State of South Carolina
To the Honorable the Speaker & other Members of the House of Representatives

The Petition of John Buford

Sheweth

That in the beginning of the year 1780 your petitioner joined the troops commanded by General Marion [Francis Marion], & served under him fully (except on occasion absence of a month or so at the time with leave) under Captain James [John James], Captain Lesueur [sic, Thomas Lesesne], & Captain and Witherspoon [James Witherspoon]. That during his Service he was in the Battles of Stono [June 20, 1779]2 – at the battle of Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781],3 and at the severe contest between General Marion and the British Troops at Wamba bridge [Wambaw Bridge February 24, 1782]4 & never left General Marion’s service until his troops were discharged.

Your petitioner further shows that after the war, being in possession of good health & bodily strength, he thought nothing of remuneration, nor did he ever receive once sent in any form or shape whatever. That after his discharge, by his industry & good management he acquired a competency for his comfort & support in old age nor did he suppose that he should ever find it necessary to apply to his Country for aid. But that a few years ago, having become security for another person, whose failure, rendered him liable for the payment of a large sum of money, his property has been sold, (with the exception of a mere trifle) & he is now left at the advanced age of Sixty Six years, with great lameness in one of his hips – the loss of the sight of one eye, & a deafness in one year [sic, ear] in great penury & want, & having still to support a part of the fourteen children which it has pleased God to give to him & to his Country.

Your petitioner therefore prays that he may be placed on the pension list – or that he may receive such other Compensation as the liberality of the Legislature may suggest – and your petitioner will ever pray.

1 The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the Just take me to the search page link, then enter the person’s surname first in the “Full name” box followed by a comma and the person’s Christian name. The “SC” file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.


South Carolina Barnwell District

John Buford makes oath that the facts set forth in the foregoing petition are true. And the said Deponent further swears that if he were able to go on Pee-Dee [Pedee River] the scene of his youth & the services rendered his Country he does not doubt but that living witnesses might still be found who would by their testimony corroborate & affirm the same.

Sworn to before me
this 25th of November 1826
S/ William W Dunn, QU        S/ Jno Buford

Schedule of the property of Captain John Buford viz. –

648 acres of Land
9 Negroes most small
25 Head Stock Cattle
25 do     do Hogs
1 Horse

South Carolina Barnwell District

Personally appeared before me one of the Justices Assigned to keep the peace Captain John Buford who after being sworn as the law directs, saith that the above schedule contains all his property of every description.

Sworn to before me this 30th October 1827

This will certify that I have been acquainted with Captain John Buford for upwards of forty years & have always understood that he was a revolutionary soldier & firm friend to his country & so far as my knowledge & belief extends the above is strictly true. Sworn to before me

S/ Wm Woodard, JP            S/ Tarlton Brown,5 Lieutenant Colonel

[John Conyers6 gave an affidavit identical to that given by Tarlton Brown above]

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5 Tarlton Brown S21665
6 John Conyers S31617
The committee on pensions to whom was referred the petition of John Buford praying a pension

Respectfully Report

That they have had the same under consideration and recommend to this house that the prayer of the petitioner be not granted

December 1827                John McComb