

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Burney W9374      Nancy Burney      f71NC  
Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves      10/17/10: rev'd 9/25/22

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

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State of Alabama Lauderdale County Sct.

On this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December 1832 personally appeared in open court before Sidney C Posey Judge of the County Court of said County now sitting Samuel Burney a resident in said County of Lauderdale & State of Alabama aged Sixty eight years & about ten months who being 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. Colonel John Sevier commanded the Regiment Captain \_\_Wallace [Thomas Wallace of the Sullivan County NC militia] commanded the company & \_\_ McGahe [sic, McGeehee?] was Lieutenant. The names of the other officers he does not recollect. The company in which he served were mounted riflemen, & he entered the service in the fall of the year 1778; but does not recollect the month nor day of the month that he marched under the above named officers from the back parts of North Carolina into the State of South Carolina within about thirty miles of Charleston. The British were then in possession of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina did not fall to the British until May 12, 1780] & the troops to which he belonged were principally employed in scouting, approaching as near to the British lines & to Charleston as they could; & in endeavoring to prevent intercourse between the British & Tories. That he served as he believes, at the time spoken of, about a year; but cannot state with certainty the month when he was discharged; but knows that it was in the fall of the year 1779. He further states that in the month of December following (1779) he again entered the service as a mounted rifleman under the command of Colonel Isaac Shelby in the company commanded by Captain \_\_Smith [probably William Smith of the Washington County NC militia]. The name of the Lieutenant was George Rutledge. The names of the other company officers he does not recollect. That he was again marched from North Carolina to the same place in South Carolina where he engaged in the same kind of service & remained in the service until the month of December 1780, when he was again discharged.

He 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, or (if any) only on that of the agency of North Carolina.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open court.

Test: S/ W. W. Garrard, Clk

S/ Saml. Burney



[William B Bryan, a clergyman, a resident of Limestone Alabama, and George Simmons gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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... And the court further certifies that the following interrogatories were put to the said Samuel Burney & the answers annexed to each interrogatory was given by him on oath to wit:

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Guilford County in the State of North Carolina on the 30th of January 1763 as he believes

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. No I have not

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. I was living in the back part of North Carolina on the frontiers & do not know in what County. Shortly after the revolutionary war he with the rest of his mother's family moved into the State of South Carolina Abbeville district, where he resided until the year 1806. He then removed to Rutherford County in the State of Tennessee & resided there about two years & then removed into what was then called Double heads reserve now in Lauderdale County & State of Alabama & resided there about three years removed from there to Giles County in the State of Tennessee where he resided until the year 1817 when he removed into said County of Lauderdale where he has resided ever since.

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I volunteered

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. I do not recollect the names of any but one regular officer & that was Colonel Mayham [sic, Hezekiah Maham?] or the name sounding like that; nor do I recollect what Continental or militia regiments we were, as I understood at the time, under the command of General Marion [Francis Marion], I frequently saw him, but he did not remain constantly with the troops. The circumstances of my service was as I have already stated in the body of my declaration.

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I never received any written discharge from the service but was dismissed at the end of the time for which I had volunteered with the rest of the company

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. Benjamin Ingram, Samuel Harroway [?], Daniel Nance, John P. Cunningham, G. W. G. Foley, John Arnett, Hugh McVay, Joseph P Waddell, Doctor Cox, Archibald Fuqua, Robert McCoresten [?] James Reid.

S/ S. C. Posey, Judge

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State of Alabama Lauderdale County

County Court of said County this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833 came Samuel Burney in open Court the Honorable Sidney C Posey Presiding; and made the following supplemental declaration in order to entitle him to the Benefits of the Act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832 and which is a supplement to his former declaration here with attached viz. being first duly sworn deposeeth That

He Entered the service as stated in his declaration in the year 1778 as a volunteer on the 26th day of August under Captain Wallace for the term of twelve months he was mustered into service at Jones Banaugh then in North Carolina as well as he recollects, under Colonel John Sevier from there they were marched across the mountains at the Bald mountain Gap passing through Charlotte and through Campden [sic, Camden] and on the Santee River, in about thirty miles of Charleston was under the command of General Marion; found his own horse saddle & rifle; was in a mounted rifle company, was in no Battle of any note, was in a skirmish where they took upwards of 100 prisoners. Served out the term & was discharged.

He further states that when they arrived at headquarters they joined the Troops that were guarding the River to prevent communication between the British and Tories. The British were then in possession of Charleston Colonel Maham or a name sounding like that near there also, he commanded the dragoons – they took by [indecipherable word],<sup>1</sup> scouting the country –

He further declares that after he had returned there were orders to raise more men for sending to the same place and for the same purposes; as before & he on the 23rd day of November 1779 again volunteered for the term of 12 months under Captain Smith in the company of mounted rifle men – was mustered into service at the same place he was first mustered at under the command of Colonel Isaac Shelby. They were marched towards Charleston crossed the mountain at the Blue Mountains, passed Ramsours Mills, passing Charlotte, Camden & headquarters on Santee in about thirty miles of Charleston under the command of General Marion, was engaged in preventing communication with the British and Tories and guarding the country – was in no Battle of any note – remained in the service until 28th day of November 1780 being a few days over the Term of 12 months for which he had enlisted or volunteered he was [one or more words obliterated] discharged.

He never received a written discharge as he recollects not expecting any use for the same. He has no Documentary evidence of his services. He does not know of any living witness by whom he can prove his services.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court 6 of November 1833.

S/ Saml. Burney

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State of Alabama Lauderdale County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace in & for said County, Samuel Burney who, being duly sworn, deposeeth & saith, that, by reason of old age, & the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service;

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<sup>1</sup> *Santee*

but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades: For one year & six months I served as a soldier & for such service I claim a pension. Given under my hand & seal this 2nd day of October 1834.

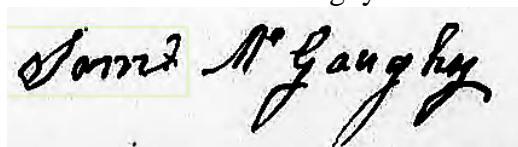
S/ Saml. Burney

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State of Alabama Lawrence County} This day personally appeared before me James D Wallace, Judge of the County Court of said County, Samuel McGaughey, and made oath that Samuel Burney, who now resides in Lauderdale County in this State, lived near him in Sullivan County, then in North Carolina, now Tennessee, in the year 1781. That said Burney joined a volunteer Company, raised by Captain Thomas Wallace, in said County of Sullivan. This affiant was elected a Lieutenant of said company; our object was to join General Greene – we were in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Isaac Shelby – we went into South Carolina and joined General Greene at the high Hills of Santee River – from thence we crossed the Santee and joined General Marion – we volunteered for six months when our time was out, Captain Wallace had to go home to Court. General Marion wished the men to stay longer – I beat up for volunteers, and said Burney volunteered to stay. We remained two months longer – said Burney remained with us and returned home with me when our company was discharged – he was in actual service eight months, was a true Whig and a good soldier. This affiant states that he was applied to by said Burney to go to Lauderdale County to give his testimony when said Burney made his declaration in order to obtain a pension, but from bodily infirmity was unable to do so.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th May, 1835.

S/ aSaml. McGaughy

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Saml McGaughey". The signature is written in a cursive style. The name "Saml" is enclosed in a light green rectangular box.

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State of Alabama Lauderdale County} This day personally appeared before the undersigned Judge of the County Court of Lauderdale County Samuel Burney who being by me duly sworn deposeth & saith: That by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below.

For the year 1780 – six months

For the year 1781 – eight months

I served as a private soldier, and for such service I claim a pension.

Deponent further states that he was mistaken in his declaration as to the years of his service in the Army. That since the same was made out and submitted to the department he found out the evidence of Samuel McGaughy<sup>2</sup> who was a Lieutenant in the company in which he served the last tour. That he saw said McGaughy and in conversing with him ascertained that he was from want of memory mistaken in the years of his service (which he now says was in the years herein set forth). The time of service, and the names of the Colonel of the Regiment & in which McGaughy was Lieutenant – Colonel Sevier was the Colonel of the Regiment in which he first served & Isaac Shelby was Colonel of the Regiment in which he last served. Captain

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<sup>2</sup> [Samuel McGaughey \(McGaughey\) W9981](#)

Wallace commanded the company and Samuel McGaughy was Lieutenant, under Colonel Shelby.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the second day of February 1836  
S/ Sidney C Posey, Judge

S/ Saml. Burney

[p 13: On May 9, 1857 in Hopkins County Texas, Nancy Burney, 55, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Samuel Burney; that her husband died in the year 1848; that she married him in 1845 in April the date not recollected; that they were married by John Cooper Esq.; that her name prior to her marriage was Nancy Mass [could be Nancy Moss];<sup>3</sup> that her husband died in Lauderdale County Alabama on the last day of March 1848. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$46.66 per annum, for service in the North Carolina militia as a private. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nancy Mass". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The first name "Nancy" is written in a larger, more prominent hand, while "Mass" is written in a smaller, more compact hand. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.