

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Burch: W26976

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina} S.S.

Surry County} On this the 11th day of June 1845 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the acting Justices of the Peace in & for the said County of Surry, Judah Burch a resident of the said county & State aged Eighty four (84) years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the acts of Congress passed June 7th 1832 & July 4th 1836.

That she is the widow of the late William Burch Decd. that lived in Surry County N. Carolina

This Declarant alleges that her Decd. Husband the said William Burch was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, that he lived in Surry County N Carolina in time of the Revolutionary War, and served in the N. Carolina Militia in the said war of the Revolution about twelve months or more, and she is under the impression that he was a corporal in the services that she has frequently heard her Decd husband the said William Burch talk with Persons who served with him in the war but they are dead, that there was one William Jennings who served with her husband in the war of the Revolution but she does not know what has become of the said Jennings, and she is of the opinion that one Daniel Cockerham who was a United States Pensioner [application S8241] residing in Surry County N Carolina was with her husband in the service and the said Daniel Cockerham is dead. Owing therefore to removals & deaths this Declarant is deprived of much testimony which might be essential in presenting his claim and must submit to whatever evidence can be made that her husband the said William Burch frequently in his life time said he was entitled to a Pension, & his neighbors and friends insisted that he should present his claim to the government, but he being in comfortable circumstances said he could live without a Pension, had he at that time presented his claim his services could have established quite easily

This Declarant further sets forth upon her said oath that her husband the said William Burch had several Discharges which he received when his different tours of duty ended but they are lost.

She also declares that she was married to the said William Burch at her Fathers house in Surry County N. Carolina in the year of seventeen hundred & Eighty one (1781) in the same year that Cornwallis surrendered, that after she & the said William Burch were married he was drafted for a three months tour of duty which he served southward on horse back; that she has caused a search to be made in the Clerks office for her husband's the said William Burch's marriage license Bond which bond cannot be found. that she had a Family Record which shewed the births of her Children but the said Record has been destroyed

That her Oldest Child Mary Burch was born in the month of February in the year of seventeen hundred Eighty two (1782) That her husband the said William Burch died on the 2nd day of January Eighteen hundred & forty four (1844) that she has not married since the death of the said William Burch but still remains his Widow &c.

Sworn to & subscribed on the day and date first above mentioned before me D. Jervis JP

Judah herXmark Burch

State of North Carolina}

Surry County}

On this the 25th of October 1845 Personally appeared Before me Daniel Jervis one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for said County, Judah Burch a resident of said County aged 84 years and on her oath makes the following Declaration in addition to one made in June last in application for Pension that she is the widow of William Burch Decd. that died in Surry County N. Carolina in time of the Revolutionary War, and who was a Soldier in the war. She declares that to the best of her knowledge & belief her Husband the sd William Burch was a soldier in the Revolutionary War in the North Carolina Militia and served three or four tours in said War,

but she is unable to say how long said tours were except one tour which he served after she and he were married which was a three months tour and he served two or three tours before she and he were married which she thinks was not for a shorter Period than three months Each and is of the opinion that her Husband the said William Burch did render twelve months service or more in all that he served in behalf of his country in the war of the Revolution, and that he was a corporal and served towards the latter Part of the war. that she does not know exact year when her Husband went in to service but the last tour he served was in the year (1781) seventeen hundred and Eighty one after she and he were married which was a drafted three months tour and she is under the belief that all of the above tours were drafted tours, that from old age and loss of memory she is unable to tell with any certainty who her Husbands officers were. that she heard him say he was in two or three little Battles with the Enemy but she is unable to state them deffinately that the said William Burch served the last three months tour towards the south on horse Back; that she was married to the said William Burch at her Fathers House in Surry County North Carolina in the year of seventeen hundred and Eighty one in the same year that corn Wallis was taken at York that she had a Family Record which shewed the births of her children but it is destroyed that her oldest child Mary Burch was born in the month of February in the year of seventeen hundred and Eighty two that she has no old deeds or papers which would show the relationship Existing between her and her Husband the sd William Burch in old time and that she thinks it strange when she has at this late day now proved her marriage by two respectable persons who were present at her marriage and it is not satisfactory; that she is still the widow of the said William Burch Decd.

Judah herXmark Burch

NOTES:

Although the deposition mentions William Burch's being only in "little Battles," a typed summary from the Pension Office states that he was in the company of Capt. Salathiel Martin at the Battle of Kings Mountain SC, 7 Oct 1780. In the file is a pension certificate payable in Georgia for William Burch deceased for service as a private for eight months and eight days.

The file also contains a pension certificate payable to "Judith Burch" deceased in Georgia until 20 Sep 1848, apparently the date of her death. The summary states that "Judith" Burch was the daughter of Isaac Winfrey. It also lists her children who were living in 1856.