

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Angel Bradford R1127

Mary Bradford

f39SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/3/10: rev'd 11/2/18

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of South Carolina Sumter district} SS

On this 4th day of July 1854 Before William Lewis Esquire Ordinary for the district of Sumter personally appeared Nathaniel Bradford -- Administrator of the Estate of Mary Bradford deceased and makes the following declaration for the purpose of obtaining the arrears of pension due the said Mary Bradford at her decease as the widow of John Angel Bradford under the act of Congress of 7th of July 1838, etc. -- to wit.

That he is the Son and Administrator of the Said Mary Bradford deceased, who was the widow of John Angel Bradford a private in the Militia of the State of South Carolina in the war of the Revolution: That he cannot say how long the said John A. Bradford Served in said war, but from all the information he can obtain has no doubt that he served a considerable time and believes more than two years: He further states that his father the said John A. Bradford died in 1829 and that his Mother the said Mary Bradford survived him and remained his widow (not having again married) until the 19th day of May 1848 when she died in Sumter District South Carolina leaving the Declarant, Middleton Bradford, William Wade Bradford and Mary Ann Mercy Bradford the only five Surviving Children of his said parents & who still Survive. That he declares his father and mother died at the times above stated as near as he recollects and from the fact of the Births and deaths of his parents as well as the Births and deaths of his Brothers and Sisters so far as have occurred all recorded in the family Bible which belonged to Declarant's mother and which record is made in the hand writing of his Brother William Wade Bradford: He further declares he has no knowledge of any record when his parents were married unless it can be inferred from the fact of his first Sister's birth on 16 March 1789 as recorded in said family Bible. He however declares having recently visited the Graves of his parents located on his plantation in Sumter district and found the periods of their deaths as above Stated and described on their Tomb Stones: he further declares his sister Winifret died after his Mother.

S/ Nathaniel Bradford, Administrator



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In memory of John A. Bradford, who was born in Virginia September 11th 1764 and died December 5th 1829 near Sumterville, S.C.

He joined Genl Marion's [Francis Marion's] brigade at the age of 14 years, and was

present at the battles of "Moncks Corner"¹, "Tynes defeat" [Tearcoat Swamp, October 25, 1780]² and "Eutaw" [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781]³ He saved the life of Captain W. R. Davis from the uplifted sword of a britton, and continued and delivered two chargers to Genl. Marion. After the revolution he married Mary Mitchell, became a member of the M. E. Church and died in the full hope of a blissful immortality, leaving nine children to revere his memory & imitate his example.

In memory of Mary, consort of John A. Bradford, who was born Black River, Sumter District, August 20th 1768 and died at her residence May 19th, 1848.

In early life she embraced religion and continued and exemplary member of the M. E. Church for nearly 35 years. She was the mother of eleven children, and left two daughters and three sons to lament her loss.

South Carolina Sumter District

I do certify that the foregoing are true copies of the inscriptions on the tombstones erected to the memories of John A Bradford and Mary Bradford, his widow, as seen by me at the plantation of Nathaniel Bradford, near Sumterville, on the 2nd day of August 1854

S Jno R. Logan, Magistrate S. D.

[pp 8 &9: family register]

Family Record

John Angel Bradford born
11th Sept. 1764

Died 5th day of December 1829

Mary Bradford was born
20th of August 1768

& died the 19 May 1848

Children

Frances Bradford was born
11th March 1789

& died the 22nd day of March 1845
with cancer on the Head and face

Winefrite Bradford was
7 Jany 1792

& died the 25 May 1849 with cancer
on the Breast

Middleton Bradford was born
6th Jany 1794

Susan Bradford was born
15th Dec. 1795

& died 13th September 1838--with bilious
fever

Heriot Bradford was born
26th Dec. 1797

& died 19th January 1808 with nervous
fever

¹ There were several engagements at or near Monck's Corner during the Revolution.

² http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_tearcoat_swamp.html

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

John Mitchell Bradford was
born 24th March 1802

& died in Mississippi State -- 17 Jany 1841
with Soar throat

William Wade Bradford was
born 4 May 1804

Robert River Bradford was
born 1st January 1807

& died in Louisiana State 14th Dec. 1839 with
cold by exposure in a Sugar mill at night

Nathaniel Bradford was
born 8 March 1809

Mary Ann Mercy Bradford
was born 2nd July 1812

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State of South Carolina Sumter district} On this 15th day of August 1854 Before the Subscribing Magistrate in and for Sumter district personally appeared William Wade Bradford of Sumter district aged about 50 years, who being duly sworn according to law on his oath Swears that he is one of the children of John A Bradford deceased a Revolutionary Soldier; that Deponent was about 25 years old when his said father died who related many incidents of his connection with the Army Such as "His father (deponent's grandfather) was an old and infirm man who procured a parole from the enemy to remain at home"

That deponent's grandfather was opposed to his father's going into service but in consequence of the enemy having taken from him a sack of meal which deponent's father was conveying home from the mill, it so exasperated his said father that he was induced to steal his grandfather's horse, boots & spurs and proceeded to join General Marion's Army and continued to serve during hostilities under Captain Joseph Hill, Warren R. Davis and others: That Davis's horse was shot from under him in a skirmish at which time deponent's father saved Davis's life by shooting a British officer in the arm and took him prisoner; That deponent's father frequently spoke of having received no compensation for his services in the Army and never did apply nor did he think it worth while to make any application during or after the war because the currency was worthless and of no account: That an application was made recently for record evidence of his father's Services or indents issued in his favor from the State of South Carolina but for the reason above stated the Comptroller reports that the name of John A Bradford or John Bradford Junior was not found. He further swears that about seven years ago this deponent received a formal deposition proving the Services of his said father to be signed by the late John China⁴ a Revolutionary pensioner to which he procured the Signature of said China which sustained and corroborated a similar affidavit made by William Vaughan⁵ a fellow soldier of his said father: that these affidavits were turned over by deponent to a lawyer with a view of obtaining a pension for his mother the said the papers were entirely satisfactory excepting some difficulty about proof of marriage & the case was dropped & on inquiry the depositions of China & Vaughan are lost or mislaid & beyond the control of this deponent and he verily believes they are not in existence.

⁴ [John China S46593](#)

⁵ [William Vaughan W11691](#)

S/ W. W. Bradford



sworn to and subscribed before me
S/ Jno. R. Logan, Magistrate

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State of South Carolina Sumter district} On the 15th day of July 1854 Before the Subscribing Magistrate for the State and district aforesaid personally appeared William Vaughan aged eighty-nine years and upwards a Revolutionary pensioner and a resident of said district who being duly sworn according to law upon his oath swears:

That his Father emigrated from the State of Virginia in the year 1772 to the State of South Carolina within two miles of the residence of Nathaniel Bradford and family in Sumter district who originally were also Virginians: That from an early period of this deponent's boyhood he knew and associated on the most Sociable and intimate terms with John Angel Bradford, son of the said Nathaniel Bradford, until he died in this District 30 years ago: That John Angel Bradford aforesaid and this deponent volunteered at same time their services for the achievement of American Independence in the Militia Company of Captain Joseph Hill and Regiment commanded by Colonel Richard Richardson attached to General Marion's Brigade and mustered into said service in the beginning of October 1780 and continued to serve in other Companies occasionally under different Commanders during hostilities with the enemy and retired from the Service in the month of June 1782 but held themselves in readiness to join the service again whenever called upon but were not again called into service for which Service this deponent has been allowed an annual pension of \$83.33 since 4th March 1831 -- under the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832: He further swears there were two Bradfords who served at same time with this deponent namely John Bradford and the aforesaid John A. Bradford, who were cousins and known and designated as Senior & Junior, the said John A. Bradford being the younger, but senior in eight or nine months to this deponent: That during all of said time this deponent and said John A Bradford were constantly in Service except on a few occasions when they were permitted to return home but never for more than two or three days at a time: This deponent moreover swears that he knows the said John A Bradford was equally punctual as himself on all occasions of duty & that he was with him at the Battles of Moncks Corner, QueenBee [sic, Quinby's Bridge, July 17, 1781],⁶ Eutaw Springs; that this deponent has understood by repeated that the said John A Bradford saved the life of Captain Warren R. Davis from the impending sword of a British officer by wounding him in the arm and assisting in taking him prisoner but the deponent was not present at that skirmish on that occasion.

That the said John A. Bradford married Mary Mitchell, who lived together as husband and wife, and were so reputed until he died upwards of 30 years ago as aforesaid leaving the said Mary his widow and five surviving children four a now only survive never again married but continued the widow of the said John Angel Bradford until she died 5 or 6 years ago. That this deponent did not attend the marriage of the said John A Bradford and Mary Mitchell, but was at the infare [sic ?], nor does he recollect the precise time but it was sometime before this deponent married which is now upwards of 65 years ago. He makes this deposition ^{for the purpose} of the children of the said John A Bradford and Mary Bradford receiving the arrears of pension to

⁶ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_quinbys_bridge.html

which they may be entitled for the Services of their said father in said war: He further swears that he has no interest directly or indirectly in said pension or its prosecution. The words "for the purpose" in the ninth line interlined before signed.

S/ William Vaughan, X his mark

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Sumter district South Carolina October 13th 1827

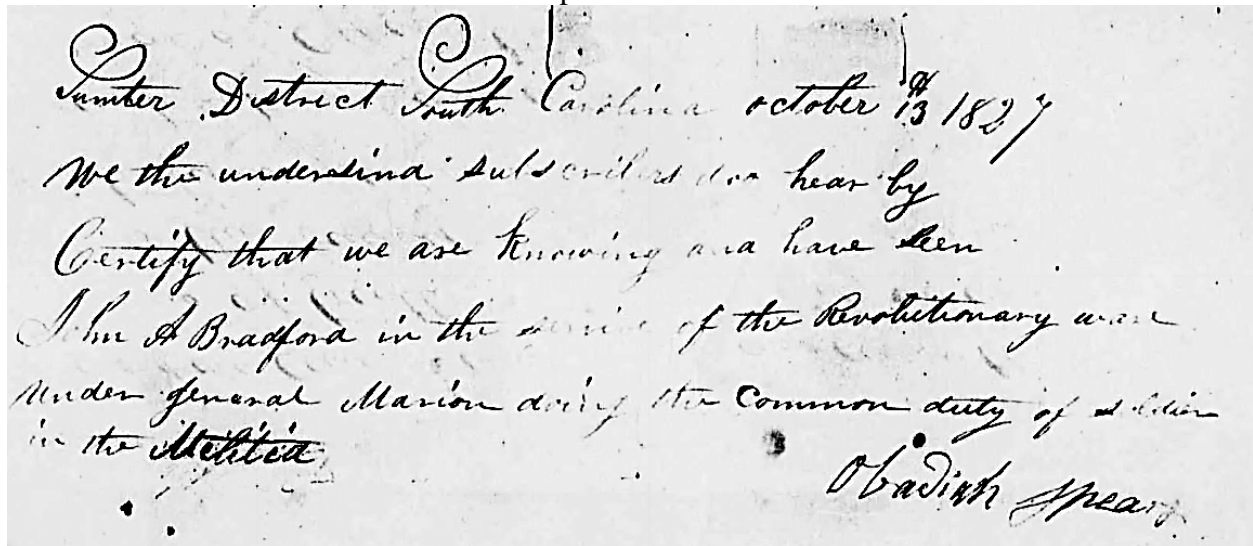
We the undersigned subscribers do hear by [hereby]

Certify that we are knowing and have seen

John A. Bradford in the service of the Revolutionary ware [war]

under General Marion doing the Common duty of soldier

in the Militia. S/ Obadiah Spears⁷

A photograph of a handwritten document in cursive script. The text reads: "Sumter District South Carolina October 13 1827", "We the undersigned subscribers do hear by", "Certify that we are knowing and have seen", "John A Bradford in the service of the Revolutionary war", "under General Marion doing the Common duty of soldier", "in the Militia", and "Obadiah Spears" at the bottom right.

Sumpterville 19 December 1854. The above is my father's Signature referred to in my affidavit of this date.

S/ Joshua A. Spears

⁷ [Obadiah Spears S7586](#)