

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Stephen Turnbull¹ R18602

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/2/12: rev'd 5/5/22

[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 'indecipherable' 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 8th 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.]

[p 2: Power of attorney dated July 9, 1849 given by William Anderson, administrator of Stephen Turnbull deceased formerly a Captain of the Virginia State Line in the war of the revolution; Anderson empowered his attorney to seek the half pay due Stephen Turnbull under the act of Congress of July 5, 1832.]

[p 18]

Pension Office April 22, 1846

I certify that I have examined the claim of the administrator of Stephen Turnbull, deceased, and it appears that under the act of the 5 of July 1832 half-pay has been allowed from the 22nd of April 1783. Half-pay is now claimed from the 6th of February 1782, and the claim should in my opinion be allowed. I therefore certify that half-pay is still due to the administrator of said Turnbull for service as a Captain of Artillery in the Virginia State Troops from February six, 1782 April 22, 1783 at the rate of \$300 per annum, and that the amount is payable to Henry Northup, attorney of William Anderson, of Elizabeth City County Virginia, administrator of Stephen Turnbull, deceased

Commissioner of Pensions

Approved
Secretary of War

The Virginia State Library online collection has an 18-page file for a bounty land claim on behalf of Stephen Turnbull. Among the documents posted on that site is an affidavit dated June 25 1833 from James Webb stating that he knew an officer by the name of Turnbull who was stationed in "this neighborhood" and served as a Lieutenant when he first knew him; that Turnbull served for several years and lived, married and died here – Webb's affidavit was given in Elizabeth City County. On June 20th, 1833, Jeremiah Cain gave testimony that he knew Captain Stephen Turnbull in the revolutionary war and since; that Captain Turnbull commanded a company of artillery in the Virginia State line from 4 to 5 years and continued in service until the end of the war; that after the war Turnbull settled and died in "Elizabeth City Country."

At page 11 of that file is the following:

¹ Va. half pay, N. A. Acc. No. 874 See 050 177 Half Pay Stephen Turnbull

Elizabeth City County Court April 26, 1832

The Court certifies that it has been made to appear to them from satisfactory evidence that Captain Stephen Turnbull who entered the service as a Captain and served during the whole War at the close of the war returned to Hampton and died in the House called the Pasture House, which was occupied during the War as a Hospital for the French troops, said Turnbull died leaving an infant, which died at about two months old, and a Brother named James Turnbull who died leaving William, Peggy and Nancy also John who died without issue, William died also leaving one child named William and that Peggy, Nancy and William Turnbull on the heirs at law of said Stephen Turnbull.

N. R. Cary, DECL
W Armistead, Clk

[Note: The above findings of the court were based on the affidavit of Rebecca Turnbull (relationship, if any, to the veteran and/or his heirs is not stated)]

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Addendum to Stephen Turnbull R18602

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 2 May 2022.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

The affidavit of Rebecca Turnbull of lawful age taken the 24 day of April in the year 1832 being first duly sworn, deposed and saith that she was well acquainted with Capt Stephen Turnbull who entered the service as Captain and served during the whole war, at the close of the war he returned to Hampton, and died in the house called the pasture House, which was occupied during the War, as an Hospital for French troops. said Turnbull died leaving an infant which died at about two months old, and a brother named James Turnbull who died leaving William Peggy, & Nancy, also John, who died without issue, William died also leaving one child named William, and further this deponent sayeth not.

[Elizabeth City County]

Rebecca herXmark Turnbull

I knew an officer of the name of Turnbull in the Revolutionary war, who was ordered from some of the upper counties to the service in this neighborhood. when I first knew him, he was a Lieutenant, said Turnbull was in service in this place, and the surrounding country for several years, and continued in service until the end of the War, and married and died here.

Hampton June 25th 33

James Webb

I certify that Stephen Turnbull in the Revotionary war, came from a town on the Rappahannock called Leeds, in this [undeciphered] of the Country on service, and was a considerable time in Service, in this neighborhood and the surrounding Country. When I entered the service myself in the year 1778 said Turnbull was then in the Land service of the State of Virginia as an officer, to the best of my belief and recollection a captain and was in service while I was in the service, which was three years viz. From 1778 to 1780, but under what circumstances he left the service I cannot say, [illegible] I never heard he left the service, in any other than an honorable war, after the Revolution [illegible] heard his fidelity or patriotism suspected. I was once in Leeds where some of Mr Turnbull's [illegible] who made enquiry concerning him, to whom I gave information that he was in the neighborhood of Hampton in service

[Elizabeth City County, 27 June 1833]

James Burke [James Burk S6649]

I concur with Mr James Burk in the principal facts stated in his Certificate of Stephen Turnbull's services in the Revolutionary War. I know that he held the rank of Captain in the Land service – that he was a considerable time in the service & that he was in service three years which I served viz. 1778 1779 & 1780. But at what time & under what circumstances Captain Turnbull left the service, I cannot say but I never heard any thing said to his discredit as a man or an officer.

Wm Jennings [William Jennings S5615]

[Elizabeth City County, 28 June 1833]



I Jeremiah Cain, now of Norfolk county, formerly of Elizabeth City County, hereby certify that I knew captain Stephen Turnbull in the revolutionary war and since. I also certify that capt. Turnbull commanded a company of Artillery in the Virginia State line, that he was in said service in this part of the country from four to five years, and continued in service to the end of the war, & after the war, settled and died in this part of the Country. Given under my hand and seal This Twenty ninth Day of June 1833

Jeremiah hisXmark Cane

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Elizabeth City County Ss.

This day before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared Mrs Ann Payne who being duly sworn made oath that she the said Ann Payne was well acquainted with Stephen Turnbull in the Revolutionary war and since. that said Stephen Turnbull served in the Virginia State Line in the said War and continued in said service until the end of the War and after the end of the War returned to Hampton & further this deponent sayeth not.

Given under my hand this 28th day of March 1834

In pursuance of the foregoing order, I did on the 15th inst issue to Peggy Cunningham, Nancy Turnbull and William Turnbull heirs at law of Capt. Stephen Turnbull dec'd a Mil. War[ran]t No 7696 for 4000 acres of land. as witness my hand & seal of office hereto affixed this 21 Ap 1834

I served in the Revolutionary War as Surgeon in Colo Marshalls regiment of artillery and can certify with confidence that Capt Stephen Turnbull whom I knew well served in the same Regiment with me and I believe served to the end of the war. Given under my hand this 24th day of June 1834

[Loudoun County]

W, G. Seldon [Wilson Cary Selden S4815]

Deposition of James Webb [Elizabeth City County, 25 July 1834]

Question 1. Did you know, or do you now recollect Stephen Turnbull of the Revolutionary army?

Answer I recollect distinctly an officer of the name of Turnbull, who was I think First Lieutenant & then a Captain who served in this part of Country in the Revolutionary War. From conversations with all persons of my acquaintance who were in the army I have no doubt his name was Stephen Turnbull as I did not know but one person of that name in service in this part of the Country

Question 2: Do you know whether said Turnbull was [undeciphered] and in what service?

Answer. I know positively that he was in the service and in the Virginia State Line

Question 3. Do you know how long said Turnbull served

Answer I [illegible] know he served to the end of the war, and until the other officers of the Regiment were discharged by order of Government. I have a distinct recollection [several undeciphered words] also continued in service until the [several undeciphered words] Mr Turnbull captain, Mr [undeciphered] and [undeciphered word] of the name of Graves, and one of the name of Finley, all of whom [undeciphered] served in this portion of the [part missing at bottom of page]

Philadelphia 8th August 1834

I do hereby certify that I became acquainted with Captain Stephen Turnbull early in the War of the Revolution and am under the impression that he was then Lieutenant and afterwards [illegible] to the rank of a Captain, that he continued to serve, and held that rank until the close of the Revolutionary war.

I am the more particular and confident [illegible] my recollection of the services of this officer, as [he?] married into a family with which my son is very intimate. His wife was Miss Polly Curl niece to Colonel William Hilson Rason[?] Curl. I do not recollect the particulars as to the Regiment to which he was attached or points of time to which he served but feel very well satisfied that Captain Turnbull was one of those patriots who never withdrew from the cause until his service was no longer required

James Barron [W12264]

To the Executive of Virginia

The undersigned heirs at Law of Stephen Turnbull, who was a Captain of Artillery in the Virginia State Line in the war of the Revolution, respectfully ask of the Executive allowance of additional

bounty Land for his services as a Captain as aforesaid. Said Turnbull has rec'd land for 3 years service; but the evidence on which his original bounty was allowed, (to which reference is asked) shews that he entered the service early in the year 1776 and the affidavit of John Clarke [John Clark VAS3015; see below], herewith filed, [undeciphered] the original evidence shews him to have served to the end of the war. They therefore pray additional bounty for the for one years service over 6 years, as is usual in such cases

Sep 24 1847

Wm Anderson

Wm Turnbull

Margaret Cunningham

1850 Sept 17 Rejected

[The following are from Virginia Half-Pay records on Fold3.com.]

King & Queen County, towit: This day John Clarke personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid & made oath that he was an officer of the Virginia line in the revolutionary war, and served to the end of the same – that he knew well Captain Stephen Turnbull of the State Artillery Regiment. that after the siege of York the said Turnbull was stationed with his company near Williamsburg, and continued in service to the end of the war in the spring of the year 1783 – that he often saw the said Turnbull in service while stationed there, and that he well recollects that the said Turnbull, Capt James Harper & Capt James Marshall were discharged together at the end of the war. Given under my hand this the 16th day of December 1837. Lee Boulware J.P.

Memorandum in Stephen Turnbolls case

Stephen Trunbull was a Capt of Artillery of the Reg't of Va State Artillery This will it is presumed not be denied

The Legislature of Va at November Session 1781 (shortly after the Surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] the war being then virtually ended) passed an act See Hennings Statutes Volume 10 page 449 [sic: Hening's Statutes at Large <http://vagenweb.org/hening/vol10-21.htm>] for the reduction of all the land forces except so many as were necessary to command the few troops then in service, and all such as were retained were to be incorporated in one of more corps or Regts. and all others were thus declared ridund [redundant] and out or service. The Rolls of the Regts or corps subsequent to that period was Dabneys Ligian [Legion of Charles Dabney R13624] in which Officers retained of Cavalry Artillery or infantry were incorporated and beyond this Roll of Dabneys Ligian there is none others. This Roll will shew who were incorporated into that Regt or Ligian. And the name of Capt Stephen Turnbull will not be found as one of the Corps, Ligian or Regt. He of course had been one of the officers reduced & left out. The Certificate of [undeciphered word] Auditor Heath Herewith shews him a Capt of Artillery and paid as such for services prior to 1st Jany 1782 but nothing subsiquent to that day for the best of all possible reasons to wit that he was no longer in service There is nothing in shape or manner to shew him in service after that time. It may be alledged that the parole evidence of witnesses filed in the Council Chambers for the purpose of Obtaining Bounty land shews longer service true those affidavits state his service to the end of the war, this admitted. The war was from and after 1st of Jany 1782 practically and virtually ended. From and after the 1st of Jany 1782 there were no Naval officers save and except the look out Boat Liberty. There were no Land forces save and except Spottswoods [Alexander Spotswood R18089] & Dabney's Ligian All others were riduced and out of service and the war so far as known to those Citizens of Va as the Va State Troops and navy was in fact and in reality at an end although not Ligally ended. The admin[istrator] of Stephen Turnbull has drawn half pay under the 3rd section of the act of Congress of the 5th July 1832 from 22nd of April 1783 to the period of his death. Since when he has not made application for any further allowance but now exhibits his Claim for half pay in right of the said Capt Turnbull from the 1st Decr 1781. [undeciphered] from the 1st of Jany 1782 to the 22nd of April 1783 the day on which the half pay heretofore received was commenced Henry [undeciphered]