

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Bridges S32139

fn49NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/4/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Illinois Madison County: SS

On this fourth day of September personally appeared before the County Commissioners Court of the County of Madison now sitting George Bridges, a resident of Madison County and State of Illinois, aged 70 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. That he, the said George Bridges enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 or 1777 in the month of March (he thinks) and served in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Griffith McRee [sic, Griffith John McRee [McRae]] (the number of the Regiment is not recollected) of the Continental line, under the following named officers:

That he was enlisted by Lieutenant Christopher Goodwin, as a drummer, and belonged to the Company commanded by Captain Griffith McCree the Colonel's name is not recollected, but soon after his enlistment Captain McCree was promoted to Colonel and Lieutenant Goodwin to Captain. That he was enlisted at Salisbury Rowan County, North Carolina and was stationed at Elizabethtown till fall when he was marched to Wilmington the headquarters for the winter, and remained there till in the summer, during this time he became acquainted with many of the officers; he was there paroled or permitted by furlough to go to Elizabethtown and remained at the house of Captain Goodman till fall and attend to his duties there, and was discharged in the month of October as he thinks making more than eighteen months in the actual service of the United States. That he received a discharge but it has been lost.

He the said George Bridges further declares that he was drafted in the spring of 1780 or 1781 at the town of Salisbury in the County and State aforesaid and served in the Militia and belonged to the Company commanded by Captain James Craig in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Fifer [sic, probably either Caleb or John Phifer], Brigade commanded by General Davison [perhaps a reference to William Lee Davidson] and was stationed at Colonel Fifer's for some time in expectation of the British coming to that place, but they came no further than to the place called the Pine Tree, and then turned off towards Charleston (he thinks) after that his company was marched to the Pedee [River] and discharged having been in the service for 2 or 3 months they had no fighting during the campaign.

That in the year 1780 or 1781 he was again drafted at Salisbury in the County and State

aforesaid and belonged to the Company commanded by Captain James Craig in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Fifer and of the Brigade commanded by General Davison, that they were marched to Charlotte and remained there near 2 months he thinks and then went from there in pursuit of the enemy to the Big Santee River and was stationed in that neighborhood until his term of service had expired making 3 months and the service and was discharged.

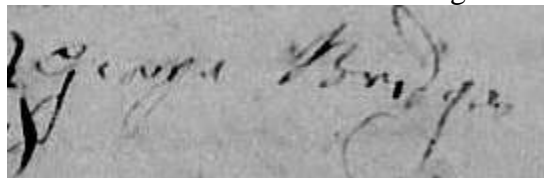
That soon after his return to Salisbury the British came to that place and he and a number of others were taken prisoners by them and was confined at that place for some time when he made his escape from them while there sentinels were asleep how long he was a prisoner he does not know.

He further states that soon after this his Brother William Bridges was drafted and he the said George Bridges took his place and served in the Company commanded by Captain Gamble and in the Regiment commanded he thinks by Colonel Thomas Frawhawk [Frohawk or Frohock?] and went in the pursuit of the notorious Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] the Tory that they started from the neighborhood of Salisbury and followed him to a large swamp between Salisbury and Cross Creek where he was attacked and defeated with the loss of most of his forces and many men. That after this engagement they returned to Salisbury and he was engaged at Colonel Frawhawk's in doing Smith work and making cartridges for the Army till his term of service had expired which was 3 months and was then discharged. And he further declares that the said William Bridges is dead and never received any reward or compensation for his service, but he the said George Bridges was entitled to the whole of the said pay and reward.

And he declares that he served as herein stated and that it made more than 2 years that he was in the actual service of the United States. And that he received a discharge at the end of each term of service but they had been lost so that he has no documents to prove his service by, and he further states that he knows of no person in this country by whom he can prove his service. He states that he was born at or near Elizabeth on the Cape Fear River on the 12th day of February 1762. That his parents moved to Salisbury Rowan County North Carolina before the Revolutionary war, that he lived there till about 1798 and then moved to the State of Kentucky and lived there 12 years when he moved to Madison County and State of Illinois in the year 1811 where he has resided ever since. He has no record of his birth and knows of none.

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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

George Bridges

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "George Bridges". The ink is dark and the background is light and slightly textured.

[Samuel Wood, a clergyman, and William Robinson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]
[the above application was attested in 1832]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

Sir

I do not find the name of George ridges on the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war.

I am respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Wm Hill [NC Secretary of State]

[fn p. 29]

State of Illinois Madison County: SS

On this 29th day of July A.D. 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County of Madison and State of Illinois George Bridges a resident of the County & State aforesaid aged 71 years, who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

He the said George Bridges declares that he enlisted into the Army of the United States, in the State of North Carolina at Salisbury in Rowan County as a drummer on or about the 10th day of March in the year 1777 and was commanded as stated in his declaration of the 4th day of September 1832 and served as therein stated, and was in the service of the United States as a drummer till October 1778 when he was discharged. He declares that he was acquainted with Generals Marion, Gates & Green also with Colonel Washington & Drum Major Hervey of Marion's Brigade. He declares that he served for about nineteen months as a regular soldier and ranked as a drummer. The said George Bridges further declares that he was drafted at Salisbury in the County & State aforesaid in the month of June 1780 and was commanded as stated in his aforesaid declaration of the 4th September 1832 and served as therein stated in said declaration and was in the service for 3 months as a private when he was discharged and returned home.

And he further declares that he was drafted again at the same place as stated above the last of October or the first of November in the year 1780 and was commanded as stated in the said declaration of the 4th of September 1832 and served as therein stated and was out for 3 months as a private and was then regularly discharged the last of January or 1st of February 1781. Soon after his return from the Army the British & Tories came to Salisbury when he volunteered and went against them, and was taken a prisoner at the taking of the town and was kept for some time when he made his escape and returned home, how long he was a prisoner he does not recollect.

He the said George Bridges further declares that in either the month of April or May 1781 his brother William Bridges was drafted at Salisbury in the County & State aforesaid, and he the said George Bridges took his place and served as a private soldier and was commanded by Captain Gamble &c as stated in the aforesaid declaration of the 4th of September 1832 and served as stated therein and in the Battle with Fanning the notorious Tory &c as stated in the said declaration and he further declares that he was to receive all of the rewards and paid for the services and further that the said William Bridges is dead as stated in the said declaration.

He declares that he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. For one year and 7 months I served as a drummer and for 6 months a [sic, I] served as a private soldier and for 3 months I served as a substitute as a private soldier and for [word obliterated] service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of July 1833

S/ Josiah Caswell, JP

S/ George Bridges

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]