

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jeremiah Turner W19472 Mary 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 Virginia County of Culpeper: SS

On this 19th day of September 1832 personally appeared before me Philip Slaughter a Justice of the Peace for said County Jeremiah Turner a resident of said County and state aged eighty-two 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That he was born in the County of Culpeper Virginia on the 25th of June 1750. That he entered the service in 1777 as a drafted militia man under command of General John Noah and went to Albemarle Barracks to guard the Prisoners (being he thinks the Hessians taken at Trenton). That the officers in command there at the time he served was Colonel F. Taylor, Major John Roberts and Captain James Purvis. That he was in this service he thinks upwards of two months which went though for a two months tour.

That about the year 1780 he thinks about the end of the year he served a two months tour as a substitute for James Willis in a company commanded by Captain William Bradley, Lieutenant Reuben Zimmerman he forgets the Colonel. That he marched to the neighborhood of Richmond passing Gordon's buildings in [indecipherable word]. That near the [indecipherable word] met an express informing them that they were not wanted and they returned; that this past as a two months tour and was rated in the regular drafts.

That in the year __he again entered the service under Captain Slaughter and marched by way of Bowling Green in Caroline to Richmond and encamped [indecipherable word] at the Rope Walks – that they left Richmond in a few days and going downward joined Lafretters [Lafayette's?] troops at Malvin Hills [Malvern Hills], where he saw one of Lafayette's men hung he thinks for Robbery. That going to Malvin Hills or returning he was at a place called Ruffin's Ferry which he recollects from the circumstance of there being some of the Army beeves drowned in the River, whilst there to he recollects that one night there came on a severe storm of Rain thunder and lightning. There was a report that the British Light Horse had attacked the wagon guard and were cutting them to pieces. That the alarm was so great as to cause several to desert some of whom never returned, and they lost knapsacks &c and it was said some of the officers dropped their swords with fear. That about 15 days before his time expired being sick he applied to General Stevens [Edward Stevens] for a discharge that he might go home. This he refused replying with an oath that he would not give him one – that he was determined to die by his men and he should do the same by him. This term was he thinks near three months, and a very hard tour.

That in or about the month of April 1781 he again went into service under command of

Captain John Waugh in Colonel James Slaughter[']s Regiment – That he marched by way of Richmond to Petersburg [April 26, 1781], where there was a small engagement with the British and the Americans retreated after taking up the Bridge, to black water where he thinks he joined the main Army. That they there retreated up to Ground Squirrel Bridge 20 miles above Richmond where being relieved they were discharged having served upwards of two months. That he was not again in the service – that he does not know of no living witnesses to prove all the above service but has obtained such as he presents by the aid of friends being unable to get about much himself.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ Phil Slaughter

S/ Jeremiah Turner, X his mark

And the applicant then had the following interrogatories propounded to him which he answered as follows

1st Where and in what year were you born?

An: I was born in the County of Culpeper Virginia on the 25th of June 1750

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

An. I have seen a record of my age but it has been lost.

3rd How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

An. I served one tour as a substitute for James Willis and the other was drafted standing in the seventh division

4th Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

An. I was born in Culpeper Virginia and have never lived anywhere else.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

An. I have stated under whom I served – I knew Lafayette General Stevens, Colonel Matthews, Colonel Alcock &c I have set forth the circumstances of my service in my declaration.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

An. I never received a written discharge except at the time I mentioned of having asked the General without success. I got from the surgeon a day or two before the tour ended to come home in a wagon returning at that time. We were generally discharged in companies or regiments.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. Those who knew me when a young man art nearly all dead – I hope I have always supported a good character – I might refer to Reverend Daniel James Captain William Lewis &c.

State of Virginia Culpeper County SS

On this 16th day of April 1833 before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared Jeremiah Turner who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that in making his declaration for a pension on the 19th of September 1832 before Philip Slaughter Esquire he had stated correctly the term of his first tour to wit two months – That he does not recollect the date he entered the service at that time but knows it was in 1777 – That the tour as substitute for James Willis 1780 passed at

the time for a two month tour but as he is informed he must say exactly how long, he states that he was gone at least 15 days – That the next tour with the date blank he thinks upon reflection must have been in 1781 though his memory does not serve him exactly – That this term was he thinks three months but he speaks positively as to two months and 20 days. That the one in April 1781 was as he states for two months or more. That the Reverend Daniel James certified for him when his declaration was made but the certificate was lost.

Given under my hand this 16th day of April 1833

S/ A. P. Hill

[f p. 14: On March 20, 1836, in Culpeper County Virginia, Mary Turner, 84, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating she is the widow of Jeremiah Turner, a revolutionary war pensioner; that he died March 15, 1834; that she married him January 7th, 1774 and that she remains his widow.]

[f p. 28]

Virginia:

I Frances T Lightfoot Clerk of the County Court of Culpeper County in the state aforesaid do hereby certify that strict examination has been made in my office and nothing can be found touching the marriage of Jeremiah Turner and Mary his wife. I have been informed that the clerk's office of this County for some time during the Revolutionary War, was occupied and used as a Barracks; and during that period that many of the papers and records belonging to the office were either lost or destroyed. It has happened in many instances that ministers of the gospel celebrating marriages have failed to make return thereof to the clerks office as required by law.

Test: S/ F. T. Lightfoot

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for seven months and five days service, as a private in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]