

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse O'Briant W1637

Joyce

fn52SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/20/10

[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.]

### Copy

To the Honorable the President & members of the Senate of South Carolina

The petition of the undersigned Jesse O'Briant respectfully shows that he is now a resident of the District of Pendleton and by reason of his old age and infirmities being now in his 69th year is but illy able to provide for himself such comforts as suited to his wants. He therefore respectfully solicits the aid of the State in consideration of his revolutionary services which he hopes your Body will find amply attested by respectable witnesses. He lived during the war in what now composes the District of Fairfield and first embarked in the service of his country in the Florida expedition under the command of Lieutenant Thomas whose command he was afterwards attached to Captain John Miller's. He was again out about the time of Greene's siege at 96 under Captain Anderson Thomas & was marched to Howell's Ferry below where Columbia now stands at which place the Troops were divided part sent after Rawdon, & he remained in the neighborhood scouring the country until he was discharged. Your petitioner was frequently called most generally under Thomas sometimes for a few days and sometimes longer sometimes carrying expresses sometimes for the purpose of protecting the neighborhood against the incursions of the enemy & not him frequently in the pursuit of Horse thieves & marauders of various kinds with which the County was much infested. During the whole Revolutionary Struggle the heart and feelings of your petitioner was with his Country to whom was also devoted his services as often as occasion offered after he became old enough to be efficient. The last tour your petitioner performed under Captain Amos Davis was marched down upon the South Edisto where the glorious news of peace was received & the Troops discharged by General Winn annual Petitioner having been marched back to Orangeburg stacked his musket against the end of Orangeburg Jail & with as happy a heart as he has had since returned to his home. Your petitioner said joining a schedule of his property which with some assistance from the state he may be able to keep together & protect himself from want or such hardship as he is now unable to undergo.

He has two beds & furniture worth about	\$30.00
Two pots – a kettle – Lot of pewter & crockery about	13.00
a Bible – Testaments & other old books about	2.50
1 Loom – three plows – two axes – one saddle	12.00

seven head of hogs – one cow & two yearlings about	30.00
six chairs – to mattocks – cotton wheel about	6.00
222 acres of land third quality very poor worth between 150 & \$200 – say –	175.00
there may be other articles the whole value of which your petitioner is satisfied would not exceed	<u>15.00</u>
	\$283.50

your petitioner prays that he may be placed on the Pension list & as in duty bound will ever pray.  
S/ Jesse O'Briant, JB his mark

State of South Carolina Anderson District: I do hereby certify that I have been intimately acquainted with Jesse O'Briant for many years that in the Revolutionary Struggle he was a true friend to the American cause that he served a number of Tories of duty in service of his Country that I myself served two tours one in the same company and the other in the same Regiment with him all under the command [of] General Richard Winn we both at the same time resided in what is now Fairfield District. Given under my hand this 15th of September 1830  
S/ Edward Vandiver<sup>1</sup>

South Carolina Fairfield District: Personally came Enoch Grubbs Senior Before me and upon oath saith that he was in the service in the State in the Campaign of 1781 & 1782 & was in the battle at Eutaw Springs that Jesse O'Briant was in public service in those years & that he the deponent was one of the relief under Captain Liles who relieve the said O'Briant who served a tower [tour] of duty. Sworn to the 6th of December 1829 before me  
S/ D. R. Coleman, JQ S/ Enoch Grubbs, X his mark

South Carolina Fairfield District: Personally came William Roberts before me the subscribing Justice and after being duly sworn as the law directs upon oath saith that he was in the public service as a militia (soldier) under Captain Anderson Thomas in the year 1782 & that Jesse O'Briant was one of the company and performed his duty as a good soldier that they were discharged near where General Sumpter then lived under whom they done three tower [sic, tours] of duty this was the last tower of duty the deponent did as peace was made soon after. Sworn to the eighth day of December 1829 before me  
S/ DR Coleman, JQ S/ William Roberts, X his mark

[fn p. 24]

State of South Carolina Anderson District

On this 1st day of October 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Judge of the Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas in this said State and for the District aforesaid now in session Jesse O'Briant residing in the State and District aforesaid who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

He entered the service in May 1778 as a drafted man in a company commanded by Captain Anderson Thomas under General Williamson and composed the second division of the Florida Expedition and continued in service 45 days.

On the second of March 1779 under the command of Colonel Drayton and General

---

<sup>1</sup> [Edward Vandiver R10845](#)

Lincoln he was placed in charge of a wagon and continued in the service of much hardship and privations for two months receiving at that time a written discharge which has been long since lost.

In June 1780 under the command of Captain Anderson Thomas and General Winn joined General Sumter near Winnsboro in this state and continued in this service fifty days at least.

In May 1781 in a company commanded by Captain Amos Davis he marched to the Four Hole Bridge and attached to the command of General Winn & General Henderson. He was called out for a month although the service continued something longer.

In August of same year 1781 he was out again on a draft for three months in Captain Amos Davis his company in Colonel Hopkins' Regiment and under General Winn marched down into Orangeburg and on the South Edisto and intelligence being received of the surrender of Cornwallis they were permitted to return to their homes having been out for two months and a half returning sometime about the latter part of October. He was also in service six weeks in the same year under General Lacey and General Winn – a part of two regiments were employed during that time in building a light [?] fortification, near Kings Mountain. The commander General Sumter being confined by a wound. The applicant was also in another tour of service under Captain McCool as a Ranger they were enlisted for six months but the two lieutenants having been killed, they were disbanded after three months service, which time was employed in scouring the upper County and keeping down the Tories. The applicant served as a substitute for James Edwards, in August 1781 one term of enlistment was for three months but they were called on to lay down their arms after the two but before the three months expired. The applicant was born in Granville County North Carolina about 1760 as he supposes, having no record of his age, but it has been long impressed on his mind that he entered the service about his 17th year. He removed to Chester District South Carolina in his 15th year where he resided during the war and from thence to Anderson in February 1817 – And 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 any agency of any State.

Before

S/ Jesse O'Briant, JB his mark

S/ Van A. Lawhon, CC

Edward Vandiver appears personally in open Court and being sworn says that he was well acquainted during the Revolutionary War with Jesse O'Briant who applies for a Pension. That they belonged to the same Regiment though they were attached to different Companies and generally therefore out in service at different times. They served together in 1780 under Captain Anderson Thomas & General Winn as represented in his declaration. He has heard the same read and is perfectly satisfied in his own mind that the services therein set forth were rendered and that the account thereof is substantially correct. He was acquainted with the officers and events of that day as set forth.

Sworn to in open Court

first of October 1834 before

S/ Edward Vandiver, X his mark

S/ Van A. Lawhon, CC

[Sanford Vandiver, a clergyman, and John Williams gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 6]

State of South Carolina Anderson District: SS

On this 26 day of October in the year of our Lord 1849 personally appeared before the undersigned, Judge of the Court of Ordinary for said District in open Court now sitting, Joyce

O'Briant a resident of Anderson District in the State of South Carolina aged about seventy years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 29th, 1848. That she is the widow of Jesse O'Briant deceased who was a private in the militia in the War of the Revolution; That during the said war he the aforesaid Jesse O'Briant was living in what is now Fairfield District in the State of South Carolina: That he first volunteered or entered the militia under Lieutenant Thomas in what was called the Florida expedition under General Williamson; That Lieutenant Thomas' command was afterwards attached to Captain John Miller's Company: This expedition was for the space of three months: That said Jesse O'Briant was again out about the time of General Greene's siege of Ninety Six Fort under Captain Anderson Thomas, and marched to Howell's Ferry below where Columbia now stands and remained in that neighborhood for a space of time; That he was out again on short tours of duty and occasionally after horse thieves, That his last tour of duty, was performed under Captain Amos Davis of the Militia to the South Edisto River in South Carolina: That when they were marched back said Jesse O'Briant staked his musket against Orangeburg Jail and returned home: That the duty under Captain Amos Davis was over two months and in Colonel Richard Winn's Regiment in the year 1782; That the duty under Captain Anderson Thomas was over three months in 1781 and that said Jesse O'Briant also rendered over one month duty in Captain John McCool's Company: That in all his said service amounted to over seven months in that struggle for Independence; That said Jesse O'Briant was pensioned by the State of South Carolina in the year 1830; That this Declarant and her husband the aforesaid Jesse O'Briant were married by a Reverend Mr. Roberts near the Rev. Mr. Grimes lost the Baptist Church in Fairfield District in the State of South Carolina; That her family records show the birth of her oldest child Sarah, to have taken place April 26, 1800; and that she was married 13 months before said child was born; That Jesse O'Briant aforesaid & this Declarant moved to Anderson District in the year 1807; She further declares that she was married to the said Jesse O'Briant deceased on the 24th day of March in the year 1799; That her husband the aforesaid Jesse O'Briant died on the first day of November in the year 1837; That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the second of January 1800 viz. at the time above stated. She further swears that she is now a widow and that she has never before made any application for a pension. Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me.

S/ Herbert Hammond, Ordinary

S/ Joyce O'Briant, X her mark

[fn pp. 14-16: family record

Charlotte obriant the Daughter of Jesse obriant and Joyce his wife was born October 25th 1808

Thomas Howel was born January 19th 1844

William Howell O'Briant was born 19th day of November 1812 &c

Thomas Briant January 19th 1844

Elizabeth O'Briant was born May 15th 1855

Sarah O'Briant born April 26 1800

Mary O'Briant was born September 25th 1801

Jesse O'Briant was born July 18th 1803

David O'Briant was born February eight 1805

Eluy O'Briant was born January first 1807

[fn p. 19: on April 19, 1855 in Anderson District South Carolina, Joyce O'Briant, aged about 77,

filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Jesse O'Briant; she states in this document that her name prior to her marriage to Jesse O'Briant was Joyce Howel.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$35.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 10 months & 21 days service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]