

## **Pension Application for Abraham Burhans**

W.21725 (Widow: Leah)

State of New York

County of Ulster SS.

On this twenty first day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty one personally appeared before the undersigned Jacob Snyder one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said county Leah Burhans a resident of the town of Kingston in said County, aged seventy seven 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 act of Congress passed 7<sup>th</sup> July 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows".

That she is the widow of Abraham Burhans who served as a private or noncommissioned officer in the militia of the County of Ulster during the War of the Revolution.

This Declarant was born at Kingston in said County her Father [was] named Philip Miller moved to an adjoining town (Woodstock) and there remained until some time in the war of the Revolution when she was 12 or 14 years of age her brother Peter Miller was taken prisoner by the Indians and Tories and was taken to Canada and her Father's family then removed to Kingston near the residence of Abraham Burhans who afterwards became her husband as aforesaid and that before her marriage her Father's family and herself removed to the town of Redhook in the County of Dutchess. She had another brother named David Miller who belonged to the Continental Army of the United States and died in Pennsylvania [Pennsylvania] while in the service.

On these accounts her attention as directed to Military matters and she well recollects at the time thereof hearing of the Military Services of said Abraham Burhans her late husband, she often heard him mention before he started on any Military Expedition and when he started that he was going on such expedition, saw him in his Military dress duly armed and quipped for duty that he several times as an Express to the Grand Army under General Washington also to General Clinton and to Albany and other places, in the Infantry and also in the Cavalry but this Declarant is of course unable to particularize all the services rendered by her said husband Abraham Burhans and she cannot give the length of the different tours in which he engaged nor can she give the names of the officers he served under in each tour, yet the following particulars she well recollects that said Abraham Burhans served as an Express to and from General Washington's Army in the Fall of the year 1775 for one month or more and that said Abraham was drafted or enlisted in the month of August in the year 1776 as a private soldier under Captain Moses Cantine of Ulster County and believes he served for the term of Eight Months.

And that in the Spring or Summer of the year 1777 served as a private in a company commanded by Captain Hendrick Schoonmaker at Fort Montgomery for at least Four months and that in the Fall of the year 1777 Abraham Burhans served as a private under Captain Moses Cantine on and Expedition to Schoharie for one month, and that in the year 1777 Abraham Burhans served as an Express to and from the Armies of General Washington and General Gates and when near Albany with papers from General Washington to General Gates he heard of General Burguynes [Burgoyne] surrender and served at least one month as such express.

And that in the summer of the year 1778, Abraham Burhans served as an Express to and from General Washington's Army at White Plains for at least two months—And that on or about the 10<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year 1778 Abraham Burhans entered into the service as a private under Lt. Isaac Burhans in Colonel John Snyder's Regiment and served for five days.

And that on or about the first of May 1779 said Abraham Burhans entered into service as a private under Sergeant Adam Wolven in Colo. John Snyder's Regiment and served the term of fifteen days. And that immediately or very soon after said Abraham Burhans entered into the Military Service as a Sergeant under Lt. Petrus Baker in the Regiment commanded by Col. John Snyder and served for about the term of one month and six days.

And that on or about the 25<sup>th</sup> day of April 1780 the said Abraham Burhans entered into the Military Service as a Corporal under Captain Hendrick Schoonmaker in Col. John Snyder's Regiment and served for the term of Eighteen days.

And that on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 1780 the said Abraham Burhans entered into the Military service as a private under Lt. Oke-Sudam in Col. John Snyder's Regiment and served for seven days.

And that on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July 1780 the said Abraham Burhans entered into the Military Service as a private under Captain Moses Cantine the Regiment commanded by Col. William Malcom and served for seven days.

And that on or about the last of July 1780 the said Abraham Burhans entered into the Military Service as a private in the company commanded by Captain Moses Cantine in Col. William Malcom's Regiment and served for the term of three months.

And that the said Abraham Burhans served as an Express in the spring summer and fall in the year 1781 at different stations and places at least three months.

And that on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year 1782 Abraham Burhans entered into the Military service under Captain Hendrick Schoonmaker in Col. John Snyder's Regiment and served as a Sergeant for the term of twenty one days.

And that he served during every year of said Revolutionary War from the year 1775 or the commencement thereof and for a greater or longer period during the years 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, 1780, 1781 and 1782 that he performed duty at Schoharie, Woodstock, Fort Montgomery, New York, Cornwell, White Plains, Albany, Saratoga, New Jersey, Shandaken and other places not now recollected.

As to the officers under whom he served she recollects Captain Dewitt, Moses Cantine, Hendrick Schoonmaker, Philip Swart, Colonel Snyder, Col. Malcom, Lt. Burhans, Lt. Baker and others.

That she was married to said Abraham Burhans on the first day of December one thousand seven hundred and eighty six by the Reverend Daniel Coch, the Pastor of the German Reformed Church of Rhinebeck. That the ceremony took place at the house of William Tillman near the Church Edifice and that the following named persons were present at the performing of the marriage ceremony viz George Kisselbragh, Samuel Burhans, Elizabeth Osterhoudt, Catherine Tieber, all of whom are deceased except the said George Kisselbragh.

That she had by her said husband the following named children who were born at the times herein after set forth viz. Abraham born July 4<sup>th</sup> 1788, David was born July 15<sup>th</sup> 1780, Anna was born 28<sup>th</sup> July 1792, Susan was born 5<sup>th</sup> December 1794, Caty was born 27<sup>th</sup> April 1796, Samuel was born 9<sup>th</sup> July 1797, Peggy was born 1<sup>st</sup> November 1800, Philip was born 20<sup>th</sup> October 1801, Mary was born 2d March 1803, Sally was born 13<sup>th</sup> August 1804, Johannes was born 3d July 1806, Eliza was born 27<sup>th</sup> May 1808.

That her said husband Abraham Burhans died on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of November 1827, and that she has remained his widow ever since his decease and is still his widow, that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794 viz at the time above stated. (Signed with her mark) Leah Burhans.

Subscribed and sworn this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October 1841 before me the said Judge,--And I certify that said Leah Burhans the Declarant is unable to attend court by reason of bodily infirmity.

Jacob Snyder, Judge &c.