

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Trousdale W4525 Elizabeth Trousdale f81NC
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 7/28/17

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of Tennessee, Davidson County

On this 8th day of November 1851 personally appeared before me, Thomas Maney, Judge of the sixth Judicial Circuit of the State of Tennessee, Bryson B. Trousdale, aged fifty-four years, a resident of Lewis County Tennessee and made the following Declaration in order to obtain for the children of James Trousdale and Elizabeth Trousdale, the Pension due them under Act of Congress of July 4th 1836 & 3rd Section,

That he is the Administrator of Elizabeth Trousdale, who was the widow of James Trousdale, who was (as he always understood from his father, the said James Trousdale) in the service during the Revolutionary War, and served as a Captain of a company of North Carolina Militia, that he first entered said service sometime in the latter part of the year 1779 or in the year 1780, that there were placed under him, as Declarant has always understood from his father, militia troops, during this tour, who were drafted for three months, that they were marched to South Carolina, and were stationed at Charleston during the siege of that City [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]¹ that at the expiration of their term of service, he returned to the State of North Carolina, when he again entered the service as Captain of a company of North Carolina Militia either for a tour of three or six months, but Declarant cannot now tell which, this as well as Declarant recollects, was in the year 1780, or '81, that he continued in service as a Captain, commanding various companies of troops style "minute men" until the final termination of the War, but the particulars, in relation to the different periods of service of the troops under his Command he cannot now recollect, having heard him say, but always understood from his father, that he was for a considerable length of time retained in the service while guarding the Jail at Hillsboro in North Carolina, that from this period, declarant always understood, both from his father and mother above named that his father, the said James Trousdale, was retained in service as a Captain of militia minute men, during the greater part of the time, through the years 1782 and until the latter part of the year 1783 when he always understood from his father that he was one of the last that left the service in North Carolina and was then in command of a company as Captain, Declarant further states that previous to his father's having entered the service, as above stated, he intermarried with Elizabeth Dobbins (declarant's mother) in Orange County North Carolina, but declarant cannot now state the precise date of said marriage, not having the family record before him, which was kept by his father in his lifetime, but that he Declarant is the eighth child of said James and Elizabeth Trousdale, he and his brother Jesse Trousdale being twins, and for the particular date of said marriage, he refers to the original family record, which he thinks is now in the possession of his brother Ex-

¹ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

Governor William Trousdale of Sumner County Tennessee.

He further states that his father of the said James Trousdale died in Sumner County Tennessee on the 24th day of December 1818, that his Widow of the said Elizabeth Trousdale survived him and continued his widow until the first day of December, in the year 1839, when she died, leaving the following named and only surviving children, to wit: Robert Trousdale, William Trousdale, Catharine Cowan, Nancy Trousdale and Declarant Bryson B. Trousdale, who still survived her.

Declarant further swears that he knows of no documentary or of the record proof of said marriage and that referred to above,

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day and year first above written.

S/ Thos. Maney, Judge 6th Jud. Circuit of Tennessee

S/ Bryson B. Trousdale

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bryson B. Trousdale". To the right of the signature is a circular stamp or seal, which is partially illegible but appears to contain some text or a logo.

[p 10: Mrs. Nancy Freeland, 83 or 84, says she is the niece of Capt. James Trousdale; that her uncle James Trousdale married Elizabeth Furgison [sic] by whom he had 5 or 6 children; that he then married Elizabeth Dobbins, as she thinks, before the occupation of Hillsboro by the British in 1781; that her father, William Trousdale, lived within 3 miles of his brother, James Trousdale; that James had 3 or 4 children by his second wife. Given in Orange County, NC on April 24, 1852. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[Facts in file: Nancy Trousdale was married to Matthew Cowan; James' first marriage occurred sometime before 1772 in which year his first child was born; that he married Elizabeth Dobbins on March 10, 1775 and the eldest child of this marriage was born December 16, 1775.]

[There are a number of account receipts in the file showing payments to James Trousdale during the war, but they make no reference as to what the payments were made for.]

[p 22]

State of Tennessee, Smith County

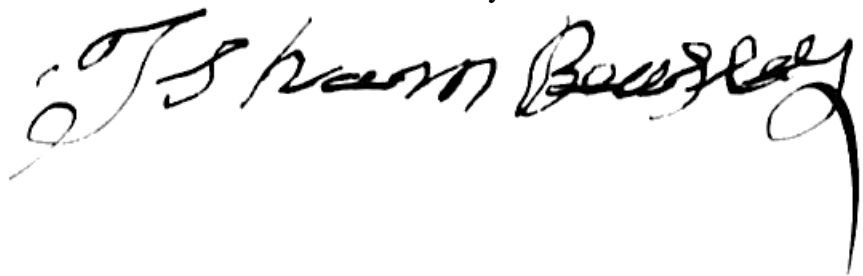
On this 4th day of December 1851 Personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for said County & State Isham Busley² eight Revolutionary Pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$38.38 aged 92 years a resident of said County with whom I am personally acquainted and made oath in due form of law that he was well acquainted with Captain James Trousdale the who served about a 4 months Tour as a Captain commanding a Company of Militia Troops from the State of North Carolina Deponent states that he did not belong to Captain Trousdale's Company himself but served at the same time that Trousdale did he then living in Orange County and himself in Chatham County Captain Trousdale's Company and the Company that deponent belonged to which was commanded by Captain James Herndon was marched from North Carolina to the City of Charleston in the latter part of the year 1779 & was discharged in the Early part of the year 1780 which deponent thinks was sometime in the Month of March at this time Captain James Trousdale resided in Orange County State of North Carolina said Trousdale was a married man at this time as deponent always understood and

believes but what his wife's name was before marriage deponent cannot State as he never was acquainted with his wife before nor after their marriage. Deponent further states that Captain Trousdale's Company and the company that he belonged to was discharged a short time for the City of Charleston was taken said Tour of service was only called a three months tour but they remained in Service some four months that is before they reached home as to any further service of Captain James Trousdale Deponent cannot State of his on knowledge but thinks it highly probable that he did as it was [indecipherable word] to do so that I have heard it said that he should have served a considerable time in Guarding the Goal [sic, Jail] at Hillsborough which I think highly probable that he did as it was [indecipherable word] at that time for the Goal to be guarded by turns which he himself assisted at one time it coming to his term Deponent further states that he is in no wise interested in this Matter.

That he Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and date above written.

S/ Stephen Petty, JP

S/ Isham Beasley

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Isham Beasley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "I" and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

[p 25: On September 18, 1852 in the District of Columbia William H Smith gave testimony that he called upon William Trousdale in Gallatin Tennessee in an attempt to obtain the original family record but was told by William Trousdale that said record was no longer in his possession and affiant has been unable to obtain it.]

[The estate of veteran's widow was granted a posthumous pension in the amount of \$210 per annum commencing March 4, 1831 and ending December 1, 1839, the date of her death.]