

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Brown R1309

Mary

fn41SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/6/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

### State of Indiana Orange County

On this 30th day of March in the year of our Lord 1842, personally appeared before me Michael Mavity one of the associate judges of the circuit court, in and for the County of Orange, and State of Indiana (said court being a court of Record, having a Clerk and official seal & so declared by the laws of the State of Indiana) James Brown a resident of said County of Orange in State of Indiana, aged eighty years, on the ninth day of November in the year 1841 last past, who being first, by me duly sworn upon his oath, according to law, makes the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7 of June 1832:

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers; and served as herein stated.

That in the month of April (and he believes on the 14th day of that month) in the year 1780 when in the 19th year of his age, he enlisted, in the State Troop of South Carolina; to serve during the war, under Captain John Williams, and took a bounty of five guineas, gold Pieces, & eight dollars in silver, from the said Captain Williams, and was mustered into service at Camden on the Wateree River in South Carolina, under the said Captain Williams, about the next day after his said enlistment; that at the time he enlisted as aforesaid, the said Captain Williams told him he should have a further bounty he thinks in the land and that he then signed a paper, called an article of enlistment; and was measured, & a description of his person, complexion, statue, size, age, color of his hair etc. was taken, & set down by the said Captain Williams, who was then and there recruiting soldiers to serve under General Marion Colonel Horry he thinks was the Colonel's name or some such name as he was then told by said Captain Williams. He further states, that he had resided in Orange, and Chatham Counties in the State of North Carolina, previous to his said enlistment, and that he had left his father Thomas Brown in Orange County North Carolina, about three weeks previous to his enlistment, on account of a difficulty he had got into with a young lady in that County, and was traveling in South Carolina; and fell in Company with the said Captain Williams at what was then called the Dutch Butcher's near Camden in South Carolina, and then and there enlisted as aforesaid. That after he was mustered into the service of the said Captain Williams' company at Camden as aforesaid, the Company was marched by said Captain Williams, from Camden, to Orangeburg on the Granby road to Charleston, where the company joined the Regiment commanded by Colonel Horry, and he

thinks of the 17th Regiment of the state troop of South Carolina, then under the command of General Marion: that he was a private in the company commanded by the said Captain Williams. And that the troop remained at and about Orangeburg, for about one month, & then were marched up to near Abbeville Court-House in pursuit of a Tory party & when the troop arrived near Abbeville, Colonel Horry, ascertained the Tories have lived; The troop were then marched to near Augusta, & from there back to Orangeburg & stayed there about six weeks & then were marched to Granby on the Congaree River, & expected an engagement there with the Tories & British, But they had left the place, & gone to Camden, as we heard, the troop, of which this declarant belonged to, pursued the British & Tories, to the High hills of Santee, where information was had that the enemy had vacated Camden; the troop was some time about here divided into companies of small squadron, Captains command & some time under the Sergeants, & at other times under the command of Colonel Horry, & that they reconnoitered, from Granby to Camden & on the waters of Congaree, Wateree, Santee, Cooper & Ashley rivers, for some three or four months, he thinks, & were sometimes sent out up the Alligator & Cane Swamps, in small companies, in pursuit of the Tories & British, who lurched round there. And afterwards in the troop returned to Orangeburg, & remained there, during the winter, and a part of the time, was out in Companies, from Orangeburg, on small tours, And after having remained at Orangeburg, the troop were marched to the Eutaws (a part of it) by Major \_\_\_ (he forgets his name) stayed there about a month, from there was marched towards Georgetown, & to the Sawcaw [?] hills on the Pedee River, & back to Camden. From there we were marched & crossed the Congaree River, to attack the Fort, of Tories & British on Cooper or Ashley River, East of Charleston & were advised by General Marion to return to Orangeburg, which was done, & then General Marion ordered out 800 men, under command of Colonel Horry to take the Fort on Cooper or Ashley River. That this declarant was then under the command of Captain Copeland, under Colonel Horry, which marched for the purpose of taking the Fort and when the troop reached within some six or eight miles of the Fort, it was ordered by Colonel Horry, that if a road was cut through, on a nearer route, for the purpose of conveying the cannon to the place of attack, that it would be the most expeditious, And accordingly this declarant and others of the troop under Colonel Horry's orders were engaged in cutting out the road for the transportation of the cannon & while engaged in cutting the road, this declarant got his leg out with an axe, on the forepart of the leg a little above the ankle joint: which cut off the main leader of his leg and thereby was rendered unable for service. That the next day after which an attack was made on the Fort by Colonel Horry, the Fort was taken by our troop, & Tories & British made prisoners & troop returned to Orangeburg. That in the engagement in taking the Fort, Captain Copeland was wounded by a ball in the leg. And that Captain Copeland and this declarant were both taken, thus injured & wounded, to Orangeburg & put into a house called an Hospital, where they remained, under a Surgeon's care and attention for about three months, the Surgeon's name is not now recollected. This declarant says, that the cut on his leg as aforesaid, made his ankle joint stiff, and rendered him unable to perform further duty in the line and rank, as a soldier: But that he continued in the service, of the United States, & remained with the Baggage wagons, belonging to the same troop, sometimes, he drove the wagons, and attended the wagon business, went to Charleston, after liquor, with the wagons & hauled it out to Granby, & from there they went to Orangeburg. That he had continued in this service from the time of his said enlistment, until sometime in June in the year 1782, he recollects, that it was about the middle of June after Cornwallis had been taken by General Washington. And that he was discharged by Captain Copeland at Orangeburg in June 1782 that he was in the twenty first year of his age when he was

discharged and that he was discharged on account of his ankle being stiff in from the cut in his leg as aforesaid which still renders him unable to walk, with ease, or he capable to serve in the line. And that his ankle still remains stiff, & is unable to use it & that he has since he left the service, been ruptured, & had his other leg broke, which is now stiffened; and is totally unable to procure living for himself, by labor, & that he needs the assistance of his country.

That he received a discharge in writing from Captain Copeland aforesaid, at the time he was discharged. That he has lost said discharge in Newberry County, South Carolina, about two years after he was discharged; he was then yet unmarried & unsettled and must have lost it out of his pocket, he was then working in a Blacksmith's shop, & has never seen it since. That he was careless about preserving the said discharge, not supposing then, that it would ever be of use for service to him, as they war was then over. That said discharge specified the fact of service he thinks, under an enlistment, and that he had served under Captain Williams, & under Captain Copeland, in the state troop of South Carolina, for two years & two months, & was discharged on account of having a stiff ankle from a cut received in the leg while in the service.

That he has since his said discharge from the service as aforesaid resided in Newberry County South Carolina, next in Greenville County next in Pendleton County, in South Carolina, next in Buncombe County North Carolina, next in Washington County Indiana, next in Gibson County next in Pike, Dubois & last in Orange County in the State of Indiana, where he now resides & that he has resided in the State of Indiana since May 1815, then Indiana Territory.

That he messed, while in the line of duty in service as aforesaid with Savage Littleton,<sup>1</sup> Mack [?, could be Shack or Hank] Littleton & Charles Littleton,<sup>2</sup> who were on relatives & served in the same troop, & occasionally messed with a Henry Gray who belonged to the Continental line under General Greene & had been wounded at the Battle at the Eutaws, in both calves of his legs.

That one night while the troop to which he belonged was camped near the Cheraw hills, one of the Sentinels (his name is forgotten) while at his post was seized by the arm, by a mad Wolf, whose head was cut off before he could be pried loose, which produced death to the Sentinel the next day, he thinks. That some other men of the troop discharged at the same time he was, that had served out their terms of enlistment, volunteer service & drafts.

That he does not know now of any living witness, who served with him, in the war, by whom he can prove that he served as he states, he believes, those who knew of his service have all removed to parts unknown now, or have died; that a few years ago, he knew some by whom he could have proved his service, he thinks, his Captain Copeland, the three Littletons aforesaid, the said Henry Gray, by William Woody, Samuel Loggins, Mashac [sic, Meshach?] Green & Thomas Green (who served in the same troop), Joseph Dawkins, Claudius Gorey, & Isaac Pugh, who are all now dead, & that he has never had any knowledge of his first Captain, Williams, since the war. If there is any person now living, who knew of his service, in the war, he is ignorant of their names & residence.

That he is an illiterate man & has always resided in remote parts of the counties, ever since the war & more particularly for the last 24 or 26 years since he removed to the West. And remained ignorant, of any provision, or laws of Congress having been made by which he was entitled to a Pension for his said services, and the Revolutionary war, until lately, he heard that he could, if a proper application was made in his behalf -- he had always been told, when he made an inquiry about a Pension, among his neighbors, that he could not get a Pension, unless he had

---

<sup>1</sup> Might be the same as [Savage Littleton S32378](#)

<sup>2</sup> Might be the same as [Charles Littleton W8255](#)

been wounded by the enemy. He further declares, that he hereby relinquishes every claim to a Pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll or the agency of any State or Territory of the United States as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Sworn to & subscribed before me  
at the residence of the said

S/ James Brown, X his mark

Declarant, in said County this

30th day of March A.D.

1842 S/ Michael Mavity,

associate Judge of Orange County

and I Michael Mavity the associate judge above named before whom the above declaration of James Brown was made on this 30th day of March A.D. 1842, proceeded to propounded to the said declarant the following interrogatories to which the annexed answers hereto respectively were given, viz.

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

I was born about seven miles above Redfield ford on Haw River in Chatham County, in North Carolina on the ninth day of November in the year 1761 as informed by my parents

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have no record of my age neither do I know of any having been kept unless my father kept one & if he did, I could not read, having no learning.

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. I lived in Orange County North Carolina, with my father Thomas Brown & left my father and went into South Carolina, near Camden and was traveling when I enlisted with Captain Williams, in the state troop of South Carolina; and I have lived since the Revolutionary war in South Carolina, next in North Carolina, next in Washington County, Indiana, next in Gibson, next in Pike & next in Dubois counties in Indiana, and lastly in Orange County in the state of Indiana, where he now resides.

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans. I voluntarily enlisted, under Captain Williams, in the state troop of South Carolina & served about two years & two months, under the command of Colonel Horry & General Marion, in the Revolutionary war principally in South Carolina.

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. I can state the names of two of the captains, under whom I served his Captain Williams & Captain Copeland, the latter, discharged me at Orangeburg in the month of June 1782. The Major's name of the Battalion who had frequent charge of some of the troop I cannot recollect, the Principal officers who had the command were Colonel Horry & General Marion. I do not recollect the number of the Continental or militia regiments, who occasionally, were attached to the troop under the command of General Marion. I can only refer you to the general history of my services as I have above in the body of my declaration set forth, which I hereby referred to, for more certainty. And that their were other officers who occasionally had charge of the troop in small squads under whom I served for short tours, their names, however, are not now recollected.

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. I did receive a discharge, given by Captain Copeland, to whose company I had been transferred, or who succeeded Captain Williams, under whom I enlisted, in the South Carolina State troop, and I am not certain which, which discharge I lost about the year 1784, I think, in the County of Newberry in South Carolina, while at work at a blacksmith shop.

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. I can state the names of John Martin, and John T. Branham & Nancy Branham and Lewis McDaniel who resided my neighborhood, who can testify to my character for veracity & Revolutionary services.

[The above named people gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 14: on March 30, 1842, in Orange County, Indiana, John T. Branham, 79, and Nancy Branham, 74, testified that they knew the veteran in Orange County North Carolina and his father, Thomas Brown also of Orange County North Carolina who was a Baptist preacher; and that they "often heard his father say that his said son James Brown had left home on account of a scrape he had with Delila Little and that the said James his son had went into South Carolina & enlisted in the Revolutionary war." ] [fn p. 16: John Martin, 87, gave a very similar affidavit to that given by the Branhams]

[fn p. 20: on April 20, 1853 in Orange County Indiana, Mary on, aged \_\_, filed a claim stating she is the widow of James Brown; that she married him in the County of Dubois, Indiana The year \_\_ ; that they were married by Richard Kirby, a magistrate; that her husband died June fourth, 1850 and left her his widow.]

[fn p. 39: certificate dated May 26, 1842 from the South Carolina Comptroller General in Columbia stating that there are records in his office showing payments made to a James Brown for 23 days service as a horseman per of the pay bill of Captain Cowans covering the period from May 12th, 1780 and ending February 20, 1783.]