Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Burton S8114

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia, Chesterfield county to wit.

On this eighth day of October in the year 1832 personally appeared before the county court of Chesterfield county in open court now sitting Richard Burton a resident of the county of Chesterfield and State of Virginia, aged eighty 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 7th 1832.

That he enlisted in the minute service under Capt William Randolph, that he was called into service on the first day of November 1775 under the said Capt Randolph and marched from Chesterfield county down to Williamsburg, where he remained untill about the 23rd of December 1775 when he was discharged. He was again called out in the month of September 1776 under his enlistment in the Minute service, under Capt. Francis Goode, and was again marched down to Williamsburg, and after remaining there about three weeks was discharged, these two tours making together about ten weeks.

That in the month of January (believed to be the 1st) in the year 1781, he was called into service under Capt. Arch'd. Walthall [Archibald Walthall], with Lieut Wm. Bragg [William Bragg], and attached to the Regiment commanded by Colo. Robert Goode, marched from chesterfield courthouse to Manchester, thence to Petersburg, thence to Cabin Point [in Surry County of James River], Smithfield and McKey's Mills [Mackie's Mills] in the lower part of Virginia, and after serving at least five weeks was discharged at McKey's Mills, or the neighbourhood thereof. Gen'l. [Robert] Lawson and a Capt or Lieut. Lucas of the Regular army were at Smithfield, while he was there

That some short time afterwards believed to be in the month of February 1781 he was again called out in a company of militia, commanded by Capt. David Patteson [sic: David Patterson] and ordered to the south and after marching through Amelia to Dinwiddie courthouse was ordered back to Petersburg, where he was discharged after serving about three weeks. Colo. Robert Goode had the command of the Regiment to which he was attached.

That about the first of April 1781 he was again called out in a company of militia commanded by Capt. Arch'd. Walthall, with Lieut. Wm. Bragg and Ensign Covington, that he was marched about in Chesterfield county, thence across James River into the upper end of Henrico, thence down by Westham to Richmond, thence down to Bottom's bridge, thence back to Richmond, thence to Osborne's in Chesterfield, thence across James River, into Henrico county and thence up to Wilton where he was discharged after serving about six weeks. Colo. John Bott and Colo. George Robertson each had the command of the Regiment during this tour, during different periods.

That about the first of August 1781 he was again called out in a company of militia commanded by Capt. Arch'd. Walthall with Lieut Edward Branch, that he was marched from Chesterfield courthouse, through Henrico, to New Castle [now Old Church] in Hanover, thence through New Kent, King and Queen into Gloucester where he was discharged about the first of October 1781, after serving two months; Colo. John Taylor and Major Campbell had command of the Regiment to which he was attached. Colo. [Samuel] Temple had command also of a Regiment which was along.

He verily believes he served in all the tours at least eight months, that he never received any written discharge from the services except his tours in the minute service which have either been lost or mislaid, that while in service he contracted no acquaintance with any of the officers of the Regular army though frequently in the neighbourhood of some of them. – He was born in the county of Chesterfield on the 28th day of May in the year 1752 where he has constantly resided ever since, he has seen a register of his birth in his Grand father's bible but what has become of it he is unable to say.

He has no documentary evidence of his service, but part of his military services are known to Josiah

Blankenship [pension application S8072] and William Fendley [W7258] and many persons in neighbourhood can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. – 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. Sworn to and subscribed before the court the day and year herein first written [signed] Richard Burton