

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William R. Brunson S21655

f24SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/9/10: rev'd 7/1/16 & 1/18/19

[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 South Carolina Sumter District

On this the sixth day of November in the year of our Lord 1834 personally appeared before me John S. Richardson one of the Associates Judges of the said State, in open Court at Sumter Court House, William R. Brunson who made the following declaration before me one of the Associate Judges of said State as aforesaid in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832.

That he was born in the year 1765 in Craven County (now Sumter District) in the State of South Carolina & is now above the age of sixty-nine years -- that his age is recorded in the family Bible which is in his possession. That he was called into service while living in said Craven County (now Sumter District) & that he has been living there ever since. In 1780 & before the fall of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], he entered the service of the United States in the militia of South Carolina as a volunteer under the command of Captain Joseph Hill, Lieutenant Matthew Singleton & an Ensign whose name is not now recollected, attached to the Regiment of militia of said State commanded by Colonel Richard Richardson & which was part of General Marion's brigade. In this brigade, Mayhem [sic, Hezekiah Maham] & Horry [Peter Horry] were Colonels & Benson¹ was Major. (Benson was killed at the Wambaw fight.²) He was marched down near Charleston. He served two months & ten days on that tour of duty. --

On his second tour of duty, he also entered the service as a volunteer, under the officers above named some time previous to the surrender of Fort Watson³ & was at the Siege & capture of said Fort which is situated on the Santee River & called by some Scots Lake Fort. Afterwards he was marched to Georgetown & then to Fort Motte⁴ & was present at the taking of that Fort. Then he was marched in the direction of Orangeburg & thence in different sections of the country until he arrived at or near Wambaw Creek where he was in the engagement which there took place. The day after this fight he was engaged in a skirmish near Mrs. Tiddiman's [sic,

¹ Majors John Benson, William Benison and Thomas Benison were all killed in the action at Wambaw. See, http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wambaw_bridge.html . I will not speculate on which of these officers the affiant intended to name.

² Wambaw Creek Bridge February 24, 1782. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/wambaw-cr-br.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wambaw_bridge.html

³ April 16, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/watson.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_watson_2.html

⁴ May 7, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/motte.htm> & http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fort_motte.html

Tydiman's or Tidyman's] plantation.⁵ He was then taken prisoner & carried to Charleston. After a confinement for a few days, he was put on board the prison ship as a prisoner of war & therein remained & suffered for nine months when an exchange of prisoners was made. He was marched up above the Quarter House near Ashley River & given up to the Americans. As to the time he served on this second tour of duty, he is informed that it appears from history that Fort Watson was surrendered on the 23rd of April 1781 [sic, April 16, 1781] & at the engagement near Mrs. Tiddiman's plantation (where he was taken prisoner as before stated) took place on 25 February 1782 [sic, February 24, 1782]. If these dates are correct, he served not less than the time between these two periods, besides the nine months in prison the above mentioned. How long he was marched out before the taking of Fort Watson on this, his second tour of duty, he does not recollect, but it was sometime previous to the taking of that Fort. -- He here states that Colonel Lee of the Troop was present at the surrender of this Fort. --

He has now stated all the services he performed in the Revolutionary war. For all these & many others sufferings during the said war, he has never received a cent. While on both of the said tours of duty, he followed no occupation but that of the soldier. For further proof of his services in the said war & the best that he can offer he refers to the affidavit of John China.⁶ He also refers to the affidavits of Evan Benbow and Edward Broughton.

S/ William R. Brunson



Sworn & subscribed to
day & year first
above written before me....

S/ John Hemphill, Ct. J & QU Ex Off.

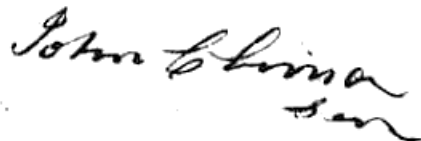
[Evan Benbow & Edward Broughton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 7]

South Carolina Sumter District: John China makes oath before me that he was well acquainted with William R. Brunson in the Revolutionary War -- that he has personal knowledge of some of the facts contained in the foregoing declaration, particularly that the said William R. Brunson was present at the engagement at Wambaw where Major Benson was killed -- that he was informed by some of the officers & believes the fact to be true that the said William R. Brunson was taken prisoner at the fight near Mrs. Tiddiman's plantation -- and that he believes all the services stated to have been performed as set forth.

Sworn to before me this sixth of November 1834

S/ John China, Senior



S/ John Hemphill

⁵ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/tydiman.htm> &
http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_tidymans_plantation.html

⁶ [John China S46593](#)

[p 15: James S. Parsons, a clergyman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: veteran died the June 13, 1840 survived by children, but their names are not stated in the file; the veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum by the State of South Carolina beginning on November 25, 1829.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$70.88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 21 months and eight days service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]

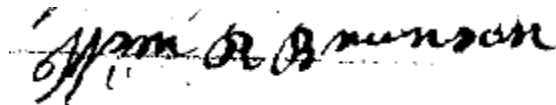
South Carolina Audited Accounts ⁷ relating to William R. Brunson	AA16
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 850A	
Transcribed by Will Graves	1/18/19

[p 2]
The petition of William R Brunson praying for a pension
Pensions
Granted
E. Benbow

[p 3]
To the Senate and House of Assembly of the State of South Carolina Convened at Columbia
The Petition of William R Brunson, respectfully Sheweth, that your Petitioner was a Soldier under General Marion In the Revolutionary War Until he was Taken prisoner by the British and was then Confined in the British prison Ship near Charleston for the Space of nine months, during which time he underwent a great variety [variety of ?] Sufferings on board, also While in the Service of his Country. And that he never received any Compensation for his Services while in the Army or since.

Your Petitioner prays to be placed on the pension list or that your Honorable body will grant him that Relief which is awarded to the worn out Veteran of days that are passed & gone, and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

S/ Wm R. Brunson



Sumter District Clarendon County } Appeared Jesse Hilton [could be Jesse Helton] who being
duly Sworn saith that the above Statements of William R Brunson are Just and True as he himself
was at the same time was a Soldier under General Marion with the said William R Brunson.

Sworn before me
this 28th November 1827

S/ James Long, JP

S/ Jesse Hilton, X his mark

[p 4]

⁷ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.

South Carolina Sumter District} Personally appeared before me William R Brunson and after being duly sworn says that the facts stated in his the above petition is Just and true besides many other sufferings in the war too arduous [?]⁸ to be named.

Sworn & subscribed to before me this 2nd June 1829

S/ Levy T. Rhame, JP

S/ Wm R. Brunson

[p 5]

State South Carolina Sumter District} Personally appeared before me William R Brunson who being duly Sworn Maketh Oath and Depose that the Whole of his Estate consist of one old Negro Woman, one old Horse creature and some Plantation twools [tools] with a little Household and Kitchen Furniture barely Enough to Live and make out with, Together with one Cow and calf. –

And Further maketh oath that he is very much Enthralled [enthralled] in debt

Sworn to before me this 29th of November 1828

S/ Levy F. Rhame, JP

S/ Wm R. Brunson

[p 7-11: copies of the above petition and supporting affidavits]

[p 13]

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of William R Brunson praying for a pension, Report

they are of Opinion that the prayer of the petitioner ought to be granted.

November 30th 1829

E. Richardson, Chairman

[p 15]

The Committee on Pensions to whom was Referred the petition of William R Brunson praying to be placed on the Pension list

Respectfully Report

That they have had the same under Consideration and recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be granted – 24 December 1829

Sampson Pope, Chairman

[p 16: receipts showing disbursement of a pension in the amount of \$60 per annum commencing June 27, 1831 and the last receipt being dated June 10, 1834.]

Richardson