

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Laird Burns S3091

fn24SC

Transcribed by Will Graves 7/4/06

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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. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Roane County

On this 24th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court it being the Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions for Roane County it also being a court of Record Laird Burns a resident of the County & State aforesaid—aged 76 years, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832: That he volunteered into the service of his Country in S. C., County ___ in the year 1775 under Captain Brown and was attached to the brigade commanded by Gen. Richardson in Col. Winn's Regiment of militia and took the field against the famous Tory Gen. Cunningham & defeated him at Reedy River and remained there about until January 1776, when he returned home and remained until the 2nd [of] March 1776 when he again set out in the service of his country in various engagements, but none of importance nor did he serve long at any one time until the year 1779 when he again volunteered under Capt. Walker [probably, Philip Walker] in the Regiment commanded by Col. Lacy [sic, Edward Lacey] [and] marched on to a place in South Carolina called Coosahatchy [sic, Coosawhatchie] where we had an engagement with the Tories[.] [I]n this engagement Col. Lawrence [sic, John Laurens] was wounded [.] [F]rom [there] we marched to Charleston SC where applicant was mustered out of service [.] [T]his was in the year 1780[.] [I]n June applicant again entered the service of his country as a volunteer under Gen. Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] in Capt. Gabby's [?] company in SC[.] [W]e marched on to Catawba River where we defeated a body of Tories under Capt. Hooke [sic, Christian Huck][.] [F]rom thence we marched on to a Fort at the Rocky Mount where we had an engagement & Col. Neal [sic, Andrew Neel] fell. Col. Hawthorne took command & we retreated to Land's Ford on the Catawba River. From thence we marched to the Hanging Rock where we had an engagement with the Enemy [.] [W]e retreated back to the Indians Land and from thence we marched to a ferry just below Camden where we defeated a body of Tories under Capt. Thompson [.] [F]rom thence we marched to Graves' Ford on Catawba River & from thence to Fishing Creek where Col. Tarlton [sic, Banastre Tarleton] & his Troop defeated us [.] [T]his was in August 1780[.] [A]fter the battle we collected together

& marched on in Col. Lacey's regiment to the Cowpens where we joined Col. Williams [Col. James Williams][.] [F]rom thence we marched to Kings Mountain. Cunningham then [was our] Capt. at which place we defeated Col. Ferguson [.] [T]his was in October 1780[.] [A]pplicant was sent to the hospital where he remained three or four weeks paying attention to those who were wounded [.] [F]rom thence we marched to Granby Fort with Col. Bratton [William Bratton] & took said Fort from the Enemy. From thence we marched on to Sumter's pond where we again joined Gen. Sumter's Brigade where this applicant was again mustered with a great many others. That he has never received a written discharge but faithfully served his country six or seven years but makes application for no more than to [sic, two] years & six months about which he was engaged & had but little respite. After his discharge from the service of the United States he resided in the South province now State of South Carolina & in the county of Chester. He remained there until the year of 1794[.] [H]e then went to McLinn Burg [sic, Mecklenburg] county North Carolina & remained there until the year of 1814[.] [H]e then went to Blount County Tennessee & remained there until 1826[.] [H]e then went to Monroe County Tennessee [&] remained there until 1828 then moved to roan [sic, Roane] County Tennessee where he now resides. He states the following persons who is [sic, are] well acquainted with him who can certify as to his character for veracity & truth to wit: Elijah Mitchell, Daniel Wester, Stephen Mitchell, William Wester & Edward McDuffy. He has no written Testimony or documentary evidence whereby he can prove his service nor is there any person living whose testimony he can procure whereby he can prove his service [.] [H]e has no written record of his age. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Laird Burns

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day & year aforesaid

S/ H S Purvis, DC

[Elijah Mitchell, a clergyman, John Perry and John Goodman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p 11]

State of Tennessee Roane County: Amended Declaration of Laird Burns

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in & for Roane County &c Laird Burns who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that in October 1775, he volunteered in Captain Brown's Company as stated in his original declaration and served as there stated until some time in January 1776, making to his best recollection four months; he was engaged in various [indecipherable word written over] but none of importance until March 1779 when he again volunteered under Captain Walker, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Lacey, and marched and served as stated in his Original Declaration until the first of August when he was disbanded at Charleston SC he believes according to the best of his recollection he served five months at this time. He was mustered out of service this time as well as that the first time he was not engaged in actual warfare again until the year 1780, in June he again entered into service, under Captain Gabby and was attached to General Sumter's Regiment as stated in his original [declaration] and served as there stated until May 1781 as well as he recollects, which was it eleven months to the best of his recollection, that he was

regularly engaged one year and eight months in the three tours mentioned which is all he claims a pension for, although he was almost constantly engaged during the most of the War, but in such short tours, at any one time, that he cannot by reason of his age recollect them distinctly enough to make application for them or [indecipherable word or words interlined] more minutely than they are stated in his original [declaration] which accompanies this amendment. One year and 8 months is all that he claims a pension for.

S/ Laird Burns

Sworn to & subscribed before made this 19th of April 1833

S/ William Galbraith, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$66.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 1 year and 8 months service as a private in the Revolution.]