

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Brooks S36430

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

5th Judicial district
of Kentucky Sct

On this 10th day of Au't 1819 before me the subscriber a circuit Judge in & for the district a'd. & the Judge of the Nelson Circuit Court personally appeared James Brooks aged 76 years Resident in said district who being by me first duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the U.S. in the revolutionary war That he the said James Brooks enlisted as a common soldier in the army of the United States on the 20th day of September 1777 in the State of Maryland in the Company command by Capt George Slaughter of the 8th Virginia regiment commanded by Colo. Abraham Bowman on the Continental Establishment that he continued to serve in said Corps or in the Service of the United States until the 20th day of April 1780 when he was discharged from service at Charles Town in South Carolina – that he was at the Battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] & at the Siege of Charles Town [29 Mar - 12 May 1780], and that he is in reduced circumstances & stands in need of the assistance of his country for support and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services.

Louisville July 26th 1819

The bearer James Brooks engaged as a Soldier in the service of the United States upon Continental establishment some time in the year 1777 and continued in service untill about the commencement of the siege of Charlestown in the year 1780 when he received his discharge. The undersigned has a distinct recollection of the the said Brooks when in the service, and so far as his conduct is recollected it met the approbation of his officers generally

Given under my hand the date above Ro Breckinridge [Robert Breckinridge (Brackenridge),
pension application S46371]
formerly a Lieut in the 8th Virginia Regement.

District of Kentucky

Nelson Circuit Sct

In pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed towit

Fifty acres of land four Negroes two horses nine head of Cattle thirteen head of hogs That he has a wife about fifty four years old three children living with him, that his trade is that of a farmer and that he is illy able to follow it
James Brooks

[On 30 Mar 1825 James Brooks made a statement that includes some of the information in the following:]
We the undersigned state that we are personally acquainted with James Brooks who is now applying to be reinstated on the Pension list and further state that the property so far as it comes within our own

knowledge contained in his former schedule at the time he was stricken off the Pension list has been disposed of in the following manner and purposes (to wit) One Negro Woman was sold to James Rogers of this County about the year 1820 for the sum of \$350 and that the money was principally disposed of to pay sundry debts which he had previously contracted for sundry purchases for the support &c of his family which would be difficult at this time to enumerate and set forth as he was at that time so superannuated as not to arrange his Business with any kind of system and the vouchers could not now be procured that he had incurred debts in various stores grog shops & Taverns and that he concurred various persons were indebted to him sums of money both in this County & others which was not a fact and that he expended considerable sums of money in prosecuting suits against said persons without being able to recover any thing from them the money for the aforesaid Negro was principally exhausted in the manner above stated. In the year 1823 he had become indebted in part for articles for the support of his family &c and had no means of paying the same without selling some of his property he then sold a Negro Boy aged about 4 or 5 years to Baily Kendall of this county for the sum of \$120 with part of the proceeds of said Boy he purchased [two illegible words] from Isadora Osburn of this County for the sum of \$76.09 The Balance of the money was disposed of to pay other debts he had contracted and to furnish necessaries for his family He was then destitute of money and lived upon a small poor Farm with but little assistance to cultivate it and was compelled to incur debts for the support of himself and family to a considerable extent in the fall of 1824 his wife was taken sick and continued so for some time under the attention of Two Physicians of which disease she died. The Farm he [illegible word] in his former Schedule reverted then to the Heirs of his wife he having only an Interest of his wifes life in the Land at which time he was considerably indebted to Merchants Doctors &c and it was thought advisable for his friends to sell his property In their hand on a credit to meet there demand in order to avoid a sacrifice of it at a forced sale. It was therefore sold on a credit of nine and twelve months. towit one Negro Boy aged about seven years for the sum of \$406 in the spurious currency of the County which was estimated at \$203 Cash and Robert Warden of this County became the purchaser. his other property sold for about the sum of \$160 in like currency estimated at \$80 in cash which said amounts will be principally exhausted after paying all the debts he now owes he has now on hand one superannuated Negro Man aged between 70 & 80 years which is rather a Tax than otherwise

The foregoing contains a true statement of the property contained in his former schedule so at is came within our knowledge and we further state that we have been acquainted with said Brooks for 15 or 20 years or upwards and that we know of no person who has in property or debts of any kind by which he will derive any profit nor have we ever heard of any nor believe has any species of property in any wise further than heretofore described & set forth and that he is now upwards of Eighty years of age and so superannuated to be entirely incapable of transacting any kind of Business and that he is the same James Brooks who applied some years since to government for a pension and obtained it and was afterward stricken off the pension list on account of the excess of his property not coming within the provision of an act of Congress regulating Pension viz. We would further state we know of no connection he has in the County except his step children in law and that they are illy able to support him and that unless they do it he will become a public Taxation therefore pray the Interposition of government in his behalf – given under our hands this 14th day of November 1825