

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Brown S6735

Transcribed by Michael Lee Mankins

f36VA

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by Will Graves

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832,

State of Virginia }

Culpeper County S.S. }

On the 22nd day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the Court of Culpeper County, now sitting John Brown a resident in the said County and State aged seventy two 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 act of Congress, passed June the 7th 1832, that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as here stated. That he was born in the County of Culpeper in the year 1759 15th October, as he has understood from his Aunt and that he has lived in said County ever since.

That he first entered the service in the year 1781, about April as a substitute of Daniel Brown, and was commanded by Captain Pollard, in the Regiment of Col. James Slaughter, and Major John Williams. That he marched to a place called Black Water near Petersburg _ thence back to Ground Squirrel Bridge seventy miles above Richmond, it was during this service under the Command of General Mecklinburg [sic, Peter Muhlenberg]

That in the same summer, soon after he returned, he again went into service, he again went into service as a substitute for Bromfield Long and Marched toward Fredericksburg, and after being at Flat Run spring was countermanded and returned; That he was not gone the length of a tour; but those he was with had credit for a whole tour - in this tour Captain George Johnson commanded the Company, and Colonel Slaughter the Regiment.

That about the 15th July following he was drafted and mustered under the Command of Captain Benjamin Lillard, in Col John Slaughter's Regiment, the he went with the troops in different direction, at length to Malver Hills [sic, Malvern Hill] below Richmond, when he joined General Stevens Brigade. that whilst in that night whose Major Long was ordered to use a Company of volunteers for some service on the lines, and he volunteered under Long and continued with him some weeks, when his command returned and joined the Regiment when the Regiment was discharged below Williamsburg that whilst he was with Long they now employed in marching from place to place observing the movements of the enemy about York. that he was in service till about the 10th October, nearly three months.

That he can prove the above service in part by the certificates of George Stubblefield and

Zackariah Griffin¹ - and that the middle tour he cannot prove by any living witness that knows of.

He hereby relinquishes any claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court }

John Brown, X his mark

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I Zackariah Griffin a resident of the County of Culpeper in the State of Virginia, do hereby certify, that I was with John Brown who subscribes. Subscribes the above Declaration, in the Revolutionary service, in the tour which he describes as commencing the 15 July 1781, and recollect the circumstances of said service, as he details them, and know that he rendered that service – I do not know certainly of his serving the middle tour that he mentions, but as I was in the service, I have asked him questions concerning what happened, and was fully satisfied that he was in that tour, I know Mr. Brown well, and have no doubt that he is entitled to credit in what he says.

sworn to and subscribed }

this day in open Court }

Z. Griffin (signature)

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The Declaration of George Stubblefield of the County of Orange and the State of Virginia in the 86th year of age deposes and says that about the month of April 1781 John Brown was called upon and served a tour of Duty in the Virginia Militia under Capt. Pollard that he marched from Culpeper in the month of April 1781 and joined General Muhlenberg's Brigade at a place called Black Water, the army then retreated up to Ground Squirrel Bridge, where said Brown was relieved in the month of June 1781 by a discharge, having served out his tour of two months.

Sworn to before me a justice of the

Peace in and for the County of Culpeper.

George Stubblefield (signature)

Given under my hand this 5th day of

August 1832. P. Williams (signature)

Orange County, to wit: This day George Stubblefield appeared before me a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and made oath to the above Certificate according to law, and also that from old age and infirmity he so as unable to attend Culpeper Court, a circumstance very apparent to me, Given under my hand this 21st day of August 1832.

John A. Porter (signature)

I Jonathan C. Gibson a practicing attorney in the County of Orange do hereby Certify that John A. Porter whose certificate appears above is an acting justice of the Peace in and for the County of Orange.

J. C. Gibson (signature)

The Court then proceeds to propose the following interrogatories to the applicant he being under oath, and which he sworn as is here in after enumerated,

Quest, Where, and in what year were you born?

Ans, I was born in the County of Culpeper in the 15th October 1759.

¹ [Zachariah Griffin W7585](#)

Quest, Have you any record of your age, & if so where is it?

Ans, I have no record, but learned my age from an old aunt near me.

Quest, Where were you living when you were called into service, where have you lived since, and where do you now live?

Ans, I was living at that time in Culpeper County, Virginia and now do.

Quest, How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?

Ans, I was a substitute for Daniel Brown, in my first tour, for Bromfield Long in my second and was drafted in my third.

Quest, State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops, where you served, such Continental or Militia Regiment, as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service?

Ans, I have named my officers in my Declaration, and units named. Col. Blackwell Col. Matthews I have stated my service in my Declaration.

Quest, Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Ans, I never did in writing, we were discharged in Company.

Quest, State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your service as a soldier of the Revolution?

Ans, I refer to James S. Sansborough, John S. Barbour and to Captain Griffin's Certificate.

And the Court doth certify upon the knowledge of several of the justices now sitting, that no Clergymen resides in the immediate vicinity of the applicant, that he proves his service in part by credible witnesses, and the court concur in the opinion favorable to his character and revolutionary service, and that he is entitled to credence in what he states - and the said Court do hereby declares their opinion after the investigation of the matter, and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the war Department, that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier, and served as he states. And the Court further certifies that it appears to them that Z. Griffin who has signed one of the foregoing certificates, is a resident of Culpeper County, and is a credible person, and that his statement is entitled to Credit - And the court further certifies that it was proven to their satisfaction, by the oath of Jonathon C. Gibson, that John A. Porter before whom the foregoing affidavit of George Stubblefield was made as an acting justice of the peace for the County of Orange.

I Frances T. Lightfoot, Clerk of the Court of Culpeper County, do hereby certify that P. Williams whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Certificate, was at the time and now is an acting justice peace for the County of Culpeper, duly Commissioned to administer oaths and that full faith and credit ought to be given to his acts as such. I also certify that the foregoing contains a true copy of the proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of John Brown for a pension.

In testimony where of I have here unto set my hand and applied the seal of said court this
1st day of September 1832 and in the 57th year of the
(xSEALx) Commonwealth. F. T. Lightfoot (signature)

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State of Virginia Culpeper County to wit

On this 18th day of March 1833 before the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for said County personally appeared John Brown a resident of said County who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that in his declaration for a pension made in open Court in Culpeper County on the 22nd of August 1832, he inadvertently omitted to state the time he served in the first tour which tour was for at least two months and fifteen days that the next tour he was out for one month and that the third tour he believes was for three months but he says positively as to two months and twenty days making in all certainty more than six months service: but he would be content to receive for six months.

Given under my hand this 18th March 1833

S/ Thomas Norman

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