

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Birch (Burch) W8363
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

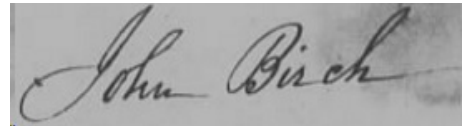
Jane Burch PA

The statement John Birch

He states that in the year 1779 or 1780 he entered in the continental service under Capt John Bower and served in Captain Craigs Comp'y of the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment commanded by Col. Butler during the war, and did serve until the peace was made under Gen'l. [Anthony] Wayne, at the expiration of his service he obtained an honourable discharge at Lancaster Pennsylvania (name not recollected) which he afterwards placed in the hands of Loudon Careless for the purpose of procuring for him his bounty Lands, Careless died shortly afterwards with the yellow fever, and he has never since seen his discharge nor has he ever obtained his bounty Lands, while in the service he received at Bergen Point [Bergen Point] near New York a wound in the leg which materially injures him he was at the taking of Cornwallis at York [Yorktown VA, 19 Oct 1781] and was in a battle at Georgetown N. Carolina [sic: SC], where he received a wound in his thigh he was there under Gen'l Waine & Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] He was in several fights with the Tories and has been in some other battles not here mentioned, On the 7th of Last November he was 60[?] years old is poor and indigent from misfortune and debility occasioned by revolutionary service, and now claims from a just Government the pension of the revolutionary patriots in indigent circumstances

June 15th 1818

[Bath County KY]



The Statement of John Burch in continuation & Explanation of his former statement made before the Honorable Judge Shortridge the 15 day of June 1818 not knowing it was nessesary that he should state all the particulars relative to his service in the revolutionary war nor did they at that time recur to his memory he offers the following statement as an amendment to his former one that he enlisted some time in the first of the summer 1779 under Capt Bower of the Pennsylvania Line in the redgmt commanded by Col William Butler at Reading state afors'd for three years or during the war Shortly afterwards he was transferd to Captain Craigs Company in Colo Richard Butlers Ridgment he thinks it was the 7 or 8 that he march'd from Reading to Trenton & from there to Lancaster, where he winterd from there to Bergen near New York from there to Stoney Point Was in the engagement in taken the fort under the Command of Colo. Fluery [sic: Francois Louis de Fleury at Stony Point NY, 16 Jul 1779] from thence he march'd back to Bergen from there to the Mouth of Long Iland [sic: Long Island NY] from thence to Morristown Hutts from thenc to the siege of york after the capture of Cornwallis he was march'd to the South had an engagement Near Georgetown in South Carrolana in which he got wounded from there to Savanah [sic: Savannah] where he was in an engagement under Gen Wayne with the British & Indians in the night [Ebenezer GA, 24 May 1782] which came out of the fort from there he was march'd to Lancaster Pennsylvania & was Honorably discharg'd by Capt Craig which discharge he Has lost as afors'd he took no care of it not thinking it ever would be of any use to him that he is old & poor & verry infirm his Constitution wasted by the extreme hardships & fetugue of a soldiers life during a long period in the War of the revolution and altho it secures him freedom yet in other respects it leaves him wretched not being able to suport himself by his labour is the reason why he calls on his country for support

John hisXmark Burch

State of Kentucky Set
Bath County

February County Court 1821

John Burch produced and made oath to his schedule and statement as a United States pensioner which was examined by the Court and Ordered to be Certified and is as follows towit "The

Commonwealth of Kentucky Bath County Sct On this the 12th day of February 1821 Personally appeared before the honorable County Court of Bath in open court the same being a court of Record John Burch aged 68 the 7th day of November last resident in the County of Bath afores'd. who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows in the 4th Regiment and Capt Bowers Company Pennsylvania line & in Capt Craig Company 7 or 8 Reg't. Commanded by Col Rich'd Butler the Declaration dated the 18th June 1818

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. Schedule of Property

One horse worth	\$25.00 Cts
One Cow and Calf	8.00
One Do & Do verry Ordinary	6.50
One Sow and Ten pigs	3.00
One Sow and fourteen pigs	5.00
5 Sheep	5.00
2 kettles	5.00
1 8 gallon pot	2.00
1 5 Do Do	1.75
1 damaged oven	.75
1 old axe	1.
1 Plane old	2.50
1 Shovel	1.50
3 old hoes	<u>1.50</u>
	\$69.50

My Occupation a farmer & unable to get a living by my labour I have four children with me One a girl about twenty years of age 1 a boy about 16 years ditto weakly in his Constitution 1 a boy about thirteen has fitts almost every week 1 girl 10 years old Sickly my wife 53 years old and infirm

John hisXmark Burch

[The following is undated.]

John Birch of Bath County Ky served as a regular Soldier in the Pennsylvania Line for which he was to have 250 acres of land provided by the State of Pennsylvania. He then enlisted under Capt Craig to serve during the War & did serve during the War. For which he was promised 300 acres by the United States.

He has never received any land – and got wounded when Cornwallis was taken by a Ball in his left leg – after that he got wounded in same leg at Savannah by Indians and tories. Whilst engaged in the three years service at Bargan near Newyork he got wounded by a Fall of a Limb on his head, and the runing of a Carriage over his right leg as he lay on the ground senseless from the blow on his head. He draws a pension of Eight dollars a month, under acts of 18 & 20.

He served as ensign in the latter part of his Service, about ten months, in Capt John Bower's Company in Colo Richard Butler's Regiment which he thinks was the eighth Regiment.

He engaged Asberry of Lexington to get his pay as Ensign who says he could do nothing for him. See the proofs accompanying his declaration in War Department – enquire into it and do the best you can for him.

NOTES:

On 11 Aug 1820 George Burch, 65, stated that he knew of the enlistment of his brother, John

Burch, often heard from him while in service, and saw his discharge. On 6 Nov 1820 Daniel Burch of Scott County IN stated that he was with John Burch when he enlisted, heard from him frequently during his service, and saw his discharge. A typed summary states that in 1818 Polly Mayberry of Bath County said she was the soldier's sister and lived in Berks County PA during the Revolutionary War, but I did not find her statement in the file.

On 4 Nov 1839 Jane Burch, 69, of Montgomery County KY, applied for a pension stating that she married John Burch on 19 Jan 1786, and he died on 30 Aug 1837. On the same day Daniel Burch stated that John Burch died in Montgomery County, possibly of consumption. On 2 May 1843 Jane Burch was said to be 75. On an application for bounty land dated 11 April 1855 Jane Birch, 91, stated that her maiden name was Jane Epperson, and that she was married to John Birch in Albemarle County VA by Rev. William Woods.