

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Brumfield S30894

fn53SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/8/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 2]

Certificate Mutilated 31960, iss'd [issued] June 6, 1842

\$20 per annum, com. [commencing] 3/4/31 [March 4, 1831]

Act. 6/7/32, La. Pen. Ag. [Louisiana Pension Agency]

Jacket

Died May 6, 1845 (A. B.) [?]

[fn p. 21]

State of Louisiana Parish of Washington: Be it known & remembered that on this 9th Day of November in the year of our Lord 1832 Before me Thomas C. Warner Judge of the Parish Court of the Parish and State aforesaid personally appeared John Brumfield Esquire a resident of said parish and State aged 82 years who first being duly sworn according to law on his oath makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June seventh 1832 & the following Interrogatories being propounded answered as follows

To wit

Interrogatory 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in the State of Virginia on the 27th day of June in the year 1750

Interrogatory 2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. I once had the record of my age but it was burnt in the house

Interrogatory 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 on the I Hills of Santee in the State of South Carolina. I lived there a short time after the war, I then moved to North Carolina & removed to the same place in South Carolina and remained there until the year 1808 when I removed to Washington Parish State of Louisiana & have remained ever since in said Parish & State where I now live.

Interrogatory 4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I entered the service as a volunteer

Interrogatory 5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general

circumstances of your service.

Answer. My first Service was in a light Horse company commanded by Colonel Thompson [William Thomson] and my Captain's name was Edwin Richardson I served then six months then I volunteered in a militia company commanded by General Richardson & Colonel Singleton Richard Richardson was also a Colonel I served under these officers till after the fall of Charleston after which I served under General Marion in the Company of James Clark Captain until the end of the war.

I do not recollect the numbers of the Regiments in which I served. I was with Colonel Thompson on the Reedy River in South Carolina when he took the 400 Tories who were said to be commanded by Colonel Cunningham there was no engagement they submitted without resistance. I was in several little skirmishes & light fights that the lapse of time has effaced the general circumstances from my memory but I well know that I served at least five years in said war.

Interrogatory 6<sup>th</sup> 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 discharge signed by Captain Wilson but I do not know what has become of it.

Interrogatory 7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Pensioner. I am acquainted with Colonel John K. Goff & Reverend John H. Goff And I the said John Brumfield do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and I declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any Agency in any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Thos. C. Warner

S/ John Brumfield

Parish Judge

[John K. Goff & John H. Goff gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Louisiana Parish of Washington: On this day of May the twenty, 1833 personally appeared in open Court before me Ths. C. Warner Judge of the parish of Washington now sitting, John Brumfield, one of the Justices of the peace for this parish, a Resident of the parish of Washington State of Louisiana aged eighty-three years who being 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 7th 1832, "That he entered the service of the United States of America under the following named officers, and served as herein stated; first served six months in the Light horse Regiment No. 1, under Colonel Thompson [sic, William Thomson], Edward Richardson, was my Captain, Louis Octers [?] was Lieutenant, General Richardson commanded, Richard his son was Colonel of the militia Regiment of infantry, Colonel Thompson lived on the Cong Rees [sic, Congaree] [River] and Richardson lived on the Santee [River] near about the fork of the River. The Regiment mustered first on Manly [?] Township, forty miles from Camden about one hundred miles from Charles Town [Charleston], our muster ground was in the woods in a suitable place for water above the fork of the Congaree and Water Rees [sic, Wateree] [River]. The Regiment was about six hundred men strong Frank Boylan, was a Captain, he lived in Camden, Charles Headley [?] was also a Captain, lived in the Country, he recollects of two more captains one was Moore and the other was Brown. This Regiment assembled in served six

months before any attack made by the British under Sir Parker [Sir Peter Parker] against Charles town and Sullivan's Island. After the Regiment had been mustered we were ordered to Reedy River high up in South Carolina. Richard Richardson Colonel commanded a Regiment of militia infantry and that Regiment marched with us, his father the General commanded the whole expedition. We had a long march to reach Reedy River and had very cold weather, the day before the attack we marched the whole night for fear of being discovered and kept on so near, we could see them and their fires we then stopped, and had to await for day to began the attack. That night was very cold, the Tories were encamped in the woods near about one thousand strong they were commanded by Cuninghame [sic, Patrick Cunningham or his brother, Robert Cunningham]. The action began at sun up or before. We surprised them so well that they had to surrender before they had time to prepare for fighting. We took three or 400 prisoners. The balance escaped Cunningham escaped in shirt tail, left a very fine stud horse to his marque. Doctor Charleton from Camden got the horse and kept him. The place of that action met by the name of Snowey Camp [sic, Snowy Camp] on Reedy River, from there, we went back to that place we had started, and were all discharged at the end of the six months. Then came orders to draft the militia, we met on the high hills of Santee. I refused to be drafted. I served as volunteer in Nathaniel Moore's company as Sergeant, and was a Sergeant during all the war. We went to Charles Town and was there when the British attacked Sullivan's Island. That Regiment was commanded by Nat. Cingleton [sic, probably a reference to Lt. Col. Matthew Singleton], and kept his quarters [headquarters] on the high hills of Santee. We did not meet with any action of consequence but partial skirmishes with the Tories and some of them most every week, by that time Charleston surrendered to Sir Clinton [Sir Henry Clinton], everything got to be in confusion and remained so for some time, great many people took parole to the British others kept away, the British then began to fortify and built forts and readouts in different places. The Tories, then joined them, and embodied where the British built and gathered in the forts. The Whigs had then to hide and dodge about, and I did so among others, until I heard that General Marion [Francis Marion] was gathering men, I went up to him, and found him near Scots Lake [Scott's Lake], on Santee, his envoys [?], was then small not more than thirty or forty men, I joined him as volunteer and served with him as Sergeant. Short time after I had joined him General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] came also with a Regiment to attack Scott's Lake Fort,<sup>1</sup> and great many came and joined them. I believe also there was at the attack of Scott's Lake Fort some envoys [?] from other States. We took the Fort, paroled the British and sent them to Charleston about forty Tories were made prisoners, and sent to Pedee [River], and I was one among the rest, that escorted them there. When we got there we were informed that about 25 miles from there on Drowning Creek or Little Pedee the free Malatoes [mulattos] had gathered and were making war against the Whigs, They had attacked Colonel Culp, burnt his house, and committed great waste. Captain Sparks longing to Colonel Culp's Regiment went to Captain hynson [sic, Henson?] who commanded the company that had escorted the prisoners to Pedee, to inquire if he could not get somebody that could be trusted to go over to the mulattos and see what was their force and strength, to be better able to make an attack on them. Captain hynson told him that he had no body with him fit for such business, but me, but did not know were [sic, whether] I would venture on such expedition, Death was certain if the mulattos had discovered the plan, I did not like much such undertaking but on the other hand them free mulattos were doing great Deal of mischief, and it was necessary to put a stop to it. I told Captain hynson that I should go provided another trusty man would go with me, having found one that was trusty, I went to the mulattos camp one

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<sup>1</sup> Fort Watson. Skirmish on March 1, 1781; siege April 15-21, 1781. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/watson.htm>

Captain Swet [?] was their main chief, we introduced ourselves under false names, I took the name of John Brown, we found them near to be about six hundred strong well-trained, well armed, well mounted, disposed to fight to their death, they paraded and intencised [sic, intensified?] every day and in my opinion it would have taken a very strong force to subdue them, in several conversations I had with them, I suggested to them it would not be as well to be friendly with the Whigs, they said they would rather be so, and provided they would be let [left] alone they should remain neutral. After remaining eight days, with the mulattos on Little Pedee I hired one of their men, and gave him two gold guineas to pilot me back to Pedee, I returned from there to our camp and went and reported my mission to Colonel Dick Richardson [Richard Richardson]. Some time afterwards I learned that a trute [treaty] had been concluded with the mulattos. From Scott's Lake Marion and Sumpter went and took a Fort from the British at Colonel Thompson's on the Congaree, from there I went with Marion to Orangeburg to attack the British but Marion and Sumpter thought they were too strong, we turned around and went to Begings Church [sic, Biggin Church], thirty miles from Charleston, <sup>Colonel Lee, with his regular Light horse</sup> men was along also, and head in also with us at the taking of Scott's Lake Fort, where there was a party of the British, they attacked us but we beat them, killed eleven, and made some prisoners, it was in close to the evening, the British had still possession of the place and had retrenched the church, we camped [?] by, all night, and prepare to storm the church, next day, but at daylight, we perceived that the British had evacuated we followed them, and overtook them twelve miles from Charleston, there we had a heavy engagement, several of our men were killed upwards of forty were wounded the British kept by their ground, that night, we camped [?] there also, Marion and Sumpter had about 1000 men, the British were about five hundred, and had some artillery. We expected a battle for the next Day, but the British retreated during the night, from there we returned to Santee, and in going back stayed all night at General Marion's house, as it was in my way home, We were dismissed at Santee, them that wished to go home went, and I went among the rest. I then lived in the County now called Sumpter County, from that time the British were very near gone, none remained but some in Camden and in the command of Lord Roden [sic Lord Rawdon], he went back to Charleston. I served with Marion about two years was with him in most of all his engagements, furnished myself with arms and horses, of which I lost two in the campaign, never received no pay whatever. During the time I was with Marion part of the time I served with Nat. Moore's Company & part of the time in James Clerk [sic, James Clark's?] Company. After that campaign was over, we were drafted again and I did send a Substitute in my place, but he soon came back, the war was over, and peace had been concluded.

This applicant recollects of General Greene, at Statesburg, on Santee, when he went to Eutaw Springs on Santee where a hard battle was fought. This deponent also declares, that he has no Documentary evidence and that he knows of no person in this Country, whose testimony he can procure who can certify to his services. He does also declare that he got a Discharge -- that he kept until thirteen or twelve years back and he finally lost it, he further states that if he was in South Carolina he expects he could find persons living who could certify to his Services, and if General Marion, and General Sumpter were yet alive he would have no others, and he said Deponent hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension list or Roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Brumfield

S/ Thos. C. Warner  
Parish Judge

Interrogatories propounded by the Court to the aforesaid applicant

- 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?
- 4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?
- 5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?
- 7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

These interrogatories were answered as will be seen on the papers attached to this.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, C. Warner Judge of the parish of Washington John Brumfield who being duly sworn deposed and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below in the following grades. Six months in Colonel Thompson's Regiment of Light horse; passed in Nathanael Cingleton [sic, Singleton] Regiment of the South Carolina militia six months before the attack made by Sir Parker Sullivan's Island until it was disbanded after the surrender of Charleston to Sir Henry Clinton and was then a first Sergeant and in Marion's Brigade of Light horse as first Sergeant from the time that General Marion took the field after the Surrender of Charleston until peace was made, and for such services I claim a pension as first Sergeant of Cavalry.

Sworn & Subscribed to May 20th 1833 before me  
S/ Thos. C. Warner, Parish Judge

S/ John Brumfield

[fn p. 25]

State of Louisiana -- Parish of Washington

On this 7th of October personally appeared before me Benjamin Richardson Judge of the parish of Washington John Brumfield Esquire a Resident of said parish of Washington State of Louisiana aged eighty-three 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1775 with Edward Richardson and served in the Regiment of the line commanded by Colonel Thompson in Edward Richardson's Company. I resided then on the high hills of Santee what is now called Sumpter parish I do recollect of General Williamson, of Captain Frank Boylan, Charles Kirby and Brown from 1776 after having served six months in Colonel Thompson's Regiment I enlisted as a volunteer in Colonel Cingleton's Regiment of South Carolina militia in the company of Nathaniel Moore I was no less than two years in that Regiment until it was nearly taken at the surrender of Charleston and disbanded most every officer was taken, and sent back on parole from 1779 after the surrender of Charleston I went and joined as a volunteer, General Marion's brigade with my Captain James Clerk, General Marion had not been more than 30 or 40 men, but we increased very fast and then joined by General Sumpter we went and took

Scott's Lake Fort, I was always with General Marion from a short time after the Surrender of Charleston to Sir Clinton until peace was concluded the 30th of November 1782 and to the best of my recollection it was not less than three years, During all that time I was not employed in no civil pursuit, we were always in the field and the camp was my home, when I went to see my family I hide it never slept in my house, times were very dangerous never stayed but very short time at home or about and the fact is that I have served very near all the time from 1775 two 1782 all this inclusive, That is to the time that peace was promulgated, all during the war I was all the time within the Boundary to the State of South Carolina. I went all about yet after the British and after the Tories, I was at a great number of engagements, for Marion was always had it the names of every place I do not recollect except the Battles we head at the Snowy Camp on Reedy River, the taking of Charleston, the attack on Sullivan's Island, the Battle at Scott's Wake Fort & the battle at bacon church; he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the seventh day of October 1833 before me in open Court

S/ Benj. Richardson, Parish judge

S/ John Brumfield

[Francis Beckham and William Simmons gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[David Slocum and John O'Quin also gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 47]

State of Louisiana Parish of Washington: Before me the undersigned Judge of said Parish personally came and appeared John Brumfield he declares on oath that he served six months as a light Horseman in South Carolina in the year 1775 under Edmond Richardson Captain during which time himself & Company was employed in taking Tory prisoners etc. in 1776 this affiant went to the city of Charleston in South Carolina as a volunteer militia man under the command of Nathaniel Moore in one month in which time they were commanded by General Lincoln and was attached by Sir Peter Parker in which engagement this affiant was present in the defense of the City etc.

In 1777 affiant enlisted in Hillsboro North Carolina for three years and Colonel Shepherd's Regiment in which Tour he served one year, then hired two men in his place & returned home, no particular engagement.

On or about the date of 1779 to the best of affiant's recollection under Captain Jos. Clark he entered service commanded by General Richard Richardson in South Carolina and was in actual service from then till the close of the war in which time he was engaged in taking the Fort at Moncks Corner 30 miles from Charleston South Carolina also in another engagement about 12 miles from Charleston under the same officers.

The above declaration is made to the best of affiant's recollection his memory being much impaired by age having arrived at the age of 92 years.

Sworn to & subscribed before me at my office in the Perry of Washington

February 17, 1842

S/ John Brumfield

S/ Benj. Richardson, Parish Judge

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State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office March 19th 1842

Sir

Your letter of the 15th instant is received and I have carefully examined the

records of my Office for the name of John Brumfield, claiming a pension for service performed as a Soldier of the revolution, but do not find any such name on any record of my office showing such service.

Very respectfully your obedient Servant  
S/ Wm Hill [NC Secretary of State]