

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Tetterton R10473

Anna Tetterton f38NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/23/17

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

[p 20]

State of Kentucky, Muhlenberg County

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 before the Judge of the Muhlenberg Circuit Court now sitting Thomas Tetterton a resident of Muhlenberg County & State of Kentucky aged 72 years in October last 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 of June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, that he entered the service of the United States as a private in 1780 as a drafted soldier for the Term of three months to serve in the State of South Carolina against the Tories & British he then residing in Lenora [sic, Lenoir] County North Carolina under the following named officers General William Caswell commanded the Brigade the company was commanded by Captain Banks [Ralph Banks of Granville County NC militia] Findley Lieutenant & Sampson Thomas Ensign a part of this Tour I served under Captain Gilmore who was detached to guard a ferry over Santee River as the British occupied the opposite side of the Santee River at the time and our business was to prevent their crossing the River I there shot a Tory five times as he was crossing the River to the British he being so far from me the balls struck the water before they reached his canoe until the last shot. He was in no Battle or Skirmish during this Tour but was forced by superior numbers to make a forced retreat night & day without eating for two days & a half from Santee to Cross Creek in North Carolina. I heard the cannonading by the British against Charleston for two or three weeks before it surrendered [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] we were at Camden when we first heard it & marched own to Santee River on our retreat back we parted with Col. Buford [Abraham Buford] at Camden who commanded the Regular Troops he took the hanging Rock road on Sunday morning on Monday his Regiment was defeated [Waxhaws, May 29, 1780] & nearly cut off we pushed our march to North Carolina night & day until we got to Halifax ferry on Big Pedee [River] & crossed the River being pressed by the Enemy we continued to Cross Creek in North Carolina and was discharged on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June 1780 which discharge is hereto attached marked (A) & prayed to be read as part hereof[.] [A]s soon as I was discharged I volunteered myself in the United States service during the War under Captain John Tuttle and General Linningston's [sic, John Alexander Lillington's] Brigade under the command of Major William Shepherd commanding one Battalion the balance of the officers not recollected – he states that he served as volunteer upwards of two years the precise time not recollected that he was in the skirmish at Sanders bridge<sup>1</sup> on Trent River we were guarding the bridge & the British came upon us with it was said 300 men & drove us to head Quarters we lost no man but General Caswell lost part of his horsemen a short time after this

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<sup>1</sup> J. D. Lewis suggests this may be the action at Webber's Bridge, August 17, 1781.

[http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_webbers\\_bridge.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_webbers_bridge.html)

skirmish we had another skirmish at the free bridge on said River that in the last skirmish several Tories were wounded & in the first a British Captain<sup>2</sup> was killed & buried at the bridge some short time after that time the British retreated back at Wilmington & we were dismissed to meet again at head Quarters on the next day at Kingston [sic, Kinston] to guard the magazine & commissary's stores I then joined Captain McCarty's Company and went as a pilot against the Tories and served out his time to the end of the War he does not Recollect whether he received a discharge or not if he did it is lost he is confident he never received one cent of pay for the last service In 1797 he moved from Lenoir County to Duplin County in said State that in 1803 he removed from Duplin County to Muhlenberg County in Kentucky where he has resided ever since 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 sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Tetterton, X his mark

[Silas Drake, a clergyman, and Edmund Watkins gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

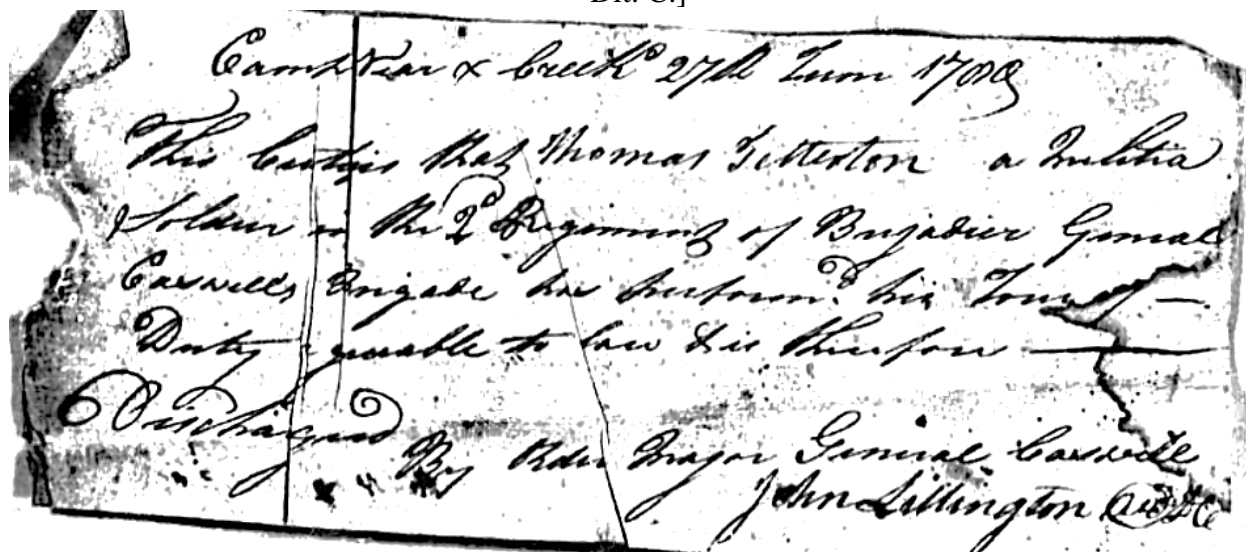
[p 24]

Camp Near X Creek [Cross Creek, now Fayetteville NC] 27<sup>th</sup> June 1780

This Certifies that Thomas Tetterton a Militia Soldier in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Brigadier General Caswell's Brigade has performed his Tour of Duty agreeable to law & is therefore Discharged.

By order Major General Caswell

S/ John Lillington, [illegible initials after his signature, could be "Dlt. C.]"



Camp Near X Creek 27<sup>th</sup> June 1780  
This certifies that Thomas Tetterton a Militia  
Soldier in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Brigadier General  
Caswell's Brigade has performed his Tour of  
Duty agreeable to law & is therefore  
Discharged  
By order Major General Caswell  
John Lillington

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Thomas Tetterton: Amended Declaration & explanation in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832. He states that he entered the service in March 1781 [sic, 1780] & received a discharge stated & attached to his Original Declaration, that shortly after his discharge & return home, he had a violent spell of sickness & so soon as he recovered strength he again entered the service as a volunteer under Captain Tootle [sic, Tuttle?], during the war

2 This may be a reference to Capt. John Gordon who was killed on August 19, 1781 in or near New Bern while serving under James Craig during his expedition from Wilmington to New Bern.

[http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_new\\_bern\\_2.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_new_bern_2.html)

(this was in the fall of 1781 [sic, 1780]) that he was transferred at various times at one time under Major Shepherd, General Linnington [sic, Lillington], being the Commanding Officer, At another time under Captain McCarty, that he served throughout the year 1780 & 1781 to the close of the war except the time he was sick as above stated.

Interrogatories propounded

Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in Terrell [sic, Tyrrell] County State of North Carolina – as to the time I was born I am not able to state.

Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

I have no record of my age, but my wife who is now living, whose age is recorded is now in her 74<sup>th</sup> year, & we have always believed there was but little difference in our ages.

Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

I lived in Lenoir County North Carolina when I entered the service. I removed from thence to Duplin County North Carolina in the year 1797 – that in the year 1813 I removed to Muhlenberg County Kentucky where I now reside.

How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

The first three months tour I was drafted, the balance of the time I was a volunteer. 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.

General Caswell, Major White, Col. Buford are the Regular Officers whose names I now recollect & whom I saw while in service

Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

For the first service I received a discharge which is herewith filed – for the latter service if I received a discharge it has been lost or mislaid.

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.

He states that Major John Howell, the Honorable Alney McLean, Major M. Wells & Capt. James Weir are his neighbors & can testify as to his veracity & their belief of his Services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

S/ Thomas Tetterton, X his mark

S/ John Campbell, JP

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Commonwealth of Kentucky, Muhlenberg County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, Thomas Tetterton, a citizen of said County who being duly sworn, deposed & saith by way of second amendment to his original & amended declaration in order to attain a pension under the Law of Congress of June 7th, 1832, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services and name every officer under whom he served, by reason of his old age & infirmity & consequent loss of memory, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the grades & under the officers following – For three months I served as a private militia man in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Brigadier General Caswell's Brigade. This service began 27<sup>th</sup> of March 1780 and ended 27<sup>th</sup> June of same year when this affiant was discharged as appears by his discharge attached to his original declaration. Affiant

when he entered this service lived in Lenoir County North Carolina but the service was performed in South Carolina as before stated Captain Banks commanded as Captain of affiant's company for some weeks. Findley was Lieutenant & Sampson Thomas Ensign. From some cause did not know or not now recollected Banks quit the command of affiant's company & his place was filled by Captain Gilmore. Affiant cannot particularize any thing of importance as to this service beyond what he now has heretofore stated. Shortly after this discharge and after affiant had recovered from a spell of sickness, this affiant again entered the service as a private militia man. This service commenced late in August or early in September 1780 according to affiant's best recollection – in the beginning of the September 1780 – General Linnington [sic, Lillington] Commanded the Brigade – Hill (not before recollected by affiant) was Colonel William Shepherd commanded the Battalion as Major & Captain John Tuttle the company to which affiant was attached. The other officers in command he cannot recollect. When his service began, affiant resided in Lenoir County North Carolina, and the operations of the Troops to whom he belonged were against the British & Tories and confined to North Carolina. He was in a skirmish at Saunders Bridge on Trent River & afterwards in another engagement or skirmish at a place called the Free Bridge on said River. Affiant was much of the time engaged in guarding the banks of Trent River & preventing the incursions of Tories & small parties of British. He states that he entered the service as before stated in September 1780 & continued in it until December 1782, being two years & near about two months, when the peace being heard of, he was discharged. Affiant states that during all the period of more than two years, he was constantly employed & engaged in discharging military duty and never at home except for short periods on Furlough. That he was wholly unable to attend to cropping or any other business from the constancy of his employment as a soldier being some times stationed as a guard at places thought to be in danger, or marched from point to point when alarms were raised or fears of the Tories were apprehended. He does not recollect whether he obtained a discharge from this service if he did he has lost it; but he was honorably dismissed. Affiant believes as before stated that he entered the service to serve during the war, but it is a long time since, and he may have been drafted or enlisted for a specific period or during the War. He states that from much exercise of his memory he can state positively that he served upwards of two years & experienced much suffering & privation & was subjected to much harassing duty. He states that as he now believes it was after this service, when an alarm of Tories was raised that he went out as pilot or guide under Captain McCarty. This distinction was not taken in his original declaration in consequence as affiant believes of the Gentleman who drew it misunderstanding affiant's statement, & affiant's not observing it. Affiant states that he has no witnesses and knows of none or any one, by whom he can make proof of his services. That he has set them forth here truly, and as explicitly as a frail & failing memory acting own facts so long past, will enable him. He refers to his original declaration & first amendment & hopes the explanations here made will suffice.

November 1, 1834

S Thomas Tetterton, X his mark

S/ John Campbell, JP

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State of Kentucky, Muhlenberg County

On this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April 1852 Before me John Jenkins an acting Justice of the Peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, personally appeared Anna Tetterton, aged 93 years, a resident of the State and County aforesaid, who, being duly sworn according to law, on her oath declares that she is the widow of Thomas Tetterton, deceased, who died in the State and County aforesaid on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August 1843. That she was married to the said Tetterton in

Wayne County, North Carolina, on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of January 1790, by one Needham Whitfield. For proof of her said marriage she refers to the accompanying record of the births of her children taken from the family Bible, and which records are in the hand writing of her deceased husband; and also the accompanying certificate of recommendation signed by respectable citizens of North Carolina, who knew her at the time of her marriage to the said Thomas Tetterton, deceased. That her name, before her marriage to the said Tetterton, was Anna Higgins. She further declares that she knew the said Thomas Tetterton during the whole time of the war of the Revolution, and that she verily believes that he served as a soldier of the United States for a considerable length of time. She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the pension due her deceased husband, and also the pension due her as his widow, under the acts of Congress passed 7<sup>th</sup> of July 1838, 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 1843, 17<sup>th</sup> June 1844, and 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1848, or any other act or acts of Congress passed for the benefit of soldiers in the war of the Revolution, or their widows. She further states that her said husband, Thomas Tetterton, deceased, belonged to the North Carolina line of the Army of the revolution. That he served both in North and South Carolina, but that the length of his service she is not able to state. Full proof of said service, she refers to the Army records and muster rolls, and to the evidence on file in the Department, with the application for pension made by the said Thomas Tetterton, deceased, before his death. She now prays that an examination of her said claim may be had at the Pension Office in Washington City, and that an allowance may be made, which she hereby especially requests may be made payable to the M. S. Pension Agency in Louisville, Kentucky.

S/ Anna Tetterton, X her mark

[Bible record]

Martha Tetterton the Dater [daughter] of Thos and anna his Wife Was Born the 25<sup>th</sup> October 1790

Susannah Tetterton the Dater of Thos Tetterton and anna his Wife Was Born the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1790

Elisabeth Tetterton the Darter of Thomas Tetterton and anna his Wife Was born the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 1792

Salley Tetterton the Darter of Thomas Tetterton and anna his Wife was born the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1793

Martha Tetterton the Dater of Thos Tetterton and anna his Wife Was Born the 25<sup>th</sup> October 1790

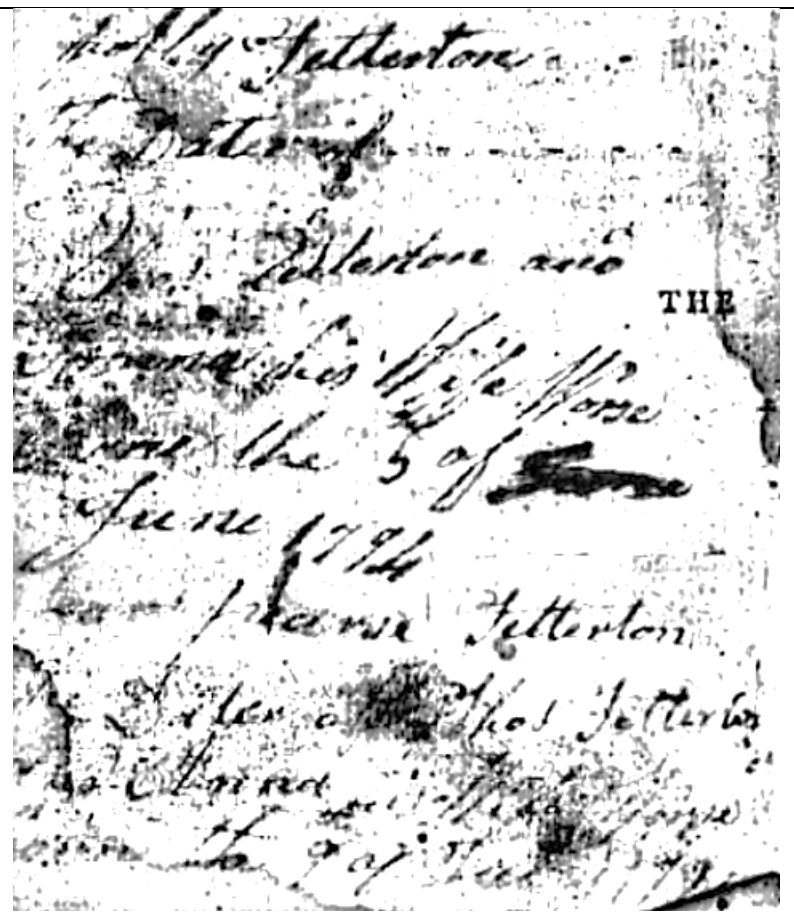
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Salley Tetterton the Darter of Thomas Tetterton and anna his Wife was born the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1793

Polly Tetterton  
the Dater of  
Thos Tetterton and Anna his Wife  
Worse [Was]  
Borne the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 1794

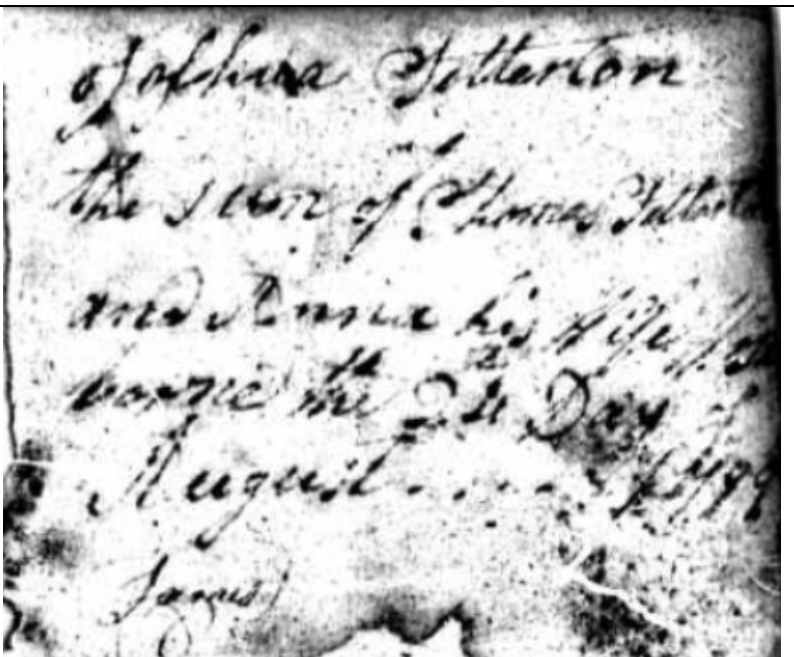
? frearse Tetterton  
the Dater of Thos Tetterton  
and Anna his Wife Worse  
born the 9<sup>th</sup> of ? 1777 [??]



Handwritten text in cursive script, partially obscured by a dark, irregular stain. The text is difficult to read but appears to contain the name 'Polly Tetterton' and the date 'the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 1794'. The word 'THE' is printed in block letters on the right side of the document.

Joshua Tetterton  
the Son of Thomas Tetterton  
and Anna his Wife Was  
borne the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of August  
1799

James



Handwritten text in cursive script, partially obscured by a dark, irregular stain. The text is difficult to read but appears to contain the name 'Joshua Tetterton' and the date 'the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of August 1799'.