

Pension Application for James Burt

S.12388

State of New York
Orange County SS.

On this fourth day of September one thousand eight hundred & thirty two—personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Common Pleas [Pleas] in and for said County (being a Court of Record) now sitting James Burt a resident of Warwick in said County and State aged seventy two 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 7, 1832—

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

Deponent saith that he was born in the year 1760, as he believes and said as appears by his father's family record in deponent's possession.

That he was living in said town of Warwick when he first volunteered in November 1776, as a Sergeant in the Battalion of Major Henry Wisner, in Colonel William Allison's Regiment of Militia for and served nearly three months. In this service deponent was mustered and marched to Chloster in New Jersey near the Brittish [British] Lines to Hackensack, English Neighborhood, Hoboken, Fort Lee & other places near the Hudson River and in the month of January was in a skirmish with the enemy at Bergen Woods where deponent with his companions in arms took six of the enemy prisoner of War. Deponent saith that he was orally discharged, from this campaign in the month of February.

Deponent further saith that in the month of March following (1777) he volunteered as Sergeant under Captain John Minthorn and under Major Henry Wisner aforesaid, and marched in pursuit of a gang of Tories who were going to the Brittish; overtook and captured seventeen of this hostile band near Newfoundland in New Jersey and committed them to gaol—

On his return home he immediately volunteered in said town of Warwick as sergeant under Captain William Blain, as one of the crops called Rangers. This service consisted, as deponent saith, in patrolling the mountains and ferreting out Tories and small parties of Brittish who committed robberies [robberies] and murders among the Whig inhabitants—was thus engaged for two ---- months including a march to Ramapo, Nyack on the Hudson River which latter place was then their headquarters & from whence his corps would frequently visit Chloster and other places in its vicinity checking and occasionally capturing marauding parties of the enemy. Deponent saith that he was discharged from this command about first of June following.

Saith about first of July in the year (1777) he volunteered as Sergeant in Captain John Minshorn's Company was marched to headquarters at Ramapo, was engaged in the like service as last aforesaid in that and the vicinity of Tappan for one month.

On the following last of August or first of September on a requisition of troops from Col. John Hathorn's Regiment by order of Gen. George Clinton, deponent's father, then aged sixty years went as deponents substitute to Forts Montgomery & Clinton and served one month.

On the approach of the Brittish fleet up the Hudson and previous to the capture and fall of said Forts, by order of Gen. Clinton, the whole of deponent's Regiment marched to Ramapo, where information reached them of the fall of said Fortress.

From Ramapo, deponent marched with the Warwick and Goshen Regiments to New Windsor to prevent the enemy's landing at that place.—Saith that he was there at the time of the enemy's fleet sailed up said River and burnt the town of Kingston. From New Windsor deponent was detached by order of Gen. Clinton, to guard a Brigade of Waggon conveying French muskets from Boston to Washington's Army in Pennsylvania—This campaign as deponent saith lasted two weeks. Early in the spring of 1778 Deponent marched under Captain Andrew Miller of Col. John Hathorn's Regiment from among the troops to form a force to escort General Wayne's prisoners to Easton in Pennsylvania from

which latter place deponent returned to Warwick aforesaid and immediately marched for the Minisink frontier to repel the hostile invasions of the Indians under Brant, but from among the Troops to form a force to escort General Wayne's prisoners to Easton in Pennsylvania from which latter place deponent returned to Warwick aforesaid and immediately marched for the Minisink frontier to repel the hostile invasions of the Indians under Brant, but before his Battalion reach the Delaware River, met our retreating troops returned from the Battle field on the [Larawaxen?] where the enemy's superior force had obtained the victory.

Deponent saith that he was in the service at this period two months.

Deponent saith that early in September following deponent was one consisting a quota of troops called to Fishkill on the East side [of] the Hudson River under the command of Colonel Hathorn and Gen. George Clinton, and served three months as sergeant aforesaid—was discharged in December following—Immediately on deponent's return home a requisition was made for teams to transport clothing, which had been forwarded from Boston, to the Continental troops then laying back at Watney Plains near Morristown in New Jersey, saith that he went with his team taking two hogsheads of clothing which he conveyed to our Army, saith that he spent two or more weeks in this service in which time he endured the greatest sufferings in his life from the immense quantities of snow through which he travelled, and from the severity of the frost.

In the spring of 1780, deponent served under Captain John Minthorn in the vicinity of Ramapo one months, and in the summer of the same year one month under Captain Miller aforesaid and in the same quarter.

In this year (1780 deponent saith he served as sergeant under Captain Richard Baily and Lieut. John Kenedy at least two months on and along to Ramapo, thence to Pompton in New Jersey, thence to Paramus, to Tappan, thence to Headquarters at Ramapo, was out in this service one month.

In the first of June following was ordered under Captain John Minthorn in said Hathorn's Regiment and again marched to Ramapo in which vicinity & on the lines, deponent remained one month.

In this year (1778) by order of the Commander in Chief a requisition of men and teams was made early in September from his neighborhood to build Fort Putnam, and deponent turned out with a double team and wrought in the erection of that fortress one and a half months, and on the completion of which he returned home in the latter part of October.

In the early part of November following deponent again marched to the Minisink frontier under Captain Andrew Miller and served half a month.

Deponent saith that in the same autumn he served under Captain John Minthorn one month in and about Ramapo, Hackensack and other places near the lines.

Deponent further saith that about the last of March of first of April 1779, he was again marched to Ramapo under Captain Andrew Miller, as he believes, and served one month.

The first of June following was again at Ramapo under Captain John Mintorn and under Colonel John Hathorn and marched from thence to Stony Point on the Hudson River and where deponent's Regiment lay until a short time before the taking of that Fortress by Gen. Wayne. After the same was taken, deponent was selected [end of page, the next page doesn't seem to follow on] the Minisink frontier, being stated apart of this time at the stockade at Martinus Decker's settlement.

In the year 1781, Deponent saith he was in the service as usual under the aforesaid commanders at Paramus Hackensack and along the lines in various other places with he fellow soldiers in arms against the Common Enemy—in all, at least two months or more.

Deponent further saith that in the spring of 1782, he was marched under the command of Major David Mc[?] again to the Minisink border, on occasion of an expected attack by the Indians of the exposed inhabitants in that region, and remained with his Battalion in this expedition about half a

month, when the said Battalion was discharged—Deponent further saith that he, at no time, received a written discharge from service from any officer.—

Beside the above enumerated services deponent saith that he was frequently under arms for days and weeks in pursuit of parties of British and Tories who took shelter in the mountains & would sally out in the night from their hiding places and rob and murder the defenseless residents. And in conclusion declares that he served his country faithfully as a revolutionary soldier and in capacity of sergeant and orderly, more than two years.

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. (Signed) James Burt

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid before me. Asa Dunning, Clerk

Letter in folder dated January 13, 1940, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of James Burt, a pensioner of Orange County, New York, in 1840.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.12388, based upon service of James Burt in the Revolutionary War.

James Burt was born in the year 1760; the exact day of his birth and names of his parents were not given. He lived in Warwick, Orange County, New York, as early as 1770 and continued to reside there after the Revolutionary War. His father's age was given in the summer of 1777 as sixty years.

James Burt enlisted sometime in November 1776, served on different tours as sergeant and orderly until the spring of 1782, amounting in all to at least two years, under Captains John Minthorn, William Blain, Andrew Miller, and Colonels William and John Hathorn in the New York troops. During the period of his service, he was in an engagement at Bergen Woods in January 1777 and assisted in taking a number of prisoners, later assisted in the erection of Fort Putnam, was detached and guarded prisoners who were taken at Stony Point and went to Minisink to protect the inhabitants from the Indians. He stated that his father served one month from about the last of August 1777, at Fort Montgomery, as a substitute for him (James).

James Burt was allowed pension on account of his service in the Revolutionary War on his application executed September 4, 1832, at which time he resided in Warwick, Orange County, New York. He made no reference to wife or children.