

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Henry Brown W8380

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky }

Mercer County SS }

On this the 1st day of May 1839 Personally appeared before me Peter Jordan a Justice of the peace for the County of Mercer and State aforesaid Francis [sic] Brown a resident of Mercer County and State of Kentucky aged about Eighty 80 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 7 1838 entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of Henry Brown who enlisted as a private soldier in Essex Count Virginia for the term of three years under Captain Thomas Howard as called in the State of Virginia but called Hord [sic: Thomas Hoard] in the State of Kentucky and as the declarant has always understood from her deceased Husband the said Henry Brown faithfully served out his term of enlistment for three years, during the time the said Henry Brown was in the Battle of Germantown [4 Oct 1777] and received in said Battle a severe wound from an ounce ball lodging in his jaw and had to be taken to the Hosptal at Elizabeth Town where he lay for some time before he was again fit for service in fact the ball was not extracted for the term of Eight years four months and eight days after its enlodgement frequently causing great pain before and after it was extracted it having left a running scar which would frequently raise brake and run the declarant is fully of the opinion the wound was the cause of his death. what other battles her Husband may have been in she does not now recollect but of the service of her Husband for the three years she has no doubt for she had his discharge in her possession from the time of his death untill the year Eighteen hundred and Seventeen at which time her husbands Brother Charles Brown [pension application S35797] got the discharge and as she understood gave it to a man by the name of Sawyer for the purpose of procuring the land which was due for the services of the said Henry Brown But what has become of the discharge or land the declarant does not know. She further declares that she believes her husband enlisted in the fall of Seventeen hundred and Seventy Six and she thinks he belonged to the 10th Virginia regiment, but of this she would not speak positive. She further declares that she was married to the said Henry Brown in Essex County in the State of Virginia in the year Seventeen hundred and Eighty or eighty one (1780 or 81) That her husband the aforesaid Henry Brown died in the year Seventeen Hundred and Ninty Eight. That she was not married to him Prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January Seventeen hundred and ninty four Viz at the time above stated She further declares she knows of no record of her marriage

Frances herXmark Brown

The deposition of Charles Brown aged eighty six, taken at his own house in the county of Mercer, on the 16th day of October 1838, who being first duly sworn according to law on oath states that his deceased brother Henry Brown enlisted as a private in the fall of 1776 for the term of three years in the state line of Virginia, under Capt. Thomas Howard or Hoard – that as such said Henry Brown faithfully served until the battle of Germantown in October 1777 in which battle said Henry was wounded by a partially spent ball in the jaw, from the bones of which the ball was not extracted until more than twelve months after the wound. This wound continued to afflict his brother more or less till his death, rising, breaking and running freely when he would take cold, and giving him great pain – indeed it was believed generally, and so witness thinks, that said wound hastened his death, for at the time of his death it was a running sore – until the reception of the wound by his brother he belonged to the 10th Virginia regiment, he thinks under the command of Col [Edward] Stevens; after the said battle, both he and his brother being wounded in it, and belonging to different regiments, his brother being about to be sent to the hospitale at

Elizabeth town, deponent being not so badly wounded as his brother, prevailed upon the Colonel, and got him transferred to the same hospitle to which he himself was sent, to wit at Redding [sic: Reading PA]. His brother remained at the hospitle until about the first of the next spring, when he joined his regiment, he thinks at Valley Forge; but the wound still afflicting his brother he was permitted to return home to Essex county Virginia on furlough, where he remained some time before he joined the army again; nor can witness now recollect at what time his brother again returned to the army from his said visit home, on furlough; but he knows that his brother served faithfully during his term of enlistment and was honorably discharged, for deponent, after the death of his brother, had his discharge, and gave it up to a man by the name of Sawyer in 1817 or 18 to secure the land to which his brother was entitled, and he has no doubt it is now on file in the proper office. He recollects distinctly that about the time Sawyer got said discharge, the hand writing of Thomas Howard or Hoard, his brother's Capt. was proven by Major William Hoard, his nephew no residing in Louisville Kentucky. His brother was in several skirmishes during his term of service, but the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] and Germantown were the only serious engagements that he recollects him to have been in. He knows that his brother attracted the particular attention of his col in the battle of Brandywine by bearing off a wounded soldier at great peril to himself, which caused the Colonel to send for him to come to his markee, & then told him he should have a commission, but deponent does not now recollect whether he got one or not. His said brother Henry moved from Virginia to Mercer County Ky in the fall of 1794, and died some three or four years afterwards; but he cannot now recollect whether it was in 1797 or 98. His brother Henry and Frances Brown, his surviving widow, who now lives in the lower part of this county, were married as he now thinks in the year 1780, but he will not speak positively as to the time, though he knows he himself was married in 1784, and his brother, he recollects, at the time of his own marriage had two children. He was not present at the marriage of his said brother, but was in the same county, and he is satisfied that from about the year 1780 till his said brother Henry's death, that he and said Frances lived together as man and wife, and were universally recognized as such, without any question having been made as to the legality of their marriage; and he has no doubt they were lawfully married, though he did not witness it. Sworn and subscribed to before James Taylor Esqr a justice of the peace for the county of Mercer and state of Kentucky the day and year first above written. [signed] Charles Brown

The deposition of Mrs Sally Graves of Mercer County Ky taken this 13th day of June 1839 to be used as evidence in favour of the application of Mrs Frances Brown widow of Henry Brown dec'd for a pension under an Act passed by Congress the 7 July 1838
Deponent being Seventy Six years old Deposeth and Saith that she is the Sister of the aforesaid Henry Brown Dec'd and well recollects when her Brother Henry Brown enlisted in the revolutionary War she knows her Brother at that time was bound as an apprentice to learn the Carpenters trade and his term of service had not expired but after his enlistment his master could not get him back. The said Henry Brown enlisted in the County of Essex in the State of Virginia for the term of three years under Captain Thomas Hord but what regiment the said Henry Brown served in the deponent does not now recollect. But she well recollects that the said Henry Browns Mother was much dissatisfied at the said Henry leaving his trade and enlisting and she well recollect that the said Henry Brown faithfully served out his term of three years & was honourably discharged Deponent recollects the said Henry got wounded while serving in the army and returned home for a short time on furlough untill his wound untill his wound got so as he could perform Military service again, and so soon as he got fit for service which was not verry long he returned to the army again, the deponent thinks the enlistment of the said Henry Brown took place in the fall of Seventeen hundred and Seventy Six and that his term of service expired in the fall of Seventeen hundred and Eighty nine [sic] and that not more than twelve or eighteen months at farthest the said Henry Brown was married in said County of Essex and State of Va to the aforesaid Frances Brown, this marriage must have taken place some time in the year Seventeen hundred and Eighty or in

the fore part of the year Seventeen hundred and Eighty one the deponent does not now recollect whether she was an eye witness of the marriage or not But she perfectly well recollects of being at her the deponents Fathers house at the infair [affair?] on the following day after the marriage But the deponents Father was absent at the time of the infair being out in the army fighting the battles of his Country for the war had not closed at the time of the marriage of the said Henry Brown and the said Frances Brown, The said Henry & Frances oldest Child Polly if now living thinks would be about fifty seven or eight years old the next oldest Betsy if living is now fifty six years old the next oldest John and if living is now about fifty four years and so on down with rest of their Children, say three Others, in number And further saith not

Sally herXmark Graves

[On the same day a similar statement was made by another sister of Henry Brown, Margaret Daniel. There was also a deposition by Benjamin Daniel.]

[The following is from the [bounty-land claims](#) in the Library of Virginia:]

State of Kentucky } Sct
Mercer County }

I Frances Brown heir at Law of my late husband Henry Brown Dec'd do upon Oath testify and declare that I am upwards of sixty seven years of age, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, that Henry Brown my late Husband Dec'd. as afs'd did enter the service of the United States in the Spring of the year 1777 For the Term of three years as an enlisted Regular soldier from the County of Essex in the State of Virginia and joined the 10th Regiment of Infantry belonging to said state, and that he continued in the service of s'd. Regt for a little upwards three years during which time he was in the Battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], Brandywine, and Germantown in the last of which he was wounded in the cheek under the right eye by a musket shot with an ounce ball which remained in his cheek for upwards of four years. he was honorably discharged by Col. Freebecker [sic: Christian Febiger] after having served three years and upwards in the Va line – I further declare that I have never received a warrant for the bounty land promised to him in right of his services from this [one or more lines missing at bottom of page] whatsoever therefore. Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of September AD 1833

[signed] Frances Brown

[Charles Brown also stated that Henry Brown served at the Battle of Monmouth.]

NOTE: On 1 May 1839 Esther Morgan, 46, daughter of Frances Brown, stated that her mother's name before marriage was Frances Gipson.