

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

Pension Application of Moody Burt R1511

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of South Carolina

Anderson District

On this twelfth day of October one thousand eight hundred and thirty six personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Court of Sessions and Common Pleas for the said District now in Session Moody Burt residing in the State and District aforesaid, who being duly sworn according to law doth on oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

This Deponent was born on the Twenty Fifth day of December in the year 1757 at the half way House between Williamsburg and York being nearly Seventy Nine years of age. He was residing in Charlotte County Virginia when he first entered the service. In the Spring of the year 1779 he entered the service by enlisting in the company of Capt. Benj. Toliver [sic: Benjamin Taliaferro] Maj [Richard Clough] Anderson Leut. Col. Sam'l. Hopkins [Samuel Hopkins] and Col. [Richard] Parker commanding the Regiment – which belonged to Scotts [Gen. Charles Scott's] Brigade for the term of Eighteen months. Their line of march was taken up at Petersburg and continued through North and South Carolina to Savannah in Georgia. there this deponent remained six weeks and while there the city was besieged [16 Sep - 19 Oct 1779] and he was severely wounded. and in consequence of his wound he was sent to Charleston South Carolina and remained there three months under the treatment of Dr. Harris [possibly Samuel Harris], when being so far recovered he obtained a Permit from Col Heath [sic: William Heth] of the Same Brigade to join his Regiment under Col. Parker, which he did at Augusta Georgia. Shortly after Charleston was besieged and Col. Parkers Regiment marched to their relief. This Deponent remained at Augusta, his wound having broken out again from his fatigue and exposure in travelling from Charleston to Augusta. There he remained under the Treatment of Dr. Wells until he recovered. After the fall of Charleston [12 May 1780] this Deponent in company with Thomas Glascock, Jesse Walton and Col Marbray [Leonard Marbury of the Georgia Regiment of Horse Rangers] left Augusta on their way to Virginia and in their Presence he destroyed all his papers &c shewing his enlistment and services. This was done in order to avoid detention by the way – and they were pledged to prove his services and the destruction of his papers shewing his enlistment &c. But since they have all died. On his way to Virginia he joined Col. [Abraham] Buford's Regiment on the day after their defeat by the British at Charlotte in North Carolina [sic: at Waxhaws SC, 29 May 1780] and continued his march with them to Hillsborough where he obtained a furlough from Lieut. Col. Sam'l. Hawes [Samuel Hawes] of the same Regiment, to return home. Shortly after his return home he was called out to meet the recruits at Chesterfield Virginia and while in training there his term of Enlistment expired. He there obtained a permit from Col. Davis [sic: William Davies] to go to Richmond to get his discharge, which he did from Genl. Murenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg]. He has since lost it. In February 1781 volunteered in a Light Horse Company commanded by Capt. Bedford and Maj. Walker Daniel and was appointed Adjutant finding his own horse and arms. There were from thence marched to Dan River and from thence to Hillsborough and thence to Whitsells Mills, where they under the command of Otho Williams of the Maryland had an engagement with the British under Lord Cornwallis [skirmish at Wetzel's Mill NC on Reedy Fork of Haw River, 6 Mar 1781]. They were then present at the engagement at Alamants [sic: skirmish at Clapp's Mill near Alamance Creek, 2 Mar] and afterwards at Reedy Fork at which place they were commanded by Gen'l. Washington [see endnote] – and then marched to Guilford Court House and was also present at that engagement [sic: Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781]. One week after that Battle he received his discharge. Having been in service since the expiration of his first enlistment Six or Eight weeks after

which the Legislature of Virginia gave him a Land Warrant for Eleven hundred acres of Land on the Ohio River in the Continental Reserve as a Bounty for his last mentioned services, which warrant was granted on the Certificate of his major Walker Daniel, and to whom it was delivered as an agent to locate it. And while on his way to locate it, he was killed by the Indians [Aug 1784] and the warrant. This Deponent believes that it can be seen on reference to the Records of the Legislature of Virginia. He also received an indent from the same Legislature in consequence of the depreciation of the paper money. This Deponent has no other Proof than what is here submitted, all those with whom he was particularly well acquainted in the service being dead. and He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to all Pensions or Annuities whatsoever and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

[signed] Moody Burt

The State of South Carolina

Anderson District

Personally appeared Moody Burt and being duly sworn on oath declares by way of amendment to his Declaration heretofore submitted to the War Department That he was promised at the time of his enlistment in 1779 the appointment of a Sergeant and did therefore enlist and enter into the service as such though for a short time he was made to serve as a Corporal. From the time of his enlistment which was for the Term of eighteen months until the expiration he was subject to the command of his officers. He immediately marched to the South and was in active service until he was wounded at the Siege of Savannah and as constantly after as his wound would permit ~~except~~ and for a short time when on furlough as before stated. This Deponent did not apply for the benefit of the Acts of 1818 and of 1832 for no other reason than that he was at those times and has always since been opposed to the system of Pensioning the Soldiers of the Revolution and is confirmed in his opposition by the experience of his after life having lived to see those who were conscientious in setting out their service debarred its benefits whilst thousands who have comparatively seen but little service have received large compensations because possessed of a more supple memory. This Deponent has since applied not because his opinions have changed but because he has been urged by his friends who have been satisfied of his desert.

Sworn to & subscribed April 29th 1840

[signed] Moody Burt

NOTES:

The engagement at Reedy Fork after the one near Alamance Creek was probably the skirmish at Wetzel's Mill already mentioned. Burt or the clerk who wrote the declaration may have confused Gen. George Washington, who was not in North Carolina, with his distant cousin, Lt. Col. William Washington, who was.

Col. Samuel Hammond (pension application S21807) stated that he had seen "Major Moody Burt formerly a resident of Edgefield District SC" at Augusta GA in 1780.

Moody's claim was denied because his alleged claim for bounty land could not be found in Virginia records, and there were doubts about his identity.

On 27 March 1840 Mrs. Nancy Hall stated that although young at the time, she remembered when her brother, Moody Burt, enlisted together with a younger brother, Robert Burt. She also recalled "a letter received from a physician in Charleston informing her father that one of the boys was wounded." She further stated that Moody Burt "was an active whig and devoted to the cause of Independence... as was every member of the family."

The file includes a copy of Moody Burt's last will and testament signed on 6 Aug 1834 with the following bequests:

To William Toney and David G. Raney in trust for Burt's daughter, Sarah Pope – a slave named Jack, 22, and a tract in Florida where Burt formerly lived

To Burt's daughter Martha H. Goode subject to control by her husband Lewilling Goode – the remainder

of the estate.

Lewelling and Martha H. Goode both died before 27 March 1841, and Burt left their share of the estate to their children: Sarah Goode, Martha Goode, Thomas Goode, and John Goode. Burt's will was probated 6 Nov 1843.

On 23 Aug 1858 Mackerness M. Goode and Martha H. Hammonds assigned power of attorney to obtain any pension that may have been due to them as grandchildren of Moody Burt.