Pension Application of William Ambrose Brown R1330
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky }
Mercer County } SS
on this 24th Day of December 1839 personally appeared before me Armsted Downing a Justice of the peace in & for the County afsd Mary Grigsby Brown a resident of the County & State afsd & being first duly sworn makes the following statement or declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of the 4th day of July 1836 & the several acts amendatory thereto upon the subject of the wright of Widows to pentions on account of services rendered by there deceased husbands in the war of the revolution She states she is 73 years of age that she is the widow of William A Brown (alias) William Armbroes Brown whoo was a private soldier in the Ware of the Revolution She states that his late husband William A Brown served in the war of the revolution three towers of duty of six months each eighteen months in all one tour under Capt Fields one tour under Capt Hill [probably Henry Hill] & one tour under Capt Henry Toles [sic: Henry Towles] she states that at the time of the war his husband afsd lived in Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County State of Virginia & entered the service from that County She does not now when he entered the service or at what period he left it. She thinks his husbands afsd Colonel was Jameson [probably Jameson] She states she frequently heard his husband speak of being in the battle of the Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] & at York town [Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. She states she is very infirm & she can not speak with precision as to the time of her marriage She makes reference to the records of Stafford County State of Virginia. She states she lived in that County at the time of his marriage & that his maiden name was Mary Grigsby Travice & that the records of Stafford County & state afsd will show the precise time of his marriage. She states she had in her possession a long time the certificate of her marriage but has lost it. She thinks she was married in 1786 by Parson Burkin a Scotchman. She states his husband died the 23rd day of August 1833 & that she has remained a widow ever since & is still a widow. She states she is very infirm & unable to attend Court Sworn & subscribed this day & date above written Mary Grygsby hisXmark Brown

The Deposition of Reuben Walls [pension application S37500] of Nicholas County State of Kentucky taken on the 15th day of January 1839 who states that he is 85 years of age hee states that he was born & raised in the County of Culpepper in the State of Virginia & lived in the County afsd during the war of the Revolution. He states that he served in the army during the war he states he was well acquainted with William A Brown of the County & State afsd & remembers of seeing him in the army he recollects of seeing him at the Siege of York he well remembers a circumstance that happened to Brown there was a waggoner by the name of Abraham Aylor who went into Browns tent & picked up Browns musket & shee went off there was a file of men sent to serch the muskets & Browns was found to bee emty & hee was sentenced to receive stripes when Brown told how it happened hee was released hee states he is not able to say how long Brown served in the army but remembers well his being at the siege of York & thinks hee was a private in Capt Henry Toles company hee states that on account of bodily infirmity he is unable to attend Court Reuben hisXmark Walls

NOTES:
On 14 Feb 1840, William Lewis (pension application S8827) stated that his wife was a near relative of William Ambrose Brown.
The file includes a copy of the following marriage record from Stafford County.
Dec’r. 16th 1787 (December the sixteenth seventeen hundred & eighty seven – Wm. Ambrose Brown late of
Culpeper County to Mary Grigsby Traverse of Overwharton Parish.

On 18 April 1853 Ambrose Brown, aged 58 on 29 Jan 1853, assigned power of attorney to obtain any benefits, stating that his father, William Ambrose Brown, died on 23 Aug 1832, and his mother, Mary G. Brown, died about 15 Nov 1841. He stated that he was the oldest living son and the fourth child, and that he knew of only four children besides himself who were still living: Margaret James, about 65, the oldest child; Ellender Barnet, in her 60th year; Lusinda Lake, about 53; and John T. Brown, about 46.

The file contains a statement dated 21 Feb 1840 allegedly by Phebe Brown, 85, of Culpeper County, stating that she remembered when her brother, William Ambrose Brown, turned 16 and was mustered into the militia and “returned one day from muster & told his mother hee had drawn a prize & was going in to the army & his mother was verry much disturped.” There is another statement said to be by another sister, Elizabeth Popham, 71. Both stated that their brother married Mary Grigsby Traverse around 1786, and they recalled that he served a second tour and served once as a substitute for Horton Kennedy, for which he received cattle. One Armistead Brown certified the character of the two sisters. The same two women, however, stated in support of the pension application of Lucy Brown (W5879) that they were sisters of the William Brown who married Lucy Campbell in 1786.