so young that my memry dont serve me very well and I hent seen him since 1819 My father died the fifteenth of october 1836 so my brother told me my brother stade at my house too weeks in 1837 he gave me all the information I have got on the deth of my father my father died at rocky mount in south carlina at his sones if therse is any mour infomation wanted send me word and if I can giv it I will
Susanah Chedester

PS I cande proove by the Casens or greenlees in north Calina that I am Brookes daughter. he liev'd at Casons 2 years in the house with him I liev in one mile of my father when he liev at greelees in the year 1808 I can proove my are ship [heirship] by fifty persons in berk or refterford Countys [sic: Burke or Rutherford counties in NC]

State of Tennessee } SS.

Greene County }

On this second day of March A.D. one Thousand eight hundred and fifty seven. Personally appeared before the County Court of the County and State aforesaid Susanah Chedister aged according to her best information Eighty seven years – a resident of Greene County Tennessee – who being duly sworn according to Law declares and says as follows – to wit – I am the child and the only surviving heir at Law of William Brookes deceased. That my father was during the Revolutionary war and in my recollection a citizen of Culpeper County State of Virginia. That I can recollect many circumstances though a child that took place about the close of the war and things that I heard spoken of then. From my earliest recollection I often heard my father say that he had served in the said war. That a part of the time he served as a Sergeant in a company of Cavalry & one of his superior officers probably captain was called Yancy – another perhaps a major was called Stephens. That Yancy and my father were from the same neighborhood and were related by marriage. That he actually served as sergeant until he was wounded in the hand by a sword and then he served until the close of the war and honorable discharge as a commissary That in the aggregate he served three years as he always said and I believe it. That at the time of his discharge he was not able to sell his discharge for any value for several years I think about three years – and then one John Dunn either bought his discharge or finally paid him the balance due him for his service – which I think was about 65£ Sterling. That shortly after being paid my father moved from Virginia to North Carolina and settled in Rutherford County. I had four brothers to wit James – Thomas – Philip & Middleton and no sister my brothers are all dead. That my father continued to reside in said Rutherford County after I left home being married until all the children left him and my mother died, and then my father quit keeping house, which he did for about twenty five years before his death. And whilst on a visit to my brothers Middleton's who resided at the time at Rocky Mount, Fairfield District South Carolina – On the 15 day of October Eighteen hundred and thirty six at the place aforesaid on the visit as stated my father departed this life. The reason why I can so positively state the day and date of my fathers death is this – In a few months after his death my brother Middleton came to my house on a visit and deleiverd me the time which though is not of record as I know of but I have not nor do I think I shall ever forget – and may be relied on as correct, my father

having died at a place where he was a stranger to every one but the family of my brother. And my brother being dead and his family gone to parts unknown and having no record nor knowing of the existence of any here or elsewhere, of the various facts stated except some trace of service of my fathers may from the facts stated be found in the archives of the state where the service was performed – or at Washington City. An examination of which she respectfully solicits, in order to sustain the tradition thus stated. Then I can but suppose that because my father for many years before his death had no settled home – but was living about – by that means he lost any valuable papers he might have had and that in all probability the fact that he ever was during his life time entitled to a pension from the United States may have been unknown to him as it was to me. But I now alledge that my father was during his lifetime entitled to have received a pension for his said service in said war under the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832 and that he never did receive the same but from the facts stated is still due and owing to me.

[Power of attorney follows.]

The declarant by way of amendment says that although service is alleged as totally in Capt Yancy's Company yet if no service in that Company be found she thinks her father may have served in a company commanded by a Captain [Michael] Rudolph of [Lt. Col. Henry] Lee's Legion Virginia Cavalry, and of this record if found she claims the benefit.

Susanah Chedester/ By her atty A. L. Burem

March 3rd 1857

NOTE: In a separate document, Susanah Chedester stated that she had lived in Greene County about 35 years. James B. Chedester, "near Forty six years" old and the oldest living child of Susanah Chedister, swore that he had often heard his mother and his grandfather, William Brooks, discuss the latter's service in the Revolutionary War.