

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Obedieth (Obadiah) Turpin S32029

f39VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/4/12 rev'd 2/28/15 & 5/12/22

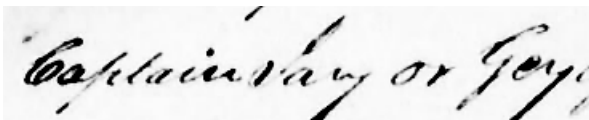
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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.]

The State of Indiana Marion County SS

On this 12th day of February A.D. 1833, personally appeared before the honorable John C Hume [?], sole Judge of the Probate Court of the County of Marion aforesaid now sitting Obadiah Turpin of the County of Boon [Boone] in the said State of Indiana, aged 70, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit may need by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That at Lunenburg County in the State of Virginia he enlisted into the Army of the United States as a private soldier for the term of 18 months, sometime during the year 1779, and he thinks as early as the month of March or April of that year, he having been in the service about 14 months previous to the surrender [May 12, 1780] of Charleston South Carolina by the American Army. That he entered a company commanded by Captain Richard Washam [Richard Worsham?] in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Meriwether [possibly Thomas Meriwether] of the Virginia line: That he continued to bear arms in this Regiment but a short time, and owing to his being short after entering the service selected as a driver of a United States forage and baggage wagons it is out of his power to recollect the number of the Regiment to which he belonged, as also the names of his other field and company officers. That he from the place of his enlistment he was marched to Petersburg where he remained three or four weeks previous to his being engaged as waggoner which business he followed in & about Petersburg and it's vicinity until late in the fall or winter ensuing his enlistment. He was sent in the same employment into the State of South Carolina and in the spring following he accompanied a detachment which was marched to the reinforcement of the City of Charleston then besieged by the British Army. In marching to Charleston this declarant recollects he passed through Guilford County, crossed Rock River and the Yadkin a short distance above their junction and passed down the Big Pedee for a good many miles, and thence to Charleston, and was there employed in hauling supplies of provisions for the use of the garrison till a few weeks before the city was surrendered, but when the enemy had succeeded in so blockading the town as to render further communication with the country impracticable this declarant and a large number of waggoners were drawn off to the district of Ninety Six where they remained until after Charleston capitulated, 14 months or upwards of his term having now expired – Shortly after the fall of Charleston his party was ordered back in the direction of Guilford County North Carolina where he arrived and continued until the latter part of September or October at which time his 18 months engagement terminated and he received a discharge from the service (service 18 months). That at the County of Lunenburg within mentioned, he again about the commencement of the year 1781 being but a few months after his

first discharge into service for a second time for a three month tour as a substitute for one John Williamson in a company of Virginia militia commanded by Captain Francis DeGraffenried of whose company one \_\_\_ Rudder was Ensign. The names of the other officers on not now recollected. That from Lunenburg County he was marched to Portsmouth in the old Virginia was stationed there six or eight weeks, and was marched thence to Petersburg where he remained until the expiration of his engagement and was discharged having served out his three months tour. Under this engagement was in company with no regulars. The British then had possession of Portsmouth. This declarant states that about three months before the capitulation of Lord Cornwallis at York Town he was drafted into the service at Lunenburg County aforesaid and was placed as a private in a company commanded by Captain Jary [?] or Gery [?]<sup>1</sup> of the Virginia militia was immediately marched to York Town where he was employed as a steward or waiter, by one Jesse Walton who engaged in providing and forwarding arms & ammunition for the use of the Army, that he continued as a servant to the said Walton until after the surrender of Cornwallis's Army when he was discharged in the vicinity of York Town having been in this service three full months. He was in none of the fighting during the siege of York, nor was he in any engagement during either of his former campaigns & owing to his not bearing arms after his arrival at York town it is out of his power to recollect the names of most of his Company officers. That his terms of service taken together make two full years in all. In responding to the seven interrogatories required to be answered by the regulations of the war Department this declarant says that he was born in Prince Edward County Virginia in the 1761 or 2. [2<sup>nd</sup>] That he has no record of his age. 3<sup>rd</sup> That he was living when called into service in Lunenburg County he since the revolutionary war he has resided in Rutherford County North Carolina, in Knox County Kentucky, in Monroe County Indiana and now resides in Boon County Indiana. 4<sup>th</sup> For his first engagement he enlisted for eighteen months in the Virginia line for his second engagement he went as a substitute for three months in the place of one John Williamson for his third tour he was drafted and continued in the service three months. 5<sup>th</sup> Besides the officers herein before mentioned this declarant has a distinct recollection of Generals Greene & Lafayette, the former he frequently saw while in command of the southern Army & the latter at the siege of York – he also recollects seeing General Washington at the last mentioned place, which was the first time he ever saw the commander in chief of the United States Army, was after with the French soldiers but owing to his having been engaged as a waggoner during his first tour, the shortness of the two last tours, the latter of which he acted as servant, the great length of time which has elapsed since the revolution render it impossible for the declarant to recollect the names of many of his officers or of militia regiments with which he served, & the general circumstances of his service he refers to the preceding part of his declaration. 6<sup>th</sup> He received a discharge at the expiration of each of his terms of service; but the names of the officers who gave the same are not now recollected; his discharges have been previously lost or they were burnt in his house which was consumed by fire in the State of North Carolina. 7<sup>th</sup> He has no documentary evidence, and he knows no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service; and owing to his limited acquaintance from the shortness of his residence in the new and sparsely populated County where he now resides, he is unable to state the names of any persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity

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& who have at the same time and had an opportunity of forming a belief as to his services as a soldier of the revolution. But he is well acquainted with Mr. John Smart a respectable man of Morgan County Indiana & also with Joseph Pirson [Joseph Pierson?] residing in the same County & neighborhood last aforesaid who will be recognized by any court, Judge or Justice of the Peace in the County where they reside as credible witnesses & who are the only witness in the part of the State where the declarant now resides who can testify as to his veracity and reputation as a soldier of the revolution. His witnesses residing out of this County, there being no person in the same known to the declarant who has ever prepared pension papers & there being no seal provided for the Court in Boon County have may it most convenient for him to make his declaration in this Court with which he has some acquaintance.

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 of any state or Territory. Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day and year first within written.

February 12, 1833

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

[John Smart and Joseph Pierson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Note: This file contains no family data.]

[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.]

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[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Bedford County Legislative Papers

To the Honorable the Speakers & Members of both Houses of the Virginia Legislature

The petition of Obediah Turpin humbly represents that in the month of August in the year 1777 he enlisted in Capt. Patrick Wright's Company which was attached to Col. Thomas Marshall's Regiment of Original Artillery for the term of three years that shortly after his enlistment he was made a Sergeant and in that capacity served out his time with fidelity as will appear by the accompanying affidavit; after his term of service was out he served as a volunteer during the invasion of Virginia by the British Army's under Arnold [Benedict Arnold] and Lord Cornwallis, in Capt. John Markham's Company from the County of Chesterfield and was in several of the desperate skirmishes fought during that eventful & distressing period. Your petitioner is now in his sixty fifth year and is worn down with years & infirmity; through misfortunes and not through imprudence or vice he has been divested of the little property for which he had cheerfully labored under the hope that it would have preserved him from want in the evening of his days and is now so entirely unable to labor for a support & so wholly destitute as to be dependent upon the charity of his neighbors for his daily subsistence. Your petitioner preferring in this extremity to be indebted to the bounty of a Country he had to faithfully served to living on the precarious charity of individuals made application to the Government of the United States for a pension but his prayer was rejected because Col. Thomas Marshall's Regiment was not on Continental establishment although that Regiment served the States with fidelity in both the Carolinas; without a hope from any other source he now addresses his humble

prayer to his Native State in the service of which in its utmost need he willingly fought & suffered that such a pittance may be allowed as will shield the remainder of a life now hastening rapidly to a conclusion, from absolute misery & want & and in duty bound will ever pray.

S/ Obediah Turpin

[Attested in Bedford County on December 31, 1824]

Virginia Bedford County to wit:

The affidavit of Jesse Skinner taken at the request of Obediah Turpin the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1824, this affiant saith that in the month of August or September 1779 he enlisted in Capt. Patrick Wright's company attached to Col. Thomas Marshall's Regiment of Virginia artillery: That at the time of his enlistment the said Obediah Turpin was a Sergeant in the company to which this affiant belonged, that the said Turpin continued in the service until August or September 1780 when he was honorably discharged. This affiant further saith that the said Obediah enlisted for three years, having been in the service about two years before this affiant enlisted.

S/ Jesse Skinner


[Attested December 3, 1824]

Bedford County to wit

The affidavit of Thomas Turpin taken at the request of Obediah Turpin who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that he was acquainted with the above Obediah at the time he enlisted in the company of Capt. Francis Goode Minutemen and attached to Col. \_\_ Meredith's Regiment in the year 1775 – who continued in said service & performed duty with me in the year 1776 at Portsmouth – & that this affiant hath no reason to doubt – & believes the said Obediah continued in the Army until the capture of Wallace [Cornwallis] at Yourk [Yorktown] and further this affiant saith not.

Given under my hand this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 1825.

S/ Thomas Turpin



Virginia Bedford County to wit

The Affidavit of Aaron Powell<sup>2</sup> taken at the request of Obediah Turpin the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 1824. This affiant saith that in the year 1777 the said Obediah Turpin enlisted as a Sgt. in Capt. Patrick Wright's company attached to Col. Thomas Marshall's Regiment of Virginia Artillery for the Term of three years. That this affiant served with the said Obediah Turpin and in the same company for two years and eight months when this affiant marched to the South leaving the said Obediah Turpin in Virginia. This affiant further saith that he has no doubt but that the said Obediah faithfully served the balance of his time out, further this affiant saith not.

S/ Aaron [faint]



[Attested December 27, 1824]

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<sup>2</sup> [Aaron Powell W5566](#)

I certify that it appears from a list of such of the names of the soldiers of the Virginia State line has received certificates for the balance of their full pay agreeably to the act of Assembly passed the November Session 1781, that a certificate issued on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 1783 in the name of Obediah Turpin for £172.12.10 ½

J. E. Heath  
Auditor

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Addendum to Obedieth (Obadiah) Turpin S32029

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 12 May 2022.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Turpin, O.]

I do hereby certify that Obadiah Turpin a [part missing] Inlisted in State Artillery in August [part missing] and was discharged 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1780 [Given] under my hand this 28<sup>th</sup> February 17[part missing] a Copy Edmund B. Lacy C.A.

T. William[part missing]

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