Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Francis Bradley S6740 fn12NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 9/28/10

[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 South Carolina Pickens District

On this 7th day of October 1833 Personally appeared before the Honorable John S Richardson one of the Associate Judges of said State at a Court of Session and Common Pleas for said District Francis Bradley a resident of the District of Pickens in the State aforesaid, aged eighty-one 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 7th 1832. – That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the spring of the year 1778 in the following manner Captain Matthew Ramsay of Colonel Polk's (9th) Regiment of Infantry of the NC line, put into his hands \$20 to enlist a man for him as the said Bradley was going to see his sister about twenty miles off. On his return the Captain refused to take the money back, and required the said Bradley to go saying he was Enlisted. He being ignorant of his rights, turned out, kept the money and was marched down to Halifax Town on Roanoke [River] under Captain Ramsay, Lieutenants Joseph Stewart and Joseph Johnson, Major William Polk and Colonel William Polk. He believes General Hogan [sic, James Hogun] was commander; but sometimes General Nash was there – He was put at times [to] Guard the Magazine – and was at sometimes, put to guard Prisoners. He was sent several times up to the back Country after deserters. He was with General Martin & under him a while at Halifax. Colonel Lightle [sic, Lytle?] was promoted to the Brigadier General & he was a while under his command. He believes that Colonel Lytle was Brigade Major. He lived at the time he enlisted in Chatham County. He Enlisted at Ramsay's Mills in Chatham County North Carolina. He received some clothing & pay he recollects two coats & two shirts which he received. It was always his desire to see a line of Battle but he never did was always on guard and about the Garrison after deserters. He was blind of one eye. The slight was injured & he has never since seen any by it. One Rogers applied to him to oversee for him & said he would get him discharged, But on trial none were discharged one Colonel Long refused to let anyone off Long then being in command, or on the Court of Inquiry or to whom the applications were made. He was kept in the service on duty in obedience to the commands of his officers for not less than two years & six months. He was permitted to go home & he remained there for a short time perhaps a month on Furlough, when Captain Ramsay came to him and told him if he would go down to Halifax he would get him a discharge and his pay. But he did not intend to call on the Country

for either pay or a pension while he was able to work. He never did intend to take even what was due him from his Country. He is now old, helpless poor and infirm and illiterate he is unable to relate at this time all the service he has seen. And does not know of one living witness who can prove his services the only one he has lately seen is dead.

1st. He was born (& raised) in Bute County NC on the 9th of March 1752.

2nd. He has no record of his age heard his age from his mother none of his Father's family was learned to write although his mother raised thirteen children.

3rd. When he was called on or Enlisted he lived in Chatham County NC. After the war he went back to Bute returned to Chatham lived there till about 1787 or 8, then he moved into Pendleton County afterwards Pendleton District – now the same is Pickens Judicial District. He has lived ever since in the same.

4th. He enlisted.

5th. He has mentioned all the regular officers which he recollects to have seen.

6th. He never received any discharge.

7th. He is well acquainted with Colonel McKinney who now commands the Regiment of militia he lives in. Also Lieutenant Colonel Jesse McKinney who commands the 1st Battalion Major James McKinney, William L Keith the clerk of the Court, & William D Sloan the Sheriff of the District who will testify as to his character for truth and honesty &c. –

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency of any State. (Has no witness now living)

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court
Before S/ William L Keith, CC
S/ Francis Bradley, X his mark
[Charles Durham, a clergyman, and Joseph Grisham gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 10: Joshua Holden, Senior of Pickens District South Carolina stated that he lived a near neighbor of Francis Bradley at the time of the revolution and knows he rendered service as a Regular Soldier and believes his declaration to be true.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 2 years service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]