

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Turner R10749

Agnes Turner

f44NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 8/2/17

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 8]

State of Georgia, Habersham County} SS

On this fifth day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court, being the Court of Ordinary in and for the County of Habersham aforesaid, said Court being a Court of Record, now sitting: Robert Turner a resident of the County of Habersham aforesaid in the State aforesaid aged seventy-four 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 7th 1832. I was born in Ireland in the year 1758 as it stands on record, in my father's family Bible now in the possession of my sister in Haywood County North Carolina. I came over to this Country from Ireland in 1771, and lived in Lancaster County Pennsylvania three years. Then moved from there to Mecklenburg County State of North Carolina where I was called out to serve my Country as a militiaman. Since the revolutionary war, I first lived in Burke County North Carolina then moved after several years residence in Burke, to Haywood County State aforesaid, I then moved to Habersham County State of Georgia and have lived in it ever since it was organized. I volunteered in Mecklenburg County under Captain James Harris in the year 1776, who served under Col. McDowell [Charles McDowell], Griffin Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] was the Militia General. These troops were raised in the State of North Carolina with a view to suppress the Cherokee Indians during the revolutionary war,¹ and was assisted in this service last several other regiments or parts of regiments from the State of South Carolina, one of them under the Command of a Colonel Ross as well as recollected. There were no regular troops in this expedition. The tour lasted near three months, the Indians were suppressed, and then we were discharged – my discharge was destroyed, when my house was destroyed by fire sometime after peace was made. I at the same time loss another discharge – after this service I remained at home some time, though not recollected how long, when Captain White [James White] of Mecklenburg County raised a militia company in which I volunteered and marched us down to Stono in the State of South Carolina where General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] was commander of the Army, and one Colonel Henderson² was commander of the Regiment to which our company was attached, the object of the operation was to take Fort Stono which was at that time in the possession of the British under the command of Colonel Maitland [John Maitland] at which place we had a severe Battle [June 20, 1779],³ and on the third or fourth day thereafter Colonel Maitland evacuated the fort, and shortly after this circumstance we were discharged having served three months the time that we volunteered for. My discharge for this Service was

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

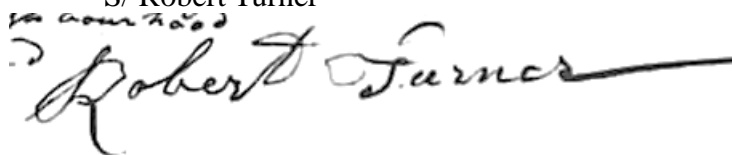
² Then Lt. Col. William Henderson commanded the SC 6th Regiment at Stono Ferry.

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html

also burned at the time of my house was burnt shortly after peace was made as above mentioned and know of no other way of proving the above services but by my own oath. The discharge was in the name of Captain James White. After the above service, I remained at home some time, except when called out as a minute man, which was several times -- during my service at Stono and my next service, which commenced as a volunteer under Captain Richard Simins [sic, Richard Simmons ?], who likewise raised a company in Mecklenburg County about the 20th of August 1781, and marched us to Wilmington State of North Carolina (General Rutherford was commander of the Army and Robert Smith was our Col.) where we remained some time in view of the British Garrison, which we attacked twice with a small arms. From thence we marched to Brunswick near the mouth of Cape Fear River at which place we heard of Cornwallis being taken at Little York and shortly thereafter we received our discharge, under the hand of Richard Simmons Captain which discharge is hereunto annexed. This was my last service and I have received no pension from any State or the general Government, nor is my name on the pension roll of any state. There is no clergyman residing in my neighborhood.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robert Turner

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Turner". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. There are some faint, illegible markings above the signature, possibly from a stamp or another document.

S/ Jonathan D. Chastain, C. C.

[James McCrackin & Enoch Brady gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Georgia, Habersham County }

An amendment to the Declaration of Robert Turner filed in the Clerks office of the Court of ordinary on the fifth day of November 1832 for the purpose of procuring the benefit of an act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 for revolutionary services, makes this additional Declaration before the said Court of Ordinary now sitting in and for said County

Answers to the Interrogatories

1st I was born in Armagh Ireland in the year 1758

2nd The record of my age is in my father's Bible, in the possession of my Sister in North Carolina

3rd I volunteered in Captain Harris company and Mecklenburg County North Carolina and 1776. I moved a short time after peace was made to Burke County North Carolina, thence I moved into Haywood (then Buncombe County N. C.) Thence I moved to Habersham County where I have lived near 12 years

4th I volunteered under Captain Harris in 1776. Under Captain White (the date not recollected but I was in the battle of Stono when under him) – under Captain Simmons the 20th of August 1781.

5th In the first Tour under Harris, there were no regular officers or soldiers. General Rutherford & Colonel McDowell were of the militia Commanders. In the second Tour under White, we marched to Stono and White's company were put under Colonel Henderson's Regiment who was a regular and under General Lincoln – Colonel Davie had a command there, Major Grimes had a militia command. Colonel McEmery [? Francois Lellorquis Marquis de Malmèdy (also Malmady, Malmèdy)?] likewise, Colonel Dechither [?] as well as recollected, the numbers of the Continentals or militia regiments not recollected. In the third tour under Simmons – the Army was under the command of General Rutherford, Robert Smith a Colonel our company was under his command, the other field officers not recollected. I recollect however Captain Polk, Captain Shelby also one Captain Carruth.

7th I am acquainted with General Wafford Hamilton Winn Esqr., James Allen, Esqr, Philip Martin Esqr & Capt. Divers and many other respectable Gentlemen who would testify to my veracity and their belief of my services as a revolutionary soldier.

I served six weeks under Captain Harris three months under Captain White three months under Captain Simmons my discharges have all been destroyed by fire, save the one attached to the original Declaration.

Sworn to in open Court this 5 August 1833.

S/ Robert Turner

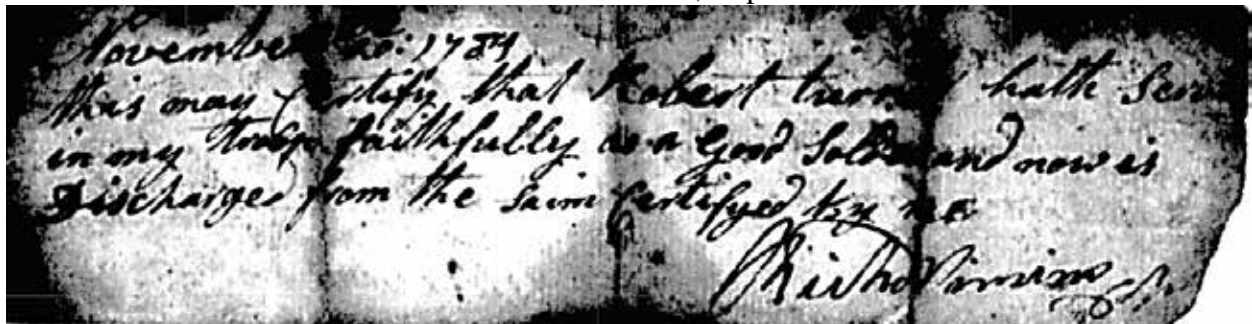
S/ A. M. Norris, D. C. C. O.

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“November 20: 1781

This may Certify that Robert turner [sic] hath Served in my troop faithfully as a Good Soldier and now is Discharged from the saim[sic] Certified by me

S/ Richd. Simins, Capt.”



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State of Georgia, Habersham County

On this third day of May 1847, personally appeared in open Court Before the Court of Ordinary now sitting Robert Turner a resident of the County of Habersham and State of Georgia aged 89 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 was pensioned for Services in the Revolutionary War on the 5th day of October 1833, at the rate of \$24.66 per annum commencing on the 4th day of March 1831, and he now applies for an increase of pension for Services in said War.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and Served as herein Stated, in his serious tours as a private.

First: Being a resident of Mecklenburg County State of North Carolina. In the militia under Captain James Harris six weeks in an Indian expedition in the month of July and August 1776.

Second. In him the 2nd Regiment. Three months and upwards (length of time not definitely recollected) under Captain James White, marched into South Carolina and placed under Colonel Henderson a Continental officer Applicant says he cannot recollect the year this Service was performed in only from the circumstance of his being in the same year that the Battle of Stono was fought and he was in that Battle in said tour of Service into South Carolina. After this term of service he returned to North Carolina and then rendered service again in the second Regiment as a militia man is a man in the years immediately following the year of the Battle of Stono and previous to the year 1781, under Captain's James White – Starnes and – Burns [sic, possibly Capt. Peter Burus] Major not recollected and Colonel Fifer and in 1781 under Captain Richard Simmons in his Dragoons for a term of service the length of which not

recollected. Applicant declares that he received regular discharges for all of the foregoing named Service and that they were all destroyed by fire when his house was burnt except one which was in his pocket at the time and the one upon which he was pensioned and he presumes is now in the pension office, and his reason for not applying sooner for an increase of pension is that he did not know he could get it without all his discharges.

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 any agency in any State only on that of the agency of the State of Georgia. Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Thos. J. Hughs, JCO

S/ Robert Turner, X his mark

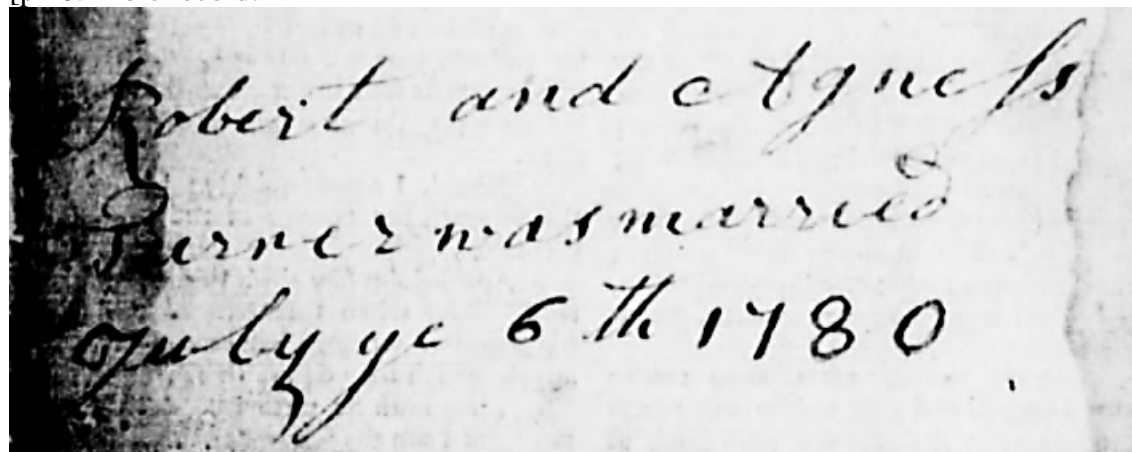
S/ James Crocker, JCO

S/ C. Holt Sutton, JCO

S/ Thomas McKee, JCO

[p 15: On May 13th, 1854, Agnes Turner, 92, a resident of Habersham County, Georgia filed for a widow's pension under the act of February 3, 1853 stating that her husband Robert was a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$24.66 per annum; that she married Robert on the sixth day of July 1780 and that Robert died on December 15, 1853. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 18: Bible record:



Robert and etyue's
Turner was married
July ye 6th 1780

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$24.66 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months and 12 days in the North Carolina militia. His widow's application for a pension was rejected.]