

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Michael Burk X111

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 21 Oct 2011.

[The number on Michael Burk's file jacket is "R—." The number X111 is assigned by HeritageQuest.. The file does not contain an original pension application. The following letter by Col. Richard Mentor Johnson, Congressman and later Vice President of the US, is addressed to Col. James L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions.]

I have been in public life 34 years living all the time in Scott County Ky. During a great portion of that 3/4 of it I have known Michael Burk, who has lived near neighbours He is evidently considerably above 80 years of age, & he is generally & I might say universally believed to be a revolutionary soldier. No [sic] person who knows him, & particularly those who have known him long confidently believe him a revolutionary soldier & a brave & patriotic one. I have conversed on his routs during that war & the battles in which he was present often & over & cannot doubt his relation of them. He made himself known to Genl Lafayette when he visited me when in this County [in 1825] & shed tears freely & I believe he was recognized by Lafayette. He has raised a large family who now live in this County & is poor & needy. From a close examination of Michael Burk & my knowledge of the [illegible word] of his temper, his age & the marks of injury received antiently & no doubt while in the service of his County in the revolution I have no more doubt of his services as set fourth in his papers than if I had been an eye witness of them & I feel gratified in recommending the giving him the Pension desegnated in the letter just received from the pension office. I am confident he Deserves it & is entitled to it under our Pension Laws. I make this positive statement that the Commissioner of Pensions may be assured that there is no Deception in this case. Signed this 28th Nov 1842. Rd M. Johnson

I return my thanks to the Commissioner of Pensions for the act of justice which he is about to extend to Michael Burke Rd M Johnson

NOTE: Johnson wrote two additional letters, one of which refers to Burk's "dependent daughters."