

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Daniel Brown W5907

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia }
County of Culpeper } SS

On this 14th day of August 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the justices of the Court of Culpeper County, now sitting Daniel Brown a resident in said County and State, aged Eighty three years, on the first of last December, who being first duly sworn, according to Law, doth on his oath making the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832 that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service in the latter part of the winter 1777 as a volunteer private in the company commanded by Captain Harrard [sic: William Harrod] attached to the Battallion of under command of Major George Rogers Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark], which Battallion was engaged in service in that part of Virginia which is now called Kentucky. That he was stationed in the fort at Harrardsburg [sic: Harrodsburg], until October of that year, when he was discharged and returned to East Virginia Culpeper County where he was born, and where he still resides. That the above tour rated at 8 months or thereabouts. That during the time he was in the above service, the fort was attacked by the Indians supposed to be about Eighty strong, whilst the efficient fire in the fort did not exceed Fifty including old men and boys, in this attack the fort lost one man an Ensign, the loss of the Indians not ascertained. That on another occasion, whilst he was centinel on the top of a House he discovered several Indians creeping under a fence a few hundred yards from the fort, evidently watching for those who might leave. He communicated this discovery to Major Clarke, who taking Captains Harrard and Todd , with about twenty five men including him the declarant and getting round them, killed four of their number, and from the signs wounded others.

That on another occasion he with others went out of the fort with Major Clarke on a tour of Observation, He with six others being sent on an advance fell in with an ambuscade of Indians, who instantly fled. – One man was shot through (though he recovered Squire Boon [sic: Squire Boone, pension application W8372] Brother of Daniel) his gun received a ball near his hand, which broke the stock, and slightly injured his arm, after the first fire, Major Clarke's Party settling up the yell the Indians fled without doing more damage, and the party returned to the fort. That other incidents of less moment occurred during said service which it would be tedious to enumerate, making in all a very active and dangerous service

That he was not again in service untill the winter of 1781 when he was drafted in the militia and marched to the iron works near Falmouth in Stafford County [probably Hunter's Forge]. That he recollects being commanded by Col William Thornton and Colonel James Barbour alternately, but does not recollect the Company Officers this service continued about three weeks, when he was discharged and returned to Culpeper. That in the April or May following the above he was drafted and marched to within 18 or 20 Miles of Richmond, when meeting the Marquis [Marquis de Lafayette] in retreat before Cornwallis, he with the Company he was attached to returned with the Marquis up to Culpeper, soon after which he was marched, still under the Marquis through various Counties in Virginia finally to Malvin's Hills [sic: Malvern Hill] below Richmond, where he was discharged; making in this term upwards of two months. that during this tour, he acted the whole time as Quarter Master Sergeant, the tour ending about the last of July.

That during the same year 1781 in the month of August or September, he was again drafted as a private in the Company commanded Captain Francis Covington and marched to the Army under General

[Edward] Stevens then near Williamsburg, and soon after marched to York, where he continued during the siege [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and witnessed the scene of that memorable occasion. That he afterwards marched in charge of part of the prisoners four Miles above Winchester, where he was discharged and was not again in the service.

That he has no testimony here to prove the service in Harrardsburg fort; but can prove the other service by Reuben Rossen, William Brown [pension application S35788] and George Corbin [W1237]

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State. Daniel Brown [Reuben Rossen stated that he had served with Daniel Brown in May 1781 and at the Siege of Yorktown, William Brown stated that he had served with Daniel Brown in May 1781, and George Corbin stated that he had served with Daniel Brown at the Siege of Yorktown.]

And the Court then proceeded to propound the following interrogatories, to the applicant he being under oath and which he answers as is hereinafter recorded Viz:

Question 1st Where and in what year were you born

Answer In the County of Culpeper Virginia on the first day of December 1748,

Question Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it

Ans'r. I Have none but family information – I remember Braddock's Defeat [9 Jul 1755]

Question Where you living when you were called into service Where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live.

Ans'r. I was in Western Virginia now Kentuckey when I entered the service at Harrardsburg fort after I was discharged there I returned to Culpeper where I was during the rest of the war – I have ever since the war lived in Culpeper and now do.

Quest. How were you called into service, were you drafted did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom?

Ans'r. I volunteered in the service at Harrardsburg and was drafted in other service, as stated in my Declaration

Quest State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and Militia Regiment as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service

Ans'r I state in my Declaration the names of Major Clarke Captains Harrard & Todd in Harrardsburg fort and the names of other Officers in other Office besides these I saw at different times General Washington Brig. General Stevens, [Gen. Anthony] Wayne &c &c I often saw the enemy as well as officers of distinction in our own Army. I have stated many circumstances of my service in my Declaration.

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

Anser. I never did receive a discharge in writing – I was discharged with the Regiment, Battallion or Company – from Harrardsburg I returned with Major Clark who offered me a Commission

Question Did you ever receive a Commission, and if so by whom was it signed, and what has become of it?

Ansr. I never had a Commission, I was appointed Quarter Master Sergeant under Colonel Thornton

Question State the names of Persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Answer I acted for many years as a Magistrate in the County and was twenty eight years a Commissioner of the Revenue, and for two years High Sheriff and am consequently known

almost to every man in the County – I would flatter myself that the Court for their satisfaction would not need to enquire on the subject – I prove part of my service by Reuben Rossen, William Brown and George Corbin – My service in West Virginia I have in evidence direct to prove, I refer to Captain William Lewis for traditionary evidence.

State of Virginia }
Culpeper County SS }

On this 18th day of September 1832 personally appears before the County Court of Culpeper now sitting Daniel Brown of said County and State aged Eighty three years on the first of last December, who being first duly sworne, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration (in addition to one made by him on the 14th day of August last and ordered to be certified) in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832. That in the declaration filed on the 14th Ult he omitted to state service which he had rendered in 1775 and 76 under the impression that he was not entitled to pay for that period and begs leave now to introduce it.

That in April 1775 he, being then living in Pittsburg volunteered to remove and guard the inhabitants around into the fort at the time the Indians were beginning to murder them That after they got in he continued to guard the fort, then fort Pitt for twelve months That he volunteered under Captain Christie [possibly William Christian] and Major Conally [sic: John Connolly] – That Captain Ashtord or Ashton was then officer & Samuel Everett, Jacob Bergman, Simon Girty [see endnote] and others, were subalterns. That there was no fighting at the fort, but the service was constant and Regular for the period above stated. During part of the time 11 Indians were in the fort as prisoners to be guarded, and the utmost vigilance was necessary to prevent their rescue, which was constantly expected. They the Indians, remained untill the treaty was made by which they were liberated, they were of the [blank] and [blank] tribes
Daniel Brown

NOTES:

Simon Girty, who had been kidnapped and raised by Senecas, later led Indian attacks upon Americans.

Three testimonials refer to Daniel Brown as “Captain.”

On 18 Feb 1837 Elizabeth Brown, 73, applied for a pension stating that she was married by Parson Harrison to Daniel Brown on 25 Dec 1779 when she was 15, that he was drafted into service three time after the marriage, and that he died on 14 July 1833. A document in the file states that her maiden name was Elizabeth Hill. The date of marriage was certified by Thomas C. Brown and Thomas I. Griffin by examination of the family record. Elizabeth Brown died on 2 Jan 1838, and the pension for which she had applied was given to her surviving children. A letter dated 17 May 1838 states that she was survived by “5 children living and the heirs of one other who died several years ago.”