

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Bryant (Briant) Adams S6468

fn31NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 10/29/10

[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.]

The State of Alabama, Montgomery County

On this the first day of September A.D. 1834 before the County Court that the said County personally came Briant Adams a resident of the said County and State aged near seventy eight 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 7th, 1832.

I enlisted at Wilmington in North Carolina under Captain Benjamin [illegible last name] as a volunteer for a three months tour we were employed on erecting fortifications & performing garrison duty. This was in the year 1777 I think. I do not remember the names of my other officers. I was in no engagement during this term & recollect no incident of any importance during it. At the end of the term I received a written discharge which I have not preserved. We were called for the purpose of fortifying the place as we heard the British were below Wilmington with a fleet at Sullivan's Island near Charleston – it was not known when they would attack.

After this time the date I do not remember I was drafted as a member of the North Carolina Militia to serve either for three months or five months, I do not remember which (I having served one tour of five months during the revolution but do not remember which) John Whitly [sic, Whitley?] was our Captain, William Caswell was our Colonel and General Ashe [John Ashe] was our General, my Major & Lieutenant's, I do not recollect – I was during this time at an engagement at Briar Creek. We marched from North Carolina to Augusta in Georgia and crossed the Savannah River at that place we pursued the British from Augusta & overtook them at Briar Creek [Brier Creek]. I do not know who commanded the British. The Americans were severely defeated. I swam over the Savannah River & after traveling all night reached a body that they had rallied on the road leading from Augusta to Charleston. We were then marched home & discharged. About two weeks after our discharge we were again called on to go to Charleston our Captain was McCullough. This man resigned during the term of service. We were employed in Charleston for three months or was from home. Our time was out before Charleston was taken & we returned home.

Some time after I joined a light horse company under John Briant [sic, Bryant? Briant?] for the purpose of dispersing a passel of Tories under the command of one Holloway in Mingo Swamp. We succeeded in doing this. The ~~British~~ Tories abandoned their place in that quarter & went off to Drowning Creek where there was an engagement between the Americans & Tories.

The applicant further states that from age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot state particularly the names of his officers or the incidents of the service. Applicant further states that he had written discharges but that they have not been preserved. Applicant states that he has never had a pension & that he releases all his claim to any except the present. He knows of no one who was

acquainted with him or with his services who is now living. He attaches a paper signed by men of respectability & standing in Johnson [sic, Johnston] County North Carolina that he procured when he came to this State.

Answers to the Interrogatories propounded by the Court:

Ans 1st I was born in Virginia at a place called the Three Creeks County forgotten when and in infancy my father removed to Franklin County North Carolina & from thence to Johnson County which is adjoining where I lived till I removed to Montgomery County Alabama. I was born in the year 1756 & am now 78 years.

Ans 2nd I have no record of my age.

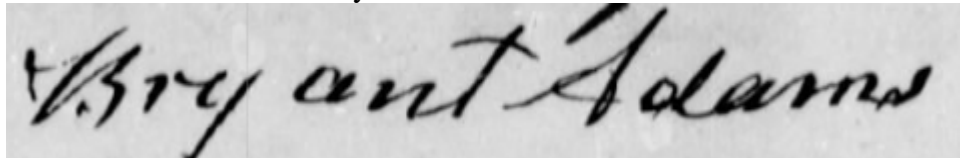
Ans 3rd I have stated in the answer to the first interrogatory all the material facts required in this question.

Ans 4th I have stated in the declaration that my first tour of service was as volunteer afterwards as a drafted militia man.

Ans 5th I have stated in the declaration that my memory is in perfect on this [illegible word]. My first Captain was [illegible name, appears to start with an "S"] – I sometimes can recall the name of the adjutant but at others cannot[;] I remember the names of none of my other officers. I afterwards served under Whitly, Ashe & Caswell. When in Charleston General Lincoln was there & commanded as I believe.

Ans 6th I know of no one acquainted with my services in my present neighborhood.

S/ Bryant Adams

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

Sworn to & subscribed on the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Benajah T. Bibb, JCCMC

[William J Larkins, a clergyman, and Aaron M Jones gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 8: on August 22, 1836 the veteran filed an application for a transfer of his pension benefits; the application was filed in Johnston County North Carolina with the veteran giving as his reason for moving from Alabama to Johnston County that he lived a great part of his early life in Johnston County and raised a family of children there, one of whom, a favorite son still lives there and that by said favorite son "he was invited to come and spend the remnant of his days with him."]

October 1826

State of North Carolina, Johnston County

We the under Signed [sic] do Certify that Bryant Adams Senior Served several Campaigns in the Revolutionary And Received an Honorable discharge every time. He married his wife in said County about forty five years ago and has been a Citizen of Johnson [sic] County ever since and has Raised a Family and Supported an honest Character. He is at this time and ever has been Called an honest Industrious prudent and upright man. He is now disposed to moved to the Western Country and as he has Fought and bled for that Sacred Liberty which we now so bountifully Enjoy and has ever supported the Character of a true Republican a honest and prudent man, we Cheerfully hope that wherever he may go or whom among that the People will Treat him with Friendship and And Esteem. We Certify his Conduct. He hitherto has and Does richly deserve Great Respect. We the undersigned firmly believe the foregoing Statements to be entirely Correct from report.

S/ R. Sanders

S/ Rm Landers

S/ Tho Lockhart

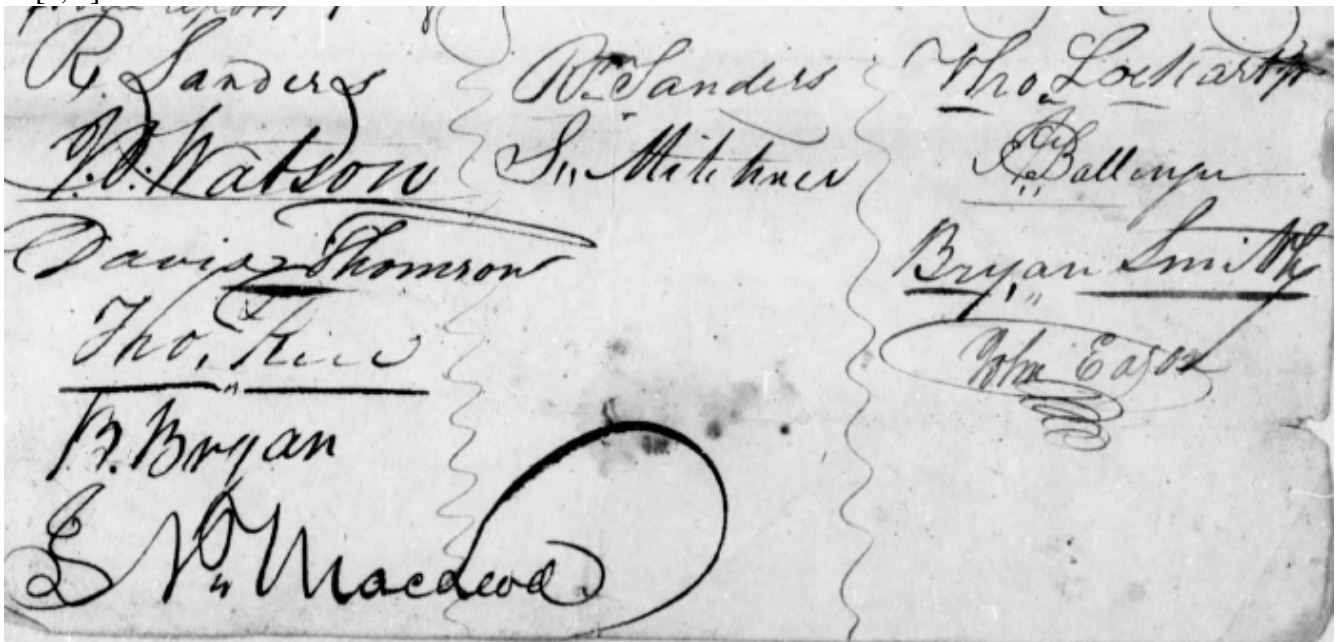
S/ J. O. Watson

S/ Sm Mitchner

S/ [?] Ballinger

S/ David Thomson
S/ Thos. Rice
S/ B. Bryan
S/ [?, ?] MacLeod

S/ Bryan Smith
S/ John Eason



A photograph of a document with several handwritten signatures in cursive. The signatures are arranged in three columns. The left column contains: R. Sanders, J. D. Watson, David Thomson, Thos. Rice, B. Bryan, and L. W. MacLeod. The middle column contains: R. Sanders and S. Mitchell. The right column contains: Tho. Lockhart, J. Ballou, Bryan Smith, and John Eason. The signatures are written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly aged paper.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for nine months service in the North Carolina militia.]