

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hilary Brinson W5231

Elizabeth fn38NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/5/10

[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 Duplin County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions February Term A.D. 1833

On this 26th day of February personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of said County – now sitting Hilary Brinson a resident of said County & State aged seventy-five 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, 1832.

This applicant states, on oath that he was living in Onslow County at the beginning of the Revolution & that he first volunteered in the militia in that County under the command of John Boston Captain. He thinks he served under Captain Boston three months it being the time for which he volunteered. Thinks Solomon Ward was Lieutenant of the Company. We marched to Wilmington & when our time was out we returned home. And [we had] no fight this tour. This was early in the war. About three months after my return home I was drafted for three months under the command of Captain Ephraim Battle & we went to Lockhart's Folly & Brunswick. We did not remain here long & went then to Wilmington. At Lockhart's Folly Captain Ephraim Battle was wounded in the wrist & the back. This was done by mistake by some of our own men. Colonel Lennard [sic, Leonard?] was supposed to be the man who shot him. Two more of our men to wit: Paul Tucker & Joseph Shepard were wounded. When our time was out we returned home. This applicant turned out the 3rd time under the command of Captain O'Neil & we went with him to join General Lincoln at Pureysburg [sic, Purrysburg] on Savannah River. On this trip we were out nearly a year. Before going to Purrysburg we went to Roanoke River to join troops from the North, they not being arrived we stayed there nearly three weeks when they came. After staying there two days, Colonel Armstrong a Continental officer, marched us to Purrysburg. Part of our troops went home on furlough being the Northern troops [indecipherable word]. After staying some time at Purrysburg we went to Stono where we had a fierce battle with the enemy who were entrenched in forts. We did not succeed in taking the forts, but the enemy debarked that night & descended sixty miles down the River. One hundred eighty-four of our men were killed. General Lincoln commanded at this fight. Colonels Armstrong & Archibald Lytle were also in command. Shortly after this we were discharged, & returned home having received a printed discharge from Colonel Lytle. My discharge was afterwards sent to

Raleigh by Colonel Joseph Rhodes. We were never called on after this, it being nearly the close of the war. During the time we were in this last campaign while at Kinston in North Carolina, on our route to Halifax before going to the South, we stayed a night or 2 near General Caswell's & had a frolic. Colonel Cray was at [indecipherable word]ton at the time. We had during our various services several skirmishes, but no regular flight except at Stono. This applicant is positive as to having served fifteen months but thanks longer.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ James Taylor

S/ Hilary Brinson, X his mark

[John Bostick & John Davis gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. In Onslow County North Carolina in April 1758

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. It is now in an old Bible at my brother's in Onslow

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. I lived in Onslow when called into service – have lived in Duplin nearly 50 years & now live in Duplin County North Carolina

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans. I turned out the first time – was drafted the second time – & turned out the third – was never a substitute.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. Colonel Armstrong – Pink Eaton, Colonel Lytle or Captain Lytle – knows nothing of the names of the Regiments – our service was confined in the two first tours to North Carolina & in the third we went to Georgia. We were at Briar Creek a short time during our march encamped 8 while at Sheldron's Hill, & were discharged at Moncks Corner said to be about 23 miles this side of Charleston.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. Yes. I received one from Archibald Lytle & it is now at Raleigh, being sent there by Colonel Joseph Thomas Rhodes

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. Matthew Brinson, Stephen Brown, John Fountain, Joab Fountain, John Bostick, Martin Manning, Ned Hunter

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ James Taylor

S/ Hilary Brinson, X his mark

[fn p. 25]

State of North Carolina Duplin County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace of the said County

and State, Hillary Brinson, who being duly sworn, deposeth & saith, that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his service; but, according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades – viz.

1st He volunteered three months under Captain John Boston – in Onslow County as a private – Solomon Ward was our Lieutenant this was in 1777 according to the best of his recollection – state about the Fort on New River in that County during these 3 months.

2nd I was drafted the 2nd time for 3 months and served under Captain Ephraim Battle still living in Onslow, 3 months, only having intervened between the expiration of the 1st term of service and the commencement of the 2nd thinks it was done in 1777, Begs to referred to his declaration for the incidents which occurred in this tour – thinks Colonel Ward commanded in this expedition – served still as a private.

3rd This was our last campaign – I volunteered in Onslow under Captain O'Neil, & marched as stated in the declaration – This campaign the applicant thinks was fully one year as well as his recollection enables him, but thinks can safely qualify to 10 months service – it was in the year 1779 –

It was a short time after the battle at Stono that we got our discharges & returned home – My discharge was disposed of as stated in my declaration.

4th with respect to living witnesses, he knows of no one to whom he can at this present [time] apply

S/ Hilary Brinson, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed the day aforesaid

S/ James Taylor

[fn p. 5: on October 18, 1841 in Duplin County North Carolina, Elizabeth Brinson, 82 years old on the 15th instant, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Hilary Brinson; that she married him August 15, 1782; that her husband died February 27, 1834.]

[fn p. 12: family record (summarized below)]

[facts in file: veteran married Elizabeth, the daughter of Moses Barfield and Piety his wife; Elizabeth was born on October 15, 1759 [there is also a statement that her birthday was October 30, 1759]; the widow is also referred to as "Betty"; the veteran and his wife had the following children:

Lot Brinson born February 15, 1782

Sarah born September 6, 1783

John born February 10, 1785

Matthew born June 22, 1786

Ann born January 29, 1788

Moses born November 10, 1789

Hilary born May 5, 1791

Elizabeth born January 30, 1793

Martin born may 25, 1795

Kissiah born November 14, 1797

Marry born May 6, 1799

Isaac born January 16, 1801

in addition, there is a record in the file that a person named Maryann Brown, daughter of Milly Brown, was born November 16, 1797.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 15 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]