

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

Pension Application of William Burton W9760

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Missouri     }

County of Charlton } SS.

On this eighteenth day of November 1833 personally appeared before the Circuit Court of said County William Burton a resident of the said County and state aforesaid aged, seventy eight years who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered into the service of the United States in the year 1776 as a sergeant in Captain Joseph Spencer's company in the County of Orange, where this applicant then resided, and belonged to what was then called the "Culpepper minute Battalion" [sic: "Culpeper Minute Battalion"] from Culpepper Courthouse we marched to Richmond in Virginia from thence to Williamsburg this Battalion was commanded by Col [Edward] Stevens, and [Thomas] Marshall Major, from Williamsburg we marched to the Great Bidge [sic: Great Bridge in present City of Chesapeake], crossing James River at what is called Hog Island, to the great Bidge aforesaid in Norfolk County where we were stationed during the winter had an engagement there with the British in the month of December [9th], Cols [Charles] Scott & [William] Woodford of the Virginia Militia were also there, in this engagement about sixty of the British were killed wounded & taken as prisners of war, this applicant remembers that a British captain by the name of Fordice [sic: Charles Fordyce] was killed, served on this tour seven months having entered the service September 1775 and returned home to Orange County 1<sup>st</sup> April 1776

Again in the year 1778 the first of August entered the service of the United States as Ensign in Capt Ambrose Madison's company from the County of Orange, from thence we marched to the Barracks, in Albemarle County Virginia and was there commanded by Col Francis Taylor and was there detained to guard the British Prisoners taken by Gen Gates at Saratoga [on 17 Oct 1777; brought to Albemarle Barracks Jan 1779], these Barracks were then under the command of Theodrick Bland [sic: Theodorick Bland] who had his head quarters at Charlottesville in Virginia served on this tour three months, being discharged the first of November.

Again in the year 1781 entered the service of the United states as an Ensign in Capt. [Richard] Graves company in the County of Orange, from thence we marched to Richmond, Va, on our way passed Hanover Courthouse and here seen Gen LaFayette, from Richmond we marched to Williamsburg and after remaining in Williamsburg some time we again returned to Richmond, here this applicant was taken seriously ill and by permission of Col Mathis [probably Sampson Mathews] of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Va Militia (who had commanded us during this tour) returned home, having served on this tour two months as an ensign, the whole detachment with us were commanded by Gen Muhlenberg and was also acquainted with Col Ennis [sic: James Innes] and this applicant further states that he as actually served the time herin set forth, under the regular orders and calls of the Country and his superier Officers lawfully appointed to command him either in the field or garison and that his services aforesaid, as herein set forth, as a sergeant seven months & as Ensign the further term of five months

He further states that he never received any written discharge for any of the tours aforesaid, that he was commissioned in due form of law, as Ensign by the then Governor of Virginia but does not posotively remember who was the then Governor,

This applicant further states that he knows of no person now living by whom he could prove his services aforesaid or any part thereof, nor has he any documentary evidence in his possession his commission aforesaid having been long since lost, and that he was not employed in any civil pursuit during the tours aforesaid

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. [signed] Wm Burton

NOTE: On 31 Oct 1844 Sarah Burton, 81, of Howard County MO, applied for a pension stating that as Sarah Sandford she married William Burton in Albemarle County in the fall of 1783, and he died 14 Oct 1842. Nancy Head, wife of John Head, stated that William Burton "married my second sister... at parson Murays" several years before she, herself, was married in 1787.