

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Turner<sup>1</sup> W11573

Rebecca

f47NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 12/28/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p. 11]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 27<sup>th</sup> of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of pleas & quarter sessions now sitting, James Turner, a resident of the Hawfields in the County of Orange and State aforesaid in the 70<sup>th</sup> year of his age, 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 he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he was in three different tours and the United States service. He entered as a private in the fall of 1778 (the latter part of October he thinks it was) in a company commanded by Captain Joseph Young, William Rogers Lieutenant, and Samuel Nelson Ensign. This Company marched from the town of Hillsboro in this County. From Hillsboro Colonel Lytle accompanied us to General Rutherford's camp, then above Salisbury, and upon arriving at said camp they were put under General Rutherford, and Francis Locke was Colonel of the Regiment. That under Rutherford he was marched southward, to Charlotte and at Charlotte to the main Charleston road to the "Ten Mile House"-- Thence we were marched to Purysburg on the Savannah River; Thence to "the Two Sisters" [Ferry] where we were encamped some time. Thence we were marched up the Savannah nearly opposite to the mouth of Briar Creek on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March 1779; when we aided in covering the landing of General Ash's [sic, John Ashe's] men, when defeated at said "Briar Creek" by certain British Forces under ~~Colonel~~ Lieutenant Colonel Prevost. From this place, we were marched down the Savannah on the South Carolina side to the "Two Sisters" -- Thence to the "Black Swamp" here we remained till the expiration of my five months tour when I was discharged and returned home.

In the month of February 1781 this applicant again entered the service of the United States -- volunteered as a private in a company commanded by Captain George Hodges, this Company to which he belonged was organized he thinks on Back Creek in this County, marched to Harrisburg in Granville [County], returned to Hillsboro in Orange, thence marched to the High Rock on Haw River, where he joined General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], crossed the River and under Greene marched to Guilford Old Court House and was in the Battle at that place on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March of that year. That after said Battle this applicant further states he went on with Greene's Army to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River. Greene left this camp about the last of April and moved South. This applicant with other troops were left a while at Ramsey's Mill and under General Butler went to Wake Court House about the first week in May following, and after being marched from Wake Court House to Hillsboro was discharged, after serving a three months Tour.

In the month of August of the same year (to wit 1781) this applicant as volunteer entered again

---

<sup>1</sup> BLWt38347-160-55

in the service of the United States as private in a company under the command of Captain John Clendennin. That on the night before Hillsborough was taken by the Tories in September 1781 this company was camped about 2 miles North of Hillsboro – that early the next morning they heard firing in the direction of town, marched in early and being altogether unapprised that Fanning & McNeil had taken the Town. This applicant, his Captain & most of his company with many of were made prisoners –and carried to the South, crossing Haw River, at Woody's Ferry – the first night we were taken to Stallworth's a little this side of Lindley's Mill on Cain Creek. The next morning the Tories holding us prisoners were attacked at said Mills by some of our forces under General Butler, Col. Mebane & others – we were hurried on to Wilmington in this State where we were put on board a British brig and there confined some weeks, when we were conveyed by sea to Charleston South Carolina where we were put on board as prisoners of war, a British vessel called the “*Eske*” where this applicant remained in close confinement till sometime in the month of April following, when through the friendly interference of his Captain John Clendenin he was released from his imprisonment and returned home about the first of May 1782. This applicant states he has no documentary evidence to prove his services – However his five months tour he can prove by Samuel Nelson,<sup>2</sup> now living in the Hawfields, who was Ensign in his company – His three months tour, by Samuel Allen<sup>3</sup> & William Allen – who served with him – and as to his being taken prisoner in Hillsboro as he has already stated he procured a certificate in due form from Captain Richard Christmas<sup>4</sup> of this County who was made prisoner at the same time with him in Hillsboro: we the particulars of which imprisonment are set forth in said Certificate.

That he was born in the State of Pennsylvania, and that his father emigrated to the Hawfields in this County when he was about 18 months old – he has no record of his age, but from the best information he will be 70 years old next October, that he now lives in the Haw fields and has lived there ever since the revolutionary war.

That he served in the United States – both as volunteer and drafted  
that he was acquainted with the following officers, General Butler, General Rutherford, Colonel Joseph Taylor & Colonel Lytle --

That he has received discharges from both Rutherford & General Butler or Colonel Robert Mebane but they are now lost --

That he is acquainted with James Mebane Esq. & Major John Taylor of his neighborhood

That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure except the certificate of Captain Richard Christmas which has already procured & the evidence of Samuel Nelson, Samuel Allen & William Allen

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 & year aforesaid.

S/ James Turner



State of North Carolina

At a Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions begun & held for Orange County at the Court house in Hillsboro on fourth Monday in August A.D. 1832 --

---

<sup>2</sup> [Samuel Nelson S8916](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Samuel Allen S6480](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Richard Christmas S8196](#)

The Worshipful Justices of said Court being present James Turner a Citizen of this County came into the Court & exhibited his declaration & proofs to enable him to a pension from the United States under an Act of Congress approved 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832 entitled an act supplementary to the act for the relief of the surviving officers & soldiers of the Revolution. The court having considered the matters contained in said declaration & the proofs in support thereof ordered to be certified as their opinion that said declaration & proofs in support thereof are entitled to full credit.

By John Taylor Clerk of Orange County Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the Original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of James Turner for a pension.

Witness my hand & Seal of office 27<sup>th</sup> of August 1832.

S/ J. Taylor, Clk CC

[f p. 40]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County of Orange, in the State aforesaid, James Turner, an applicant for a pension, under the act of June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, and who being first duly sworn according to law, deposes and saith That to the best of his recollection he was drafted on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October 1778 1<sup>st</sup> Tour for a term of five months, and when at "Black Swamp", his tour of five months expired and he received a discharge therefore from General Rutherford and returned home. But which discharge has been lost for many years.

2<sup>nd</sup> Tour. He volunteered in the Service of the United States on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1781, in his Second Tour which was for the term of three months, and was in the town of Hillsboro in this County, when his Tour expired, and having received a discharge therefore from General Butler returned home but which discharge is now lost --

3<sup>rd</sup> Tour. Volunteered in the Service of the United States in Captain John Clendenin's company on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 1781 and returned home from his Capture on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May of the following year, to wit 1782.

That in the Several tours above stated he was not employed in any civil pursuit but in military service, and that in the aggregate be amount to 16 months and 21 days and for which he claims a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and date first above written.

S/ James Turner

S/ James A. Craig

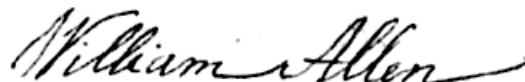
[f p.41]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace of the County of Orange in the State afore said William Allen Senior now in the 70<sup>th</sup> year of his age, who being first duly sworn according to law, Deposeth and Saith, that he is well acquainted with James Turner, who has subscribed & sworn to the above Supplement to his Declaration, that he served with said Turner, a three months tour in the United States service in Captain Hodges' Company in 1781, and that they both received discharges for said Tour at the expiration thereof from General John Butler about the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1781 and the Town of Hillsboro in said County of Orange.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date first above written.

S/ William Allen



Witness

S/ James A. Craig, JP

[f pp 41-2]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 1833, personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County of Orange and State aforesaid – Samuel Nelson, who being qualified in due form, they were his oath, that during the war of the revolution, he was well acquainted with James Turner, who has subscribed and sworn to the above Supplement to his declaration, and that he and said Turner were both in Captain Young's Company of militia, that they both entered in the United States service on this five months Tour, on or about the 27<sup>th</sup> day of October 1778, and that their term of Service expired when at the “Black Swamp” and there received our discharges and returned home.

S/ Saml. Nelson



Witness:

S/ James A. Craig, JP

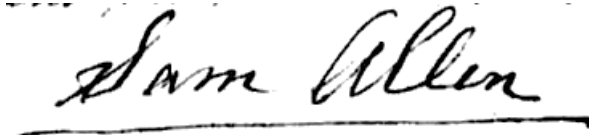
[f p. 42]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County of Orange, aforesaid, Samuel Allen, of Orange, aforesaid, now, in 72<sup>nd</sup> year of his age, who, being duly qualified maketh oath, that in the Spring of 1781, he served a three months tour in the Militia in Captain Thomas Thompson's company, and that James Turner, of Orange aforesaid, who has subscribed and sworn to the preceding Supplement to his Declaration, was a private in said Company, with us during the whole of said Tour, which ended some time in the first of May 1781.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date aforesaid.

S/ Sam Allen [Samuel Allen]



[Attested by James A. Craig, JP]

[Thomas Lynch, a clergyman, and James S. Smith gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 45]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

This day personally appeared before me James A. Craig one of the Justices of the peace for the County of Orange and State aforesaid Richard Christmas who being qualified in due form made oath that he was well acquainted with James Turner an applicant for a pension (in the County aforesaid) – during the war of the revolution. And that although he did not at any time serve with the said Turner in the war office for said, yet he feels well satisfied that the said James Turner was a good Friend to the Cause of Freedom – That it has always been understood & believed that the said term or was in the Tour of five months service to the South – was also in Service in the Spring of 1781 was in the Guilford Battle -- & was in the service again in September 1781 when Fanning & McNeil took Hillsboro – and that this Deponent was at that time a prisoner of war on parole – was in Hillsboro on

private business and with the said Turner & others were all made prisoners – were taken on to the South, crossing Haw River at Woody's Ferry, passing by Lindley's Mills &c to Wilmington, where he & the said Turner & other prisoners were put on board a British Brig as prisoners of war – where we were detained some four or five weeks – from thence we were conveyed by vessel to Charleston in South Carolina and were there put on board as prisoners of war, a British Vessel called the “Eske” as well as he now remembers, where he & said Turner with others were kept in close confinement on board said vessel. From which vessel said Turner was released sometime he thinks in April 1782 – leaving this deponent still a prisoner on board of the said Vessel – where he remained a prisoner old war till June or July following, when he himself was regularly exchanged.

Sworn to and subscribed this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 1832.

Test:

S/ Richard Christmas, X his mark

S/ James A. Craig, JP

[f p. 9: On November 24, 1855 in Alamance County North Carolina, the veteran, stating his age as 98, filed for his bounty land entitlement under the 1855 act.]

[f p. 16: On March 26, 1856, Rebecca Turner, 89, resident of Alamance County, NC filed for bounty land as the widow of James Turner stating that she married him in Orange County North Carolina on January 1, 1789; that her maiden name was Rebecca Clendenin; that her husband died in Alamance County North Carolina on said worried 12, 1856. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$55.55 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 16 months & 20 days in the North Carolina service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[Note: On pages 5-8 in this file, there is a Bible record, only part of which is legible, as follows:

David Turner was born in the yare of our Lord 1803 October the 1 day

Jesse Turner was born the October the 3 day 1805

Joseph Turner born April the 26 day 1814

Ann Turner Dauter of James Turner and ReBaCa Born in the yare of our Lord 1796 September the 12<sup>th</sup> day

John Turner born in the yare of our Lord 1792 June the 10 day

Charles Turner born ye yare the 3 day in the yare of our Lord 1794

James Turner Born in the yare of our Lord 1795 DeSember the 24

Frisher Turner was born in the yare of our Lord 1807 Saptomber the 25]