

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robin Turner S7766

f7VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/3/12 supp'd 5/29/15

[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' 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.]

State of Virginia Isle of Wight County (to wit)

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 1833 personally appeared in open court before Isham Jordan, William H. Ballard, Watson P Jordan & David Roberts the court of Isle of Wight County now sitting Robert Turner [sic] a resident of the aforesaid County and State, aged about seventy-three 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<sup>th</sup> 1832. That in the year 1779 or 1780 he entered the service of the United States as a drafted militia man, and served under the command of Captain James Johnson two tours of duty of six months each under the said Captain Johnson during which time he was marched to Jerico [Jericho] and Portsmouth in the Regiment commanded by Colonel John S Wills [John Scarsbrook Wills] – that shortly afterwards he was again called out again under the command of Captain Thomas Goodson and served seven weeks and then permitted to return home, and again some short time after he was again called out under the command of Captain William Eley and served seven weeks more, during which last mentioned time he was marched to cobham [?]<sup>1</sup> in Surry & crossed James River to James Town, and was engaged in a slight skirmish with the British troops near James Town, he was then marched to Portsmouth and assisted in leveling the entrenchments which the British had raised there – that he was in service at the siege of York – that he was born in Isle of Wight County aforesaid, and has always resided therein, that he cannot read or write, and has no documentary evidence in support of his claim, and knows no person who can testify to his services except Captain James Johnson<sup>2</sup>: he cannot recollect the names of the General Officers with sufficient certainty to mention them – 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 and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robin Turner, X his mark

[Daniel Whitley, a clergyman, and James Johnson gave the standard supporting affidavit. In addition "The said James Johnston [sic] states on his oath that he knows of his own knowledge that the said Robin Turner did serve as he has stated under the command of the said James Johnson [sic] as Captain and that he knows that he served under other captains, and he went to

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<sup>1</sup> *cobham*

<sup>2</sup> [James Johnson S15904](#)

James Town about the time of the siege of York and he verily believes he served as he has stated in his declaration in all upwards of six months.

*Daniel Whitley*  
*Lat. Johnson Senr*

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[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20.22 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for six months & two days service as a private in the Virginia militia.]

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[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Isle of Wight County Legislative Petitions

To the Honourable the Speakers and Members of both Houses of the General Assembly of Virginia.

The petition of Robin Turner of the County [of] Isle of Wight respectfully Sheweth;

That your petitioner was enrolled in the militia of this state about the commencement of the Revolutionary war, and served in various tours of duty during the progress of that eventful Struggle, – that he served in a company of militia commanded by Captain William Eley when the Army of Lord Cornwallis crossed from Jamestown to Cobham, where he was engaged in an action with the enemy and under the same Captain was present in service when the British Army surrendered at Yorktown [October 19, 1781], that during his service he bore with patience the privations and hardships incident to that period, cheered by the ennobling cause which he supported, and anticipating from the freedom and independence of his country an ample reward for his toils and sacrifices. In this anticipation the expectations of your petitioner were for a long time fulfilled. But at length by the infirmities of age and the misfortunes of his family he is reduced to the state of lowest indigence and suffering. He is now above 70 years of age has a wife and four children with him, neither of them fully grown one of them crippled and the sight of another defective. That his military services having been rendered altogether in the militia, he has no claim under the various laws which have been passed by the government of the United States providing pensions for services rendered in the regular service; and has no resource against suffering the extremes of poverty unless by the favorable consideration of your Honourable Body he shall be relieved by the bounty of his native state. Your Petitioner therefore prays that his case may be taken into consideration and that such pension or allowance may be granted to him as his services and sufferings may deserve, and as in duty bound will ever pray &c

[Acknowledged in our white County Virginia December 3, 1827]

Isle of Wight County, to wit:

Personally appeared before me a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid James Johnson and made oath, that he was a Captain of militia during the Revolutionary war, that he personally knew Robin Turner a private of the militia and that said Robin Turner served several tours of duty in the said Revolutionary war, and he moreover knows him to be now very poor and infirm. – Given under my hand this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1827

S/ Exum Eley, JP

[Reverse]

Petition Robin Turner

December 10, 1827

Referred to Claims

1827 December 19

Reasonable

20 Reported

29 Bill drawn