

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

Pension Application of Dobson Burrow S9117

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions
Randolph County } November Term 1839

On this 8th day of November 1839 personally appeared before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting, Dobson Burrow, a resident of said County of Randolph and State of North Carolina, aged eighty one 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 enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1776, as well as he can recollect with one William Starke [pension application S7592]. What rank said Starke held in the army this declarant does not remember [Lieutenant]. He enlisted for two years he thinks, and served under[?] some new enlistment two years and a half. He served in the Sixth Regiment, but does not remember with certainty who was his Colonel. He knows that Wm Starke commanded him but he does not remember what rank said Starke held in the army. He enlisted in Dinwiddie County Virginia in which County he resided at the time he enlisted. He served till the year 1778 as well as he can recollect – and he was honourably discharged. He recollects with distinctness being present at the taking of the Hessians at Trenton [26 Dec 1776] – and crossing the Delaware River on the ice and that he was then under the immediate command of Gen'l Washington. He was a private soldier during the whole period of his service. This declarant would state that by reason of old age his memory has been very greatly impaired and he cannot remember with certainty the length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served as a private soldier two years and a half commencing in 1776 and leaving the army in 1778. His service was altogether in the Infantry. He states that he was frequently under the immediate command of Gen'l Washington. That he remembers a Col Stephens, who he thinks was killed [probably Adam Stephen, dismissed for his conduct at the Battle of Brandywine]. He remembers Gen'l LaFayette. He was with the army at Valley Forge and at a place called Red Banks [Red Bank NJ] on Delaware River, site of Fort Mercer]. He was present at the battle of Brandy Wine [Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777]. This declarant states that his memory is so exceedingly impaired that he cannot state with certainty the particulars of his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency of any state.

Dobson hisXmark Burrow

NOTE:

Lucy York stated that she was very young when Dobson Burrow was a soldier, but she recalled that he had had the small pox shortly before his return. Gen. Alexander Gray stated that he moved to Randolph County in 1792 and settled near "Mrs. Lucey Burrow and her family consisting of Dobson Burrow and his brothers and sisters." Gray stated that he had heard Burrow describe the services claimed in his declaration and also that "on some River to the North a Block house or some wooden fortification was fired on by the british with hot balls and took fire, that himself and others Volunteered their services to extinguish it. that while engaged in this dangerous business a musket ball passed through his cartouch box into his small cloths without doing him any serious injury." Gray also recalled hearing Burrow's "Mother and Brother Barny both of whome are no diseased relating that he after serving three years or more took the small pox in the army and was permitted to return home." Gray also referred to Dobson Burrow's brother-in-law, Thomas Yeargin.

Gray also gave the following explanation for why Burrow did not apply earlier for a pension: "[H]e was and still is a man of considerable wealth – that he had no children and that many years since

both his bodily and mental powers became so much impaired that he was unable to manage his concerns as he had formerly done – that about the year 1825 this affiant undertook to manage his concerns for him & hired out his Slaves for several years and that since this affiant ceased to manage his concerns for him other persons have done so...,” and also that they thought it would be difficult to prove his services.

A Treasury-Department document states that administrators of the estate of Dobson Burrow received the final pension payment up to his death on 18 March 1840.