

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Turner W18172

Judith

f33VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/2/12

[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 North Carolina County of Warren

On this 8th day of March 1838 personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace Judith Turner a resident of the County of Warren and State of North Carolina aged to the best of her knowledge eighty-five or six years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision may by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836.

That she is the widow of James Turner who was a private soldier in the Virginia State Line, and served as such in a company raised by Captain John Stith in the County of Brunswick, Virginia. That she has no precise recollection of the time he entered the Army but thinks it was as early as the year 1777 and that he continued to serve for that time with a short intermission until the close of the war. He returned to Brunswick on furlough sometime in 1779 or 1780 at which time she was married to the said James Turner – and what impresses the fact on her mind is first her marriage and secondly the fact that he tried to hire a substitute and failing to do so he was compelled to return and served as he did to the close of the war.

She has no knowledge of the precise period of her marriage but is perfectly certain it was previous to the time Cornwallis came through that County now Greenville on his march to Petersburg from North Carolina. She has lost the Bible in which the period of her marriage was registered and has been unable to find any trace of the marriage from the records of Greenville which was then a part of Brunswick nor can it be found in the last mentioned County – She declares that she was married at Fountain Creek Church to the said James Turner by a Baptist minister Zachariah Thompson – about the time before specified. That her husband the aforesaid James Turner died in the year 1818 – and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereunto annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me.

S/ [illegible signature]

S/ Judith Turner, X her mark

[f p. 14: On March 18, 1838 Patsy Laine, a citizen of Warren County North Carolina gave testimony that she was raised in the County of Brunswick now Greenville County Virginia; that at in early part of the revolution James Turner who was raised in the same neighborhood with the affiant joined the Army as a soldier; during the time of his service in 1779 or 80 he returned to and married at Fountain Creek Church the affiant's sister Judith Laine; that James Turner was deceived by the man he had hired as his substitute and was required to return to the service after his marriage which he did and served until after the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]; that her sister's first child was born while James Turner was still in the Army. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[f pp 3-9: pages from a Bible with miscellaneous entries of family data as follows [as best I can make out those entries—they being very faint in places:

James Turner was born 17 November 1818

Margaret Turner was born A.D. 1765 October 13

Sarah Turner was born February second A.D. 176[illegible]

Julian Turner was born February second A.D. 17[illegible]

[There are two pages of entries that appear to relate to the children of Noel and Sarah Turner, but the entries are uniformly too faint or damaged for me to discern except for the entry which reads: "Charles Turner son of Noel Turner and Sarah his wife was born ? Oct 1790"].

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband's service as a private in the Virginia service for two years.]