Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Brasswell [Braswell] S17851 f20SC[sic NC]

Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 8/4/10 & 10/28/15

[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.]

South Carolina, Marion District: Fall Term 1832, Court of Common Pleas

On this the tenth day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas now sitting, Henry Braswell, a resident of Marion District 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 7th 1832.

That he was born in Nash County North Carolina on the 2nd day of January 1756. His age was recorded in a book kept by his father which book is now at the house of David Braswell in Robeson County N. C. He was living in Nash County N. C. when he entered the service. He does not recollect the time when he first entered the service of the United States but knows that it was at the beginning of the war. He volunteered under Capt. James Gray of the Militia—rendezvoused at Tarborough [Tarboro] on the Tar River N. C.—marched from there to Wilmington to guard the town against the British who were lying at Fort Johnson—he was under the command of Genl. Ashe [John Ashe] at that place—from there to a place called the Saw Mill in Brunswick County N. C. where he was in sight of the British mast at Fort Johnson--when the ships moved off he went into the fort and staid there about a day—from there went back to Saw Mills--thence to Wilmington—stayed there a few days and were marched to the Salt Works on the seashore where they remained about ten days—marched back to Wilmington and from there to Peacock's Bridge on the Contentnea River where the time (3 months) expired—the soldiers rec'd their discharges and deponent went back to Nash County.

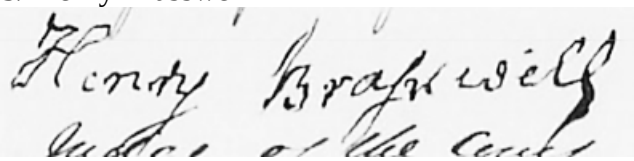
Sometime afterwards he volunteered again under Capt Wm Williams [William Williams] for three months & marched on to Harrisburg N. C., Warren County as he understood for the purpose of reinforcing Genl. Greene [Nathanael Greene] before the battle at Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781]. At Harrisburg, deponent's company came under the direction of Brigadier Genl. Butler [John Butler]—marched on to the High Rock ford on the Haw River where he joined Genl. Greene. Greene then pushed on after Cornwallis with whom he had a battle at the place Guilford Court House. Cornwallis maintained his post and Greene ordered a retreat and his men to rendezvous at Troublesome Creek. When his men got together they all followed after Cornwallis as far as Ramsay Mills on Deep River, Chatham County. Stayed there a few days when Genl. Greene went on down to Charleston S. C.—with the main body of his army but left Genl. Butler with a part of his force to keep the Tories in Randolph County & thereabouts in subjection. He recollects that one Col. Linton [Lt. Col. William Thomas Linton], in the Battle at Guilford Court House, commanded that part of the Army in which respondent

was. Stayed at Ramsay's Mills until his time was nearly out and then marched down to Abernathy in Wake County where he got his discharge & returned to Nash County.

About the close of the war, Governor Martin [Alexander Martin] (or Burks [Thomas Burke]) of North Carolina, wishing to raise a guard called a life guard, proposed that all those who would furnish themselves with a horseman's Crat. [?][1] Horse &c and serve as a light horse man for two months should be clear of a 3 month tour. This respondent joined him under Capt Britain Drake, Genl. Hardy Griffin was there—rendezvoused at Tarboro—went from there to Harrisburg where the Governor met them. Went on with him [to] Hillsborough--from there to Cross Creeks [sic, Cross Creek, now Fayetteville] in Cumberland County N. C., from there to the Brown Marsh & White Marsh where Genls. Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and Butler were stationed--stayed there two or three days—at this place a detachment was sent out into Horry District and there about in S. C. in pursuit of the Tories—did not find them—returned to White & Brown Marshes & shortly afterwards went back to the Cross Creek—from there started on to Raleigh and as they were going on, intelligence reached them that Cornwallis had surrendered to Washington—continued on to Abernathy where he recd his discharge—Making in all eight months of actual service and nine according to the terms on which [he] entered the service the last time. The discharges he has lost, not thinking they would ever be of any use to him. He likewise served as a Lieutenant in the second tour above mentioned. At the close of the war he threw his commission away not supposing it would ever be of value to him in any way. He has lived since the Revolutionary War four or five years in Robeson County N. C. and since then he has lived in Marion District S. C. He knows of no other engagements than those he has already mentioned--nor officers. He has no documentary evidence of his services but is acquainted with one Nazary [sic, Nazareth] Mitchell[2] who can testify to his services as a Revolutionary soldier. He hereby relinquishes all 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.

Sworn to and Subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Henry Brasswell



B J Earle presiding Judge of the court of Common Pleas & Sessions at Marion Court House in the district & State aforesaid in open court.

South Carolina Marion District

Narary Mitchell -- appeared before me & made oath that he knows Henry Braswell to have been a Soldier in the Revolutionary War. Deponent served with him during the 2nd tour mentioned in Braswell's declaration & was therefore an eyewitness to his Service during that time. Deponent lived in Nash County North Carolina a near neighbor of Braswell's & knows that he was out in the War as he has stated, from his recollection of having seen him come home when it was said he had been in the War. He believes the facts stated in Braswell's declaration are true.

Sworn to & signed up before me the day & year aforesaid.

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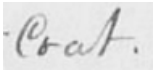
[1] 

[2] **Nazareth Mitchell S8897**

S/ B J Earle, Presiding Judge

S/ Nazary Mitchell, X his mark

[p 16: Thomas Evans & Edward B. Wheeler gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

South Carolina Marion District

Before me Herod Stackhouse a Justice of the peace in & for Marion District appeared Henry Braswell who made the following affidavit as an amendment to his Declaration for a Pension under the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he cannot swear precisely as to the times when he entered the service on account of his old age and the consequent loss of memory, though he is positive as to the length of his service. According to the best of his recollection, he commenced his first tour of three months immediately after the battle at Fort Moultrie & served as stated in his Declaration under Brackets & marked A.

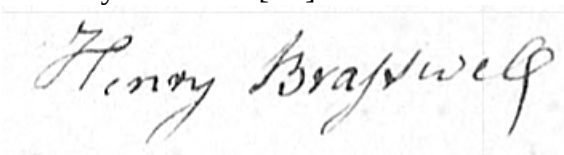
His Second tour of three months he served at the Battle at Guilford Court House North Carolina, By reference to which the precise time may be ascertained, as also the quality of his service by referring to original Declaration marked "B."

His third and last tour of three months and marked "C" bears similar date with the Surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown [October 19, 1781], & is described on the original Declaration. He claims for these services as a private in the militia. He cannot produce the proof required that he served as an officer on his second tour. That he had used all reasonable exertions to procure the attendance of Nazary Mitchell: but that the said Mitchell resides in Robeson County North Carolina & although the Deponent sent there for him to appear before the magistrate today to testify in deponent's behalf, yet he could not procure his attendance on account of the sickness of the said Nazary Mitchell. That the said Nazary Mitchell is not Sufficiently known in Marion district to procure a certificate of his character & that there is no Clergyman residing in the neighborhood of him the said Braswell, but that he is known to Charles McRae of Marlborough District who can furnish him with the necessary certificate. And the said Braswell further swears that in all the tours alluded to above he served as a volunteer in an embodied corps & was not employed in any civil pursuit.

Sworn to & signed before made this 11th day of January 1834

S/ Herod Stackhouse, QU

S/ Henry Brasswell [sic]



[Thomas Harllee & Newell Hargrove gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[Charles McRae, a clergyman gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of $26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for eight months service in the South Carolina militia.]