

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Bradley W70

Dolley

fn51NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/28/10 rev'd 11/30/10

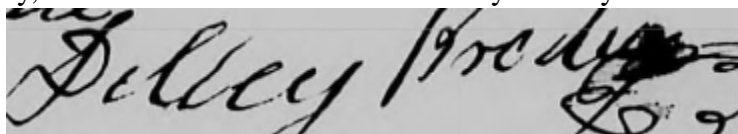
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and 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.]

[fn p. 6]

State of Tennessee Smith County: On this 16th day of October 1838 personally appeared before me Samuel W. McMurray one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid Dolley Bradley a resident of Smith County and State aforesaid aged seventy 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 7th 1838 entitled an act granting half pay and Pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of James Bradley who was a Private in the militia – in the War of the revolution and served in different tours for the space of twelve months – but as these services were performed before this applicant became acquainted with her husband she cannot specify the different tours of service at this time and will rely upon the proof of living witness who has had a personally [sic, personal] knowledge of the facts. She further declares that she was married to the said James Bradley on the 24th of September 1788. That her husband the said James Bradley died on 14th of February 1830. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the 1st day of January 1794 viz. at the time above stated.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written before  
S/ Samuel W. McMurray, JP

S/ Dolley Bradley

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dolley Bradley". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name "Dolley" is written in a larger, more prominent hand than "Bradley". There are some additional scribbles and a date "1838" visible at the end of the signature.

[fn p. 9: family record]

James Bradley was born March 19th A.D. 1763

Dolley Bradley was born June 14th A.D. 1768

Charles Bradley son of James & Dolley Bradley was born June 25th A.D. 1789

Judith Bradley daughter of James & Dolley Bradley was born March 8th A.D. 1802

Edmund Sanders Bradley was born June 1st A.D. [paper torn & date missing]

James Bradley & Dolley Burton was married 25th September 1788

[fn p. 19]

State of Tennessee Davidson County: On this day personally appeared William Matlock<sup>1</sup> a resident of the said County and State aforesaid aged seventy-six and some months upwards before me one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for said County and made oath in due form of law that he was well acquainted with James Bradley who married Dolly Burton in Caswell County North Carolina. This affiant recollects that said James Bradley was in service of the United States in the War of the Revolution and served a tour of 3 months under Captain Adam Saunders during the Siege and capture of Charleston. The reason that Bradley was not taken as a Prisoner was that Captain Saunders and James Bradley and some others of the company were ordered out on a scouting party and before they returned this affiant was taken up with the rest at the surrender of the City. James Bradley served out his three months service and this affiant was paroled and returned home to his father's in Caswell County. This affiant believes that said Bradley was out several other tours of service during the War of the Revolution but cannot state particulars as he was not out with him. He believes that he was out when the battle of Guilford was fought; affiant's father was in that battle he wanted to go in his place of his father would not let him as he was under parole. His father stated that Bradley was close by at the fence which was the place where the militia was posted. This affiant cannot state who was Captain under which Bradley served this tour nor the length of time he served nor how often he did serve all he knows for certain is the 1st tour but he has no doubt but he served several tours from the best information.

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 27th day of March 1839  
S/ E H. East, JP S/ William Matlock, X his mark

[fn p. 3]

State of Tennessee Smith County

On this day personally appeared Ann Haynie a resident of said County aged eighty-six years who being duly sworn deposes and says that her Brother James Bradley the husband of Dolley Bradley who has lately applied for a pension was in the service in the war of the Revolution and served a tour of either three or six months at the time the battle of Guilford was fought. She lived at that time on a part of the land her father gave her on her marriage day about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile from her father. Her Brother was not then married. They thought her Brother had been killed in Guilford Battle as they could hear nothing about him until sometime after when they heard from General Greene's Army that he was alive and well. He served to the end of his engagement and was regularly discharged, as to the three months tour he served at Charleston she cannot state more than from hearsay and as to the three months as a volunteer after the Tories she cannot state as to that was only from hearsay.

This affiant believes he served the three months and the three months after the tour in which he was in the battle of Guilford in all nine months but she has a personal knowledge only of the he served when the battle of Guilford was fought and that time she saw him when he started and when he returned but she has no doubt but he served the other two tours of three months each which taken together with the one she is known to and of which he has a personal knowledge would make all the military services of her Brother in the war of the Revolution at least nine months.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th September 1840  
S/ Shelly C. Beasley, JP S/ Ann Haynie, X her mark

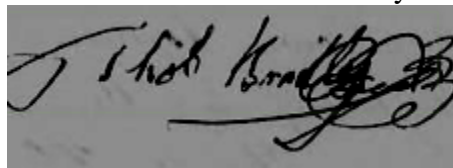
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<sup>1</sup> I cannot find any record of this veteran having filed for a pension in his own right. This may be the only record of his and his father's service in the revolution.

[fn p. 36]

State of Tennessee Williamson County: On this day personally appeared Thomas Bradley before me Colten McDaniel aged about seventy-two years who being duly sworn according to law makes oath that his Brother James Bradley was in the War the revolution, and served the following tours of service. His first tour of service was under Captain Adam Saunders cannot state whether it was for 3 or 6 months but believes it was 3. It was at the time the siege of Charlestown took place and he was not taken under the following circumstances. Just before the surrender of Charlestown Captain Saunders volunteered on a scouting party and this affiant's brother James Bradley went under him and so when Charlestown was taken were not included in the surrender. He served this tour and returned home. After his return some time they were all inoculated with the small pox and as soon as his Brother was well enough to entered the service and this affiant was then about 12 ~~fifteen~~ years of age and his father sent him with some Negroes over Hawtown [sic ? Haw?] River to keep them out of the way of the British they were then the British marching upon Caswell County the place where affiant's father lived during this time the British passed up to the red house and down towards Guilford, this affiant took a horse of his uncle and rode home and a short time the battle of Guilford took place this affiant heard the guns. His brother was there and they were afraid he had been killed. They did not hear of his being alive until about a week afterwards he returned but this affiant believes it was only to see them as he joined his company again but this affiant went back to Virginia and cannot state who it was that was his Captain owing to his absence from the neighborhood until after his Brother returned home nor can this affiant state whether his brother served a 3 or a 6 months tour but it was customary at that Period of the war to serve 6 months tours all that this affiant cannot say that he was in the service at that time and continued out the Period that he engaged for & believes it was 6 months. The last tour of service was under Colonel Dudley it was for 3 months they were mounted man were marched toward Fayetteville this affiant cannot say what was the name of the Captain under whom he went but he recollects the service and particularly that he served a 3 months tour. This affiant has a personal knowledge of his brother James Bradley and Dolley Burton's marriage, his present widow, he was present and saw them married; they were married in \_\_ County North Carolina on \_\_day of September in 1788 but as the family record is not before him he cannot say particularly but it was previous to the 1st January 1794. Sworn to and subscribed before made this 25th day of March 1839.

The above erasures made before signed S/ Thos. Bradley

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Thos. Bradley", written over a grey rectangular background.

S/ C. McDaniel, JP

State of Tennessee Smith County: November term of the County Court for Smith County 1852

On this 6th day of December in the year 1852 personally appeared in open court being a court of record E. S. Bradley son and heir at law of James & Dolly Bradley aged \_\_ years a resident of the County of Smith and State of Tennessee who being first duly sworn according to law next the following declaration in order to obtain for himself and the rest of the heirs of the said James and Dolly Bradley the benefits of the Acts of Congress of the 7th of July 1838 Act of March 3rd 1843 Act of June 17th 1844 and Joint Resolution of August 16th 1842 Act of January 2nd 1848

That he is and the rest of his brothers and sisters whose names are hereafter mentioned all

the lawful heirs and legal representatives of the said Dolly Bradley who was a Pensioner of the United States under the act of 7th of July 1838 Andrew her pension at Nashville see. Declarant states that his mother the said Dolly Bradley was married to his father the said James Bradley several years after the War of the Revolution and at the time she made her Declaration as he fully believes did not know or recollect the amount of his father's services in the War of the Revolution. Declarant further states that he is informed and believes at the time she made her Declaration the pension laws was but very little understood in Tennessee; nor were the records of the services of the soldiers who served in North Carolina in the War of the revolution related to or ever known to Pensioners or their agents or attorneys; and under this state of ignorance and want of information at a distance from the records or even a knowledge of their existence Pensions were granted upon traditionary evidence in perfectly described and never alleged, asserted or set forth with certainty so as to do justice to claimants. That owing to the imperfect memory of his mother and the witnesses but a small pension was claimed or asked for and that great injustice was done her. Declarant states that since her death he has been informed and believes that the records of North Carolina shows services of his father in the war of the Revolution which would entitle his mother in her lifetime to a very high rate of pension and that having survived the act of July 7th 1838 and other acts afterwards passed by Congress for children acquired a right to whatever rate of pension that should have been allowed and paid to her during her life from the 4th day of July 1836 to the day of her death. Declarant further states that his father the said James Bradley often in his lifetime used to tell about his revolutionary service and that he well recollects many of his conversations and from these conversations and what he believes the records will show his father James Bradley served in the war of the Revolution as private, Lieutenant & Captain. Declarant cannot state the length of services and each capacity or grade of service only from information which he believes to be true. Declarant expects to show from the records the full amount of his service and relies on the proof of such records and those of living witnesses to support his claim. Declarant thinks two years service as Captain and Lieutenant would not be too much to allege in this declaration.

Declarant prays that the whole case be taken up by the Commissioner of Pensions as well the original papers of his mother as the records hereafter to be furnished from the Comptrollers office in North Carolina and such pension allowed and granted as to justice and equity belong. Declarant further states that his mother the said Dolly Bradley departed this life on the 6th day of December 1852. That she left the following named children as her legal heirs and representatives to wit

S/ Edmund S. Bradley

[fn p. 29: a certificate dated July 21st 1854 from the North Carolina Comptroller General indicating that a man by the name of James Bradley received pay during the revolution for 2 1/2 months as a Lieutenant; a half months as Captain, both in 1777 as well as 7 months and 10 days & 12 months as a supernumerary in 1778.]

[The following additional family information is found in typed letters contained in this file. I could not find the documents on which this information was obtained by the authors of those letters:

children of the veteran and his widow in addition to those named in the family record transcribed above

Robert Bradley

Nancy Bradley  
William Bradley  
Hugh H. Bradley  
Sally Bradley]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836, for her husband's 6 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]