

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Bryan W8388

Lydia

fn58SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/10/10

[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.]

[fn p. 3: finding by the Ordinary for Charleston district South Carolina that Mrs. Leah Bryan, widow of John Bryan, died the 29th day of January 1843, aged 86 years and that she left but one child surviving her, to wit, John Bryan, a resident of the city of Charleston. The finding is dated November 1, 1843.]

[fn p. 6]

Charleston South Carolina November 2, 1843

To all whom it may concern:

I do hereby certify that the subjoined page of MS [manuscript] was cut out by me, in presence of Patrick Cantwell, on the evening of the 31st ultimo, from a Bible now in possession of Colonel John Bryan -- on the title page of which Bible I read that it was printed in "Cambridge" (England) by "John Archdeacon, 1769, Cum privilegio" & at the top of said page I find the name of "Lydia Simons" written with the annexed date of "1776" -- Also at the end are numerous records of marriages, births, & deaths leaving no doubt in my mind that it is the family Bible of the above named Colonel Bryan -- son of Mrs. Lydia Bryan

Attest S/ Paul Trapier

Rector of St. Michael's Church, Charleston

Item. I do hereby certify that the said Mrs. Lydia Bryan died on 29 January of this year (1843) -- & that I being her pastor, read the General service over her mortal remains, at her house, in this City on the 30th of the same month -- she being aged 86 years & 16 days --
November 2, 1843

S/ Paul Trapier, Rector

Edward Simons was married to Lydia Ball (daughter of Elias & Lydia) by the Reverend Robert Smith 17 October 1771

Edward Ball Simons son of Edward & Lydia was born the 3rd day of December 1773 & was baptized the 5th day of January following by the Reverend Robert Pureil, had for his Sureties [sic, sureties] Messrs E. Ball, B. Simons, & Mrs Catherine Simons

Edward Ball Simons, departed this life the 26th day of September 1775 aged 1 year, 9 months & 22 days & was interred the day following at Pompion Hill Chapel, near his Grandfather

Edward Simons departed this life the 11th day of October 1775 aged 33 years 2 months & 22 days & was interred the day following at Pompion Hill Chapel, by the side of his Father

John Bryan was married to Lydia Simons by the Reverend Edward Ellington the 2nd day of February 1783

Elizabeth Bryan, Daughter of John & Lydia was born the 4th day of March 1784, had private baptism the ___ day of June 1784 by the Reverend Robert Smith at Panbants [Brabants ?]

John Bryan, Son of John & Lydia was born 18 July 1791 was baptized 29 August following by the Reverend Robert Smith.

John Bryan departed this life 10th November 1803 aged 50 years and 11 months and was interred at Pompion Hill Chapel on September 12th.

[fn p. 11]

State of South Carolina District of Charleston: On this 24th day of August 1843 personally appeared before me John Bryan aged 52 years a resident of Charleston South Carolina who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to be entitled to the benefit of the provision of the act of Congress passed 7th of July 1838, entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows." That, he is the son of Lydia Bryan deceased, who was the widow of John Bryan deceased who was a Lieutenant and pay master in the Revolution and served as Deponent believes in Hampton's Regiment South Carolina line, Deponent says he cannot name the places, nor tell how long he served, but believes he served during the war and in said line of South Carolina, Deponent says he is mother the said Lydia was married to the said John Bryan on second of February A.D. 1783, by the Reverend Edward Ellington, Rector of the Episcopal Church of St. James Goose Creek near Charleston South Carolina. Deponent says his father the said John Bryan died on the 10th of November 1803, and that his mother the said Lydia Bryan died in Charleston on the 29th day of January 1843, leaving no child but Deponent. Deponent says that, his belief is that his mother the said Lydia was not married to the said John Bryan prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to first of January 1794, viz., at the time above stated. Deponent says that his said mother continued a widow of said John to the time of her death. Deponent says that, he spoke frequently to his mother about applying for a pension, but owing to her infirmity and other causes, it was postponed from time to time until she died. Deponent says that there is an original entry or record of the marriage of his father and mother as aforesaid in the family Bible now in his possession, which is in the handwriting of his father the said John Bryan an attested copy of which is herewith annexed with other proof in support of this declaration.

Sworn to before me the day and year above written.

S/ R. B. Gilchrist, Judge

S/ John Bryan

[fn p. 18]

State of South Carolina District of Charleston: On this 26th day of August 1843 Personally appeared before [me] Mrs. Mary E. Holmes aged 84 years a resident of Charleston South Carolina who being duly sworn according to law deposes that she was well acquainted with the late John Bryan who died in 1803 and with his wife Lydia who died in 1843. Deponent says that her maiden name was Simons, & that, said Lydia's maiden name was Ball, that said Lydia was married twice, her first husband's name was Edward Simons, said Edward Simons was brother of Deponent. Deponent says that she was present at the marriage of said John Bryan to said Lydia Simmons, she remembers the circumstance well, it took place at the house of Benjamin Simons, at his plantation called Middleburg, on the Cooper River, St. Thomas's parish near Charleston. The ceremony was performed by the Reverend Edward Ellington of the Episcopal Church --

Deponent says that said Benjamin was also a brother to Deponent, -- said Mrs. Bryan was very much esteemed -- She left but one child, viz. Mister John Bryan now of Charleston. Deponent says she has been shown an entry in the family Bible which records, that, said marriage took place on the second day of February 1783. Deponent says, she believes the same to be correct, -- and that, the said marriage did take place on the said second day of February 1783. -- Deponent states that, she cannot state the particulars of the service of said John Bryan, but always understood that, he did serve in the war of the revolution.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day and year above written.

S/ F. Lanneau, NP

S/ Mary E. Holmes

[fn p. 23]

State of South Carolina District of Charleston: On this 20th day of December A.D. 1844 Personally came and appeared before me Mr. John Cart¹ aged 83 years a resident of Charleston and a revolutionary soldier, Who being duly Sworn according to law Depoeth that, he was in Charleston during a part of the War of the Revolution. Deponent says he remembers & was acquainted with Mr. John Bryan, deceased father of Colonel John Bryan of Charleston, Bryan Senior was a short, stout well-built man, and planted in the neighborhood of the City. Deponent cannot remember in what Corps, Bryan Senior served during the Revolutionary War, but, Deponent is positive he saw him in Uniform as an Officer with epaulet & Sword, Deponent says he never knew during those times another person of the same name as John Bryan, but the one known as the father of the present John Bryan, nor never heard of any other as being in the Service.

Deponent has a distinct recollection of the circumstance of the Marriage of Bryan Senior with a Miss Ball, it was much talk of that time as being not agreeable to the Balls who were reputed very Wealthy and he not so. Deponent knows Mr. Roger Pinckney of Charleston he is a respectable gentlemen and was as he believes acquainted with Bryan Senior.

Sworn to before me this 20th of December 1844 & subscribed

S/ E. S. Courtenay, NP

S/ John Cart

¹ [John Cart S8139](#)