

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of William Bragg S1500

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee, County of Cocke

On this twenty eighth day of August 1832, personally appeared in Open Court, before the Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for Cocke County, in the State of Tennessee, (the same being a court of Record) and now sitting, William Bragg a resident of Cocke County in the State of Tennessee, aged sixty seven years 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 the 7th 1832. that in the month of September 1781 he was a resident of Montgomery County in the State of Maryland. he then left his residence, and went to Loudon [sic: Loudoun] County in the State of Virginia where he, in said month of September, (the day he cannot recollect) entered the service of the united States as a substitute, for William Auford, who was drafted into the Militia Service – and served two months as is hereinafter stated, – he entered the service under Captain Lewis, the names of the other officers of said company he cannot recollect by reason that he was not long in said Company. The number of the Regiment to which said Company was attached, he cannot recollect. It was commanded by Colonel [George] West. The names of the other field Officers he cannot recollect. He states that he rendezvoused, in said service, at Lacy's tavern near bull run in Loudon County in Virginia. From Bull run he was marched through Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] to Bowling green twenty miles below Fredericksburgh where this declarant was taken sick, and was left by the troops untill he should recover, he remained sick three days, and started to overtake his regiment and at a place called New Castle [now Old Church], near Ruffin's ferry [near Sweet Hall] – he took a right hand road, and went to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg], whereas his Company had taken the left as he understood afterwards and went to Gloucester. At Williamsburgh this declarant states that he enquired for his regiment, and was informed that his regiment was upon the opposite side of the [York] River and that he could not join it – but he was advised by a General [Robert] Lawson then in command to attach himself to a company, then and there Commanded by a Captain Helms – and serve his time out, and he the said Gen'l. Lawson would give this declarant a discharge. That in pursuance of said advice he attached himself to a Company Commanded by a Capt. Helms. The names of the other company officers – as well as the field officers that commanded in Captain Helm's Company, this declarant has forgotten. From Williamsburgh he was marched in Captain Helm's Company to Little York, where he was engaged in conducting the siege of that place which resulted in the surrender of Lord Cornwallis and the British forces to the American Commander General Washington and the forces under his Command upon Thursday the 14th day of October 1781 as well as this declarant recollects [sic: Friday the 19th of October 1781], which he witnessed. After the surrender of Cornwallis the regiment to which Captain Helm's Company was attached, was ordered to march with a thousand British prisoners in their charge to Winchester in Virginia. this declarant being attached to said Regiment, marched with it from York to Rappahannock River near Fredericksburgh where he met with Colonel West's Regiment and Captain Lewis' Company – to which he had been first attached, – and he was again attached to said Company & Regiment, and was marched then to Nolens ferry on the Potomack [sic: Noland's Ferry on Potomac River opposite Tuscarora MD] and upon the Virginia side of said River in Loudon County This declarant was honorably discharged, by Captain Lewis – received his discharge in writing which he handed over to William Auford for whom he had served as a substitute. He left the service, in the month of October 1781 the day he cannot recollect. This declarant served during some portion of this service, with such of the Continental regiments, and compains, and such of the regular officers as were upon duty and in service at the Siege of Little York, but their names and numbers he cannot recollect – as he was then but a few months over sixteen years of age. The militia Regiment to

which he was first attached was composed of five Companies – the Captains were Captains Lewis, Russell, Lucket [sic: John Lockett], Spur [sic: Richard Spurr] and Noland – and as well as this declarant recollects was composed of five hundred men or thereabouts.

Some time in the month of April (the day not recollected) in the year 1782, he resided in the County of Montgomery in the State of Maryland – and being near seventeen years of age he entered the service of the United States as a substitute for Jonathan Sparrow who was drafted in to the Militia service and served two months as hereinafter stated, – He rendezvoused in Frederick town, in Frederick County in the State of Maryland where he was stationed during this service – and was employed in guarding the prisoners which were taken at the surrender of Little York by Cornwallis. In this service he does not recollect, that any of the Continental regiments of Companies or regular officers were engaged. the name of the Officer who commanded his Company in this service he thinks was Hays, but he will not state with certainty – he does not recollect the names of any other officers of his Company nor does he recollect any field officers – he states that in this service he was engaged two months and was honorably discharged from the service, received his discharge in writing and sold it to a merchant, for five pounds in Maryland Currency – payable in dry goods –

Some time in the month of July 1782 the day not recollected he entered the service of the United States, for two months, as a drafted militia man, being about seventeen years of age, and residing in Montgomery County in the State of Maryland, He was rendezvoused again at Fredericktown in Frederick County State of Maryland, where he was engaged in guarding the prisoners taken at Little York Captain White Commanded the Company he served in, and this declarant does not recollect any other Company Officers or any field Officers during this service – he served two months and in the month of September the day not recollected he was honorably discharged, and received his discharge in writing – from his Captain White which he afterwards sold to a merchant. His service in all as a militia man amounting to six months.

He states that he has no documentary evidence to prove his service, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He states that he was born in the state of Virginia in Fairfax County upon Cameron run in the edge of what was then called Cameron town now Alexandria – upon the 18th day of May 1765 as he is informed and believes. He has no record of his age – at the time of his service he resided in the County of Montgomery in the State of Maryland. after the war of the revolution he resided there until he was twenty five years of age, when he removed, to Nolichucky within three miles of its mouth in what is now called the State of Tennessee and County of Cocke, where he has resided ever since. This declarant would state the names of the following persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and as to their belief of his his services as a soldier of the revolution – to wit John Inman Esqr. Carter Talley Esqr. John Gillet Esqr. William Robertson Esqr. he states that there is no Clergyman residing in his immediate vicinity. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid William hisXmark Bragg

NOTE: A Treasury-Department document states that the widow of William Bragg received his final pension payment up to the date of his death, 7 Jan 1841.