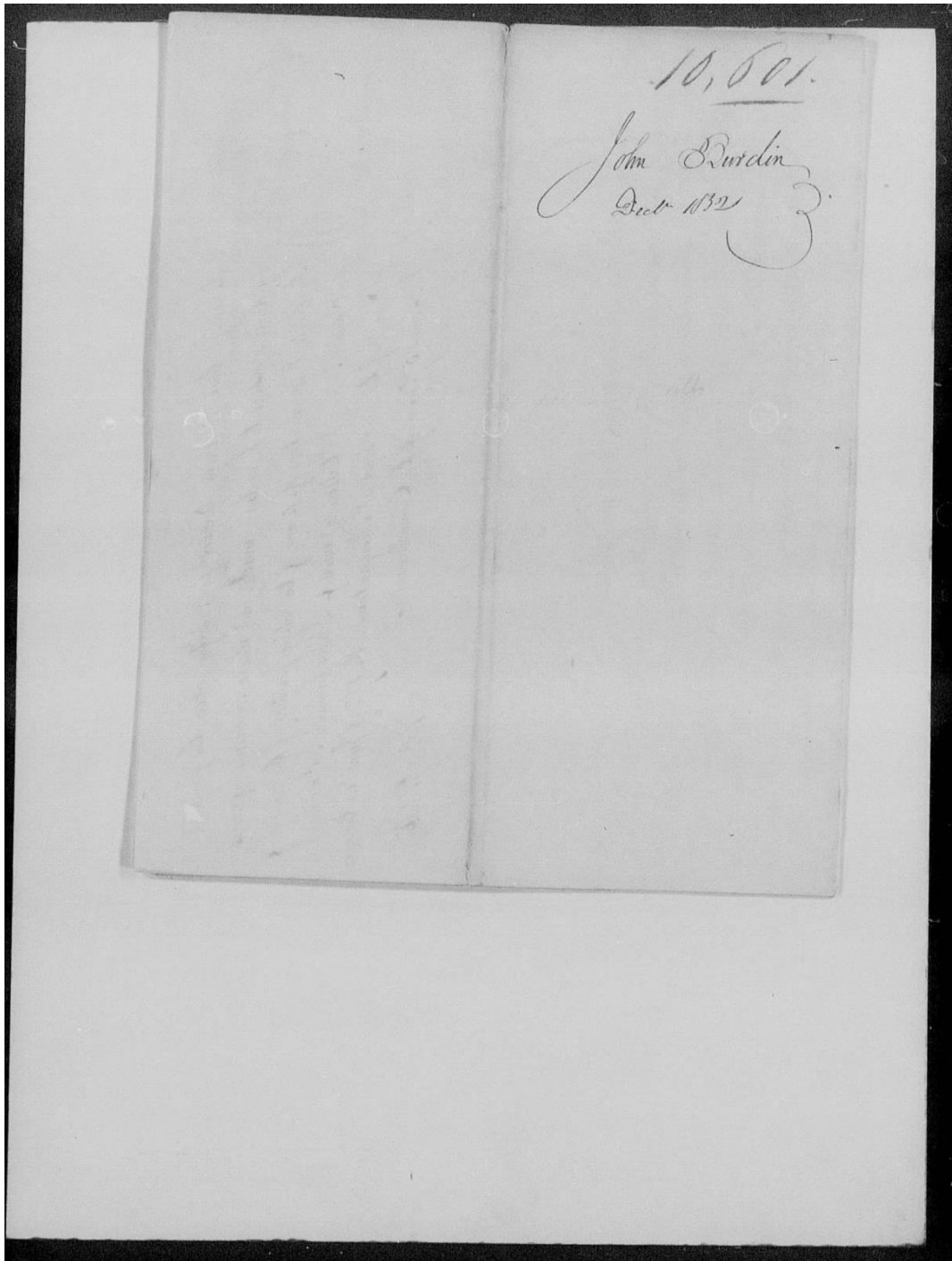


PENSION APPLICATION OF JOHN BURDIN/BURDEN

From Fold 3

Submitted by Linda Fluharty.



State of Virginia  
county of Monongalia } ss. On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared before the County court of Monongalia, John Burdin, a resident of said county, 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 provision made by the act of Congress, passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he enlisted as a private soldier for one year, in the county of Chester, and state of Pennsylvania with Capt. Perry, commander of a company stationed at Lewis town, on the capes of the Delaware, but he cannot recollect the year - that Co. David Hall was commander of the regiment or troops - that his Lieutenants name was John Hazard and his ensign William Hall - that his enlistment was in the winter, and in the month of March following joined the company at Lewis town - that during the season we were employed in keeping the enemy from taking cattle and provisions, acting as a flying camp - that at the end of his term he was discharged by Capt. Perry, at Lewis town, which he has long since lost - that he is unable so far as he knows to prove his services, that the only person who served in that company with him, who moved to this part of the country was Ezekiel Burtons, who is dead, and he understood was a pensioner under the law of 1816 -

That he again enlisted as a private soldier, for seven months in the month of May 1780, in the state of New York with Capt. Richard Sackett, attached to a regiment commanded by Co. Selden - that the troops were engaged during the same year in scouting and guarding the frontiers - that during this service he saw the British officer Andre brought to camp - that on the first day of December of the same year, he was discharged by Capt. Sackett, which he has also lost -

That he again enlisted in the Delaware regiment, the same year peace was proclaimed, but was discharged at New Castle about the first of July - He hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any state. Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid -

John X Burdin  
mark

And the said court do hereby declare their opinion, that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier, and serve as he states

I Thomas P. Ray, clerk of the County court aforesaid, do hereby certify, that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said court, in the matter of the application of John Burdin, for a pension.

In testimony whereof I have herunto set my hand and seal of office, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year 1832, and 57<sup>th</sup> year of the Commonwealth.

T. P. Ray

State of Virginia  
Monongalia county

This day personally appeared before me William Lazier, one of the Commonwealths justices of the peace in and for said county, a man who appears to me above the age of seventy years, a resident of said county, who calls himself John Verdin or Burdin, who after being duly and solemnly sworn, doth depose and say, that he cannot, nor never could, read or write, that he believes his sur-name began with a V. — that he believes his memory failed him when he stated in the foregoing declaration, that he was enlisted in Chester county Pennsylvania he is now under the impression that it was eight miles from Lewis town Delaware, on Broad kill creek where there was a draw bridge, on a farm of John Solomon Doshman, that this must have been in 1778, from the testimony of William Bell, a sergant of our company — that he recollects the names of Ammus Green, M<sup>r</sup> Noble, John Bignell, Robert Butcher, Hubbard Sockel, who was in his mess — that he served in Capt. Perres' company, for the one year, the time for which he was enlisted —

that he is confident his former statement of his services, under Cap<sup>t</sup> Sockel is correct, he recollects John Stewart who deserted from the British, was a messmate of his in Sockel's company — that he was discharged immediately after his enlistment in the Delaware regiment, which was in a company commanded by Cap<sup>t</sup> Hazard — that he was born in Sussex county Delaware, the year he does not know but believes he was seventy six last March — lived in this county eight years, previous to which he resided in the state of Ohio, that he removed to this county upwards of forty years ago from Delaware, and after living here about ten years removed to Ohio.

John Verdin  
mark

I William Lazier, a justice of the peace as aforesaid, do certify, that the said John Verdin or Burdin, made oath to, and subscribed the foregoing declaration, at the county aforesaid, on this 17<sup>th</sup> of June in the year 1832. As witness my hand and seal.

W. Lazier

Virginia:

I Thomas P. Ray, clerk of the County court of Monongalia,

Do certify that William Daviet esq. before whom the foregoing  
affidavit appears to have been made, and whose signature appears  
thereto, in testimony thereof, is one of the acting Justices of the Peace of  
said county. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand  
and seal of the said court at Morgantown, the 17<sup>th</sup> of June in the year  
1833, and 5<sup>th</sup> year of the Commonwealth.

Wm. P. Ray

Inv. Bardin

April 10<sup>th</sup> 1833 -

5. 11. 12. 13.

Intg. 1. 2. 7.

P. 329.

Thomas P. Ray Esq.  
Morgantown Va.

**BRIEF** in the case of *John Baradin*  
*County of Monongalia* in the State of *Vt.*  
 (Act 7th June, 1832.)

1. Was the declaration made before a Court or a Judge? *open Court*
2. If before a Judge, does it appear that the applicant is disabled by bodily infirmity?
3. How old is he? *76 years*
4. State his service, as directed in the form annexed.

Period.	Duration of Service.			Rank.	Names of General and Field Officers under whom he served.
	Years,	Months,	Days.	As a	Gen.
In 17 <i>May 1780</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>---</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Capt Perry Col. Hall Capt Keith Col. Selam</i>

*He states that he again enlisted in the Delaware regiment the same year peace was proclaimed but was discharged at New Castle the first of July - ~~no~~ no time of service or officers mentioned*

5. In what battles was he engaged? *None*
6. Where did he reside when he entered the service? *Chelan Pennsylvania*
7. Is his statement supported by living witnesses, by documentary proof, by traditionary evidence, by incidental evidence, or by the rolls? *By his own declaration*
8. Are the papers defective as to form or authentication? and if so, in what respect? *Correct*

**I Certify** that the foregoing statement and the answers agree with the evidence in the case above mentioned.

*Nicholas Cutler*  
 Examining Clerk.

*R. W. Mason*

12369  
INVALID.

File No. 12,369

John Burdin  
Priv. Boer War

Act: June 7, 1902

Index:—Vol. 1, Page 52

[Arrangement of 1870.]

Col. J. L. Edwards  
Comd<sup>r</sup> Pension<sup>r</sup>

8th Nov 1815  
22<sup>d</sup> Apr. 1815



January 19, 1836.

Sir: The petition of John Burdin is herewith returned. The Department on reviewing the case has determined to restore his name to the Pension Roll. I have therefore directed the Pension Agent to pay him as formerly, on the production of the proper vouchers, from the time to which he was last paid.

To Hon. B. Storer, House of Representatives.

The P. Ray

Apr 11 1861



Washington

Com. of Genl

J. Edwards Esq

Dr

free



APR 17

April 6.  
Immediate Dispatch  
Attention  
V<sup>h</sup>



The P. Ray  
March 31 1861

Gen. J. S. Edwards  
Com<sup>r</sup> of P. O.  
Washington  
free



Case of M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup>

Respectfully to Comm<sup>rs</sup>

The claim of J<sup>r</sup>. Burden after I had refused  
to admit it, fell into other hands, and was  
admitted. The proof being deemed by me  
insufficient - Mr. English has reported  
upon the claim - and pronounced it a  
fraudulent one. The name of Burden was  
accordingly dropped from the Bill. Mr. Ray  
seems to think that injustice is done here.

No evidence is to be found in Delaware  
Will you have the goodness to decide  
upon it

Yours Respectfully  
H. B. Galt

As J<sup>r</sup>. Edwards  
The Comm<sup>r</sup> of Prisons

Morgantown 22<sup>d</sup> April 1834

Jas. L. Edwards esq<sup>r</sup>  
Comm<sup>r</sup> of Pensions

Dear Sir,

I have just this moment received your letter of 11<sup>th</sup> and at the request of Col. Hanway, inform you, that you have misunderstood the extracts which I handed you from the committee of safety, in supposing, that these extracts alluded to two men of the same name -

Col. Hanway clearly states, that he served as a captain in 1775 of a volunteer company and not minute men as you state, to march against Dumore - that during the same year, the law passed to raise the "Minute men" in which he was appointed a Lieutenant in Capt. Jones' company, which he resigned, and was appointed a captain of Marines. he is mistaken in the year that he received the latter appointment - it was evidently in 1776 -

The extract of the 15<sup>th</sup> May 1776, is merely (as well as I recollect) an order for the pay due to Hanway, &c. as a Lieutenant -

When I wrote his declaration, he could not fix with certainty the periods, he served under these several appointments, but relied upon the records at Richmond, & Amelia county - I wrote to Rich<sup>d</sup> Bookers esq<sup>r</sup> of Amelia, to procure a copy of the order appointing Hanway, a lieutenant of the Amelia minute men, as the records of the committee of safety, do not go back to 1775, in order to show you the date of that appointment - which I requested him to send to you.

By reference to Hon<sup>ble</sup> C. Wilson, you will be satisfied, that there is not a more,

honorable man in his district -

I have no doubt that he served as a captain of the volunteer company, untill fall,  
May of 1775

As a Lieutenant from fall of 1775 untill May 1776

As a Marine Captain from May to Dec: 1776 - but as soon as you receive the  
document from Amelia, it will fix the period of his appointment as a Lieutenant -  
I have seen David M. Hoge, before whom the declaration of Overly was made,  
he says his signature is genuine - I wish to take the deposition of M<sup>rs</sup> Wilson to  
prove the length of Overly's service under Clarke, which I expect to get in a  
few days, and will then transmit you the original papers -

According to your directions, I again wrote the declaration of John Verdin or  
Berdin, since which his papers have been returned to you, he is unable to  
make further proof - he is willing to take a pension for his services under  
Capt. Perry it is all he can prove - I was waiting to get M<sup>rs</sup> Hall's  
testimony again, when I received it with your letter - he served under Perry  
without any doubt.

I am very respect

Yours ob<sup>d</sup>. serv<sup>t</sup>

J. P. Day

Mr Sylvester  
13 July 1835



Th. O. Ray

Chas Cump

Henry C. [unclear]

Washington city

Free

Th. O. Ray

Case of Owen.  
file with the papers



Morgantown 9<sup>th</sup> July 1835

Geo W Crump esq  
Acting Comr of Pensions

Sir  
On my return home a few days ago  
I received yours of 26<sup>th</sup> I sent it to Mr Evan Morgan, with a  
request that he would write you, and I wrote a line to Mr Goff. to  
give you the character of Mr Hall - there is not a more respectable  
family in the county, and it is a numerous one, than the Hall's -  
of Burdons services as stated in his declaration. I have no more doubt, than  
that of Anthony Wayne, and no one could doubt it, who could have examined  
him a year ago. His mind & body is now much enfeebled.

Respect<sup>ly</sup> I am yr<sup>s</sup> Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Nathan Giff

Sylvester

10<sup>th</sup> July 1855.

Take pd all the  
papers of J<sup>r</sup> - Buder  
My claim

City of Washington

at the corner of Pennsylvania

George W. Bunker

Done

Leeds July 4<sup>th</sup> 1835

In a last mail received above from  
Mr. the P. Mag. of Monongahela, you  
wishing me to give you the character of  
Spuffell who was a witness in the case of  
John Burdins, an applicant for a pension  
for Monongahela County Co., I have  
said all I know in that case in a letter  
to Mr. Edwards, I think dated about the  
13<sup>th</sup> of May last, I then stated that I did  
not know the applicant Burdins - that I  
was acquainted with Spuffell - that his  
character was good &c. &c. -

I have stated that my testimony, Mr. Spuffell  
has given may be relied on  
your order &c.

Mathew Goff

John Warden - Per  
Municipality.

Free

Not a title

John Burden -

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of <sup>Mar</sup> March 1834, this states that  
he was in his 77<sup>th</sup> year - and that when in his fourteenth  
year (but not into what year that was) he enlisted in the  
6th Regt Delaware, under Capt. William Perry (but not  
knowing for what time he did enlist -) went to Lewis town, that  
being his quarters, & whilst there was about an hour and more  
under Col. Craig's command at Lewis town and up and  
down the Bay there for pretty nearly one year -

in the year in which Gen. Arnold came and at Stony  
Point - (but not into what year that was) he enlisted in the 5th  
Regt N York - (but not into what place or county he did enlist)  
under Capt. Lucket - and served his time there - there was about 50  
men - and there being long in service in this Regiment -  
afterwards he served -

Then Morgan and St. Pauline, and a man exceedingly  
strong memory, and of great respectability - has known Burden  
for many years - previous to the passage of the Peace Law Burden  
himself had frequently talked about the Revolutionary struggle,  
and often participated in it - in these conversations Burden  
has frequently told him "that he had enlisted, and finally through  
deserted, and was not taken". Burden also states to Morgan  
in the conversation aforesaid, that he had seen Tom Serice  
at sea, before his enlistment, was taken prisoner,  
at sea

Note from a long conversation with Burden, I am entirely  
satisfied that he is an impostor - then informed upon Mr. Ray  
who went to the declaration -

W. G. G. G. G.  
Nov. 28. 1834

Sylhester  
13<sup>th</sup> July 1838.



Resident

Penitentiary Office

Wm. D. Department

Washington City

D.R.

free



13<sup>th</sup> July 1838

Erwin Morgan

Maryantown July 8<sup>th</sup> 1835-

Dear Sir

I have seen a letter from the Pension office which state that John Burdins pension cannot be paid until I write to you - Burden told me that he had deserted, and I understand that some of his messmates after his years were up tried to make him believe, that he was enlisted for two, and they run him out of camp - I did not know whether he was jesting or not at the time, but I have no doubt now but he served more than one year and that his messmates tried to make him believe he was enlisted for a longer term, I have known him about fifteen years, and I scarcely know a more weak or ignorant man, and a great deal of his conversation is in a light and jesting way - he is now reduced to the utmost poverty and is a distressing looking object -

I am respectfully yours

Evan Morgan

Morgantown 11<sup>th</sup> April 1835.

Co. J. L. Edwards  
Com. of Pension

I did not suppose that Mr. Singleton would have reported to you the foolish statement of Ed Morgan, that Burdin had told him of his desertion -

I am sure if you had heard it, you would have rejected it at once - but to do Burden the justice to state to you the origin -

Burden after describing his services (when he made his declaration Morgan was present) said, that the sergeant at the end of the year told B. that he had enlisted him for two years. & he should serve longer: that the morning after, he was packing up to leave camp & his messmates told him he must stay a year longer - that he put on his magsack, and left the camp, and got but a few hundred yards, when he heard men halloaing behind him, he ran & they following for a mile - he hired out within six or eight miles & frequently went to camp for his employer, with provisions in a Jersey waggow -

I enquired of William Hall, the sergeant who told me the same story, and remarked that Burdin was so ignorant and stupid a fellow, that he thought he could induce him to believe



he had been enlisted for 2 years - but the reason after him was for amusement, and he frequently met with him afterwards -

If Burden was before <sup>you</sup> ignorant and weak as he is, you would be satisfied that there was no design about him - he is too ignorant to fabricate, and certainly as devoid of sense, as any human creature I ever saw, that was not deaf and dumb -

Hall is now dead, or I would get him to give you a statement in relation to Burdin - you have his depositions, and if you desire any evidence of Hall's character, which I have given you, it will be sent you.

I am very respect<sup>ly</sup>

Yr. ob<sup>d</sup>

Thos. D. Ray

Morgantown 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 1835

Col. J. S. Edwards

Com<sup>r</sup> of Pensions

Sir

I received last <sup>night</sup> yours of 24<sup>th</sup> stating  
the name of John Burdin was drop'd from the roll -

You must judge from the report made to you, but I assure you  
that injustice has been done this man - his services were clearly proven  
by William Hall his sergeant, who is still living and a pensioner - Hall  
as I stated to you when I sent the testimony, ~~is~~ is a very worthy &  
estimable man, and no one who reads it, who know him, could doubt  
for one moment.

More than a year ago, when Burdin's declaration had been sent by  
you to some officer in Delaware, I remarked to you, that Burdin, was so  
very ignorant, weak in body & mind, that it was difficult to take his  
declaration. At the time Mr. A. examined him, his wife says, that he  
was confined, and suffering greatly with a disease in the head, and a  
few days after, one of his eyes, bursted from his head - he is now  
barely alive and distressly wretched and poor.

Hall says when Burdin was a boy, he was weak ignorant and  
the butt of the men -

I have deemed this statement, coming within my knowledge one  
to Burdin -

I am very respect<sup>ly</sup> Yrs  
J. S. Ray

