Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Brown S3060 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee [23 Oct 1828]

I Thomas Brown now a citizen of the County of Grainger in said State, during the Revolution, enlisted as a private, into the service of the United States, by Col. Henry Lee Sen'r [County Lieutenant of Militia] of Prince William County, Virginia for the term of three years, commencing on the 8th of March 1781, being at the time, Eighteen years of age, served with the Eighteen months men [militiamen drafted into Continental service for 18 months] in Capt. Lamb's Company. Some time in the summer of of the year 1781 I reenlisted as a private, from the Infantry, into the first Virginia Continental Regiment of Light Dragoons, commanded by Col [Anthony Walton] White, this reenlistment was during the war. I served in said Regiment which was at one time commanded by Col George Bailor [sic: George Baylor] I was in the 2nd Troop commanded by Capt. Jno Watts. There was no man in said Troop of my name except myself. I served in said Troop until peace was made, was discharged in South Carolina, at Nelson's ferry on Santee River, on the 15th of June 1783. Proclamation was made that our furloughs should be our discharges and my furlough was sent to the Seat of Goverment, as was retained as a voucher (as I am inform'd) in consequence of my first enlistment being endors'd on the back by Col. Henry Lee Sen'r. I was musterd in the Troop aforesaid by the muster master, and an impediment in my right eye was noted, and my height was five feet, between six & seven Inches, between Eighteen & twenty two years of age, as well as recollected [see endnote]. Between nine & ten years after the close of the war, I empower'd a Mr. Bradbury to apply at the proper Department for my wages, and by the assistance of the Hon'l. Mr. Winston a Member of Congress from the State of North Carolina they were obtain'd

This Declaration is made for the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the Act of Congress, approved on the 15th of May 1828 "Entitled an Act for the relief of certain surviving officers & soldiers of the Revolution," and that I apply for myself & no other persons.

I Thomas Brown do believe that my attourney Mr. Bradbury received a cirtificate for the reward of Eighty Dollars which I was Entiled to under A resolve of Congress Passed the 15th of May 1778 and I further declare that I Was not on the 15th Day of March 1828 on the pension List of the United States nor never has been [signed] Thomas Brown

[11 Feb 1829] Revolutionary Claims
Blains X Roads Grainger Town

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an act for the relief of certain surviving officers & soldiers of the Army of the Revolution, Approved on the 15th May 1828

I Thomas Brown of the Revolution in the County of Grainger & State of Tennessee do again solemnly declare that I enlisted for and during the war out and from the three year service into the first virginia Regiment of light dragoons, and continued in its service untill its termination under Col. White of s'd Regement and other officers and received one thousand Dollars Bounty (Continental paper) and was promised half pay during life. I assigned my name in a book for the purpose of my enlistment Enduring the war. In the Summer of 1781. And I further declare that I was not on the 15th day of March 1828 on the pension list of the united states nor never have been (signed) Thomas Brown

State of Virginia	}
Pittsvlvania Countv	}

Personally appeared Thomas Marshall before me Benjamin Watkins one of the Acting Justices of

the peace in the County aforesaid, & declared, after being duly sworn for the purpose, that Thomas Brown, who has now visitted him for the purpose of obtaining proof of his being of the fit subjects to be place'd on the pension List of the United States, saith, that he well recollects the said Brown, & knew him, as soon as he came in his presence, & had not seen him before since he left him in Winter quarters in the year 1783 on the Here Law [?] River in South Carolinia at a place called Tick Town; the said Marshall declares that he knows nothing certainly himself of the enlistment of the said Brown, but he was there as a Revolutionary Soldier & was reputed in the Army & so considered as a soldier who had inlisted for during the War in the Continental Line in the Redgement commanded by Colo. Anthony W. White & John Watts' troop of dragoons & at that time had a blemish in one Eye & could not see well out of said Eye, & now the said Eye has sunk & entirely out. The said Marshall also says he left him, early in April 1783 in the encampment having himself been then ordered out by Maj'r John Swan to Virginia to collect horses – Given under my hand this 17th September 1830 [signed] Thos Marshall

[On 21 Sep 1830 Charles Nichols (pension application S38264) stated that he had served with Brown in Capt. John Watts's troop in the 1st Virginia Regiment.]

State of Tennessee } This day personally appeared William Cutts [pension application W25458] Grainger County before me William Lane one of the Justices of the peace for said county and made oath that he is now acquainted with a certain Thomas Brown who now lives in grainger County on flat Creek State of Tennessee and who has a Blemish in his right Eye, and that he was the s'd Thomas Brown Reinlist out and from the Virginia line Captain Lamb's Company near Richmond Virginia under Col. W. White of the dragoons in the continental line for and during the revolutionary War Sometime about the fifteenth of July 1781. And that said Thomas Brown with others marched towards the South and I have lived in the neighbour hood with s'd Brown for ten or twelve years and know him to be the same Man that reenlisted as above mentioned

William hisXmark Cutts

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of January 1831

August Sessions

Grainger County \ 1832

State of Tennessee }

On this 21 day of August 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the Court of please and quarter sessions for the County of Grainger aforsaid Thomas Brown a resident of the State of Tennessee in the County of Grainger aged sixty nine the seventh day of march 1832 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 7th 1832 that he enlisted in the army of the united states in the year 1781 on the 8 day of march & was enlisted by Colo Harry Lee the Colonel of Prince William County State of Virginia where this applicant then resided for the term of three years & served in the regiment commanded by General Stuben [sic: Baron von Steuben] the number of the regiment not recollected he was marched to Carters ferry [at present Cartersville] where the regement rendevoused he marched under Capt Tibbs at Carters ferry on James River he was attached to a regement of 18 months men Captain Lambs Company the Col. name not remembers my Lieutenant was John Morris[?] This detachment was marched from Carters ferry to point of fork [at the confluence of James and Rivanna rivers] when Cornwallis took the public stores [sic: Lt. Col. John Simcoe, 6 Jun 1781] The detachment marched to Coles ferry on Stanten [sic: Staunton] River we afterwards marched to Petersburg Virginia then to Richmond then to near Williamsburg we then marchd back to Chickahominy Swamp which is near to Richmond that while at that place Col White of the dragoons came to Camp we were paraded & he requested that all the men that would enlist for During the War would ground their arms & march five paces in front and offered a bounty of one thousand dollars & half pay during life & stated Congress had passed a resolution to that effect that he & thirty or forty others steped out &

enlisted into the first Virginia Regement of dragoons we were marched from thence under Sargent to Powhatan County & took care of horses from Powhatan we were marched to Ruffins ferry on Pomunky River [sic: Pamunkey River, near Sweet Hall] where we remained & in the vicinity of that place untill the seege of York & untill Cornwallis was taken in 1781 in the month of October from thence we marched to Petersburg where he was left sick in the next spring 1782 he marched with part of the 3rd regement of Dragoons under Col George Baylor to South Carolina where he joined his own regement where the 3rd regement & first were consolidated & commanded by Col George Baylor [9 Nov 1782] he was attached to Capt John Watts troop he continued in said troop until the termination of the war the troops were furlowed untill called for & he left the service on the 14th or 15th of June 1783 afterwards a notice was given in news papers printed at Richmond that our furlows was considered our discharge I afterward sent my furlow or discharge to Richmond Virginia to draw my pay & land That he received by Acquilla Narwell 19 Pounds some shillings & my land Mr Narwell informed me my discharged was retained by the auditor & my certificate of first enlistment was wrote on the back of said discharge as furlow & signed by Harry Lee when he first enlisted he resided in Prince William County Virginia and about five years after the war he removed to Rockingham County North Carolina when in N Carolina he empowered a man by the name of Bradbury to receive what was due to me he applied as he stated at Philadelphia & received my wages & paid me the money he resided in North Carolina about 10 years from N Carolina he removed to the territory south of Ohio now the state of Tennessee where he has since resided he further states he heretofore applied for a pension under the act of Congress 1828 & recev'd a letter from the treasury Department as he believes & refers the secretary of war to those papers for proof of service he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state

[signed] Thomas Brown

State of Tennessee }
Grainger County }

The additional amenditory declaration of Thomas Brown in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by Act of Congress passed June 7^{th} 1832

That he enlisted and served as stated in his former declaration; that he marched under Capt. Tibbs; then under Capt Lamb both of whom belonged to the Infantry and then was transfered by enlistment to the command of Col. White of the Cavalry near Chickahominy and served as such until discharged. this discharge was filed in the land office in the State of Virginia where he expects the evidence could still be found; it may be possible that my name may be found on the roll of Capt. Lambs of Infantry altho he done duty in the Cavalry and refers to said roll

From a Letter he received of Richard Rush it appeared his name was found as it stated he had served three years only. He further states that he does not only claim for services as a private under the Virginia continental establishment, altho he did serve as such; but that he claims for servises rendered while in the Virginia line having enlisted in said line for three years.

[signed 10 Apr 1833] Thomas Brown

NOTE: A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates taken at Powhatan Courthouse lists the following: Tho's Brown/ age 18/ height 5′ 5¼″/ dark-brown hair/ blue eyes/ dark complexion/ planter/ born and residing in Prince William County where he enlisted on 8 Mar 1781 for three years.