

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Richard Brown W1545  
Transcribed by Will Graves

Sally  
fn35NC  
rev'd 10/10/10

[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, Giles County: Court of pleas & quarter [sessions] aforesaid County August term 1832

On this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the justices of the court of pleas & quarter sessions for said County now sitting, Richard Brown, Resident of the County & State aforesaid, aged Seventy six 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<sup>th</sup> 1832,

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. That is to say, that he entered the service, as a private militia soldier under General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] about the first of August 1776, to proceed in an expedition against the Cherokee Indians, which he accordingly did under the same officer – The term of his service, on said expedition he thinks expired in three months after they entered the service. He states, that they had no engagements on that expedition that, the Army fled before them, that they only took a few prisoners and returned home.

At the time the said Brown entered the Army to do the service above specified he resided in Mecklenburg County North Carolina & that he went out on said expedition as a volunteer. That they marched through part of North Carolina, & the Cherokee Nation – that he did not serve as he now recollects with any Continental troops during that Campaign – that he has no documentary evidence by which he can prove the said service & that only persons, that he knows of by whom he can prove any facts relating to his services, Col William Bigham of Bedford County & said State, and William Alexander of said State & County of Maury.

He states, also, that he was a private soldier for the term of nine months as a state volunteer, in said State of North Carolina – they were called State Troops, during said term, he served under Col. McDowell & that his Captain's name was James Jack he was marched out of North Carolina through South Carolina to Purysburg [sic, Purrysburg] in the State of South Carolina. He was there attached to the Regular Army under Colonel Malmedy & Captain Gorden. He lay with the Army at Purysburg from December until the first of March following when they marched to Augusta in the State of Georgia, from thence to Bacons Bridge near Stono, where they lay until the Stono Battle in which he took an active part, he was furloughed in August 1779 and in September 1779 finally discharged.

He commenced his next tour of service in the Spring of 1781 – for said term, he was a volunteer in the State service in said State of North Carolina and acted as a private soldier therein. -- & during that term which was a ten months term he served under the command of Captain Frank Moore in the

Regiment of Colonel Littleton [sic, Lillington?] & John Wilson was the Lieutenant in said company – he was marched almost constantly through the State of South Carolina during the whole term. He also served in several short expeditions as a minute man, one was under General Rutherford at the Battle of Ramsour's-- But he was not in the Battle fought at that place on account of the miscarriage of a dispatch but was at the place immediately after the said Battle was over. He lived in North Carolina, during the whole war of the Revolution & in the said County of Mecklenburg. That during the first term of service above-mentioned, he served in Captain Robert Erwin's Company during the whole of said three months tour in the expedition against the Cherokees – he also states that he has no documentary evidence as to any of the above. He hereby relinquishes every other 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ German Lester, Clerk

S/ Richard Brown, B his mark

The following interrogatories were propounded to the said Richard Brown, the applicant in the above declaration in open Court on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832

1<sup>st</sup>: When and in what year were you born?

Answer: By said applicant May 17[illegible digit]6 in the State of Pennsylvania

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

Answer by the same, He has a record of his age, in my father's family Bible in the manuscript of my father, at my own house in said County.

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, by the same, -- When called into Service I lived in North Carolina, & did lived there during the war only when in actual service -- & ever since I left North Carolina up to the present time I have lived, & yet do live in the State of Tennessee part of the time in Williamson County, but for the last 20 years or thereabouts in Giles County & said state.

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

Answer by the same – I volunteered in all the expeditions in the above declaration mentioned & for all the services which I performed during the Revolutionary War.

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer by the same. He served under Col. Malmedy & Captain Gorden who were regular officers. He was under the command of Captain Erwin in General Rutherford's Brigade in the Militia service -- & the general circumstances of my service I have stated in my declaration herewith filed

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 by the same. He got a discharge from Captain Frank Moore, & I threw it away-- & I do not now recollect who I got the others from but I have not any of them now in my possession.

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer by the same. I can prove my services as a soldier in the Revolution by William Bigham of Bedford County & William Alexander of Maury County & State of Tennessee -- & my general character by John Henderson Esq., John Dabney, Esq. Ephraim M. Massey Esq., Ephraim Patrick, Alexander Stenson, James Haynes, Esqr., Thomas Walker, John Hogans and many others, all of my neighborhood & of the said County of Giles.

Subscribed & Sworn to the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Richard Brown, B his mark

[John Wilson, a clergyman, and John Haynes & John Henderson gave the standard supporting

affidavit.]

[fn p. 10: on September 23, 1848 in Giles County Tennessee, Sarah Brown, 74, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she was born April 4th, 1774; that she married Richard Brown on Make 2, 1797; that they were married by Joseph House, JP; that she and her late husband lived in Mecklenburg County North Carolina until 1804 when they removed to Williamson County Tennessee where they lived until 1811; when they removed to Giles County Tennessee where her husband died October 28, 1839.]

[fn p. 14: family record]

Richard Brown was born May 31 1756

Sally Brown was born April 4 1774

Richard Brown and Sally Bigger was married on the 2 of May 1797

Joseph Jordan Brown was born at 10 o'clock on April 5, 1798

John Starr Brown was born at 10 o'clock in the morning of December 16 1801

Zenis Milton Brown was born at 10 o'clock in the morning April 7, 1804

Richard Hervey Brown was born [illegible] 2 o'clock in the afternoon on June 26 1808

Sally Elize Brown was born 3 a clock in the morning of June 19 1815

James Medison Brown was [born] of July 15 1817

[fn p. 16: on October 2, 1848 in Marshall County Tennessee Joseph Jordan Brown gave the evidence authenticating the family record of Richard Brown and Sally Biggers stating that said record is in the handwriting of Richard Brown; that he is the Joseph Jordan Brown listed as the oldest child on such family record having been born April 5, 1798.]

[fn p. 17: on October 2, 1848 in Marshall County Tennessee, James Madison Brown also gave testimony authenticating the original family record of his father the late Richard Brown.]

[fn p. 18: on October 2, 1848, in Marshall County Tennessee, Joseph Baker, 71, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Richard Brown and Sarah Baker before the year 1797; that he knows they were married in York District South Carolina about the month of May 1797; that said Sarah is his sister.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$73.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one year and 10 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

[Note: Affidavits in support of service given by William Alexander, see [William Alexander S1893](#) and by William Bigham [William Bigham S1497 .](#)]