

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Francis Browning S6731 ¹

f38NC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

3/7/09 & 10/17/14 & 1/2/24

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 3]

State of Virginia, Russell County to-wit:

On the 2d day of October 1832 personally appeared before the County Court of Russell and State of Virginia, Francis Browning a resident in the County of Russell and State of Virginia, aged about Seventy nine 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 entered the service of the United States in the State Line of North Carolina in the month of October in the year he thinks of 1778 at Hillsborough in the said State, under Captain William White and as he now thinks, Lieutenant Lawson [John Lawson] and Ensign William Haney, and was attached to the State Regiment commanded by Col. James Saunders and Major Moore for a term of six months; and from Hillsborough the place of rendezvous, he, with the said Regiment marched to Salisbury, where they joined the Salisbury Regiment under the command of Col. Lock [Francis Locke], and were then placed under the command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and marched from thence to a place then called Pine Tree, the same perhaps which is now called Camden in the State of S. Carolina, near the junction of the rivers Congaree and Wateree, and from thence marched to the Ten Mile house, it being about ten miles from Charleston in the State of S. Carolina, and from thence to a little town called Dodgister [sic, Dorchester], and from thence took up their line of march for Savannah in S. C. [sic, Georgia], where they joined the main army under the command of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] at a town called Punensburgh [Purrysburg] upon the Savannah River. From which place the Regiment to which the said Francis Browning belonged, marched up the said river to a place called the "Two Sisters" where they remained nearly in sight of the enemy for about one month, and thence marched to the place called Briar Creek, where they joined General Ash [John Ashe] in the time of the battle fought at that place [March 3, 1779],² and took part in that engagement, and from thence he and his Regiment were ordered to make a forced march back to the Purrysburg to protect the magazine left there, which they affected by a most severe and fatiguing march, and remained there and in the vicinity of that place watching and following the varied movements of the enemy upon the border line of Georgia from Savannah to Augusta, which was exposed to the depredations of the British then in the said State of Georgia, and was then incessantly engaged, until about the 10th

¹ BLWt26187-160-55

² Briar Creek March 3, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790304-briar-creek/>

of April in the year he thinks of 1779, when he and the Regiment to which he belonged were discharged, at a place called Black Swamp, about 500 miles from home, and obtained a regular discharge in writing, which has been since either lost or mislaid so that he cannot now produce it. The said Browning, although nominally belonging to the State line, performed continental service during the time aforesaid, and out of the nominal compensation received from the government for his services, he afterwards paid \$100 thereof for one bushel of salt. The said Francis Browning further states that sometime after his return home from the tour aforesaid, he removed with his family from Caswell County in the State of North Carolina near Jonesborough then N. Carolina, but now State of Tennessee, when he was again in 1781 drafted to go to the State of South Carolina under the command of Col. Sevier [John Sevier] for a three months tour, when the situation of his was such as to render it exceedingly inconvenient for him to leave home, and he employed one ____ (name not recollected) as a substitute whom he paid a horse valued at fifteen pounds in genuine currency, and also allowed him the wages of the said term, and that the said substitute was received as such by the proper officer and performed the duties of the said tour.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and 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.

S/ Francis Browning



[Nathaniel Muncey, a clergyman, and William Price gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Jesse Vermillion³ also gave a supporting affidavit but does not state that he served with the applicant.]



[p 10: On March 28 1855 in Russell County Virginia, Frances Browning, aged 101 years old, filed for his bounty land entitlement. He signed this document with his mark.]

[p 18: Is a digital image of the bounty land warrant issued to the veteran in 1836.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina State Troops.]

³ [Jesse Vermillion W6362](#)