

Pension Application for Isaac Burton

W.2719 (Widow: Abigail) Married Isaac Burton of Canaan, NY & Abigail Rea of Preston Conn. October 11, 1798 by Levi Hart, Minister of the Gospel. Levi died April 12, 1838.

B.L.Wt.26393-160-55

State of New York

Columbia County SS.

On this 21st day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Justices Court of the City of Hudson in said county being a court of record now sitting Isaac Burton a resident of the Town of New Lebanon in the County of Columbia & State of New York aged seventy six 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 in the Militia of the State of Connecticut under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit.

That when this deponent was first called into the said service which was in the late part of the summer of 1776 in the month of August he resided in the Town of Preston in the County of New London & State of Connecticut & was drafted into said service. That the names of the officers of the company to which this deponent belonged so far as this deponent recollects them were Captain Joseph Boardman, Lieutenant Alexander Stewart, Ensign John Stanton & Orderly Sergeant Eleazer Herrick.

That said company was attached to the regiment of Colonel Smith of Stonington in the State of Connecticut. That the said company mustered in New London in the State of Connecticut from which place they went by water to New Haven, then by land to New Rochelle at Horseneck to Morrisena in the State of New York, thence to Fort Washington—thence by water several miles up the river Hudson—thence to White Plains—at White Plains we staid some time I assisted in building some fortifications. Our army then had some engagements with the British but this deponent was not in any of them, actually engaged being stationed with others according to orders [?] the breastworks. We lay at White Plains in Company with some Continental Troops but their names or the names of their officers this deponent does not now recollect if he ever knew. We tarried at White Plains until the beginning of the winter when we were dismissed & sent home sometime in the month of December 1776.

That in the fall of the year 1779 in the month of September this deponent was again drafted into the service of the Connecticut militia for term of three months and mustered n New London in said State of Connecticut.

That the names of the officers of the company to which this deponent at that time belonged which this deponent recollects are Captain Alexander Stewart, Orderly Sergeant Isaac Herrick. The name of the Colonel this deponent does not recollect. We were employed in building fortifications & in garrison duty. We remained at New London & were dismissed in the month of December 1779.

That this deponent having subsequently removed to the Town of New Lebanon in the County of Columbia and State of New York again entered the service of the United States being drafted into the New York Militia in the month of September 1781 for an expedition against the Indians. The company to which this deponent was attached was commanded by Capt. Elisha Gilbert & the regiment by Col. Whiting—said company mustered in said Town of New Lebanon & marched to Albany & thence to Schenectady near Schoharie. This service lasted about three or four weeks until October 1781 when we were dismissed. We were during this service principally engaged in scouring the Country, marching & keeping sentry. This deponent further states that he has not any documentary evidence to substantiate his claims in relation to any of the periods of service before mentioned & knows of no person whatever whose testimony he can procure to testify to his said service.

And this deponent hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State & that he has never had any pension whatever.

And the said Isaac Burton does further depose & say on answer to the Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department to wit.—

Question 1. Where and in what year were you born? Answer. I was born at Preston in the County of New Lebanon in the State of Connecticut on the 25th day of April 1756.

Question 2. Have you any record of your age & if so where is it. Answer. I formerly had a record of my age but I lost it several years since.

Question 3. Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War & where do you now live? Answer. I lived in the Town of Preston aforesaid when first called into service—I removed to the Town of New Lebanon Columbia County New York during the War of the Revolution & have resided there ever since & now reside there.

Question 4. How were you called into service—were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom. Answer. I was drafted during each of the three periods of service before mentioned.

Question 5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your service. Answer. I recollect no regular officers or officers with the Continental troops except one Major Hem who I believe was connected with the troops at or near fort Washington. I recollect no other officers except those which I have specified above in the declaration viz during my first service Col. Smith of Stonington, Capt Bowman, Lieutenant Stewart, Ensign Stanton & Orderly Sergeant Eleazer Herrick all of Preston aforesaid during my second service Captain Stewart & Orderly Sergeant Isaac Herrick of Preston aforesaid, during my third service Col. Whiting & Captain Elisha Gilbert of the Town of New Lebanon aforesaid. I can recollect no Continental or militia regiments except Col. Troups? At or near Fort Washington during my first & Second periods of service I was principally employed the building of fortifications & breast works in garrison duty & in marching during my third period of service principally in marching and in keeping guard in scouring the country.

Question 6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so by whom was it given & what has become of it? Answer. I never received any written discharge from the service at any time. I was only honorably dismissed.

Question 7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who can testify to your character for veracity & good behavior & your services as a soldier of the revolution. Answer. As to my actual services as a soldier of the revolution I know no person now living who can speak of them from actual knowledge, as to my character for veracity & good behavior I refer to Hon. John King, Member of Congress, Elam Tilden, Post Master, Rev. Silas Churchill, Paul Roberts, Esquire, Gale Bigelow, Benoni Sherman, Moses Cole, Asa Cole, all of New Lebanon aforesaid & many others.

And this deponent further says that New Lebanon is a distance of about thirty miles from the City of Hudson the nearest Court of Record in said County of Columbia & that he cannot without too much inconvenience & expense procure the statement of the fact & opinions in regard to his age & reputed services in the Revolution from Rev. Silas Churchill & some other resident of that town by producing them in open court. (Signed with his mark) Isaac Burton

Subscribed and sworn to before me in open court Sept. 4? 1832. Hiram Wilbur, Clerk