Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Braden (Brady) R1124 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } On this 13th day of November 1837 personally appeared before me Richard Andrews an acting Justice of the Peace in & for said County James Braden, a resident of the County of Anderson &

State of Tennessee aged seventy five years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed June 7 1832. He states that he was born in Augusta County in the State of Virginia on the 10th day of Feby 1763, where he lived until the year seventeen hundred & eighty; That in the year 1780 he was drafted in the County of Augusta, & was called into service in the same year; He states that Captain John Cunningham was the captain of the company in which he served; that Col. Michael Boyers [sic: William Bowyer] was the Col. of the Regiment in which he served; That he marched under these officers to Portsmouth Virginia; that he was at the battle of Portsmouth [see end note]; that Captain Cunningham was wounded in this battle; that after this action he marched under the command of the aforesaid officers home; that he had been previously discharged at Portsmouth after the battle of Portsmouth; that his discharge has been long lost; that on this tour he served three months as a militia man. He states that in the year 1781 he was drafted again as a militia man; That Francis Long was the Captain of the company in which he served; that Sampson Matthews [sic: Sampson Mathews] was the Col of the Regiment in which he served; That he marched under the command of these officers to York; that he was at the Siege of York, & at the Capture of Cornwallis in October [19th] 1781; That after the capture of Cornwallis he was discharged at York, & marched back to Staunton; that his discharge is lost. He states that he served three months on this tour as a militia man. He states that about thirty five years ago he moved from Augusta County Virginia to Washington County Tennessee, & from there moved to Knox County Tennessee about twenty years ago, & from Knox County moved into Anderson about fifteen years ago, where he has lived ever since. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present; He states that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State. He states that he has applied for a pension before, but owing to the informality of some of the declaration & the removal of his attorney who wrote it for him he did not obtain his pension. James hisXmark Braden

On this 1st day July 1839 Personally appeard before the County Court of said County James Braden a Resident of said County eighty two years of age who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Provision made by the act of Congress, passed the 7th June 1832, that he enlisted in the service of the United States on 14th day of October (as he believes) in the year 1778 [sic: see endnote] under Capt. John Lawson for three years in the the Virginia Rifle Regiment & served under the following named officers, Capt. John Lawson Lieutenant Thomas Taylor he does not now Recollect the names of the Col or Maj'r he Resided in the County of Augusta in the state of Virginia when he enlisted he Rendezvoused and Joined Genl. Morgan at Petersburg March from there with our Rifle Company to a place called Dismall Swamp or Portsmouth, there Genl Newburg or Mewling Burg [Peter Muhlenberg?] had Command staid there about three months then marched to the Cowpens in South Carolina and on the evening before the Battle at that Place with Tarlton January 1781 March to Guilford North carolina under then Col Morgan, & was at the battle at Guilford March 1781 in which battle Genl How, I think, was Taken Prisoner by the Americans. he Received two wounds at the battle at Guilford wounds was occasioned by a ball having been shot in his Right Leg and by a blow from a British Light horse man's sword on the Left hand, he was hawled from Guilford in a waggon there driven by Jacob Tukesberry [sic: Jacob Stukesberry, pension application \$39094] to the Horse Pittle at Williamsburg he lay at that Place for some Length of Time then he March after he Recovered and was at the battle and Surrender

of Cornwallis October 1781 Morgan was appointed Genl after the battle at Guilford my Capt John Lawson was shot at the battle of the Cowpens with to balls in and under the Right arm from which wound he died emedietly my Lieutenant Thomas Taylor held Command of my Company by Whom he believes he was Discharged he hereby Relinquishes evry claim to a Pension whatever or an anuity except the Present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any state

the Reason why applicant did not Present his Claim before this, applicant employd an attorny to manage his Claim and Make his declaration & some 4 or 5 years since past his said attorny so neglected him and his Claim as to cause this great detention in Presenting his Claim having now engagued another individual to attend to his Claim and discharged his former attorny &c. Claimant is old and very infirm not able to walk alone Could not see his former attorny but seldom so as to urge him to expedite his business & when he could see him he would put claimant of saying that he would attend to his Claim at some other time &c he has now discharged him and has thought proper to present his claim at this late day which he is in hopes will pass favorbly he was born in Albemarl [sic: Albemarle] County Virginia 10th February 1753 he has no Record of his age lived in augusta County Virginia when he inlisted after the war he moved to Washington County Tennessee from there to Knox County from there to Anderson County Tennessee where he now lives I Receivd a discharge from my Capt. Taylor but I cannot Tell what has become of it he cannot give the names of any other officers than those mentioned before he has no documentary evidence in support of his claim he knows of Know Person by whom he can prove any Part of his said service except Jacob Tukesberry by Whom he can prove part of his said sevic Refferance being had to said Tukesbury affidavit hereto annexed I believe that James Ross Esqr & Capt Samuel More to whom he is Personally known in his neighborhood who can testify as to his character for verasity and their belief of his services as a soldier in the Revolution There is no Clergyman Residing in his neighborhood to Testify as to his belief of his having been a soldier of the Revolution James hisXmark Braden

State of Tennessee } Personally appeard before the County Court of Anderson County Anderson County Jacob Tukesberry who after being first sworn according to Law deposeth & saith that he became acquainted with James Braden who has made and sworn to the annexed declaration in the year 1779 when they were both soldiers in the Revolution he driving waggon and said Braden bareing arms. he saw him a soldier bareing arms at a Place called brumsic[?] in South Carolina as he believes also saw him in the army aforesaid at Guilford in North Carolina hawled said braden after he was wounded at Guilford to Williamsburg in Virginia to the Horse Pittle that he knew said Braden about 18 months or upwards in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War affiant is now living in Anderson County aforesaid and knows said Braden to be the same James Braden that was in the service aforesaid and as above stated Sworn to & subscribed the 1st day of July 1839 [signed] Jacob Stukesberry

State of Tennessee }

Anderson County } SS

On this 20th day of October 1841 Personally came Andrew Breden [pension application W779] before me Richard Oliver an acting Justice of the peace for said County, and after being sworn according to Law depose and saith that he became acquainted with James Bradan about the last of June or the first of July 1780 in the County of Gilford North carolina Bradan were then bareing arms as a Regular soldier. our acquaintance were formed by James Braden hearing my name called as he said he presumed it to be a relative. he called to me and we had a conversation about our Relations. I saw him several times after the first interview as stated, I do not Recollect the different places I saw him at the last time I saw him he were still bareing armes as a Regular soldier which was about two months before the surrender of Cornwallis he was there in Gilford County I do not Recollect his captain name, I do not know when he enterd or left the service he was commanded by Col Morgan. I do not Recollect the number of the Regiment to which he belonged at this time, from the first to the last time I saw Bradan bareing armes in the Revolutionary War as a soldier were about thirteen months affiant and Bradan

have been living in the same County and partially acquainted for a number of years he believes him to be the Identical same Man which Affiant saw baring armes in the Revolutionary War as he has stated in this affidavit, Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Andrew Breden

State of Tennessee } On this 26th day of August 1843 personally appeared before the **Knox County** subscriber an acting Justice of the peace of the aforesaid County Mr Richard Porterfield [pension application W2341] a resident of the County and State aforesaid in the eighty fifth year of his age who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration that he was acquainted with a man by the name of James Brady now of Anderson County State of Tennessee who was a regular soldier in Capt John Lawsons Company in the war of the Revolution and from all the circumstances affiant believes him to be the same. he became acquainted with him at williamsburg in the state of virginia and believes he served through all the Southern Campaign. Affiant is more fully convinced of his identity from the fact of affiant being wounded at the battle of the pine tree now Camden and belives James Brady to be the soldier that took a handkerchief from his Bradys waist and bound up affiants wound which was bleeding profusely affiant is fully convinced of his being the same man from there being a song in verse and sung in camp to the following effect. My name is James Brady a lad that loves pleasure/ for drinking and fidling I am for ever at leisure/ to see me in the element all Ladys adore me/ with my hogshead of brandy a rolling before me. Subscribed to and sworn before me on the date above [signed] Richard Porterfield

State of Tennessee }

On this 4th day of September 1843 personally appeared before the } SS Campbell County subscriber an acting Justice of the peace for said County Mr. Dickeson Lumpkin, [or Lumpkin, pension application \$38887] a resident of the County and State aforesaid and after being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration That he is in the Eighty sixth year of his age and is well acquainted with James Brady of Anderson County Tennessee and has been from their boyhood up to the present time Affiant declairs that he knew James Brady to be a regular soldier in Capt John Lawsons Company in the war of the Revolution that Brady marched from Augustia County Virginia to Petersburg from Petersburg that he was marched to North Carolinia in Col Morgans Regiment Affiant was in the battle of the Cow pens and saw James Brady in the battle at the same time from the Cow pens we where marched to Gilford Courthouse, wher Brady was wounded in the right leg Affiant assisted in placing Brady in the bagage waggon from Gilford we where marched back to Virginia and affiant was at the siege of York at the taking of Cornwallace Affiant knew James Brady to be in service upwards of two years and allways understood that he was for the [duration of the] war Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year before writtin Dickison hisXmark Lumpkins

State of Tennessee }
Anderson County } SS

On this 2th day of October 1843 personally appeared in open Court before the worshipful County Court James Brady a resident in the County aforesaid aged Eighty one years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the war of the Revolution in the year 1778 in the Town of Staunton in the State of Virginia under Capt John Lawson for three years or during the War and served in the Tenth Regiment of Infantry in the Virginia line marched from Staunton to Petersburg and thair joined Col Morgans Regiment of Rifflemen from Petersburg we were marched to Portsmith from Portsmith back to Petersburg and from thair to North Carolinia and encountered the Troops of Col Tarlton at the Cowpens at wich place Capt Lawson was killed after wich Lieut Thomas Taylor took the command of the Company Affiant thair received a saber wound in the right hand From the Cowpens we were marched to Gilford and thair encountered the troops of Lord Cornwallace at wich place he received a musket ball in the

right leg it was extracted by Dr Cosby after the battle at Gilford we encountered the troops of Lord Rawdon at a place called Pine tree [Battle of Hobkirk Hill near Camden SC, 25 Apr 1781] from thair we ware marched to Virginia and was at the seige of York at the taking of Cornwallace After wich we ware sent as a gard with the prisoners to Winchester Virginia From thair we were marched back to Staunton under the command of Col Mathews and Cap Th Taylor and thair disbanded in November 1781 He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the presant and he declairs that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any state Sworn to in and subscribed in open Court the day and year before written James hisXmark Brady

NOTES:

I could find no record of an engagement called the Battle of Portsmouth, but during the winter of 1781 there was skirmishing within sight of Portsmouth between Americans under Gen. Lafayette at Camp Carson in Dismal Swamp and the British under Gen. Benedict Arnold. See also the pension application of John Bradshaw (S6738).

Although Braden's 1837 application is credible, it was rejected for lack of documentary evidence or two witnesses. His 1839 and 1843 declarations are inconsistent not only with his 1837 declaration, but with each other and with the following chronology:

14 Sep 1778 Col. Daniel Morgan takes command of 7th [formerly 11th] VA Regiment of Foot

Jun 1779 Col. Morgan resigns

13 Oct 1780 Morgan coaxed out of retirement with promotion to Brigadier General

7 Jan 1781 Morgan defeats Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton, Battle of Cowpens SC

10 Feb 1781 Morgan permitted to retire to recover health

15 Mar 1781 Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC

25 Apr 1781 Battle of Hobkirk Hill SC

In addition, no captain named John Lawson or Thomas Taylor appears to have been at the Battle of Cowpens, and no British general was captured at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. It is unlikely that a soldier wounded at that battle would have been brought to or remained in a hospital in Williamsburg, which was under British control after 20 April. Most wounded from that battle were taken to Berry Hill in Pittsylvania County VA. In any case, Braden's claim to have been in the hospital "for some Length of Time" appears to conflict with his claim to have been in the Battle of Hobkirk Hill.

On 2 Sep 1843 James McCloud of Knox County deposed that he knew James Brady, as he then called himself, at about the close of the war in Bedford County VA, and that he was then reputed to have been a Revolutionary soldier.

On $11\ \text{Nov}\ 1852\ \text{William}$ Braden assigned power of attorney to pursue any benefits due for the services of his late father, James Braden.