

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Stewart S31982

fn22NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/13/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

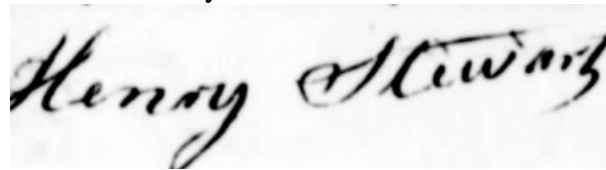
State of Georgia County of Taliaferro: SS

On this 18th day of July 1836 personally appeared in open Court before the Superior Court of said County now sitting Henry Stewart resident of said County and State aged seventy-six 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated viz. – I Henry Stewart do most solemnly state that I entered the War of the Revolution in the early part of the month of August 1776 in the County of Mecklenburg North Carolina under General Rutherford against the Cherokee Indians my Captain's name was Charles Polk and the name of my Colonel was Adam Alexander there was a draft at the time but I volunteered and was in constant service for the term of three months – there was during the time no general battle but frequent skirmishes between our men and the Indians. We burnt the Telico [Tellico], Hiwessa [Hiwassee] & Valey [Valley] towns in Tennessee. These were Indian towns – after which we returned home – The service was volunteered – In the year 1780 I think it was but I am not so sure of the correctness of this date as the other, I again volunteered under Captain McCurdy for a term of three months and continued under him for about two or three weeks, and was then transferred with a number of our company to the command of Captain Thomas Ray – and continued under his command until he with a detachment of his company were defeated by the Tories near Rocky River – which defeat being attributed to the bad conduct of Captain Ray – he resigned – and Matthew Stewart my father was made Captain in his stead, and under whom I completed the term of three months – this was also volunteer service as before stated. After which I returned home but as the whole Country was in a State of alarm and Cornwallis was then in the neighborhood of Charlotte – I immediately volunteered again under Captain Wiley for no particular time General Davidson was then our commanding officer. We were stationed at the cross roads about fifteen miles below Charlotte – while General Davidson with the main body of the Army went in pursuit of Cornwallis – that he made his escape over Catawba River – the place I was garrisoned at was the cross roads where the road from Cheraw to Charlotte & from Camden to Salisbury crossed each other. After the retreat of Cornwallis General Green [Nathanael Greene] with the Continental forces came in the vicinity, and we were discharged after being in constant service for one month. Three or four months after this, while General

Green was marching towards Camden, I again volunteered under Captain Thomas Shelby, and marched to Congaree River to a place called Friday's Fort [word written over and illegible] little town called Granby where the British were fortified. And laid siege to the Fort until General Green sent us Colonel Lee's with his Regiment with a six pounder – and the British surrendered the post. I think there was about 250 British that surrendered at that time with a number of Tories. Our Colonel at this place was named William Polk. General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter] was the commanding officer. In this service I was engaged at least 2 months – which lasted [indecipherable word] until the Battle at Eutaw Springs – when we were all discharged – making in all a term of service of nine months. I was acquainted with Generals Green, Sumter, Rutherford and Davidson. I have no documentary evidence by which I can establish this service that I know of. Mr. James Finley was with me during some of the service whose affidavit I here showed to that effect – who now lives in the County of Green in said state – and who would have been here to state the same in court had not his great feebleness and inability prevented his attendance. I do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity on account of said services except the present and do declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State. And in answer to the questions propounded by the Court according to the Regulations of the War Department – he says as follows – To the first – He says – I was born in the County of Anson, now Mecklenburg, North Carolina in the year 1759 – according to the record of my father. To second he says – I have a record of my age at home in my Bible copied exactly from the record in my father's Bible. To the third – he says – I was living in Mecklenburg County North Carolina – Since the Revolution I moved to Georgia where I now live – it was then Wilkes County – afterwards Green – and now Taliaferro – by changes being made in the line of Counties and the formation of new Counties. To fourth – He says, all my service was volunteer service – when there was a call for men I volunteered. To fifth – he says – I served under General Rutherford, General Davidson and General Sumter – and as to the circumstances of my service I refer to the statement above made. To sixth – I do not recollect that I ever got a written discharge. To seventh, he says I refer to Williamson Bird clergyman & Johnathan Davis [sic].

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

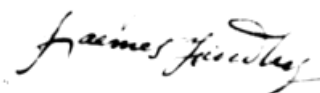
S/ Henry Stewart



[Williamson Bird, a clergyman, and Jonathan Davis gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Georgia Greene County: Personally came before me Henry English a Justice of the peace James Finley<sup>1</sup> and after being duly sworn deposed and saith that he your deponent does know that Henry Stewart did serve in the old Revolutionary war with himself under Oliver Wyley, Archibald McCurdy and Thomas Ray.

S/ James Findley



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<sup>1</sup> I could find no veteran by this name who filed for a federal pension for service in the revolution who claimed services from North Carolina similar to those stated above.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of July 1836  
S/ Henry English, JP

Georgia Taliaferro County: Personally appeared before the Superior Court of said County now in session Henry Stewart who after being duly sworn upon oath saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he is well aware that he may be unable to swear positively as to the precise length of his service: but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below – First in 1776 three months against the Cherokee Indians under General Rutherford, Colonel Adam Alexander and Captain Charles Polk, there was a draft at that time – but I volunteered – Again three months volunteer light horse – guarding the cross roads about fifteen or seventeen miles below Charlotte – I think this was in the summer of 1780 – Again I volunteered under Captain McCurdy for three months served part of the time under him – when Captain Ray was chosen to our command who after his defeat at or near Collson's Mills [sic, Colson's Mill] on account of dissatisfaction, resigned and my father Matthew Stewart took command in Ray's place – under whom I completed the full term of three months for which I volunteered under McCurdy – making in all nine months – besides these terms I was frequently engaged in shorter periods of service – sometimes for several days and sometimes for several weeks – but the length of these periods I cannot now recollect in the order of time in which they occur – and being advised by the rules and regulations of the Department that it was too vague to state any period to have been about & I omitted those short periods altogether I believe in my original Declaration. And as an instance of some of them I would now state as additional services that I sometime I think it was in the year 1780 volunteered under Captain McCurdy and served under him for a term of between 15 and 20 days – not mentioned in the terms before stated. Also at the least I think 25 days under Captain Wiley – light horse – when Lord Cornwallis was near Charlotte. Also 15 or 20 days under Captain Alexander – light horse – with a great many other short periods which I am well aware I cannot state distinctly. I may be mistaken as to the character of my service – but I am very sure I served the length of terms as before stated. And I further state to the Department as the reason for not having made an earlier application – my age – and not knowing how to proceed – And all my acquaintances during the war as far as I know except Mr. Finley being dead or living in parts unknown – and that many failures of others who in my knowledge had made application and being old and living in the Country I did not know to whom to apply or have to make the effort – until I met with Mr. A. H. Stephens who advised me to make the application and assured me he would give me the assistance etc.. Sworn to and subscribed in open court this 16th of January 1837.

S/ Chesley Bristow, Clerk

S/ Henry Stewart

Georgia Greene County

In person appeared before me Henry English a justice of the peace in & for said County James Finley who after being duly sworn upon oath saith that he was acquainted with Henry Stewart now of Taliaferro County Georgia during the War of the revolution – that said Stuart then lived in the State of North Carolina and County of Mecklenburg and that to this deponent's own certain knowledge he served in said war under Captain McCurdy, Ray and Wyley for a term not less than \_\_\_  
the term of time not memorized by your deponent

S/ James Finley

*James Finley*

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 12th day of November 1836  
S/ Henry English, JP

Georgia Green County

We the undersigned neighbors of James Finley whose affidavit is here before accompanying do hereby certify and state that we have for a long time known said Finley – that he is apparently a man of great age that he has always stood fair as a man of truth and high worth in his neighborhood And that we would unhesitatingly place the most explicit confidence in whatever he would positively assert or solemnly affirm. Moreover we would state that he has always been considered a revolutionary soldier – and entitled to a pension under the late laws of Congress but owing to the comfortable circumstances of his pecuniary affairs, and the great trouble and frequent failures in obtaining the benefits of said laws he has never made any application etc. Given under our hands and most respectfully submitted and recommended this 12th day of November 1836

S/Samuel Ray  
S/ Asa [illegible]  
S/ Thomas Stocks JIC  
S/ William Cone JIC  
S/ Francis West, JIC  
S/ A. Hutcheson, JIC  
S/ Thomas G Jones, Senator [State Senate]  
S/ W. C. Dawson, Member of Congress

[fn p. 17: Williamson Bird, a clergyman, gave a standard form affidavit but notes in addition that the veteran is a member of the Presbyterian Church.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]