

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Andrew Townsend S11561

f27SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

10/12/09: rev'd 12/17/22

[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 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.]

State of Alabama St. Clair County }

On this 21st day of January personally appeared in open court before John H. Garrett Judge of the St. Clair County Court now sitting Andrew Townsend resident of St. Clair County Alabama aged Sixty nine years who first 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, and served as herein stated -- that he entered in the month of November 1779 under Captain Richard Saddler [sic, Richard Sadler] of the Camden District (now York District) as a militia man and was drafted and served at this time for two months. William Hannah [sic, William Hanna] was Lieutenant, Robert Tate Ensign and James Brice orderly sergeant -- The Company belonged to Thomas Neil's [sic, Thomas Neel] Regiment -- who was Colonel -- on this route he went to Savannah River, near Seneca [?] old Town -- and was there kept as a guard against the Cherokee Indians. They were reinforced at that place by a company of cavalry under the command of James Sheem [? James Steen?] <sup>1</sup> -- Andrew Pickens Colonel. This company was from Abbeville District -- Little River -- Was discharged at that place. His next tour was as a militia man in the next year 1780. He was then drafted, from the same district again -- and served about two months. This in the spring before the taking of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]. The same officers again commanded, with the exception of the Lieutenant -- they served out their tour on Edisto River -- at a place called Orangeburg. They were in a camp or Garrison that had been occupied by some Virginia or North Carolina troops who were moved lower down they remained there until Charleston fell -- the above troops (Carolina & Virginia) he thinks were commanded by General Ash [sic, presumably a reference to Genl. John Ashe of NC] <sup>2</sup> -- part of Colonel Thomas Brannon's [sic, Thomas Brandon's] Regiment was stationed there with him. Although Thomas Neel was their regular & acting Colonel -- He was discharged in & about the time Charleston surrendered -- His next tour was as a volunteer under one George Tate as Captain -- they were Horsemen and from the same district again. This was about the month of June 1781 -- and was in the service off and on until November following when ever called upon. He joined the General Sumpter [sic, Thomas

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<sup>1</sup> *James Steen*

<sup>2</sup> Ashe was not present in SC in 1780 having been defeated at the Battle of Briar Creek, March 3, 1779.

Sumter] at a place called Klem's Branch [sic, Clem's Branch] in the Catawba nation near the Catawba nation Ford -- The most of the Troops were Refugees from Santee, Congaree & part from Georgia under Sumter who was trying to keep the Tories down -- & the British from the upper part of the State -- They had one skirmish about some Tory waggons that were going from Charleston near Winnsborough Fairfield District near ,Worteree Creek [Wateree Creek?] -- John Wallace at this time acted as Major -- Samuel Watson succeeded Neel as Colonel who died this summer. His next Tour was in the succeeding April of 1781 -- as a volunteer from the same District -- William Hanna was their Captain -- Joseph Steel Lieutenant and one William Hanna (by same name of Captain though no relation) then orderly Sergeant -- William Bratton was their second Colonel as he believes though he was not along with them. Thomas Sumter was their General. They were taken to Congaree Fort [sic, Fort Granby] & besieged it [February 19-21, 1781].<sup>3</sup> They lay there until driven off by the British under Lord Rawdon from Camden. James Hawthorn was their Colonel at this siege & was wounded. This Deponent was also wounded at the same time by a ball through his arm -- while on the Congaree bridge. They were going to reinforce a party who were in a house near the bridge, and did so [sic ?] when the Tories & British took the Fort -- Rawdon two days after drove them from the Fort or near it & they then went to attack Thompson Fort [sic, Thomson's Plantation, February 22, 1781]<sup>4</sup> 20 miles below & were beaten by Rawdon who still pursued them. General Sumter then went on lower down and they there took eighteen waggons loaded with British goods for the use of their Army.<sup>5</sup> -- They ran these waggons to Santee River & put the goods on boats -- but the British retook them as by mistake they ran them up to a British Fort [Fort Watson] at the long Bluff or White Bluff. They then crossed Santee in order to retake the goods and there were defeated by Lord Rawdon who had crossed the River above the Fort, while they crossed below & thus accidentally met -- they lost about 27 men killed & taken<sup>6</sup> -- They then went to Black River to join General Marion, but did not succeed. They then went back to Santee River where Sumter lived and fetched some of his White family & slaves away & carried them to North Carolina. They then went again to meet Marion below Camden 25 miles on Lynches or Black Creek -- Marion there joined them with two hundred men. It was about 10 o'clock when they united and had a battle with the British that same day about 15 miles from Camden on the Main road leading to King's Tree Tavern [Kingstree Tavern] on Black River. The British were defeated. About this time, most of the troops went home about the middle of May or first of June & this deponent with them. In the same June he was again called out as a volunteer & went back to the Congaree to a place called Brown's old fields -- Joseph Steel acted as Captain -- John Wallace Major -- Edward Lacey -- Colonel -- they staid there about a month & then were beat up to the upper part of the State. The State troops or ten months man were there with them -- While at this place this Deponent had his thigh broken by a fall from a horse -- & was disabled from serving any more. Peace being made that fall and Cornwallis taken [Yorktown, October 19, 1781]. He has no written discharges at this time -- all his papers having been lost or destroyed many years since -- Has no documentary evidence -- but has some witnesses if they are alive who can prove the facts, or some of them above stated.

S/ Joshua and W. Hooper, Clerk of the County Court

S/ Andrew Townsend

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<sup>3</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_fort\\_granby\\_1.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_granby_1.html)

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_thomsons\\_plantation.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_thomsons_plantation.html)

<sup>5</sup> Big Savannah February 23, 1781 [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_big\\_savannah.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_big_savannah.html)

<sup>6</sup> Fort Watson #1 February 24, 1781 [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_fort\\_watson\\_1.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fort_watson_1.html)

*Andrew Townsend*

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 the agency of any state. Sworn to & subscribed this 21st day of January 1833.

S/ Andrew Townsend

*Andrew Townsend*

[James L. Lewis, a clergyman, John Massey & Archibald Sloan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories<sup>7</sup> required were put & answer answers given below

Has no Record of his age except one of his own making some years since.

Was born in South Carolina -- Camden District resided there when called into service as a drafted militia man -- & he lived until the last 12 years which he has spent in St. Clair County Alabama. In general can state no more than he has stated in his declaration about discharges or regular or militia officers or circumstances of the war. Is well-known in this County but has no other positive witnesses of service than Anne McClellan and one Captain John Henderson.

S/ J. W. Hooper, Clk.

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Ashville January 21<sup>st</sup> 1833

This Deponent Anne McClellan aged about Eighty Seven years being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists says that she is well acquainted with Andrew Townsend a Revolutionary applicant & also that she was well acquainted with him before and during the Revolutionary war and that she knew that the said Townsend was out in the service at the least three times being in the same company a part of the time with her husband who is now deceased. She knows that he was out from home at least six months and always understood & believed that he was in the service during the time. She has repeatedly heard those that were out with him talk about it not only during the war but for years afterwards. She saw the said Townsend brought home after being crippled by a fall from his horse on Congaree River. And also helped to attend upon him when he was shot through the arm as she was a near neighbor at the time. This deponent made the affidavit for Townsend to obtain a pension some 4 or 5 years since, which affidavit she was informed was sent on to Washington with his other papers. She also says that she is so old and

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<sup>7</sup> The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

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

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

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?

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

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

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?

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.

feeble that she is unable to go out of the house and that she has not been able to go on a horse or ride for many years. That she resides 22 or 3 miles from the Court House.

S/ Anne McClellan, X her mark

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State of Tennessee McNairy County} Be it remembered that on this the 19th day of December in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared before me Thomas Lane Esquire one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County Captain John Henderson<sup>8</sup> and after being duly sworn deposes and saith that he was well acquainted with William Hall<sup>9</sup> of the revolutionary war, that said Hall was a true friend of his Country and served in the following campaign at Ashe's defeat near the mouth of Briar Creek in the State of Georgia here we were commanded by Major Francis Ross and I am positive that said Hall was one of said soldiers said Hall as well as I now recollect served 2 months in this campaign. I do further state that said Hall served under Colonel Samuel Watson and was at the Stono campaign -- this was before the fall of Charleston but how long he served in this campaign I cannot say. I am personally acquainted with William Hall and know him to be a man of honesty and whatever he states may be relied on as true, but I do not know of any further services he rendered the Country. The said John Henderson do further state that Andrew Townsend was a soldier in the revolutionary [war] and commanded by myself as Captain but what campaigns he was in or how long he served I am not able to say -- said Townsend was always esteemed by me as an honest & honorable man and a true friend of this Country and did as far as I now recollect do everything in his power to promote the cause of the Americans in the Revolutionary War. I would have no hesitation in believing anything said Townsend me state relative to his services. Given under my hand and seal this day & date above. Sworn to & subscribed before me the day and date above written.

S/ Thos. Lane, JP

S/ John Henderson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Henderson". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[Veteran was pension at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the South Carolina militia.]

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South Carolina Audited Accounts<sup>10</sup> relating to Andrew Townsend  
Audited Account No. 7876

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[Book] Q] [No.] 396

Mr. Andrew Townsend his Account of Sundries for Militia use in 1778, 1780, & 1781

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<sup>8</sup> [John Henderson R4869](#)

<sup>9</sup> [William Hall S32305](#)

<sup>10</sup> The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

Amounting to £20.2.10 ¼ Stg. [Sterling]  
 N: B: a Certificate for 4 Hogs is in the name of John Sellars  
 Ex<sup>d</sup>. W. G. [Examined by William Galvan]  
 J. M<sup>c</sup>. A. G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

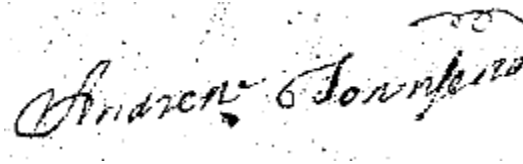
[p 3]  
 State of South Carolina Dr. [Debtor] to Andrew Townsend

1778 December 1	To 57 days at Ingala with Capt. Sadder [sic]	£28	10	0
1780	To 30 days Driving Cattle Lacey's Fort	30	0	0
1781 February 28 <sup>th</sup>	To 23 days Sumpter's Rounds [Sumter's Rounds]	23	0	0
June 6 <sup>th</sup>	To 22 days at Congaree's New Market	22	0	0
	To 750 wt. of Pork from Sellers & Townsend Rec'd by Jos. Palmer [Joseph Palmer] for ye use of ye Publick at £5 per C. wt.	37	10	0
	Total	£141	0	0
		20	2	10 ¼

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 Andrew Townsend  
 Rec'd Columbia, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1790 of the Commissioner of the Treasury an Indent No. 376,  
 Book Q for Twenty Pounds Two Shillings & Ten Pence, and full of the within Account, per order  
 S/ George Littlejon



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 Gentlemen  
 Please for to Deliver my Indent Unto Mr. George Littlejon Whom I do hereby authorize and  
 appoint to Receive the same together with the Interest Due on the same and this order shall be  
 your Sufficient Discharge from Gentlemen your Humble servant  
 S/ Andrew Townsend



October 28<sup>th</sup> 1790  
 Executed and Done  
 the Date above before  
 S/ Hugh Whiteside, JP

To the treasurers of the State of South Carolina