



State of North Carolina }  
County of Wilkes }

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October 1844 personally appeared before me, Thomas Carlton Sn'r. aged 88 years, who after being sworn by me, an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid depose & sayeth that he has lived a neighbour to Thomas Burch up to the time of his death a period of upwards of thirty years, and that he has oft hear the aforesaid Thomas Burch relate events and incidents which transpired during the Revolution, and he believes he the aforesaid Thos. was the only man by the name of Thomas Burch, that was in the war. and he further says that his Brothers John [John Carlton] & Ambrose Carlton [S32160] were both in the war of the Revolution, and he has oft heard them speak of the aforesaid Thomas Burch, as being with them, especially in the battle near Savannah in Georgia under Col. Jackson [during the Siege of Savannah, 12 Apr - 11 Jul 1782] the Captains name he does not mind – and he further sayeth that having known the aforesaid Thomas & Sarah Burch for upwards of thirty years, he believes him to have been in the war as he stated and that he was believed and reputed to have served in the revolution by the neighborhood wherin he lived – and further that She is his identical widow, and that their marriage has never been doubted by any person and that he the aforesaid Thomas Carlton sen'r. has every reason to believe that they were married legally as authorized by the Custom of the Country at that day;

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written.

Thomas hisXmark Carlton Sen'r.

[On the same day John Carlton, 66, made a similar statement.]

State of North Carolina }  
Surry County }

This day [1 Sep 1852] personally appeared before me H C Hampton clerk of Surry Supr Court Thomas Ayres who is known to me to be a credible witness and made oath in due form of law that he is now eighty four years of age, that he resided in the County of Surry during the year 1780. That for several years he lived at and near Surry Courthouse. That there then lived in Surry County a man by the name of James Hawkins who was called Captain James Hawkins who it was said had served as a Captain in the revolutionary ware, this he verily believes to be the fact as it was universally said and believed in those days, and he never heard it questioned. He further states that he was well acquainted with Thomas Burch who formely lived in Surry County and who was said to have been a revolutionary soldier. The said Thomas Burch was generally regarded as having served for a considerable length of time in the revolution. that he was frequently called by his acquaintances in those day by the name of revolutionary Whig, 76 Whig, &c he further states that the common report through the neighbourhood in which said Burch lived soon after the close of the war, was that Thomas Burch and his brother William Burch [see endnote] both were in the service during the revolutionary war for a considerable length of time under the said Capt James Hawkins. That the said Thomas Burch many years ago removed to the adjoining County of Wilkes where he has understood he died some years since

Thomas hisAmark Ayres

State of North Carolina }  
Surry County }

This 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 1852 personally appeared before me H C Hampton Clerk of the Superior Court of law for Surry County Susannah wellborn who is personally known to me to be a highly credible witness and made oath in due form of law that she is now about eighty five years of age. that she resided in Surry County during the revolutionary war. That she knew Captain James Hawkins who resided in Surry County during said war, and that he was a Captain in said war. The said Captain James Hawkins was at her Fathers residence after the Close of the war. The fact of James Hawkins having served as a captain in the revolution was never questioned in those days She further states that she was well acquainted Thomas Burch who lived in Surry County during the revolution, that she well remembers the time when the said Thomas Burch and his brother William returned from the war, that on their return home they were met by their friends and acquaintances and

welcomed home by the firing of guns and great rejoicing and were highly applauded by the whole community by which they were surrounded on account of their services in said War. That after the close of the war the said Thomas Burch married an acquaintance of hers whose name was Sarah Jones. That many years ago the said Thomas Burch removed from the County of Surry wince which time she knows nothing of him  
Susannah herXmark Wellborn

State of North carolina } ss  
County of Wilkes }

On this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February A.D 1854 personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said county and state John Carlton aged seventy five years a resident of said County of Wilkes, a credible and disinterested witness, who being by me first duly sworn according to Law, depose and says on his oath that he knew Thomas Burch the husband of Sarah Burch who both lived in this county for a great number of years, and that she was considered to be the wife of said Thomas Burch. Deponant further states that he became acquainted with said Thomas Burch about forty years ago, and was intimately acquainted with him from that time until the death of said Burch. That he has heard Burch often talk about his services in the Revolutionary war and about the different battles he was in, and the narrow risks he run at times of being killed.

Deponent further states that he heard said Thomas Burch tell about being in a fight with the British at one time and the Americans had to retreat and that he Burch fell in with a British who was also on horse back and that he encountered the British soldier, and after several efferts he (Burch) succeeded in cutting his hand nearly off with his sword, and that said soldier fled, and that Burch said this occurred in the State of Georgia while he was an enlisted soldier. That at an other time they were under Col Jackson (as horsemen) and being near where the British were forted the Americans wished to distroy a quantity of rice stacks the British had and that some volunteered to do it, and when they were set on fire in the night that they could see the light for several miles, and that Burch said they with Gen [Anthony] Wayne at different times during the service.

Deponent further states that he has heard said Burch say he was an enlisted soldier he thinks for three years and belonged to the Dragoons, and that he was in a great many battles with the British, Tories and Indians. That said Thomas Burch said he was also at the Battle of Kings Mountain [in South Carolina, 7 Oct 1780] but at that time he was not an enlisted soldier, but belonged to the Malitia of North carolina.

He further states that from what he has heard said Thomas Burch tell concerning the war and the many hardships he went through together with what other old soldiers said of Burch and his services he (deponant) never had any doubt but what said Burch did serve a long time in the Revolutionary as his character was good and his word never doubted. He further states that Sarah Burch is a very old woman and is of good character and that they lived together as husband & wife ever since he first knew them until the death of said Burch. Deponant further states that from his present recollection said Thomas Burch lived in the state of North carolina when he first entered the service, but that a portion of his enlisted service was performed in N. Carolina and a portion in Georgia, but that Burch said his malitia service was all performed in N Carolina. He further states that he has not interest in this matter at present nor none in expectation.

That there were many old soldiers living in this country when deponant was a young man who he had talking about the services of the said Thomas Burch and that all such spoke of him as a true Whig and faithful soldier during said war & that from their statements and Burches own he deponant always understood that Burch was in service pretty much through the whole war.

[signed] John Carlton

NOTES:

On 13 Sep 1852 David Cockerham (S8240) made a statement supporting Thomas Burch's reputation as a soldier.

There were at least three soldiers from Surry County named William Burch; see pension applications R788, W26976, and W27940.

The file includes a family register on blank pages at the end of an Old Testament, transcribed below.

Thomas Burch son of Benj Burch & Jane his wife was born 20<sup>th</sup> January 1757.

Sarah Burch wife of Thomas Burch & Daughter of James Jones & Elizabeth his wife was born the 5 of January 1766.

And was married by William Cook Esqr The 18<sup>th</sup> October 1785.

Elizabeth Burch Daughter to Thos. Burch & Sarah his wife was Born 1<sup>st</sup> of August 1786.

Eunice Burch Daughter to Thos. Burch & Sarah his wife was Born 16<sup>th</sup> March 1788.

Jane Burch Daughter to Thos. Burch & Sarah his wife was Born 18<sup>th</sup> May 1790.

Ruth Burch Daughter to Thos. Burch & Sarah his wife was Born 11<sup>th</sup> July 1792.

Keziah Burch Daughter to Thos. Burch & Sarah his wife was Born 18<sup>th</sup> May 1795.

Benjamin Burch Son to Thos. Burch & Sarah his wife was Born 24<sup>th</sup> November 1801

James J. Burch Son to Thos. Burch & Sarah his wife was Born 24<sup>th</sup> May 1804.

Wm. Stapleton Burch was born on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1809.