

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Brunson R1373

f27SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/9/10: rev'd 1/18/19

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 2]

State of South Carolina Sumter District } Court Sessions & Common Pleas

On this the thirtieth day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before B. J. Earle one of the Judges of the Court of Sessions & common Pleas for said State Sumter Court House, now holding the Circuit Court William Brunson a resident of Sumter District in South Carolina aged nearly eighty-seven, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. I was born in South Carolina in Sumter District now, then Craven Parish, about the 23rd of October 1745 according to the best information I can get. I commenced the revolutionary War in Captain Matthew Singleton's Company of militia we first marched up to Reedy River took Fletcher [sic, Thomas Fletchall] and carried him to the work house in Charleston. M. Singleton being promoted to Colonel, John Singleton took command under whose command we were at the taking of Fort at Scott's Lake,¹ and the retaking of Georgetown in Marion's Brigade.² Then we were attached to Colonel Maum [sic, Hezekiah Maham?] Command. We killed about 20 Tories in our route to Goose Creek. I was at Charleston when the enemy commenced the attack but was relieved from my tower of duty before the Town fell [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] into the hands of the Enemy. I continued from the beginning to the end of the war to perform my regular term of militia duty -- My residence has been in this district, except a small part when a boy, ever since I was born --

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present one, and I declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ BJ Earle, Presiding Judge

S/ Wm Brunson, X his mark

[William McIntosh and Reddon McCoy gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

South Carolina Sumter District

Personally appeared before me John China Senior³ who being duly sworn makes oath that he was with William Brunson in the Revolutionary War under the command of Marion in

¹ Fort Watson, April 16-23, 1781 http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_watson_2.html

² http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_georgetown_7.html The British evacuated Georgetown on June 5, 1781

³ [John China S46593](#)

Captain Singleton's Company for a short time, and believes that William Brunson served in the militia during most of the Revolutionary War, and believes the declaration sworn to and subscribed by William Brunson to be substantially correct.

S/ BJ Earle, presiding judge

S/ John China

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "John China".

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State of South Carolina Sumter District: Personally appeared before me Josiah J. Crosby a Justice of the Quorum for Sumter District in the State aforesaid William Brunson who being first sworn according to law makes the following statement viz. He was born in Craven County (now Sumter District) some time in the month of October 1745 and has resided in said District ever since with the exception of about eight or ten years when he was quite a young boy (when his father & family resided a part of the time in the District of Charleston & a part of the time in the City). That since his return to this District he has resided here all together, that in 1775 he volunteered in a company of Infantry (militia) under the command of Captain Matthew Singleton (afterwards Colonel Singleton) that he went with said company as a private under the command of General Richardson [in] what was called the Snowy Camp Tour during which he was at the taking of a large party of Tories under the command of Colonel Fletcher [sic Fletchall], all of which were carried to Charleston (Deponent being one of the escort) & imprisoned in the old work house, that he served in said Company the whole time it was commanded by Captain Matthew Singleton which he thinks was between three & four years but from extreme old age and the loss of memory he is unable to State the precise period. That Matthew Singleton was succeeded in the command of said company by his [__ ?] John Singleton that Deponent continued to serve as a private under the command of Captain John Singleton until the company was disbanded which was after the close of the war, that while under the command of Captain John Singleton & attached to the brigade of General Francis Marion a detachment was ordered out by the General under the Command of Colonel Mayham [sic, Hezekiah Maham] or Main to scour the country between the Santee River and Goose Creek bridge near Charleston and disband various small parties of Tories who were supplying to the British in Charleston -- that deponent was one of this expedition and was engaged in several skirmishes against the Tories in which they succeeded in killing hanging and taking about 20 or 25 Tories that while under the command of Captain John Singleton & attached to General Marion's Brigade he was at the taking of the Fort (occupied by Tories) on Scott's Lake, that he was in the expedition under the command of General Marion that went against Georgetown South Carolina (occupied by the British) that upon the approach of the Americans the Enemy evacuated the town leaving a considerable quantity of ammunition, horses etc. which fell into the hands of the Americans -- Deponent says that in consequence of old age (now in his 89th year) & loss of memory he cannot state precisely the dates of the facts as stated above.

Sworn to before me this fifth day of November 1833

S/ Jos. J. Crosby, QU

S/ William Brunson, X his mark

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State of South Carolina Sumter District: Personally appeared before me John Hemphill a Notary Public for the District in the State aforesaid William Brunson who being first sworn according to law, makes the following Statement:

That he served not less than three months in each year of the Revolutionary war as a soldier to the best of his knowledge & at the lowest calculation.

The first time he was called out he marched under Captain Matthew Singleton first Lieutenant John Singleton second Lieutenant Joseph Hill under the command of Colonel Richard Henderson who was under the command of his father General Henderson [William Henderson]. He was afterwards under the command of General Marion who took the place of General Richardson [Richard Richardson]. Matthew Singleton rose to the rank of Colonel. John Singleton was then Captain -- Joseph Hill first Lieutenant & John Harvin second Lieutenant. He continued under the command of these officers during the rest of the Revolutionary war or rather the rest of the time he served.

As he is an old man (being in his 93rd year) & by reason of loss of memory he cannot state more particularly the time he served then he has already stated.

He cannot get any better proof of his services in the Revolutionary war in what he has our it given.

Sworn to before me this seventh of November 1834

S/ John Hemphill, NP

S/ William Brunson, X his mark

[p 23: Certificate from the South Carolina Comptroller General showing payments to a William Brunson Senior for 66 days service as a horseman in the South Carolina militia in 1782 and for 210 days pay as Sergeant & Lieutenant pursuant to Crag's [sic] paid list for service in the militia during the revolution.]