

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander Turpin S16008

f22VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/4/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia Henrico County: to wit

On this first day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court, before John S Ellis, John Hales, Lyddall Bowles and Richard Adams, Justices of the Henrico County court, now sitting, Alexander Turpin, of the County and State aforesaid, aged sixty-eight 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.

That he entered the service of the United States in January, 1781, at Richmond (Virginia) as a private in a militia company commanded by Captain Joseph Price, of the 5th Regiment of Virginia Militia. From Richmond, he marched, in a single company to Sandy Point, on James River; from thence to Williamsburg; from thence to Little York; and from thence to Hampton, where he was stationed during the remainder of this tour of duty.

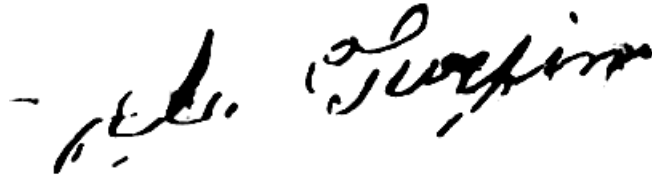
He entered the service of the United States again in the spring of the same year (1781) as a private in a militia company commanded by Captain William Mosby, attached to General Nelson's brigade 5th Regiment of Virginia militia Field Officers, Colonel John Pleasants and Major Miles Sheldon, both of Henrico County. He recollects that General Muhlenberg then commanded another brigade of Virginia militia. From Richmond where he entered the service as aforesaid, he proceeded to the neighborhood of Shirley in Charles City County (Virginia) and from thence (on his return) to New Market about ten miles below Richmond, where he was stationed for a short time: from thence he proceeded through Richmond (General Lafayette and his detachment of troops then accompanied the Regiment) to Culpeper County, where he remained until he was discharged. The march to Culpeper was at the period when Lord Cornwallis was in pursuit of the American forces. He recollects having been engaged, while stationed in the neighborhood of Shirley in a skirmish with two of the boats belonging to the shipping of the enemy then lying at City point, which were approaching Shirley – one of the boats was captured, and the other escaped. In this skirmish for men belonging to the enemy, were killed; and as well as he remembers, four or five made prisoners – He entered the service of the United States, for the third and last time in the latter part of the summer of the same year 1781 as a private in a militia company commanded by Captain John McCabe. Cornwallis was then in possession of York. In this period of service, he engaged a part of the time in transporting flour by water from Richmond to Sandy Point, and from the former place to Shirley – the residue of the time he was chiefly engaged in sending bombs & balls to York –

He served a period of two months and each of the aforesaid tours, making six months service as a private in the Virginia Militia. He has no documentary evidence of his services. He obtained only one certificate of discharge, which was given him at Culpeper, by Captain William Mosby, by orders of Colonel John Pleasants. This Certificate he kept for some time, but

finally lost it. With the exception of Henry Woodcock (whose certificate upon oath is hereunto annexed) he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services as a soldier of the revolution. That the said Woodcock he believes is about ten years older than himself, and that he is a resident of the County of Henrico, and a near neighbor of his. That he, the said Alexander Turpin, was born on the seventh of April 1764, within a few miles of the City of Richmond, in Henrico County, where he resided at the time of entering the service, and where he has continued to reside to the present period. That he has now no record of his age. That the record thereof which was contained in a family Bible is destroyed. There he is well known to Doctor Samuel Pleasants, Captain Richard Lorton [?], & Others residing in his (the said Alexander Turpin's) neighborhood who, he doubts not, can testify to his veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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 State.
Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Alex Turpin

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alex Turpin".

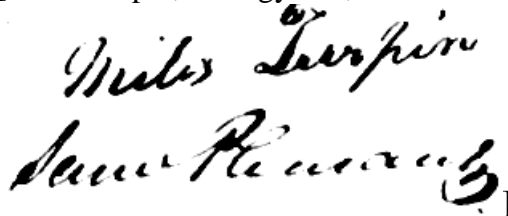
Henrico County August 1832

I hereby certify that I was born and raised in this County, in the neighborhood in which Mr. Alexander Turpin resides – I distinctly recollect that he was a soldier in the revolution and served in the militia but how long and what part of the country he served I do not know – I further certify that Mr. Turpin throughout his life has sustained a fair and respectable character. Given under my hand the date above written.

S/ Henry Woodcock

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Henry Woodcock".

[Miles Turpin, a clergyman, and Samuel Pleasants gave the standard supporting affidavit.

Two handwritten signatures in cursive script, one above the other, appearing to read "Miles Turpin" and "Samuel Pleasants".

[f p. 10: a power of attorney dated November 26, 1832 bears a much better signature of the veteran as follows

Alex^r Turpin

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[facts in file: the veteran died in April 1833 in Henrico County Virginia; the administrator of the estate of the veteran filed an affidavit dated February four, 1834 in Henrico County Virginia stating that the said Turpin was survived by his daughters Eliza Redford, wife of Bernard Redford of Henrico County and Sarah Childers wife of Peter B Childers of said County and by two grandchildren viz. William B Reddick and John H Reddick infant children of Elizabeth Reddick who was the daughter of said Turpin and wife of William Reddick.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for six months in the Virginia militia.]