

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Thomas Broughton (Braughton) W897

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Alabama, Lawrence County

On this third day of February 1835, personally appeared before James B. Wallace, Judge of the County Court of said County, which is a Court of Record, Thomas Broughton, a resident of said County and State, aged seventy-four 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 7, 1832.

He entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was born on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1760, in St. John's Parish on Cooper River in South Carolina – has no record of his age, which was in his father's Bible, and as he believes, was destroyed by the British after the taking of Charleston – he was enrolled in Captain Benjamin Waring's Company of militia in 1776 – Served as a private in said Company until 1779 – Captain Waring was ordered to take charge of the magazine at Dorchester on the Ashley River – he divided his company into three divisions, and these divisions served monthly tours – so that he was engaged one year in actual service and the other two as a member of the company – and only required to do military duty as above stated, i.e., one month in every three – he lived in St. George's Parish, at the time he was in enrolled a member of Captain Waring's Company – in 1779, he was appointed by Captain Waring a Sergeant, to take the command of six men, and go on board a Schooner, and convey the powder to Charleston from Dorchester down Ashley River – which he did – got below Ashley ferry the night before the British crossed it on their march from Savannah to Charleston – after delivering the powder to Governor Rutledge [John Rutledge], he marched up to the lines and joined his Company which had come down to Charleston by land – remained in Charleston until General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] fought the British at Stono ferry; and was then discharged and returned home. In 1780, February, Captain Waring's Company was ordered out again and joined Col. Washington's [William Washington's] Cavalry – was in the surprise at Monks Corner [sic, Moncks Corner], where Colonel Washington commanded. General Huger [Isaac Huger] lay at Biggins [sic, Biggin] Church and was surprised at the same time. Was in service until May of this year. After the taking of Charleston the militia generally returned to their homes, and he amongst the rest – early in the spring of 1781, he thinks in March, he volunteered under Captain John Wright, Captain of the Wasua Law [sic, Wasmasaw ?] Company, who had raised 19 other volunteers, and went and joined General Marion [Francis Marion] in the Santee Swamps – shortly after joining Genl Marion, Captain Wright, Col Wade Hampton and Col Thomas, the two latter of General Sumpter's [sic, Thomas Sumter's] Brigade, were ordered to the road leading from Moncks Corner to Charleston to go as far down as the officers should think prudent. We went within 6 miles of Charleston; there my Captain John Wright was killed.<sup>1</sup> We took about 30 British regulars, a

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<sup>1</sup> Wright was killed at the skirmish at the Quarter House, near Charleston on July 15, 1781. Patrick O'Kelley, *Nothing but Blood and Slaughter: The Revolutionary War in the Carolinas, Volume Three: 1781*, (N.p.: Blue House Tavern Press, Booklocker.com, Inc., 2005) 286-288. The Charleston Royal Gazette, in its July 18, 1781 issue, reported the skirmish as follows: *Early on Sunday a considerable party of mounted Rebels, chiefly Militia under Henry (sic) Hampton who formerly resided at the Congarees made a sudden irruption into Goose Creek Parish, surrounded the church during the time of service made prisoners of the congregation to some of whom they gave paroles and took several horses. About two o'clock they came to the Quarter House, Lieut. Waugh with 18 convalescents of the SC Dragoons having a little before received intelligence of some flying parties of Rebels being seen in the neighborhood had just then mounted and was going out to reconnoitre, he was immediately attacked. The great disparity of force admitted but a short contest in which the gallant Waugh cut down John Wright of Wasmasaw, a Rebel Captain, and it is said two others. He then surrendered and was afterwards shot. Some of the Rebel Officers affected to regret the death of so brave a man and to condemn the infamous deed. Several gentlemen from the town were then at the Quarter House, some of whom got off; others were taken and admitted to their parol. Mr. William Trusler of this town in attempting to make his escape was shot. After staying there two*

baggage wagon, and about 90 head of horses – the British having them out at pasture – after Captain Wright was killed, all his men returned home, except John Gibson and applicant – we were then encamped on Santee [River], opposite Gilliard [sic, Gaillard's] Island – Colonel Hezekiah Maham was at that time enlisting men for a Regiment of light horse – he and Gibson enlisted – applicant for twelve months as forage Master to the Regiment – he served eight months as forage Master, was then promoted to a Lieutenant in the third troop of said Regiment commanded by Robert McKelvey; his commission, signed by Governor Rutledge, was lost in a trunk stolen from him in Charleston. The first meeting of the Legislature of South Carolina after the fall of Charleston, Genl Marion and Col Maham were elected members and both went. Marion left his brigade under the command of Colonel Horry [Peter Horry], of the light horse; the whole Regiment and light horse were surprised at Wambaw – Colonel Maham's Regiment was left under the command of Captain John Carraway Smith – we lay about 25 miles above Marion's Brigade and Horry's horse on the Santee, at James Sinclair's plantation – on receiving the news of the surprise, Captain Smith marched off to cover to retreat of those who might be squandered – but as soon as we got to the ground where Marion's brigade lay, we also were surprised. Applicant was with Marion when he went to Pee Dee where he had a truce with Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] and Major Ganys [sic, Micajah Ganey] – he was at the battle of Wopetaw [sic, Wappetaw], on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1782 – and received a wound in the ear – Colonel Maham's Regiment was alone in this battle – he was also at the taking of the British Hospital near Moncks Corner by Col Maham – we were accompanied by Colonels Shelby [Isaac Shelby], Sevier [John Sevier] and Robertson, who came from over the Mountains – took 93 regulars, two Doctors and three Sergeants – our Regiment also fought a battle at Parson Smith's plantation, in Christ Church Parish on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February, 1782, where applicant was shot through the leg – he was disbanded in Charleston in 1782, after the British left yet. Had no written discharge, has no documentary evidence of his service except the enclosed certified copy of a settlement made by applicant, in 1784, him as forage Master, Lieutenant and Quartermaster, in Colonel Maham's Cavalry – taken from the books of, and certified by, the Comptroller General of South Carolina – he knows of no person now living in this part of the Country by whom he can prove his service. He served twenty months in Maham's Regiment – 4 months as a volunteer under Captain Wright, and assisted in guarding the magazine at Dorchester three years – but by an arrangement of the Captain was only in actual service one month in three though subject to the orders of Captain Waring the whole time – he served as forage Master eight months, and the last 12 months as Lieutenant of a troop of horse. After the war he resided in South Carolina and in various parts of that State until 1818 – then went to Rutherford County Tennessee – and in 1819, to Lawrence County in this State where he has resided ever since.

Recapitulation of service:

From 1776 to '79, he was in actual service as a private in Captain Waring's company of militia – From February till May, 1780, he served three months as a private under Captain Waring – from March 1781, four months as a volunteer under Captain Wright – in 1781 & 2, he served in Colonel H. Maham's Regiment twelve months – 8 months as forage Master – and 12 months as Lieutenant of a troop of horse – making in all three years and three months actual service – 8 months of which time he served as forage Master and 12 months as a Lieutenant of horse.

He refers to the certificates of Judge Wallace [James B. Wallace], Crockett McDonald, Joshua Gregg and John Gallagher, in his evidence of his character.

He hereby relinquishes every 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 & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thos Broughton