

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Bradshaw S15760

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[16 Aug 1831]

Seeing the sence and feeling of my country Towards the surviveing offercers and souldiers of the revelution and being sure that congress did not intend that the laws they had passed should have an improper or parshal baring on the souldiers of the Continental Establishment who fought and suffered in obtaining our present independence and having seen no law that intirely imbraces my case I am Induced from present necessaty and old age To make the following cirtificate

This is to certify that I inlested in the Continental Establishment in the early part of the yeare 1779 and was marched by Capt Tarlton Payne [sic: Tarleton Payne] from goochland county to Fredricks burge [sic: Fredericksburg], from there to williams burge [sic: Williamsburg], from there to peters burge [sic: Petersburg] and there we staid the winter and by differrent organizations of the army I was under differrent Captains, from paynes company to grays from grays to woodsons [probably Robert Woodson's] from woodsons to Howards [probably Thomas Hord's], and with him I marched to the south to a place calld Cross Creek [now Fayette NC], where I was left with some sick souldiers, After Remaining there a few days, I marched on to Charlestown [Charleston] South carolina and Charlestown was surrendered to the Enemy in may [12<sup>th</sup>] 1780 where I was made a prisoner of war I at that time belong to Capt Beele's [sic: Robert Beale's] Company which was in Colonal Heath [sic: William Heth's] redgment and general Charles Sollts [sic: Charles Scott's] Brigade. I remained a prisoner until some time in the fall of 1780 when I got a chance and made my escape from the Enemy, and got some little distance in the country but could not proceed on my way home, the Enemy still being before me I remand in that unpleasant situation until some time in 1781 when I got a chance and started for home and got there in June 1781 and I belive it was in august 1781 joind the army again and went to the siege of yorke [sic: Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct], and after the serender of Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis] I was marched to Cumberland old Court House and was discharged some time in the winter of 1781 and 1782 by Colonal Cristopher Febecker [sic: Christian Febiger]

[written and signed by]

John Bradshaw

[William Crouch (pension application X889) on 27 Jul 1831, and William Hicks (or Hix; S7016) on 9 Aug 1831, certified that they were with Bradshaw at the Siege of Yorktown. Col. William Gray on 16 Aug 1831 also stated that he had served with Bradshaw.]

[The following is in Bradshaw's handwriting. The part with the signature is missing, but on the next page is a court certification that the statement was sworn by Hopper Ward (pension application S38457) on 24 Aug 1831.]

This is to certify that in the early part of the yeare 1780 in marching to the South I fell in copany with John Bradshaw who was then in the continental army, and we mached on together to Charles town South Carolina and there we ware with general linkon's [sic: Benjamin Lincoln's] whole command made prisoners of war. I belive the serender of Charlestown was in may 1780 whare I remaind for some time a prisoner, but finding a chance did make my escape from the enemy and got some distance in the state of South carolina and was there taken and carried back to Charlestown and was put on board of what was call'd a prison ship, whre I Remaid for some time and, then was carried on shore, where I again met with said Bradshaw and after some short time said Bradshaw and my self made a very hazardous attempt and did git cleare of the british garrison and got some little distance in the Countrey and finding the enemy still before us we could not proceed on our way home we had to remain in that unpleasant situation for

some time, while thus situated I happened to meet with a small company of mounted men of the whig party I joined myself to the party and we went to where said Bradshaw was and he joined also and we did render our Country some service in endeavoring to put down the disaffected of that place, I think about the last of May we started for home and got to Goochland about the middle of June 1781 and I believe said Bradshaw some little time after went on to the Siege of York [statement ends here at bottom of page.]

Virginia: At a Court held for Goochland County 20<sup>th</sup> August 1832.

Goochland County SS. On this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared before the County Court of Goochland in the state of Virginia, John Bradshaw a resident of said county & state aforesaid, aged sixty nine 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 7, 1832. to wit: [the following appears to be mostly in Bradshaw's handwriting]

the first tower of duty I performed was in the militia as a volunteer under Capt John Curd of Goochland and Edward Redford Lieutenant, who was the other company officers I do not recollect, this tower was I believe in the latter part 1778 and ended in the early part of 1779, this tower of duty was in guarding the British prisoners at Albemarle barracks in Virginia [sic: Burgoyne's troops surrendered at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and taken to Albemarle Barracks in Jan 1779], this tower of duty was performed before I was of age by law bound to do military duty and not as a substitute which tower I believe did not exceed three months – I enlisted in the Continental service in the early part of 1779, for one year and six months, and was marched from Goochland county via By Capt Tarlton Payne to Fredericksburg from there to Williamsburg from there to Peter'sburg, there we were in some degree organized, Capt Payne's company which I belong to fell into Colonel Richard Parkers [Richard Parker's] regiment then called the first detachment, which belong to General Charles Scott's brigade, after remaining some time at Peter'sburg, Colonel Parker's Regiment was ordered on to the south, and I wished to remain with Capt. Payne and go with him, but could not be admitted as none but the old soldiers was to go, then I fell into Colonel Heath Regiment, called the second detachment and Capt Gray's company, and after some time Colonel Heath regiment was ordered on to the South and I was sick and could not go. I then fell into Colonel Abraham Buford's [sic: Abraham Buford's] regiment then called the third detachment, in Capt Henry Woodson's [sic] company the two lieutenants were Pierson [sic: Thomas Pearson] and Porter [possibly William Porter] the Insign's name I do not remember, there was a Bins Jones [sic: Binns Jones] he either Resigned or was cashiered, there was also I believe an insign by the name of Man I believe belong to Capt Woodson's Company, in March or April of 1780 a Capt Howard was ordered on to the south and he said he had the privilege to choose his men and did call on me, and I marched on with him as far to the south as a place called Cross Creek in North Carolina, there I was left with some sick soldiers, after remaining there a few days Major Minnis and Capt Dandredge [sic: Dandridge] with a Company of men I believe belong to the Virginia State troops, and with them I went into Charlestown South Carolina, and in May I believe about the tenth or twelfth the town with the whole garrison was surrendered by General Lincoln, when I got into Charlestown I joined Colonel Heath regiment and Capt Beales Company, after remaining a prisoner in Charleston until some time in the fall of 1780 I made my escape from the Enemy, but could not travel on homeward the Enemy and Tories being thick before me I remained in South Carolina some times in there swamps and some times Elsewhere in search of something to live on until some time in the spring of 1781 and got into Goochland county in Virginia about the middle of June 1781 which was some time before the balance of the prisoners taken in Charlestown at the same time when I was got exchanged, as I suppose can be proved by a reference to the records in the war office

I believe it was in August 1781 I substitute for a man by the name of George Toles of Goochland for six months and was by contract to receive the pay that he would receive had he served and I never did receive any pay from my country for the six months I served for Toles. I was received in the six months tower by Colonel Charles Dabney who I believe belong to the State troops of Virginia I was in Capt Dudley's [sic:

Dudley's] Company and at the surrender of Cornwallis at York town Virginia, which can be seen by Reference to the certificates of Hix and Crouch after the surrender of Cornwallis, by the permission of our officers I changed situations with a man in Colonel Christopher Febecker's regiment and Capt Dulys's] company and was marched to Cumberland Old Court House and was there discharged in the winter of 1781 and 1782 by Christopher Febecker which discharge has been long since lost

By reference to Ward's Certificate it is proven that I was a prisoner of war in Charlestown South Carolina, the certificates of Colonel William Gray and George W. Payne Esq and John Riddle are corroborating testimony, those certificates were taken with a purpose of obtaining a pension under the former laws which I thought I was intitled to, I was born in Goochland County Va in the year 1763 April the 18<sup>th</sup>: Will be remembered that I went into the United States service before I was 18 years old, I have lived in Goochland Virginia ever since except the time I was in service and two years that I lived in Hanover County

I am on no pension list in the United States

I do relinquish all claims to a pension except under the law of 1832, unless it should be the opinion of those who have to judge of the justice of my claim, should believe me to be intitled to the benefit of an act of earlier date.

[The following paragraph in different handwriting:] It will be observed in the foregoing statement that I enlisted in the Continental service for eighteen months, but in consequence of being taken prisoner, was in service (including the time I was a prisoner) more than two years instead of the eighteen months tour which I was bound to perform according to the conditions of enlistment

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid [signed] John Bradshaw

State of Virginia } SS  
Goochland County }

On this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 1833 personally appeared in open court before the court of the county aforesaid now sitting John Bradshaw a resident of the said County aged seventy years and being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amendatory declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7 1833 [sic]

That he is at present advised to waive his claim for his service in the militia, and he does hereby entirely waive the same and pray that it may be totally disregarded. That in relation to the service in the Continental army set forth in his former declaration, he has procured a certificate from the Auditor of Public Accounts of the state of Virginia, that his name is found on the rolls in his office, which certificate he now forwards and hopes will prove satisfactory. And that in relation to the length of his service, he swears, that in his first term of enlistment he was in actual service and a prisoner of war at least twenty two months, and in his second term of enlistment he was in actual service five months as private in the infantry, and for such service he claims a pension. In his second term of enlistment he was discharged a short time before the expiration of his enlistment.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. [signed] John Bradshaw