

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Archibald Brown W21704

Mary

fn28SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/6/10

[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 South Carolina District of Charleston

On this 24th day of May 1840 personally appeared before me Rob Elfe a Justice of the Quorum for the District and State aforesaid Mrs. Mary Brown residing in the City of Charleston, aged seventy-eight years, who being first 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 4th 1836. That she is the widow of Captain Archibald Brown who commanded the during the War of the Revolution one of the light Infantry Companies raised for the defense of the City of Charleston. She declares that her husband the said Captain Brown was first sent to France by the State of South Carolina to purchase clothing and other materials for the State in 1776 and on his return was landed from the ship "*Queen of France*" at Boston in 1777 and returned to Charleston. He was then appointed a Lieutenant in one of the Light Infantry Companies, raised for the defense of the City, and was first in active service in February 1779 -- at a battle fought at Beaufort where he was wounded as will more fully appear by reference to Ramsey's *History of South Carolina*. In a short time after he was appointed to the command of the said Light Infantry Company as Captain, and served in the City of Charleston during the Siege by Provost [sic, Augustine Prevost] in May of the same year -- and upon the retreat of Provost he marched to Savannah and served in the memorable Siege of that place, And in the fall of 1779 on his return to Charleston he and his company were in service preparing for the defense of the City and continued in service until the Surrender of Charleston on the 12th May 1780, when he and his Company were made prisoners of war. She further declares that her husband the aforesaid Archibald Brown was in service from the first of January 1779, first in the Expedition to Beaufort for three months then in service at the Siege of Charleston for three months and that Savannah for two months, and from November 1779 to the 12th May 1780 he continued in active service, being then made a prisoner of War. This Deponent further declares that on the surrender of Charleston Captain Brown was paroled, and on the 17th of August 1780 she was married to him as will better appear by the Testimony hereto annexed -- a short time after her Marriage Deponent's Husband the said Captain Brown was sent a prisoner to St. Augustine where he remained for twelve months -- She further declares that she was married to the said Archibald Brown as above stated on the 17th day of August 1780 at the House of her father in the parish of St. James Goose Creek by the Reverend Edward Ellington. Deponent has made

diligent search in the parish records for the entry of her marriage, but has been unable to find it, the records of the church for that period having been lost. She submits as evidence of her said marriage the entry made in the family Bible in the hand writing of her husband the said Captain Archibald Brown and prays that the same may be received as evidence thereof. In conclusion Deponent declares that her husband the said Captain Archibald Brown died in the year 1797 on the 14th of December of said year and that she has never married but remains his widow.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th of May 1840

S/ Rob Elfe, QU

S/ Mary Brown

[fn p. 7 family record]

Arch Brown born 9 January 1752 OS

Mary Deas born the 19th of June 1762

Archibald Brown & Mary Deas married the 17 August 1780

Robert Brown their son born 23rd of December 1781

Eliza Allen Brown born 17 March 1784

Anna Caroline Brown born 23 December 1786

Mary Deas Brown born 26 April 1789

John Deas Brown born the 13th of July 1793

Archibald Brown born 7th November 1795

[fn p. 3: on May 28, 1840 in Charleston South Carolina Charles D. Deas gave testimony that he is the brother of Mrs. Mary Brown who is applying for a pension; that he has examined the entry in the family Bible of the marriage of his sister Mary Deas to Archibald Brown; that said entry is in the hand writing of Archibald Brown.]

[fn pp. 9-10]

Nantes August 1777

Captain John Haller

The Snow *Maria Seraphique* belonging to the State of South Carolina & under your Command, being now loaded, victuated[?], Manned & in every other respect ready for you, you will immediately repair on board & take the first favorable opportunity that may offer of proceeding to Sea, & making the best of your way for Charlestown in South Carolina; but should contrary winds happen, when you are upon that Coast, so that you may not be able to get into Charlestown, & to avoid beating on the Coast you should be obliged to put into any port to the Southward or Northward, you'll be careful to give the earliest information of their arrival to George Abbot Hall, Aaron Loocock, Roger Smith & Thomas Corbet Esquires & await their Instructions with regard to proceeding from thence --

For the security of the Vessel & Cargo in case you should be met with by the British Men of War in your passage, she is cleared out for Cape Francois, & having a (nominal) French Captain, & Crew she will have every appearance of French property & thereby avoid all risqué being taken, except on the American Coast; where I hope the danger will not be very great – Captain Kangalet has orders to follow your Instructions in every respect, you'll therefore direct him to steer his Course in such a manner as you think best most for the safety of the Vessel, observing that notwithstanding the clearances, you are not to touch at the Cape, or any other place; but make the quickest passage in your power for South Carolina, the Articles you have on board being much wanted by the public of that State. In your passage out, as soon as you have

got into such a latitude & longitude as will render your French papers useless, you are to mount as many Guns as you conveniently can, that you may be enabled to defend yourself should you be attacked by any small armed Vessel, or make prize of any defenseless ship you may meet with belonging to the Subjects of the King of Great Britain, but you are to observe that she is by no means to act as a Cruiser & when you arrived on the Coast of America, you are to be particularly careful to avoid all Vessels which you think British Man-of-war, Tenders or Privateers. The Cargo you have on board being too valuable & too much wanted by the State to be in danger when it can possibly be avoided -- referring you to the Instructions you received from the Commissioners & wishing you a safe & agreeable passage I remained

Your Friend & well-wisher
S/ Arch Brown

Captain John Haller

Norfolk August 1777

The Snow Maria & La Phoque, belonging to
this State of South Carolina & under your Command, being now loaded
victualled, & manned, & on every other respect ready for you will immediately
take the first favorable opportunity that may offer of
proceeding to sea, & making the best of your way for Charleston in South
Carolina; but should a contrary Wind happen when you are upon that
Coast, so that you may not be able to get into Charlestown, & avoid
beatings on the Coast you should be obliged to put into any Port to the
Southward or Northward, you'll be careful to give the earliest informa-
tion of your arrival to George Abbot Hall, Aaron Loo cook, Roger Smith
& Thomas or Col. G. Wood their Instructions with regard to proceeding
from thence.

For the security of the Vessel & Cargo in case you
should be met with by a British Man of War in your passage, she is
commissioned out for Capt. Francois, having a prominent French Captain & crew,
she will have every appearance of French Dexterity thereby avoid
all risque of being taken except on the American Coast, where I think
the danger will not be very great — Captain Narvalot has Orders
to follow your Instructions in every respect, you'll therefore direct him
to steer his Course in such a manner as you think best, & most for the
safety of the Vessel, observing that notwithstanding the clearance, you

are not to touch at the Cape, or any other place, but make the quickest
Passage in your Power for South Carolina, the Article, you have
on board being much wanted by the Public of that State. In your
Passage out, as soon as you have got into such a Latitude, Longitude
as will render your French Papers useless, you are to mount a main
Gun, as you conveniently can, that you may be enabled to defend yourself
should you be attack'd by any small armed Vessel, or make Prize of
any defenceless Vessel you may meet with belonging to the Subjects of the
King of Great Britain, but you are to observe that she is to be an enemy
is not to be a prize, ~~but~~ ~~the~~ ~~supra~~ ~~you~~ ~~are~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~
Case of America, you are to be particularly careful to avoid all Vessels
which you think British Men of War, Tenders or Privateers. The Cargo
you have on board being too valuable & too much wanted by the State,
& to be endangered when it can be possibly be avoided. — Referring
you to the Instructions you received from the Commissioners &
wishing you a safe & agreeable Passage remain
Your Friend & well wisher
Arch. Brown

[fn p. 26]

State of South Carolina Charleston District: The affidavit of Joseph Righton¹ of the City of Charleston taken before me Robert Elfe a Justice of the Quorum for the State and district above written to prove the Revolutionary services of Captain Archibald Brown. This affiant being first duly sworn according to law testifies and says. That he well knew Captain Archibald Brown at the commencement of the Revolution and during the whole time it lasted. This affiant can and does testify that to his knowledge Captain Brown first held the rank of Lieutenant and was at the surrender of Charleston Captain of one of the Light Infantry Companies in the City. This affiant well recollects the following service performed by Captain Brown. He was first in service at the commencement of 1779 on or about the first of January of that year I was in service along with Captain Brown and in any engagement we had with the enemy at Bufort [sic, Beaufort] in the month of February Captain, then Lieutenant, Brown was wounded; he was in service for three months in that Expedition. He was in April again in service being then made Captain of the Company and aided in defending the City from the attack made on it by Provost we were in

¹ [Joseph Righton W22074](#)

service again for three months April, May and June. We were then marched to Savannah to aid in the memorable Siege of that place; and served two months, then in the month of November of 1779, we were all again called into service to prepare for the defense of the City; and continued in service until the fall of Charleston on the 12th of May 1780, at which time Captain Brown & his company were made prisoners of war. In the last of the summer of that year Captain Brown was sent with many other prisoners to St. Augustine and detained there for twelve months. The foregoing facts respecting the rank, services & duration of this service rendered by Captain Brown I have the best right to recollect because I was in service with him.

In conclusion this affiant can testify first that Captain Brown was married immediately on the termination of the siege of Charleston. Secondly That his widow now applying for a pension is the identical person then married to him and to the knowledge of this affiant has never married since his death. Given under my hand this 27th day of May 1840

S/ Jos. Righton

[fn p. 28: on May 28, 1840 in Charleston district South Carolina, Seamon Deas [? could be Seamore Deas], 72, testified that he is the brother of Mary Brown, widow of Archibald Brown; and that he was present at their wedding and probably is the only persons still alive who was present at the wedding (other than his sister).]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$480 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for the two years service of her husband as a Captain in the light infantry of the South Carolina line.]