

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Williamson Burnett W3383

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 24 April 2012.

State of Virginia }
Bedford County to wit }

On this 15th day of July 1840 personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, Priscilla Burnette, a resident of Virginia in the County of Bedford, aged sixty six years, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on her Oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the Benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed July 7th 1838, entitled an act, granting half pay and pensions to Certain Widows, that she is the widow of Williamson Burnette, that she always understood from her Husband and Others, that he served three Towers in the Malitia, of Three months each, as a private soldier in the War of the Revolution, but from old age and the consequent loss of memory, she cannot state all the particulars, such as the time he was called into service, or the Officers he served under, (if she ever knew them) but that he was born in the County of Buckingham, and was called into the service from said County. That she well recollects his saying he was in the Seige of York, and that they were married sometime after his return from serving, that his last Tower of service, That they resided sometime in Buckingham after their marriage & where their two Children, James H. Burnette & Nancy Burnette were born and that they removed from said County of Buckingham to the County of Bedford where her husband died, at the time hereafter stated, and as a further proof of his having served in the war of the revolution, &c &c, she begs leave to refer to the Certificates of Adler Arrington [pension application S6505] & Cap. George Rogers [probably Robert Rogers, S6006], John Carter, Sr [S39285] & James H Burnette and for proof of their marriage to the Certificate of the Clerk of Buckingham County.

She further declares that she was married to the said Williamson Burnette on the 15th day of March in the year Seventeen hundred and Ninety Two that her husband the aforesaid Williamson Burnette died on the 3rd day June Eighteen hundred and Thirty three, that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January seventeen hundred and ninety four viz at the time above stated.

Priscilla herXmark Burnette

State of Virginia }
Bedford County to wit }

The affidavit of James H Burnette aged Forty eight years of the County & State aforesaid, but formerly of the County of Buckingham of the same State, where he was born, and from which County his Father Williamson Burnette, now deceased, removed, deposeth, and saith, That his Father, Williamson Burnette, Husband to his Mother, Priscillar Burnette, the present Claimant, died at his residence in the County of Bedford, in his presence, on the 3rd day June 1833. and that his Mother Priscillar Burnette has never since been married, but is now a widow – and further states, That he has frequently heard his Father, Williamson Burnette speak of his services in the Revolutionary War. That he was not a regular soldier, but in the militia, that so long a time having elapsed, and never expecting to be called on, if he ever new them, he cannot now detail them, but well recollects many of the circumstances and some of the places where he was stationed and often mentioned; among others, that he was at Rockets Landing, near Richmond, at Petersburg, Cedar Point, at James Town & York Town, at the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] &c, but in which of the different Tours, that he served, that he was at the various places mentioned, he cannot state – but that he has the fullest confidence that his Father Williamson Burnette was in service in the War of the Revolution, having often heard him speak of it, both in Conversation with himself & others and never heard of its having been called in Question or disputed

[signed] James Burnett

The affidavit of Captain Robert Rogers of lawful age, taken on the 12th day of May 1840. This affiant being duly sworn deposeseth and saith, that he was well acquainted with Williamson Burnet formerly of Buckingham County, Virginia, and that the said Burnet to his knowledge served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war in the same company with this affiant. This affiant further states that he and the said Burnet served in captain Charles Patteson's [Charles Patterson's] company of Militia which company stated from Buckingham County on the 11th day of January 1781 and marched through the counties of Cumberland, Powhattan [sic: Powhatan], Chesterfield, the Town of Petersburg and down to Cabin Point [on James River in Surry County] where they joined head quarters, the field officers were General Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg], Colo. Charles Fleming & Major Bins Jones [sic: Binns Jones] that the said company served until the 11th day of April of the same year when it was regularly discharged.

This affiant further states that the said Burnet served as Bowman to two of the subaltern officers of the same company, to wit, John Burkes Lieutenant, and William Beckham Ensign. This affiant further states that he and the said Burnet lived in the County of Buckingham, many years after the Revolution, after which time the said Burnet as this affiant understood moved to the County of Bedford and died. this affiant further states that he understood the said Burnet married a Miss Carter of Buckingham County and further this affiant saith not.

[signed] Robert Rogers

[Certified by Adler Arrington.]

State of Virginia

Bedford County SS.

[14 July 1840]

The affidavit of John Carter of the County and state aforesaid aged Eighty Seven Years, who being duly sworn deposeseth and saith, that he himself was a regular soldier in the War of the Revolution, That He was born in the County of Buckingham and marched into the service from said County. That at the siege of York Town [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] He met with Williamson Burnette, now deceased who had marched from the same County, as himself, that said Burnette belonged to the militia and was serving a Tower of three months and as a confirmation of my own recollection, said Burnette, Testified to the fact of Our serving said Tower Together, when I applied for, and obtained a pension under the act of 1818 – which affidavit can be seen by reference to the records. I also know of said Burnette having served one other militia Tower besides the one at York Town, as I had personally met with him at Old James Town – but as I was in the regular army and he a militia man I cannot tell his officers or give a detail of the particulars of his service. I was well acquainted with said Burnette after his return home and have always understood both from himself and others that he served Three militia Towers of three months each, but I cannot personally, testify, to any other, that those above mentioned, the one where I met with him at James Town and the one where I met with him at York Town – and further states, that after said Burnette received his discharge at YorkTown he returned back to Buckingham and married Priscilla Carter – and remained in said County until he had two children, James & Nancy. He then moved to the County of Bedford in the same neighbourhood of myself, where he died leaving his wife the present Claimant Priscilla Burnette a Widow and who is still a Widow having never since been married – and further saith not.

[signed] John Carter

State of Virginia } SS

county of Bedford }

The Affidavit of John Carter Sr taken as evidence in the case of Williamson Burnett a revolutionarian this deponent deposeseth and sayeth that he was well acquainted with said Burnett in the county of Buckingham & Late of the county of Bedford Va. and knows that he the said Burnett was drafted as a militia man in the cty. of Buckingham and marched from thence under one capt. Patterson

To York Town in Va. at which place he was put under the command of one Col. Flemming and he also knows that the said Burnett was in the service at Old Williamsburg and served a three months Tour and was honourably discharged about Portsmouth and this deponent further says that the said Burnett to the best of his knowledge was between 75 and 80 years [the rest missing]

State of Va. } SS

county of Bedford } [20 Dec 1834]

The affidavit of Wm. Arthur [William Arthur, pension application S6528] Taken as evidence in the case of Williamson Burnett a revolutionarian, this deponent deposes and says that he has all reason to believe and knows that the said Burnett was a soldier of the revolutionary war and that he was a citizen of Buckingham county Va. and was drafted as a militia man from said county and he this deponent knows that the said Burnett served a three months Tour or more at Norfolk in said State the officer whom he was drafted under to march to that place this deponent is now unable to say, but he knows that he the said Burnett served there under one Col. Maryweather [sic: Thomas Meriwether] and Major de Cloman [sic: Christian Charles de Kloman] whom belonged to the same reg't. and General Muhlingburg was his Burnett's commander in chief and this deponent states that the above named regiment was honourably discharged at Prince George court house Va and this deponent further says that he thinks that the said Burnett was between 70 and 80 years of age at the time of his death which was in June 1833, and as to his being a soldier of the of the revolutionary war he this deponent never heard it disputed – and this deponent further states that it would be attended with some expense for his this deponent to attend before a court to make this affidavit and further this deponent saith no

William Arthur

NOTE: The application includes a copy of the record of the marriage of Williamson Burnett and Priscilla Carter by Rev. Rane Chastain.