Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Burns W9372 Lucretia Burns VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 24 Jan 2018.

The State of Indiana }

Jefferson County Ss } On this 12th day of February 1819 Before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Jefferson Circuit Court personally appeared John Burns aged fifty six years resident in Switzerland County in the State of Indiana who being by me first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the late act of Congress "entitled" an an act to provide for certain persons enguaged in the land & navel survice of the United States in the revolutionary war. That he the said John Burns Enlisted in the Continental survice in the spring of 1777 in King & Queen [King and Queen] County in the State of Virginia in the Company commanded by Capt. Phillip Talafro [sic: Philip Taliaferro] of the regimente Commanded by Col Richard Parker & that he continued to surve in said Corps or in the survice of the united states until May 1780 in Charles Town in South Carolina. that he was at the Battle of Savannah in Georgia [Siege of Savannah, 24 Sep - 19 Oct 1779] & in the Battle at Charles Town South Caralina [Siege of Charleston, 29 Mar - 12 May 1780] And that he is in indigent circumstances & stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support. And that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said survice

John Burns

This deponent says that the Clerk in the above draft has made a small error which he now wishes certified & deposes that he served in the 1st Virginia regiment commanded by Col. Rich'd. Parker that he was enlisted by Capt. Philip Toliver who shortly after resigned & then said deponent was cast into the company of Alexe'r. Parker [Alexander Parker] still under the command of the aforesaid Rich'd Parker as Colonel of aforres'd Regiment. Sworn to as p the aforesaid dates before me

State of Indiana

Switzerland County, Switzerland Circuit Court

on this 15th day of September 1820 personally appeared in open court, being a court of record for the County & State aforesaid, John Burns a resident of the aforesaid County aged 57 years on the twelfth day of July last past, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows To wit, That he enlisted under Captain Philip Taliphro in King & Queen County Virginia – after his resigning his commission he was detached to the second Virginia Regiment under Col. Richard Parker in Captain Alaxander Parkers Company & served three years the full term of his enlistment in that Regiment. That he has received a pension granted him under the act of Congress of March 18 1818, numbered 16, 255 dated December 9 - 1819, and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed.

Schedule of my property &c, debts & credits

One Cow, one horse, four shoats, one dinner pot, one stew kettle one oven & lid, one skillet one coffee mill one tea kettle, cupboard furniture to the amount of three Dollars & fifty cents one plow two axes one dollar & fifty cents worth of water vessels pot hooks & old iron 25½ lb bacon sundry small articles value

one dollar & fifty cents one looking glass three chairs one wheel one trammel one sad iron soap fat value \$3.50 old saddle & bridle one gridiron and stone pitcher one bottle of oil & five dollars in debts That he is indebted

То	James Welsh of Vevay	\$50.00
"	William Cotton	17.00
	Killis Wilhite	14.00
	Ebenezer Wheeler	1.62
	David Bebee	3.00
	Davis Floyd	50.00
	Francis L Lindley	4.00
	William Ward	50.00
	Daniel Demaree	5.00



He is a house painter by ocupation but is unable to make a living, in consequence of wounds & the litle work of that kind done in the Western country

That he has the following children to support in his family to wit, David Burns aged nine years Robert Burns between 7 & 8 years old Jane Burns between five & six years old Elizabeth Burns between 4 & five years old, George B Burns between 2 & 3 years old & John M Burns aged about 4 months & his wife Lucretia aged thirty one years & a weakly woman

[The following are from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia indexed as Bunn, John.]

I do hereby Cerrtifie that John Bunn was enlisted the 14 day of Feb'y 1777 & that he served the term of three years

given under my hand the 27 day of October 1783

Copy/ J. Pendleton Jr

Phil Taliaferro Cap. [Philip Taliaferro]

pot - Bu

Del'd Mr John Lyne

Sir Nov'r 3^d 1783

Be pleased to deliver a Certificate for the [illegible] due me as a Soldier to John Lyne [illegible] my use.

John Bu[page torn]

Mr T Meriwether



On 1 April 1853 Lucretia Burns applied for a pension stating that as Lucretia Vanasdal she married John S. Burns in Warren County OH on 13 June 1810, and he died on 7 July 1827. In an application for bounty land dated 7 July 1857 Lucretia Burns was said to be 72 and a resident of Carrollton in Carroll County KY.

Correspondence in 1889 refers to Elizabeth Harris, daughter and only surviving child of John and Lucretia Burns, as "aged and infirm" and in destitute circumstances. It refers to her father as "Sergeant John Burns" who was "at least part of the time under Gen. Daniel Morgan," and that he was "a very large man weighing something like 400 pounds and that he was a sergeon and practiced his possession [sic]

some in the army and that he was a Scothman and emigrated to this country from Scotland during or about the time of the Revolutionary War." It also refers to the possibility that Burns was wounded by a shot in the calf of the leg.