

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

Pension Application of Andrew Burns S30296

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky Perry County Sct.

On this 10th day of June 1833 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the county Court of said County now sitting Andrew Burns a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 75 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 of the United States in the Revolutionary War as a volunteer under Capt. Joseph Martin Lieut Brice Martin & Ensign John Martin in the County of Henry State of Virginia in which county he resided. The Field officers were Gen'l. Christy [William Christian], Col. Russell & Maj'r. [Evan] Shelby where he served in the expedition against the Cherokee Indians. The company marched from Henry County to Harberts ferry on New River thence on past Fort Chisel [sic: Fort Chiswell] to the Island of Holston [Long Island of Holston River at present Kingsport TN] passing Eatons fort at which place Capt. Martins Company joined with the Companies of Captains Lyon & Gilmore & all marched together down to the Island of Holston where they took up Camp and staid some time & was joined by a number of Troops from North Carolina. When they reached the Island of Holston all hands were set to work clearing the undergrowth out of the way of encampment – a Capt. Cock & Solomon Kindred crossed over Holston to the Island and when they got over they raised an alarm that the Indians were crossing the River at the lower ford – clearing ceased and all were to arms immediately & the many pale faces is distinctly recollected – but it was soon found to be a false alarm that it was cattle crossing. While at that place a soldier was charged with stealing flour and giving to a widow woman – he was tried convicted & whipped for the offence – he afterward said he would steal more for the poor woman before she should suffer.

The army marched from this place to the three springs at which place the men were reviewed & some sent back as unable to go on – a Mr. Knave is well remembered who was a little lean man & who was told to go back that he was not able to go on but he utterly refused & said he was as able to go on as any man in the Army & did go on. They proceeded on to the bend of Nolachucky [sic: Nolichucky River] where they encamped, the night was blustery & the fires burned freely & gave much light; during the night there was an alarm but it proved to be false. They marched on to French broad river & a part crossed in the night, some remained with the baggage, it was thought that an attack might be made by the Indians at that place but none was made. The day after crossing while cooking breakfast a soldier by the name of Hall was lying asleep & his messmate Guin cut down a saplin & hallowed to Hall to take care but he was asleep & the saplin fell on him & he died soon afterwards – he spoke a few words and requested Guin to take care of his wife & child – from this place they proceeded to the Cherokee nation but the Indians had fled so that there was no engagement with them – the towns &c was destroyed [10 - 20 Apr 1779]. the army staid principally in the dragging Canoe Town & staid sometime in the Nation and held treaties with the Indians – then returned to the Island of Holston; He is of opinion that he entered the Service the last of May or first of June & started on from Henry County Va. about the first of August & was discharged a few days before Christmas following at the Island of Holston – this tour was sometime before the Battle of Kings Mountain [7 Oct 1780] as he recollects from the tour he served afterwards but the year cannot be stated certainly.

He again entered the service of the United States under Captain John Fountain [sic: John Fontaine] at Reuben Panes in Henry County Va. & marched to a place known by the name of the Hollow [in present Patrick County] after the Tories who were commanded by James Roberts but before they got there Roberts & his men were gone & they got to the British & joined them as was understood. Fountains

Company then returned – he supposes they were gone on this tour 10 or 12 days – this tour was a short time after the Cherokee tour named before

He again entered the service a short time before the Battle of Kings Mountain under Capt. Herd [possibly Jesse Heard] of said County of Henry Va. as a volunteer & was marched on past the shallow ford of the Adkin River [sic: Yadkin River, 10 mi W of present Winston-Salem] in a direction to Kings Mountain but before reached there the battle was over & they met the other troops returning with the prisoners taken in the Battle at Kings Mountain & they returned with them & the prisoners to the Moravian Town [probably Salem] North Carolina at which place the Company of Capt. Herd was discharged. He well recollects that Ears of Corn was thrown to the prisoners at the Moravian Town & that there was much scrambling who should get it first to eat, such was there hungry situation. He is of opinion that the time of this tour could not be less than six weeks – He had regular discharges and kept them many years & is clearly of opinion that he had them at the death of his wife about 15 years past since which time he has taken no care of any of his papers & has lost them.

He hereby relinquishes his 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 & year aforesaid

Andrew hisXmark Burns

Commonwealth of Kentucky Perry County to Wit

Personally appeared William Burns [pension application S16669] before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in & for s'd. County and made Oath that he was knowing to Andrew Burn's serving in the campaign under Capt. Martin against the Cherokee Indians as stated above in his Declaration & that he believes his statement is true. He also states that he does not know of his own knowledge of the services as named in the other tours, but that he believes the statement true as he always heard it from his Brother & the rest of the family, after the services were rendered – the reason of his not knowing of the services was that he had moved to North Carolina after the Cherokee tour

[11 May 1833]

William hisXmark Burns