

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Samuel Brown S32138

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Illinois } Sct

Macoupin County } On the first day of June in the year AD 1835 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the County Commissioners Court for the county and State aforesaid, now sitting in Carlinville Samuel Brown a resident of the County aforesaid aged seventy three in April AD 1835 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 AD 1832 That he enlisted as a soldier in the revolutionary war in the year AD 1780 at Hillsborough North Carolina during the war under Captain [William] Barrett and first Lieutenant John Linton in the third regiment of Cavalry Commanded by Colonel William Washington that, he enlisted to the best of his recollection in September or October 1780, and went with Colonel Washington to a place called Rugeley's farm about nine miles of Camden [sic: Rugeley's Mill about 12 mi N of Camden SC, 4 Dec 1780], where a party of Tories was stationed in a barn and the cavalry not being able to get at them, a tree was mounted on a waggon [to resemble a cannon] and the enemy was ordered to surrender and Colonel Rugeley & the men did surrender

I then went to the battle of the Cowpens [17 Jan 1781] and was engaged in the Battle under General [Daniel] Morgan and Lieutenant Colo Washington I think there was a Colonel [Andrew] Pickens, and an officer named Triplet [Maj. Francis Triplett], we retreated from the Cowpens with the prisoners to the State of Virginia, and I was detached from the Regiment with a recruiting officer and the recruited men and horses, and joined the Regiment again at the Siege of ninety six [SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781], and continued there during the Seige, and we were compelled to abandon the seige in consequence of the Brittish receiving a reenforcement and compelled the American army to retreat to the Brushey Mountain to a place then called the cross roads from that place the army marched toward Camden, and left me at that point in consequence of having the small pox, and as soon as he recovered he marched and joined the army at or near Camden, and from that place he march to the Eutaw Springs and fought the Brittish army at that place [8 Sep 1781], and if he is not mistaken Colonel Washington was wounded by a Bayonett, and was taken a prisoner he then marched to Charlestown South Carolina and beseiged that place [3 Jan - 14 Dec 1782] the Brittish being in possession, and they had to retreat. I then went into the country with the troops, where we could procure provisions, and remained untill the war was ended & peace made. he further states that from the time he entered the service he was in the service untill peace was concluded, and he don't think he can be mistaken when he says that he served upwards of two years in actual service that he was not employed in any civil pursuit, during the time

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 the agency of any State [signed] Samuel Brown

[On 7 Dec 1835 Brown made a declaration similar to the preceding.]

State of Illinois } Sct

Macoupin County } On the seventh day of March S.D. 1836 personally appeared in open court Samuel Brown a resident of said County and State, before the judges of the County Commissioners court for said county and state now sitting in Carlinville, who being first duly sworn doth on his oath make the following supplemental declaration to his declaration made the 1st day of June A.D. 1835 in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th AD 1832 "That for the last 12 or 14 years he has been endeavoring to get his application before the War department; but he is illiterate himself and the agents he has employed to attend to the business for him have neglected and failed to proceed in the

business by complying with the requisitions of the laws. After the Battle of the Eutaw springs, Colo. Washington being wounded & taken prisoner. The command of the Regiment to which he (said Brown) belonged devolved upon a Major whose name he can not recollect, but thinks – tho his memory is vague as to the name that it was Majr Swann [sic: John Swan]. The battle of the Eutaw Springs was very fatal to the officers – after that he (Brown) with the Regiment under command of said Maj'r. marched in pursuit of the British down the river to Charlestown & the British they (the US troops) supposed crossed the river in the night, the British guard kept up the fires 'til day light to deceive them & in the morning they the British were gone, they (the US troops) crossed the river next day & besieged them in Charlestown – until they had to capitulate. They were permitted to take shipping & (the U.S. troops) marched in and took possession of Charlestown – the U.S. troops remained a short time in Charlestown; there being no provisions to be had there. they (the U.S. troops) then marched into the country under the same maj'r and went into winter quarters near the Savannah river or bay & stayed there until March 1783. they were then marched down to the forks of the Congaree & Wateree rivers & were stationed there until June, when their horses & other public property was sold off and they were discharged. (Said Brown received a discharge – he thinks from said Maj'r. and also a certificate of his services to enable him to draw his pay – but he has lost said discharge & certificate & he does not know how or when he lost the same. He has carefully examined his old papers & is unable to find them. He received said discharge & certificate in June 1783 at the above place towit the forks of the rivers Congaree & Wateree – after they unite they are called the Santee river. He states that he can not write his own name Samuel hisXmark Brown

I Samuel Sears residing in the County & state aforesaid do hereby certify that I am acquainted well with Samuel Brown who has made his mark & sworn to the above declaration. That I know said Brown is not in the habit of subscribing his name & believe he is unable to do so. that I know he has been endeavoring to get a pension for 12 or 14 years ever since he was apprised of the passage of the preemption law. I know that he enlisted in the Revolutionary army as a regular soldier in the year AD 1780 some time the last of August or first of September at Hillsboro Orange County North Carolina & was discharged & returned to Guilford County North Carolina where I lived in Rowan County North Carolina in July during harvest. I remember we were reaping when he got there from the army S hisXmark Sears

State of Illinois County Commissioners Court/ September 5, 1836
Morgan County

on this fifth September Anno Domini eighteen hundred and thirty six personally appeared in open court before the County Commissioners Court within and for said county now sitting – Samuel Brown a resident of Morgan County and State of Illinois aged seventy 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 Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

Samuel Brown here declares he was born in Pittsylvania County Virginia in the year seventeen hundred and sixty four – and enlisted and entered the service of the united states under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He enlisted and entered the service in the fall of seventeen hundred and eighty under one Captain Wm. Barrett in a mounted company – for and during the whole war – in the company commanded by Barrett – one John Linton was first Lieutenant – the company was formed at Hillsboro in North Carolina and consisted of about one hundred men – at Hillsboro we joined the Regiment under the command of Col Wm Washington – and one Rich'd Watts [Richard Watts] was second Colonel – the other officers I cannot at this time recollect – we marched to Saludee [sic: Saluda] river so called – and there engaged and defeated a body of about 300 Tories [probably skirmish near Hammond's Store near present Clinton SC, 30 Dec 1780] – and travelled or foraged about through the state a short time and joined Gen Morgan and engaged in the Battle of Cowpens in 1780 if I recollect aright – called Tarltons defeat [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Defeat]. we then retreated to Virginia with

our prisoners to Pittsylvania Co. on Dan river [14 Feb 1781]. we there remained a short time – from there we were detached for about two months to recruit men and horses – after recruiting service we went and joined Gen [Nathanael] Greene at the Seige of a place called ‘96 in South Carolina in the spring of 1780 [sic]. the place was beseiged 2 or 3 weeks and then we retreated from there and went towards Virginia until we recieved recruits and supply’s and then went through the country to Camden – occasionally engaged in skirmishing – and went to Eutaw springs in the fall of ‘81 and served under Gen Greene – we then passed through north and South Carolina engaged in defeating Tories and keeping the English in subjection. when the English retreated to Charlston, S.C. I was there and remained during the Seige and until the place was evacuated by the British. I continued on duty in North and South Carolina until the summer of seventeen hundred and eighty three when I received a discharge for two years and eight months service. This discharge I have lost or mislaid I served constantly from the time I first enlisted until I was discharged as a private – and have no documentary evidence and know of no person who can testify to my service except the one who certifies here below – and by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory cannot state so much in detail of the service during the 2 years & 8 months as I once could – but during the whole time I was not employed in any civil pursuit. 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 or Territory

Samuel hisXmark Brown

Robert Busby [pension application S30904] now a pensioner hereby certifies that in the fall of 1780 he met with and saw the above named Samuel Brown in the service of the United States as a private soldier at the Cowpen & while under Capn Caffry himself and often heard his name called over from the muster Roll while we were joined. I saw him again at Eutaw Springs but we were on different service – but from frequent conversions had with him at different times believe him to be the same person who now applies for a pension.

Robert hisXmark Busby

[Capitalization partly corrected]

State of Illinois } Ss Be it known that before me the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace in the
Macoupin County } County and State aforesaid personally appeared Saml. Brown and made
oath in due form of law that he is the identical person named in the following application for a pension
and to the truth of the matters therein contained he states as follows – he says some time in the latter part
of the year 1780 he was drafted as a Malitia man in the continental services he says he resided in the
County of Pittsylvania in the State of V.a. and was drafted at that place and from there he says he was
marched to Hillsborough N. Caralinia and at that place he says that he enlisted enduring the
revolutionary war – he says that he was enlisted by Barrett and he was attached to the Regiment of
Cavalry commanded by Col. William Washington and continued under said Washington’s command
until he Col Washington was wounded and made a prisoner of war by the enemy the British at the Eutaw
Springs – and he says that he does not recollect at this time the name of the Capt that commanded the
company that he belonged to in said Rigiment but as well as he recollects his Leiutenant name was Linton
owing to the greate length of time and old age has rendered it imposable for him to make pointed
statement upon that subject. he says from Hillsborough N.C. they marched a southern direction and
reconnoitreateing and scouring the country for some length of time until a sufficient force was collected
of the continental to give the enemy Battle. he says that he was present and engaged at the three forks of
Saluda river with Col Washington in killing and making prisoner of a party of Tories and he further says
that he was present and engaged at Rudgeley Mill ten or twelve miles from Camden in taken a party of
tories with a pine log. and he further says that Washingtons Cavalry continued in that section of country
for some length of time but how long he cannot say at present scouring of the country until the battle was
fought between Gen Morgan and Tarlton the British officer at the cowpens which he says he fought in
under the command of Col. William Washington and he further says after the Battle of the cowpens Col

Washington Regiment of Cavalry with the balance of the army retreated to the State of Va – and he says on there retreat to the State of Verginnia he had the misfortune to get his feet badly frost bitten for which reason he was detailed from the army for some time and employed in company with a recruiting officer in recruiting men and horses – and he further states that he joined the army again at the Seige of Ninety Six and continued there until the Seige was raised in service of his country except a few weeks that he was disabled by the small pox – and he further says that he joined the army again at Camden and from that place the army moved to the Eutaw Springs and there fought the enemy the British army which he says he was actively engaged in, as he received several shots through his clothing and his horse badly wounded which occasioned the death of his horse – and was furnished with another horse of a soldier which was killed in the battle and continued in action in the regiment of cavalry under the command of Col Washington and he further says in that engagement Col Washington was wounded and made a prisoner of by the British army – and he continued in service commanded by Col Washington inferior officers their names he cannot recollect at this time and he further says the British from the Eutaw Springs moved on to Charlston and the American army persued them to that place and continued there or about Charlston until the British surrendered Charlston to the american forces and he further says from Charlston the regement of cavalry moved a southern direction and went into winter quarters at or near the mouth of the Savana river, as well as he can recollect the name and continued there until spring following and then were removed from there to the Congree river and he says remained there until the public property belonging to the regiment of cavalry was sold and from the Congree river they were removed to the Santee river and there were discharged –

And he further says that he continued in actual service from the time he enlisted at Hillsborough N.C. until he was discharged except time he had small pox on the Santee river which was upards of two years but the exact length of time he cannot recollect

and he further says that he received pay for continual services rendered from the time of his enlistment at Hillsborough N.C. untill he was discharged on the Santee river S.C.

Sworn to and subscribed this 14th day of June 1837 Samuel hisXmark Brown
before me William Goode J.P.

To the Hon. Secretary of War

The undersigned Samuel Brown, of the County of Morgan and State of Illinois would beg leave respectfully to represent that he served his country in the war of the revolution, which secured the independence of Our Country, and that the name of your petitioner is on the pension list of the United State, and has been there for six or seven years, but owing to the want of full testiomoney as to the time your petitioner served in the war, he has received but twenty five Dollars per Annum The necessities of your petitioner are now such that he has to forego the false pride that long prevented him, from availing himself of the munificence of the Genl. Government, having passed through the snows of between eighty and ninty winters, he finds that his unusually strong limbs that carred him through the toil of a Campaign in the service of country, refuses to carry about his tottering frame, only as it goes bending to the Earth, where it will soon rest. Your petitioner thinks he enlisted in 1780 at Hillsboro, in the State of North Carolina, his inlistment was for three years or during the war, he served 32 months and received a discharge for that time, he entered the Service under Capt Baret in the 3rd Redgement of Caverly commanded by Col William Washington, under Gen'l. Morgan until after the Battle of Cowpens your Petitioner as a private Soldier shared in the dangers and Glories of that battle, he was under Gen'l. Green at the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] and the Eutaw Springs, and in many skirmishis Your Petitioner was at the surrender of Charlston in a short time after which he was discharged on the Santee River in South Carolina, your Petitioner was Once Strong and able to labour for support he was Once blessed with family and relations to whom he could look in the hour of need, but Death has has removed from him this support, and now full of Age infirmities, and decripitude he turns

to his beloved Country, which he supported in the hour that tried men of stout harts, and asks for a pittance upon which to lean until he shall be gathered with the remaining few of his generation, to where most of his comrades now rest.

The undersigned petitioner addresses his prayer to the Hon Secretary of War, with the hope, that he may interest himself in securing an increase of the pension to the full pay allowed to those who served no longer than your petitioner, the amount will be required but a short time. All of which you petitioner respectfully submits

Morgan County Ill, Nov 13th 1847

Witness/ Newton Cloud

Samuel hisXmark Brown

[A supporting petition was signed by more than 30 of Brown's friends.]

NOTE: On 6 Sep 1855 Berthena Brown, 69, of Doniphan County, Kansas Territory, applied for bounty land stating that as Birthena Groves she married Samuel Brown in Illinois on or about 10 Sep 1838, and he died in Morgan County IL on or about 20 Aug 1851.