Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jacob Roberts Brown BLWt2389-200 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of South Carolina Laurens District.

I Caroline Matilda Golding, youngest daughter, and one of the heirs of Lieut Jacob R. Brown of the Virginia line, in the Revolutionary army, and the wife of Dr. Anthony F. Golding of Laurens District and state aforesaid do upon oath testify, and declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, that my late father Lieutenant Jacob R. Brown was a soldier in the Revolutionary army in the Virginia line, that he entered the army, as I believe at the beginning of the war and continued to its close. I am unable from the lapse of time, and the destruction of many of my father's papers to state the precise time, at which he entered the service, or the No of the Regiment or the name of the Colonel, under whom he served, or the rank in which he commenced his service, though I have always understood and believed, that he was a Lieutenant at the close of the war. All the facts necessary to shew his service will I have no doubt fully appear by reference to the records in the War Department. For I believe that the files of the War Department, will shew his services in the Virginia Line, as a soldier and an officer from the time he commenced service, in probably Amherst County, Virginia, (as I believe he was a native of that county to the close of the war. I have understood, that when Gen'r'l LaFayette visited South Carolina, in the year 1825, my late brother Col. John G. Brown was introduced to him, as the son of Lieut Jacob R. Brown, and the Gen'r'l recollected Lieut Brown, and stated he was the one who first came to his aid and assisted in dressing his (Genrl La Fayette's) wound received in the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777]. In that same battle, I have always understood my father was badly wounded and carried the scars to his grave. My father was entitled to land in the State of Ohio, given to him by the State of Virginia for his military services, which land he sold to Abijah O'Neall - all of which facts will I believe appear on reference to the records in the Land office of the United States.

I further declare, that neither I nor any of the heirs of Lieut Jacob R. Brown ever received a warrant for the bounty land promised to him on the part of the United States: nor do I believe, that he ever received it or transferred his claim to it in any manner whatsoever; [power of attorney follows]

[The following is a certified copy from the Virginia Land Office.]

Council Chamber. May 23rd '83

I do certify that Lieutenant Jacob Brown is entitled to the proportion of land allowed a Lieutenant of Virginia Continental line for seven years service.

Benjamin Harrison

Thos. Meriwether

A Warrant for 3110% acres issued to Jacob Brown May 23rd '83.

[The following two papers are from the records of bounty land warrants in the Library of Virginia misfiled under the name "Brown, J. A." The error apparently resulted from reading the R as an A in the name on the discharge below:]

Winchester Barracks March 4th 1783

I do hereby Certify that Lieut. J. R. Brown entered the Service as a Sergeant in the Ninth Virg'a. Reg't. the 7th of February 1776 – was promoted to an Ensign the 15th Sep'r 1778 [several illegible words] Lieut [several illegible words] service P Muhlenberg BG [Peter Muhlenberg, Brigadier General]

NOTE: A document dated 26 Feb 1846 in Newberry District SC certifies the following: "Sarah Morgan Hall, Willis Brown, and Caroline Matilda Golding are the three surviving children of Lieut Jacob R. Brown, that Rebecca Ann B is is the widow of John G. Brown a deceased son of Lieut Jacob R. Brown, who died since his father's death, that Sarah C. Goodwyn the wife of John Goodwyn Esqr, Robert C. Brown, Manning Brown and Thomas T. Brown are the surviving children of the said John G. Brown, that Matilda Brown is the widow, and John the only child of John T. Brown, deceased son of the said John G. Brown, who died since the death of the said John G. I am therefore satisfied that Sarah Morgan Hall, Willis Brown, Caroline Matilda Golding, Rebecca Anne Brown, Sarah C. Goodwyn, Robert C. Brown, Manning Brown, Thomas T. Brown, Matilda Brown, and John Brown are the heirs at law in fee to Jacob R. Brown who was a Lieutenant in the Regiment of the Virginia line. It appears also to my satisfaction that Lieutenant Jacob R. Brown died intestate, the 16th of August A.D. 1805 – administration, on his estate [illegible word] from this office on the 10th day of Decr A.D. 1805."

The file includes a letter of inquiry from Mrs. Carrie Colton from Spartanburg SC dated 28 June 1889 with other claims about the service of her grandfather, "Jacob Roberts Brown."