

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Elihu Burk [Burke] ¹ W8233

Siller (Priscilla) Burke f47NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 6]

Original Claim

State of Tennessee, Marion County Court November Sessions 1845

On this 23rd day of November 1825 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record for said County of Marion Elihu Burke, aged Sixty two years, who being duly Sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st May 1820 that he the said Elihu Burke enlisted for the Term of twelve months on the sixth day of June in the year 1781 in the State of North Carolina in the Company commanded by Captain __ Moore² in the Regiment commanded by Col. Archibald Lytle in the line of the State of North Carolina on the Continental establishment, that he continued to Serve in the said Corps until the 6th of July 1782 when he was discharged from the Service in the Town of Charlotte Mecklenburg County in the State of North Carolina, that he hereby Relinquishes every Claim whatsoever to a pension, except the present, that his name is not on the Roll of any State except the one in which he enlisted and that the following are the Reasons for not making earlier application for a pension Viz.: that until about Ten[?] years past he believed he could live without such aid but owing to misfortune he is now compelled to call for assistance, that since he knew of the act provided for Revolutionary Soldiers he has frequently applied previous to his former application to the United States, to council [sic] who instructed him that as the papers of that department had been burnt when the British invaded the City,³ he need not apply for a pension and in pursuance of the Act of the 1st May 1820 I do Solemnly Swear that I was a Resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th of March 1818 and I have not since that time by gift sale or in any other 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 my property consists in Seven Head of young hogs and seven pigs, one set of Turning tools and two bowls and about 17 or 18 Barrels of corn my occupation is that of Wheel Wright but am at this time unable to pursue it from a wound I received in the Right

¹ BLWt36636-160-55

² The muster roll of the company of Captain Alexander Brevard lists one Elihu Burke as having enrolled in that company in Salisbury NC on June 6th, 1781. That muster roll is contained in the collection of the Brevard family papers in the Wilson Library at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. It seems likely to me that Burke is mistaken as to the captain of the company in which he enrolled.

³ Applicant is probably referring to the burning of Washington DC by the British during the War of 1812.

knee on Johns' Island about the 25th of January 1782 my family consists of a wife aged about 60 and two children, to wit, a young man married Alfred Camren [?] aged about sixteen years, who is occasionally with me and a Daughter named Kisiah near thirteen years old my wife owing to age, infirmity and partial mental derangement is almost wholly unable to contribute anything to my support. The young man who only lives with me now at his own pleasure contributes very little to our support, my Daughter is only able to afford but little means of Sustenance. That there has been no material change in my property since the 18th of March 1818. I have lost my discharge upwards of 20 years ago, and have unable to furnish any proof of my Services. Were it not for age, infirmity and indigency [sic] this declaration would not have been made.

Schedule	7 head of young hogs	\$20.00
	7 Pigs	1.75
	2 Bowls	<u>.25</u>
		\$23.00

S/ Elihu Burke

[p 38]

State of North Carolina Secretary's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Elihu Burk [sic] a private in Captain Brevard's Company of the 10th Regiment⁴ was mustered in the year 1781 for the term of __ months and left the service on the seventh of June 1782.

Given under my hand at Office in Raleigh the 19th of April 1826.

S/ Wm Hill

Elihu Burk [sic] may have enlisted under Captain Moore and served in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Lytle but transferred to the 10th Regiment and placed under Captain Brevard when the consolidation of the different Regiments took place towards the close of the war.

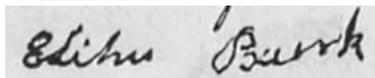
S/ Wm Hill

[p 24]

State of Tennessee, Franklin County: To the War Department

On this 13th day of July A.D. 1837 before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace for the said County of Franklin, personally appeared, Elihu Burk [sic], who, on his oath, declares that he is the same person who formerly belonged to the company commanded by Captain Moore, in the Regiment commanded by Col. Archibald Little [Archibald Lytle] in the service of the United States; that his name was placed on the Pension roll of the State of Tennessee (East Tennessee Agency); that he received a certificate of that fact, under the signature and seal of the Secretary of War; which certificate, on or about the fourth of January A.D. 1837 was deposited in the Post Office of Winchester Tennessee and has never been recovered by the said Elihu Burke, or by any other person for his benefit, to the best of his knowledge and belief.

S/ Elihu Burk



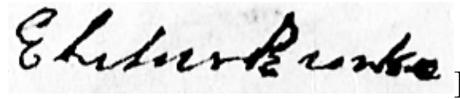
Sworn to and Subscribed to before me, the day and year aforesaid

⁴ J. D. Lewis advises that the designation of the 10th Regiment as the regiment in which a veteran served was often the NC Secretary of State's 'default' designation when he could not find muster rolls giving the actual regiment in which the veteran served. J. D. indicates in his online posting that this veteran served in the 1st NC Regiment. See, http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_privates_b.html and search for "Burke, Elihu." His or

S/ James Robinson, JP

[p 33: On December 20, 1839 in Franklin County Tennessee, the veteran applied for a new pension certificate saying that his old one was lost. He signed this document as follows:

S/ Elihu Burke

Handwritten signature of Elihu Burke in cursive script, enclosed in a rectangular box with a closing bracket on the right side.

[p 15: On December 7th [could be 9th] 1854 in Davidson County Tennessee, Siller Burke, 54, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Elisha or Elihu Burke, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him on or about May 21, 1835; that her husband is now dead having been killed in Franklin County Tennessee sometime in April 1851; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 10: On November 3, 1855 in Davidson County Tennessee, Siller Burke, 56, filed for a widow's bounty land entitlement under the 1855 act stating that she is the widow of Elisha Burke [sic] who was a revolutionary war pensioner for his service in the North Carolina Continental line. She signed this document with her mark.]

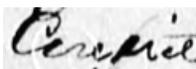
[p 13: Copy of a marriage license issued in Franklin County Tennessee on May 21, 1835 for the marriage of Elihu Burke to Siller Haynes.]

[p 45: On January 24, 1867 in Davidson County Tennessee, John P White, 41, a resident of Nashville in the County and state aforesaid filed an affidavit stating he is the administrator and legal representative of Priscilla Burke, deceased, a pensioner of the United States; that she died March 6, 1865 in Davidson County Tennessee; that she last received her pension payment on September 4, 1860; that he is filing to obtain the pension due her from that date until the date of her death.

Handwritten signature of John P White in cursive script, enclosed in a rectangular box with a closing bracket on the right side.

[p 46: On January 24, 1867 in Davidson County Tennessee, A. B. Shankland and Samuel E. Hare gave testimony that they are directors of the Tennessee State Prison Penitentiary and that the records of said penitentiary show that Priscilla Burke was a [indecipherable word]⁵ in said institution; that she is the identical person who was a pensioner of the United States; that from her situation and mental condition they are satisfied that she did not aid the rebels nor sympathize with their cause; and that she died March 6, 1865 as a widow.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing November 23, 1825, for service as a private for one year in the North Carolina Continental line. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$96 per annum.]

⁵ Handwritten word 'Cecilia' in cursive script, enclosed in a rectangular box.