

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Brown S17291

f17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 10/10/10 & 8/17/14

[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.]

State of Missouri, County of Lincoln

On this eighth day of May AD1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Lincoln County Court in the State of Missouri, now sitting (it being a Court of Record), Joseph Brown, a resident of said County of Lincoln and State aforesaid, aged seventy-six 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. That he enlisted as a private soldier in the service of the United States for the term of three years in the spring of the year 1776, according to the best of his recollection, in the town of Jonesboro now in the State of Tennessee, in the company commanded by Captain James Robinson; that he served three years under the first enlistment, most of which time he was engaged against the Indians, and was in eight battles with them; that he was during that time a while under Captain Fane, and was with him when he was killed by the Indians on the Tennessee River at the place called the Orchard defeat; that he recollected that he was during this enlistment under Captain James Robinson, Captain Fain, Colonel Christy [sic, probably a reference to Colonel William Christian] and Colonel Charles Robinson; that at the expiration of the three years he was discharged in the aforesaid town of Jonesboro, and then within a few days enlisted for during the war, he thinks in the company commanded by Captain John Sevier; that he was under him a part of the time during the last enlistment if not at first and a part of the time in the 4th Regiment commanded by Colonel Campbell [William Campbell] or Colonel Shelby [Isaac Shelby] that he continued in the service under the last enlistment four years and some days, making in all a little more than seven years; that he has no education and can neither read nor write; that he can recollect but a few of the officers he served under, but that he was at the battle of the Lookout Mountain, and was then under Colonel Joseph Morrison and he thinks under Captain Isaac Butler; that he well remembers that he was standing near Captain Butler when he was killed; that he was in the battle of King's Mountain [October 7, 1780] and then under Captain Sevier and he believes Colonel Christy, that he arrived at York Town Virginia just as the town was surrendered to the Americans and thinks he was then under Colonel John Sevier; that he was discharged at the close of the war in or near Richmond, Virginia. He further states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service; that he has a brother William Brown, who was with him at all times during the revolutionary war, but that said William is now living somewhere in the Arkansas Territory, but he knows not

where. That he the said Joseph does not know whether he belonged to the Regular Troops, State troops, Militia or volunteers.

Questions by the court:

1st: When and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in Bedford County, Virginia in the year 1756.

2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Answer: I have no record of my age, but the time of my birth was set down in a Bible, which was burnt with the house it was in 30 or 40 years ago, but I well recollect hearing my mother say that I was born the year after Braddock's war.

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

Answer: I was living when called into the service in what is now East Tennessee to which place I returned after the war and resided there several years, and have since lived in North Carolina, Arkansas and came to Lincoln County, Missouri eight or nine years ago, where I now reside.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

Answer: I was never drafted, but enlisted voluntarily both times.

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: most of my services were against the Indians on the frontiers and sometimes against the Tories; was in one skirmish against and with the Tories at Ramsour's Mill in South Carolina [sic, North Carolina]; was not marched to Virginia kill near the close of the war; I do not recollect particularly any officers more than I have already mentioned except Colonel Tipton, and was under him two or three to worse; and was likewise in the battle at Guilford Court house.

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

Answer: I received a regular discharge at the expiration of the first three years service given by Colonel Charles Robinson and another at the close of the war given by Colonel John Sevier, who was afterwards Governor of Tennessee, and they were both burnt with the house they were in a few years after the war. The house was Peter Parkerson's in East Tennessee.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: I am well acquainted with but few persons in this state, being poor, illiterate and infirm, I but seldom go from my nephew's [home], Levi Brown's, where I make my home. I am not well acquainted with any clergyman in the State has no one lives within several miles of my home; that I am some acquainted with Colonel Besser, one of the members of this Court and many others.

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 the agency of any state.

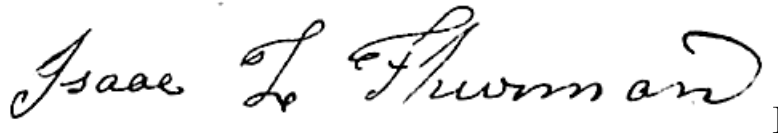
S/ Joseph Brown, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed in open court this eighth day of May AD1833.

S/Francis Parker, Clerk

[John Chandler, Richard H Wood & J. Snethen gave the standard supporting affidavit.]
[Thomas Bowen, a clergyman, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 8: Isaac L. Thurman, 38, testified on June 17, 1833 in Lincoln County Missouri that he is the son of John Thurman, who was a revolutionary war soldier who died about 2 years ago; that he often heard his father talk about serving in the revolutionary war as a soldier with Joseph Brown.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Isaac L. Thurman". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. The first letter "I" is large and prominent. The signature ends with a small vertical stroke.

[p 9]

State of Missouri County of Lincoln: SS

Be it remembered that on this 19th day of June in the year of our Lord 1833, personally appears, before me the undersigned, one of the Justices of the Peace within and for said County of Lincoln, Mrs. Mary Thurman, who being first duly sworn, on her oath says that she was born in January 1760, four miles from a town called Woodstock, in the then County of Frederick, in the State of Virginia, that in the year 1770, her father, Jonas Little, removed to within nine miles of Jonesborough then in North Carolina, now Tennessee – that in March 1776 she first heard of Joseph Brown, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing declaration for a pension, and likewise of his brother William Brown that they then lived about five miles from her father's, and were spoken of as soldiers – that she often heard her brothers, who were in the revolutionary war say that both of the Brown's, Joseph & William, were excellent soldiers – her brothers names were George, John, & Benjamin Little, and were all in the war and now dead – that she first heard of Joseph & William Brown in March in the year 1776 – and recollects of seeing William Brown then, and hearing her brothers say that the two Browns, who are twin brothers, were always together, but does not recollect of seeing Joseph at that time – that Colonel Jonathan Tipton, whose name is mentioned in said Joseph Brown's declaration was her uncle, and she recollects hearing him, Colonel Tipton, during the revolutionary war speak very highly of the said Joseph Brown & William as being as good soldiers as any in the world – that she does not recollect of seeing Joseph Brown till since the war – that she has no doubt from what she heard at the time of the war and since, from her uncle and brothers, and many others, that the said Joseph Brown served as a soldier as he has stated in his declaration or as long as he has stated if not exactly as he has stated – she thinks that he is mistaken, where he says in his declaration, that he served under Captain John Sevier, and that it was Captain Robert Sevier – and from what she has heard her husband, John Thurman in his lifetime say and likewise heard from her brothers, she thinks Joseph Brown is 2 or 3 years older than what he has stated – that she never heard a word against the character of the said Joseph Brown, that he has ever been considered very poor & very honest – and she believes from what she has ever heard and known of him, that if he has made, in his declaration, any misstatement, that it was owing entirely to the want of recollection, that his character always stood firm as to truth and veracity – and she further states that she lived in Tennessee about 15 years after the Revolutionary War, then moved to Kentucky & resided there 20 years, and came to Missouri about 15 years ago, and now lives about with her children in Lincoln and Pike Counties, Missouri, that she has lived in this Lincoln County several years.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 19th day of June A.D. 1833
S/ Charles Wheeler, JP

S/ Mary Thurmom

Mary Thurmom

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 2 years service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]