

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Philip T. Burford S1646

fn33NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/16/10

[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 Tennessee Bedford County

On this 8th day of August 1833 personally appeared in open court before the court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for Bedford County now sitting being a court of Record Philip T Burford a resident of Bedford County in the State of Tennessee in the seventy first year of his age, 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.

I entered the service of the United States during the revolutionary war on the first of March 1780 in Warren County in the State of North Carolina where I then resided under Colonel Nicholas Long Quartermaster General of the State of North Carolina, and received the appointment of purchasing commissary forthwith: then was employed in procuring provisions for a Regiment then raising in Halifax District under the command of Colonels Benjamin Seawell & William Brickell under whose direction I proceeded to the Courthouse in Wake County, now Raleigh, where I had sent to me twelve militia light horsemen as a guard & after procuring the supplies that was thought sufficient near that place, I proceeded to Malcolm Gilchrist's in Moore County to obtain more provisions – from thence I proceeded southwardly to Hector McNeill's Senior (a disaffected person) where his son Hector McNeill Junior, a true Whig, rendered me considerable assistance in procuring the necessary provisions wanted. From there, as instructed by my commander, I proceeded in the direction to a certain Hix's on Pedee River a little below Cheraw Hills to procure forthwith supplies at or near Colson's bridge on Drowning Creek This I think was in the month of July 1780 & the time the militia was to serve being three months after crossing the State line, which they did not cross until about the 13th of August. I then received orders from the commander of the Regiment to proceed to General Gates' Army, which we did & arrived within hearing of the engagement wherein he was defeated near Camden & shortly after met horsemen from the field of Action, who informed us of the misfortune. We (myself & guard) then retraced our steps to Hix's on Pedee, where in our absence, our Regiment had arrived – & proceeded to follow it in its march & overtook it at or near Monroe's Bridge on Drowning Creek, from thence we marched to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River & then we proceeded and joined General Sumner at or near Hillsboro who was the first regular or Continental officer I had met with that I personally knew. He then marched near to Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, where was an ambuscade laid for Colonel Tarleton, which

measure failing, we fell back again to Salisbury & then to Hillsboro, which was some time in the month of September 1780. – In October I was taken sick, & was furloughed in consequence thereof & got to a friend's in Granville County where I lay sometime in November of the same year, when I returned home to Warren County. Shortly after I was taken sick & furloughed, say about the last of October 1780, our Regiment was discharged.

After returning home as just stated, I proceeded to Halifax received orders about the first of December 1780 from the Deputy Quartermaster General Colonel William Christmas to proceed to the house of Colonel Philemon Hawkins of Warren County to superintend the curing of pork – to which place I proceeded forthwith, and attended to the business of the same until about the first of March 1781. Having in the meantime received orders from the Quarter Master general to procure as many wagons & teams by enlistment or impressment, for which services I procured 15 wagons & had already by the time above specified. I took the command of the same by order of the Quarter master general, I moved on to Hillsboro. I now had to be very circumspect in regard to our movements lest our provisions should fall into the hands of our enemies, for the English Army under Cornwallis was in the adjoining County (Guilford). Suffice to say I was on the Battle ground in Guilford County the fourth day after the battle was fought: & by orders issued rations to the sick & wounded Americans left there (at the Courthouse). Also to those of the enemy as were left in the hospital, together with the discharged Militia and Regulars. We followed General Greene towards the South, by Ramsey's Mill on Deep River, and overtook him above the hanging rock in South Carolina & delivered the balance of the provisions in my care. From which place I returned homeward and arrived at Halifax about the last of July. Having now but 10 wagons left, the others being disabled from some source or another, we continued to haul public provisions to & from public stores, Camp kettles from Wilcox's Iron works, to Halifax, Warrenton and Louisville in Franklin County until about the middle of October 1781 when the wagons was discharged. I having been in service as purchasing commissary and wagon master a little more than nineteen months, say nineteen months.

About the time I ceased to be quarter wagon master as above stated and about the 15th of October 1781, I enlisted in a troop of Horse to be raised in the State of North Carolina for & during the war, with the promise of the first Lieutenant's commission, to be commanded by Colonel William Linton. I enlisted the number of men required of me, & held ourselves in readiness to enter the service at any time, & continued to do so until peace was finally concluded. In this service a part of our engagement was that we were not to be taken beyond the limits of the State without our consent, & were to be furnished with horses & all necessary equipage by the State, & frequently met at Halifax for the purpose of receiving them, but never did, and only were called on in an occasional excursions against the Tories. And we were in the excursions against the Tories, I commanded as Lieutenant but not commissioned The different services whereof amounted to at least three months. When added to the nineteen months, 22 months service I performed.

I will just say that I was born in the County of Warren in the State of North Carolina on the 29th day of June 1763 – at least a record left by my father of his family shows it at that time consequently I am now in my seventy first year. And further where the above record is now, I do not know; but it was as above stated.

As stated in the commencement of this declaration, I resided in Warren County in the State of North Carolina when I entered the public service, and afterwards until I was between 29 & 30 years of age. From there I moved to Kershaw district South Carolina, lived there about seven years; from thence I removed to Franklin County, Georgia, lived there about three years – I

then moved to Haywood County North Carolina, resided there eight or nine years, from thence I moved to Bedford County in the State of Tennessee where I have continued to reside ever since.

In regard to the manner in which I entered the service, having omitted it at the commencement of this declaration, I will just state that I had done so as a volunteer.

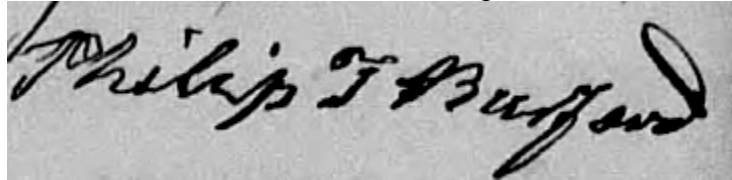
In regard to commission I never received any. I always acted with written instructions given me by the Quarter master general: and not conceiving they would ever be of any benefit to me further than their special instructions went, I suffered them to be destroyed. And as to discharge, I never received any.

I am known by the citizens generally of the County where I reside, & also by a number of those in the adjoining Counties. The certificate of Solomon Burford & Wynn Twitty of Lincoln County in regard to their knowledge of my Army services accompanies this. Together with the certificates of Shadrach Mustein a clergyman and William D Orr of my neighborhood who testify as to my character for veracity etc.

I will here by way of explanation say that conceiving that my former declaration¹ was written in such a detached manner that made it difficult to arrive at a proper knowledge of its content I have thought proper to redraft the same, and therein embrace as far as I was capable, an answer to the objections raised by the war Department to my former declaration. – Some of which omissions, as the clergyman etc. I conceived was not essential, or at least thought it not necessary that he should appear in Court to do so.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present; and that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Philip T. Burford

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip T. Burford". The ink is dark and the paper appears slightly aged.

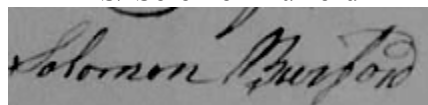
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ James McKissick, Clerk

[Shadrach Mustein, a clergyman, and William D Orr gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Lincoln County: This day came personally before me A. Isaacs an Acting Justice of the Peace in and for the said County of Lincoln Solomon Burford, aged in his seventieth year and maketh oath in due form that he was personally acquainted with Philip T Burford in the County of Warren State of North Carolina from the time that he was 12 or 14 years old, and that he well recollects that said Philip T Burford did go into the United States service in the Revolutionary War at one time as a Commissary and at another time as a Wagon master, and he further recollects of going with the said Philip T Burford while he was pressing horses for the United States Service, and did accompany him the said Philip T Burford some distance on his way while in service and he further believes that he the said Philip T Burford to be the age that he represents. Sworn to & subscribed the 15th day of June 1833 before me
S/ A. Isaacs, JP

S/ Solomon Burford

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Solomon Burford". The ink is dark and the paper appears slightly aged.

¹ No earlier declaration is contained in the digital images of this file.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$73.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one year and 10 months service in the North Carolina militia.]