

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Brann, Sr. S17864

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Westmoreland County State of Virginia & Setr.

On this the 6th day of march 1834 personally appeared Before me A Justice of the peace for said county William Brann Sen'r. A Resident of the county and state aforesaid Aged 85 years & 10 months 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 7 1832 that he entered the survice of the united States under the following named officers and surved as herein stated

I was Born in the aforesaid County of westmoreland on the 6th day of may 1748 according to my fathers family Record which I now have in my possession in my fathers family Bible I have ever lived and do still continue to live in the aforesaid County only when I was in the survice of my country To the best of my knowledge in the year 1777 [sic: probably 1780] I was drafted to perform an 18 months tower of duty and having no person to work but myself and having A wife and several helpless children (which wife is now living and is 82 years of age) I concluded if I left them for so long A period of time they must suffer, I therefore hired A man to take my place who was at that time bound to service as A survant for seven years for which I gave the enormous sum of nine thousand pounds of tobacco which amount by the assistance of my friends I actually paid and was then in hopes of having the liberty of Remaining with, and labouring for my wife & children But contrary to my expectation I was immediately enrolled with the melitia and ordered on guard and marched to sandy point on the potomac River under Capt. Daniel Morgan & Lieutenant Wm. Atwill [William Atwill] where we continued to the best of my Recollection 5 months from thence we marched to pucklandone[?] where we stay 2 months from thence to Baileys warehouses where we stayed 5 months from thence to Nomony [probably Nomini] ferry where we stayed one month under capt George Garner from thence Back to the aforesaid warehouses where we stayed 1 month from thence to leeds town on the Rapahanoc River [sic: Leedstown on Rappahannock River] where I was plac'd. under capt Harrison for 2 months I was then ordered down to the seige of Wallis [sic: Siege of Cornwallis, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] at yorktown But in consequence of A desperate Riseing under my Right arm I was examined by Capt Harrison and sent home as being entirely unfit for duty where I Remained for several months unable to Render any survice to myself or family during the aforesaid time of duty I surved under the command of three different Colonels To Wit Cor'l. Lee, Cor'l. Washing, and Cor'l. Lane, I have no documentary evidence of my survice But am well satisfied that I surved At least sixteen months during which time I Rendered no survice for my self or family I deem it unnecessary to make A further detail of my survice as I intend having hereunto annex the affidavits of Respectable persons of my county To Wit Moses Self Sen'r. [pension application W19009] who was A Regular Soldier of the Revolution and now A pentioner of the united states and James McKoy [S5750] who surved in the militia and was at the seige of york It may not be Amis I hope for me to make known that I have 13 children 10 sons & 3 daughters 5 of which surved faithfully from the commencement to the close of the late War I also have A numerous host of grand children, But Alas myself and wife worn out with years and cares are now tottering on the Brink of the grave and I have But little hope of enjoying the mercy and Benevolence of my country But A very short time at most. I hereby Relinquish every claim whatever to a pention or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pention Roll of the agency of any state whatever [signed] William Brann

I Moses Self Sen'r. aged 72 years A Resedent of westmoreland County & state of Virginia A soldier of the Revolutionary War & pentioner of the united states do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with William Brann Sen'r. who has signed & sworn to the foregoing declaration That he is A Respectable

member of the Methodist Church that I believe him to be 85 years of age that I know him to have been A soldier of the Revolutionary War and have personal knowledge of his being drafted and of his giving nine thousand pounds of tobacco to A man by the name of Laurence Clarke to take his place [see endnote] and that he is Reputed and believed in the neighbourhood where he Resides to have been A soldier of the Revolution and such is my Belief [signed] Moses Self Sen'r.

I James McKoy aged 74 years A Resedent of westmoreland county and state of Virginia do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with William Brann Sen'r. who has subscribed & sworn to the foregoing declaration that I believe him to be 85 years of age and have A knowledge of his services as I surved with him in the melitia A great part of the time set forth by him and do believe the foregoing declaration to contain the truth that he is Respectable in his neighbourhood and believed to have been A soldier of the Revolution as is stated by him in his declaration [signed] James McKoy

NOTE: A size roll taken at Chesterfield Courthouse [<http://southerncampaign.org/pen/b69.pdf>] lists the following: Laurence Clark/ age 21/ height 5' 7"/ gun smith/ born and residing in Westmoreland County/ black hair/ hazel eyes/ dark complexion/ enlisted on 11 Sep 1780 for 18 months.