

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Burns S9118
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn17NC
rev'd 10/18/10 & 8/17/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of South Carolina, Laurens District

On this 15th day of October personally appeared in open Court before his Honor Richard Gantt one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting John Burns a resident of Laurens District & State aforesaid aged 70 years, who being 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 the 7th 1832, viz.: That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: that he entered the service in 1780 under Captain William Lenoir of the Regiment commanded by Colonel Benjamin Cleveland as a volunteer in the North Carolina Militia: was at the Battle of King's Mountain & afterwards sent to the North with the prisoners taken at that place: this tour of service was for not less than four months. He volunteered a second time under Captain Samuel Johnson, Colonel Benjamin Herndon & Major Hargraves, field officers and was at Gates defeat [sic, Horatio Gates' Defeat, a/k/a Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] near Camden So. Ca. This period of service was for three months. He served a third period of six months as a volunteer under Captain Samuel Johnson & Colonel Benjamin Herndon & was marched to the lower part of the State of North Carolina in pursuit of Colonel Fanning [David Fanning]. He has no documentary evidence in his possession and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service. He was a resident of Wilkes County North Carolina when he entered the service and was discharged sometime in the year of 1780 or '81. He served on the whole not less than two years.

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

I was born in Amelia County in the State of Virginia in the year 1762 [could be 1760].

I have no record of my age.

I was living in Wilkes County North Carolina when called into service and removed to South Carolina where I have lived ever since.

S/ John Burns



Sworn to & subscribed the day and year above written.

S/John Garlington, Clk L. Dist.

The Reverend Joseph Babb & Robert McNeese or persons to whom I am known in my neighborhood & who can testify as to my character for veracity & good behavior. I know of no person whose testimony I can procure who can testify as to my services as a Soldier of the revolution.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Richard Gantt

S/ John Burns

[Joseph Babb, a clergyman, & Robert McNeese gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

South Carolina Laurens district: Personally came before me John Burns and made oath that the amendments to his application & declaration made in order to obtain a pension under the act of Congress of June 7th 1832 and marked No. 1 and 2¹ are just and true and that he served during the Revolutionary war as therein stated.

Sworn & subscribed before me the 11th of December 1833

S/ Thos. Gantt, JP

S/ John Burns

State of South Carolina Greenville District: SS

Personally came before me one of the Justices of the Quorum for said District, David Burn² and made Oath as the law requires & saith that John Burn was a revolutioner with himself in the old revolutionary War in part & thinks he served one year or more as a Militia Man, was with him the deponent at Kings Mountain, at another time on deep River near Wilmington & other times in small scouts namely in the State of North Carolina.

Sworn to & subscribed this 14th day of Me A.D. 1834.

S/ Aa. Springfield, JQ

S/ David Burn, X his mark

[p 4: on July 9, 1852, in Laurens District South Carolina, Christopher Burns executed a power of attorney seeking to prosecute the claim of John Burns. The relationship, if any, of Christopher Burns to the veteran is not stated, but in a letter summarizing the contents of the file, the pension administrator stated that Christopher Burns was the son of John Burns.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$43.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 13 months service in the North Carolina militia.]

¹ Unfortunately, the amendments referred to in this document are not contained in the digital images posted on Fold3.com. I assume they are missing from the file.

² [David Burn S9299](#)