

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Burwell Spence¹ W11528

Nancy

f47VA[sicNC]

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/24/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p. 9]

County of Grayson State Virginia

On this 24th day of September in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the County Court now sitting Burrell Spence a resident of the County of Grayson in State of Virginia of the age of 69 years as near as he can recollect, 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 under the following named officers Alexander Gordon Capt. and Col. Malbry [this may be a reference to Francois Lellorquis Marquis de Malmedy] and Col. Francis Lock [sic, Francis Locke] and he served three months under some of said officers and General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] Col Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] so called he saith it was in the year 1781 on the 2d day of August when the claimant entered the service and was discharged on the 27th day of October 1781 from the first tower [sic, tour] in one engagement in South Carolina at the Eutaw Springs he was in the militia service under above named officers which was militia and raised in the State of North Carolina in Surry County when he entered the service and further saith he was drafted and was in a battle at the sd. Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] which he was ingadged [sic, engaged] then marched through the State of North Carolina as for the names of the regular officers he knows not for he was under Capt Alexander Gordon Col Malbry General Greene Lee an officer in time of battle at the sd. Springs when we were obliged to retreat the sd. Lee commanded us to follow him which we did and he entered the service of the United States the second time on 2d day of May in the year 1782 he resided in the State of Virginia Montgomery County when he entered the service he was drafted; he was in Military service and was march through to the bed of Clinch River to Whitin Station and was in no engagement the last tower and he has documentary evidence and that knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. I hereby relinquish every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Questioned by the Court:

1: Where and what year were you born, he answers my parents tell me I was born in Bedford County in State Virginia, the year he now not. 2. Have you any record of your age, he saith not 3. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolution War and where do you now live, he saith in the State of North Carolina Surry County when I first entered the service, second tower I lived in State of Virginia in Montgomery then lived in North Carolina in Ash [sic, Ashe] County then moved to State of Virginia in Grayson County and now resides in the same. 4. How were you called into service were you draftee or volunteer, he answereth I was drafted both towers. 5. State names of some of the Regular officers who was with the troop such continental officers who was with the troops such continental and Militia Ridgements as you can recollect and the general circumstances,

¹ BLWt14753-160-55

he says as for the regular officers he nows not, the officers which he nowd was Cp Gordon Col Locke Col Malbry Lee General Greene which officers part was in Battle at Eutaw Springs in South Carolina as for the Ridgement I now not. 6. Did you ever receive a discharge and by whom was it given, if so, what has become of it, he said I received two discharges 1st from Capt. Alexander Gordon and Col. Francis Locke; 2d from John Taylor Discharged from Capt. Ward's camp which discharge is produced in this court first in the letters and figures to wit,

Camp at Bell's Branch October 27th 1781 this may certify that Burrell Spence has served a three month tower of Duty in my Camp under the command of Col Locke as a good and faithful soldier and are hereby discharged.

S/ Alexander Gordon Cpt
S/ Francis Locke Col

Second discharge
Montgomery

I do hereby discharge Burrell Spence from Cp Ward's Camp Militia he having served the tower for which he was drafted and during which time he behaved himself well. Witness my hand this 1st June 1782.

S/ Jno. Taylor

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and good behaviour your services as to a soldier of the revolution, he saith John Cock Esq Irwin Montgomery Esq is acquainted with him in my present neighbourhood as my service I now of no one to prove it by.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

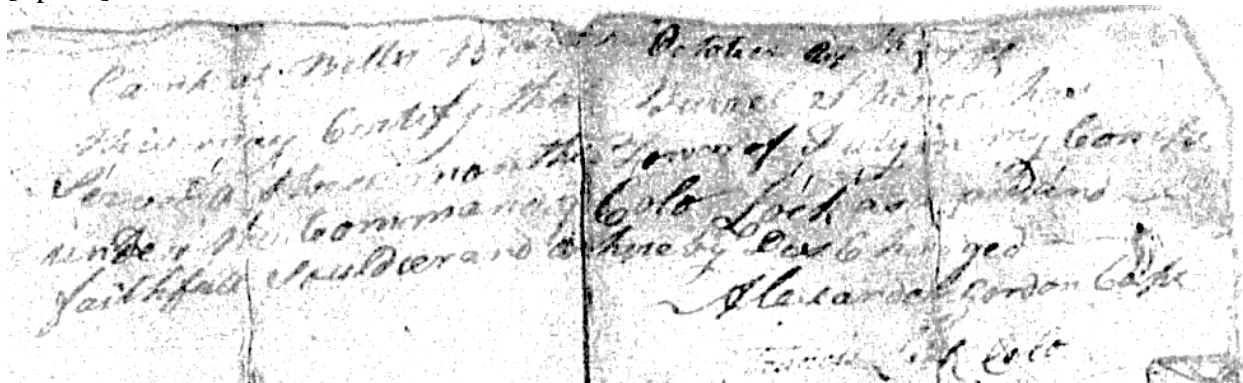
S/ Burrell Spence, X his mark

We Irwin Montgomery and John Cock Clergymen residing in the neighbourhood hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Burrell Spence which has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be 69 years of age that he is reputed and believed in the neighbourhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to, and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Irwin Montgomery
S/ John Cock

[f p. 28]



Camp at Miller's Branch October 27th 1781
This may certify that Burrell Spence has
served three months tower of duty in my camp
under the command of Col Locke as a good and
faithful soldier and hereby discharged
Alexander Gordon Cpt
Francis Locke Col

[f p. 29]

I do hereby Discharge Burwell Spence from the Militia
Militia he having served the term for which he was drafted and
During which time he behaved himself of Well Manner
this 1st June 1702 In Testimony

[f p. 14: On March 29, 1854 in Caswell County Virginia, Nancy Spence, 74, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Burrell [sic] Spence, a pensioner for his service in the revolutionary war at the rate of \$20 per annum; that she married him July 15, 1839; that her husband died March 23, 1844 in Grayson County, now Carroll, Virginia; and she signed her application with her mark.]

[Facts in file: veteran married Nancy Thomas, the date and place of her birth and the names of her parents are not shown; James Spence in 1855 in Carroll County Virginia, gave testimony that he was the son of Burwell Spence by a former marriage and was present at the marriage of his father to Nancy Thomas. The name of his mother is not shown.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]