

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Richard Burnett R1474

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia, Hanover County, to wit:

On this 28th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before William Brockenbrough Judge of the Superior Court of Law and Chancery for the said County of Hanover, now sitting, Richard Burnett, a resident in the County of Hanover and State of Virginia aforesaid, 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service as a substitute for Elisha Burnett of this county, on the first of September 1780, and served a Tour of duty of six months, making cartridges part of the time in a laboratory in Richmond, then a town, but now the city of Richmond, in the County of Henrico on James River; and the remaining part of the said six months in a laboratory at Westham, a few miles above Richmond on the said river – the first four of the said six months he was under Capt Walter Scott, and the other two of the said six months he was under Capt Greyer.

That on his return home on the 1st of March 1781, he again entered the service, in the militia, as a substitute for his brother John Burnett of this county, when he served as a militia man, three months, under Capt Thomas Richardson. This service was in Richmond, and up and down James River, and in this county – Capt Richardson's Company was under the command of Major Miles Selden.

And that on his return from serving under Capt. Richardson, he was placed on the muster list, and was drafted into service and marched to the siege of York Town [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] under Capt. William Anderson. This was called a three months Tour; but he served on this tour more than two months.

He 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, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid. Richard hisXmark Burnett

Hanover County, to wit:

Benjamin Hughes [pension application S3079] of the County of Campbell, made Oath before us Justices of the peace for the said County of Hanover – That in the year 1781 he lived in this County, and that in that year he served a three months tour of militia duty with Mr Richard Burnett, they being called out from the County, under Capt Thomas Richardson – That they both entered the service at the same time, about the month of May, and both were discharged about the same time. That this service was performed at Richmond, and up and down the James River, and in the County of Hanover. And in the fall of the same year, that he served another three months tour of militia duty with the said Burnett, under Capt. William Anderson, both entering the service at the same time, and both being discharged about the same time which last service was performed a little preceeding and during the siege of Cornwallis's Army, at York Town, till it was taken.

And the said Benjamin Hughes further made Oath, that he had been acquainted with the said Richard Burnett from his boyhood, that the said Richard Burnett is older than he is, and that according to his Register and as he believes he is sixty eight years old last October.

Given under our hands and seals this 4th day of August 1832.

Hanover County towit

George Burnett made oath before use Justices of the peace for the said county – that his brother Richard Burnett served as a militia man in the War of the Revolution – first a tour mostly about

Richmond and Westham and engaged in a Laboratory making cartridges, which was called as well as he recollects a six or eight months Tour – From which he had just returned home, when he was again called into service, mostly about Richmond and on James River. And that he had got home from this second tour but a very short time, when he was called into service again, and marched down to the siege of Cornwallis at York Town

And the said George Burnett further made Oath – That he believes himself to be about sixty nine years old – And also, that his brother Richard is about six years older than he is, as he has understood and believes.

Given under our hands as Justices of the peace for the aforesaid County of Hanover this 1st day of September 1832.

In Hanover Circuit Superior Court, April 29th 1835.

George Burnett of Hanover County aged seventy this day appeared in open Court and having been first duly sworn deposed that he recollects that a short time before the siege of York Town in Virginia during the Revolutionary war his brother Richard Burnett late of Hanover County was drafted as a private soldier of the militia to serve a tour of six months service, that he went into the service and was as well as this affiant recollects under the command of Capt. Scott. That said Richard Burnett and the company to which he belonged was stationed near the City of Richmond for some time and then was moved up to a place called Westham where he served out his term of six months service. This affiant occasionally went to see said Richard Burnett when in service as above stated and distinctly recollects that he and some few other soldiers were detached for the purpose of making cartridges and he saw said Burnett making them. He further states that said Richard Burnett died in the summer of 1833 without having ever had any children, survived by Margaret his wife who died about twelve months after her husband; and further said affiant saith not

In Hanover Circuit Superior Court, October 19th 1835

This day Anselm Bailey [Ansolem Bailey, pension application S37702], a credible witness, appeared in Court & having been duly sworn deposes and saith, that he is now in the seventy eighth year of his age; That in the early part of his life he was intimately acquainted with Richard Burnett late of this County, and that that continued till the death of said Burnett; That this affiant entered into the Continental service in the War of the Revolution in 1776 and after being in the battels of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], Pawles Hook [sic: Paulus Hook, 19 Aug 1779] and at Stoney Point under Gen'l. Wayne [Stony Point under Anthony Wayne, 16 Jul 1779] and with maj'r. Gibbon, got his discharge near Christmas in 1779 and returned home. In 1780 and 1781 he served several calls in the Militia till the siege of York as all had to do their best during the invasion of Virginia by [Gen. Benedict] Arnold, [Gen. William] Phillips and Cornwallis. This affiant recollects distinctly that in the spring of 1780 he saw the said Richard Burnett in the City of Richmond he being then a drafted Militia Soldier for a six months tour of service, and this affiant knows that he served as a soldier fully six months, and he believes much longer, either as a substitute or volunteer or in consequence of being again drafted in those busy times. When he saw said Burnett in Richmond as above mentioned, he was very busily employed making cartridges, and this affiant understood from him, from two of Vale Tucker's sons & from other soldiers who were making Cartridges at the time, that they had been detailed for that purpose. [page torn] of which, on the motion of Richard Burnett Exe[cuto]r of said Richard Burnett dec'd. is ordered to be certified.

NOTES:

On 19 Oct 1835 John Kerby, 70, stated: "That he recollects distinctly that when he was about fifteen or sixteen years of age said Richard Burnett was drafted for a six months tour of service in the Militia and he, the affiant, is satisfied that he was in service fully six months and believes much longer,

for he recollects distinctly that George Burnett, his brother, was in the habit of carrying to Richard Burnett, whilst in service as a soldier in Richmond (which was twelve miles off), clothes and other things sent him by old Isaac Burnett & his wife, the father and mother of the said Richard. Whilst said Richard Burnett was serving his tour of service this affiant recollects that a good many people were hired to make cartridges as there was a great call for them, but not being able to make them fast enough some of the soldiers were detailed for that purpose and amongst those that were detailed was Richard Burnett."

The file includes a copy of the last will and testament of "Richard Burnett Senior" dated 4 Aug 1829 and proved on 27 Aug 1833, lending his negroes and other property to his wife during her life, and afterwards giving all the property to his nephew, Richard Burnett, Jr. Isaac Burnett was one of the witnesses.

The file includes a copy of the last will and testament of Margaret Burnett dated 10 July 1834 and proved on 22 July 1834. It made the following bequests:

To Tazwell Barker, Salley Barker, Elizabeth Barker, Emily Barker, and Ira Barker: "my negro man Tom and his wife Milley and their children Suckey and Moses and also my young negro man Zack with the future increase of the females of the said negroes."

To niece Ann Hughes, widow of her nephew, John Hughes, "my old negro woman Tamer," plus \$40 and the tract of land on which Margaret Burnett lived.

She lent to Margaret Talley during her life, and gave to her children afterward, her tract of land "lying near the Rawleigh which I purchased of Billey Talley and the land which I purchased of my nephew David Hughes being a part of the tract which formerly belonged to my brother John Hughes dec'd." The children were listed as James Talley, Mary Talley, Francis Talley, Louisa Talley, and Martha Talley.