

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Brawley (Braley, Brawley) S4961                      fn22NC  
Transcribed by Will Graves    9/30/10

[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.]

State of Tennessee Maury County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions September Term 1832

On this 11th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before Robert Wortham, James Huey and John Vincent Justices of the court of pleas and quarter sessions now sitting William Brawly a resident of Maury County in the State of Tennessee aged about seventy 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 7th 1832.

That according to a memorandum that he recollects to have seen at his father's, he was born on the 12th day of May 1783 in Ireland.

He was brought by his father to America when quite a child.

That his father settled in Rowan County North Carolina and raised this affiant there until he was about 17 years of age, in the year 1780,

That in the year 1780 he was drafted by the [ ] into the United States service for three months in what month he was drafted he cannot recollect.

That in a short time after he was drafted he was marched under Captain Crawford to Charlestown, South Carolina.

That he was there put under the command of General Lincoln.

That he does not recollect the officers that commanded the Regiment to which he belonged, he recollects a Colonel Arrington [probably William Henry Harrington] that belonged to the Army. That he was stationed upon the South Bay of Ashley. That at his section there was a wall along the Bay & the soldiers' tents were sunk so that the ball from the British that passed the top of the wall passed also the tents & soldiers behind. That the British had three row galleys up the Ashley [River] above his station.

That during the skirmishing that preceded the surrender of Charlestown this affiant bore no part not being attacked at his station.

That in the siege of Charlestown the British fleet blocked up the Bay & the British Army under the command of Sir Henry Clinton lay between the two rivers Ashley & Cooper, between the mouth of which, the City of Charlestown is situated. That the siege from the first firing by the British lasted about 40 or probably 42 days – at the end of which time the City of Charlestown capitulated. That the siege was defended for 12 days upon 1 half pint of rice to each man.

That when the terms of capitulation were agreed upon the Army marched out upon the commons & stacked their arms & returned to their tents without them. That an American Magazine blew up shortly after the surrender & he understood that about 40 of the British who were in & about it were destroyed. That in about 8 or ten days after the surrender the militia were paroled & allowed to go home – that parole was printed – but this affiant has lost his – the regulars were kept as prisoners of war until exchanged.

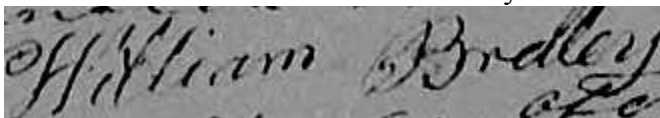
That he returned home to Rowan County North Carolina & remained there until 1781, that his tower [tour] at Charlestown lasted about three months –

That he was drafted again in 1781 the month he cannot recollect, but thinks it was in the fall of the year. That he went out in his second tour for three months under Captain Davidson & in about two weeks having obtained a horse, he was put under the command of Captain Cathey as a horseman, That General Rutherford was commander in chief. That the Company of Captain Cathey acted as guard to the general. He can recollect no other officers of the Regiment. The troops assembled at Salisbury NC. Rutherford took the command at that place & marched against the Tories & British, he marched towards the lower part of the State, through Fayetteville to Wilmington at which place the British were but left a few days before the Army of General Rutherford arrived. The Army remained at Wilmington about a week & then returned to Salisbury at which place the Army was disbanded.

That this affiant was not in any engagement during this tour but understood that there was skirmishing with the Tories. This tour continued for more than three months. That he has no documentary evidence. That he knows of no one living by whom he can prove his first tour of service. That he knows of no one but David Dobbins<sup>1</sup> by whom he can prove his last service. That these two tours are all the service for which he claims a pension, making six months – That he has lost every written testimony of his services – That he lived in Rowan County NC until about 22 years ago – he then moved to this State, Tennessee, & settled in Smith County – he lived there about 5 years & then moved to this (Maury) County Tennessee & has lived here ever since, being about 17 years.

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.

S/ William Braley

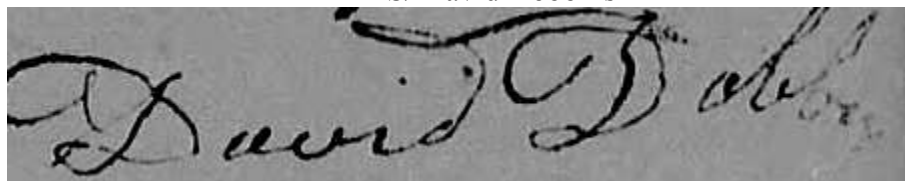
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Braley".

[Hugh Shaw, a clergyman and Isaac J Thomas gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I David Dobbins do hereby certify that William Brawly was in service in the Revolutionary War for I recollect to have seen him in camp as a soldier.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ David Dobbins

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Dobbins".

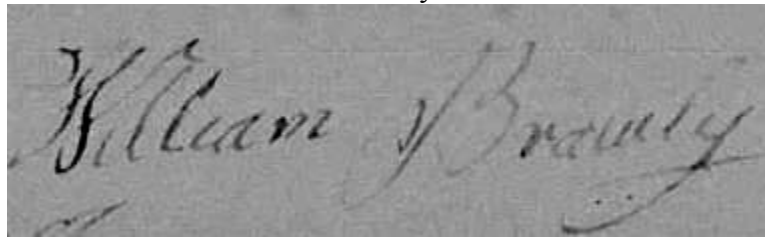
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<sup>1</sup> [David Dobbins S1805](#)

Personally appeared before me Robert Wortham Justice of the peace for Maury County State of Tennessee William Brawly who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that by reason of old age & 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 and in the following grades, in his Charlestown tour of three months a private & in the last tour 3 and a half months as a private & for such he claims a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 20th day of May 1833

S/ William Brawly

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "William Brawly". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]