

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Bridges W4646

Frances

fn36VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/17/10

[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 North Carolina Chatham County:

On this 25th day of October personally appeared before me John S Lane a Justice of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County and State aforesaid, Joseph Bridges a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged eighty-two 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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1775 with Captain Tallifearo [sic, Taliaferro?] in the Second Regiment of the Virginia line under the following named Officers –

He enlisted in Caroline County Virginia in the month of October in the [year] 1775 and joined a Company of Infantry under the command of Captain Tallifearo in the Second Regiment of the Virginia line commanded by Colonels Woodford & Scott and Major Alex Spotwood, he was marched with the Regiment down to Williamsburg and from thence to the great bridge and was at the Battle fought there the British commander Captain Fordice [sic, Capt. Charles Fordyce] fell within 30 feet of the American breastwork, that early in January 1776 and shortly after Norfolk had been burned by fire from the enemy's fleet he returned with the Regiment to Williamsburg and encamped three miles below. In July 1776 the Regiment was marched to Williamsburg where the Declaration of Independence was read to the troops by Benjamin Waller Clerk of the General Court that he afterwards encamped with the Regiment in the vicinity of Williamsburg until the Term of his enlistment expired which was in October 1776. That after he had faithfully served 12 months the term of his enlistment he received an honorable discharge which he thinks was signed by Captain Talifearo and that he has long since lost the same and is now wholly unable to procure the same. At the time he entered the service he resided in the County of Caroline in the State of Virginia where he was born –

After his discharge as aforesaid he removed to Granville County in the State of North Carolina where he remained until after Gates defeat shortly after which he received a commission as Lieutenant (which commission is lost and he is unable to procure the same) in a Regiment of Cavalry commanded by Colonel Philip Taylor and was attached to the company commanded by Captain Joshua Coffee that he marched with the Regiment in a westerly direction to Phifer's Mills in Mecklenburg County NC where they United with a Regiment of horse from

Mecklenburg and Rowan under the command of Colonel Davie [William Richardson Davie] who was afterwards Governor of North Carolina and Minister to France &c. He served out his Tour of three months in skirmishing on the enemy's lines when he received a written discharge but he has no recollection by whom it was signed nor what has become of it – his commission was signed by Colonels Satterwhite and Dickerson of the North Carolina Militia and is now lost so that he is unable to procure the same that although himself and the other troops engaged in the above services were actually employed three months only yet it was distinctly understood at the time that in consideration of each person equipping himself with a horse and other necessary accoutrements for the service that it was to serve to all intents and purposes as a Tour of five months duty.

He further states that some time after his discharge as aforesaid himself, William Hunt and Thomas Allen were dispatched by Governor Nash [Abner Nash] of North Carolina with an express to General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] who was at that time with an Army in South Carolina that after encountering many dangers and much hardship they succeeded in reaching his camp at Ninety Six and continued with him until he raised the siege when he sent them back with dispatches to Governor Nash, he cannot state precisely how long he was engaged in the above service nor does he deem it material as he performed it in new of and instead of a three months Tour in the Militia.

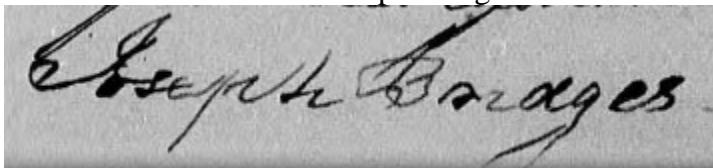
He further states that in the year 1781 he substituted himself in the place of Stith Thompson in the County of Mecklenburg in the State of Virginia in the militia of said State and was appointed orderly Sergeant in the company commanded by Captain Elisha Graves in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Burwell and Major Walker he was marched with the Regiment directly to the siege of York where he remained until after the Enemy had surrendered shortly after which the Militia were disbanded and he received a written discharge which was signed by Captain Graves and is now lost and he is unable to procure the same. He is not certain that he served out the whole three months that he Term for which the troops were drafted but thinks that the time he served did not fall much short of it. That he has no documentary evidence & knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

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 the agency of any State or Territory in the union.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John S Lane

S/ Joseph Bridges

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature reads "Joseph Bridges" and is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Joshua Adcock & George Gee gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina Chatham County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions August term 1833

The amended Declaration of Joseph Bridges of the County of Chatham & State of North Carolina.

This day the 13th of August 1833 appeared in open Court Joseph Bridges of the County and State aforesaid and after being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelist, deposeth & saith that all the facts set forth in his former declaration are true but for greater certainty and in answer to the objections made to his former declaration he states that the first term of his service was in the

year 1775 and 1776, that he served 12 months and during that time was engaged in no civil pursuit, that his second and third term of service was in the latter part of the year 1780 in the early part of the year 1781 that he was in actual service during these two terms at least five months and a half though as stated in his first declaration the first term in consequence of his furnishing his own horse was to be considered equal to five months term, and his service as they are of dispatches from the dangers and hardships of the service was to be taken for a three months tour: and during this time he was engaged in no civil pursuit. That his last term of service was in the year 1781 and was in actual service at least two months, and a half during which time he was engaged in no civil pursuit – the whole of his actual service being one year and eight months. He has now no documentary evidence of his service his written discharges being long since lost or destroyed. He knows of no living witnesses by whom he can prove his service, all those who served with him and him he now recollects are now either the dead or gone to parts unknown to him. He hoped he knew of a very old man by whom he could prove his service, but he found that his memory had not survived the ravages of age and disease. In answer to the seven interrogatories from the war Department he states that he was born in the year 1750. That he has a family record of his age now in his possession; that when he first entered the service he lived in the State of Virginia Caroline County, he removed from there to Granville North Carolina and from there he moved to Chatham where he has lived ever since; that he was called into service as stated in his former declaration and under the officers therein named; That he received discharges from service and a commission as a Lieutenant as set forth in his former declaration – that he has lived where he now resides 40 years and has had the pleasure never to have had his character for veracity doubted, and is known to most of the elderly citizens of the County. There is no clergyman living in his immediate vicinity. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year above written.

S/ Joseph Bridges

[Thomas Ragland & Edward Rives gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 8: on November 29, 1843 in Orange County North Carolina, William Bridges, 50, a resident of Chatham County North Carolina filed an application stating that he is the son of the late Joseph Bridges, a revolutionary war pensioner; that he is applying for the pension due himself and the other heirs of their mother Frances Bridges at her death; he states that his father died March 22, 1837 leaving Frances his widow; that Frances died May 3, 1841, survived by the following children this Declarant, Horace & Nicholas Bridges all of lawful age; that it is his understanding that his parents were married December 24, 1788; and in support of his claim, he filed the family record the abstract of which is set forth below.]

[fn pp.11-14: family record]

Marriages

Joseph Bridges and Frances Davis were married on the 24th of December A.D. 1788

Horace D Bridges and Martha Gee were married on 22nd of October a D 1812

William H Bridges & Sally Justice were married on first of October a D 1816

Horace D Bridges and Louisa G Johnson were married on the 26 day of May 1825

Nicholas R Bridges and Emma P Johnson were married on 20th of December 1827

Births

Joseph Bridges born February first 1750/51

Francis Bridges wife of Joseph Bridges: January 30th A.D. 1755

Horace D Bridges son of Joseph & Frances Bridges born July 20th A.D. 1790
William H Bridges son of Joseph and Frances born July first 1793
George Rodney Bridges son of Joseph & Frances born January 18th 1795
Nicholas Richard Bridges son of Joseph and Frances Bridges born December 15th A.D. 1796
Cornelia Adeline daughter of William H Bridges & Sally his wife born 25th of November A.D. 1818
Joseph Morgan son of William H Bridges & Sally his wife born 21st of October 1820
Delhi Cochran Bridges daughter of William H Bridges & Sally his wife born the 16th of December A.D. 1822 at 4:00 AM
Martha Emila Bridges daughter of William H Bridges & Sally his wife born 30th day of September 1825
Seniora Susannah ridges daughter of William H Bridges & Sally his wife was born October 25th A.D. 1827
Mary Sibbella daughter of Nicholas R Bridges and Emma P his wife born September 29th 1837
Elizabeth Wilson was born the 29th of July A.D. 1840
Frances Ann daughter of Nicholas R Bridges and Emma P his wife was born 13th of January 1829
Horace Hampton son of Nicholas R Bridges and Emma P his wife born 15th of July A.D. 1830
Ering Livingston son of Nicholas R Bridges and Emma P his wife was born 24th of March A.D. 1832
Preston Johnston son of Nicholas R Bridges and Emma P his wife born 3rd January A.D. 1834
Pauline Agness daughter of Nicholas R Bridges & Emma P his wife born 30th of November 1835

Deaths

Lieutenant George Rodney Bridges of the Army of the United States died February 21st A.D. 1816 in the 22nd year of his age: he was shot dead near Fort Montgomery Mississippi Territory by a deserter whom he attempted to apprehend
Mrs. Martha Bridges consort of Horace D Bridges died on 28th of September 1823
Horace Hampton Bridges son of Nicholas R and Emma P Bridges died October third A.D. 1831
Preston Johnston Bridges son of Nicholas R and Emma P Bridges died September 30th A.D. 1835
Mr. Joseph Bridges Esquire died March 22, 1837
Mrs. Frances Bridges consort of Joseph Bridges Esquire died May 3rd, 1841

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 17 months service as a private, Sergeant & Lieutenant in Virginia and North Carolina.]