

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Drury Ham W27678

Maria Perkins¹

f94VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/4/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Lincoln County Sct.

On this 28th day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of Lincoln County now sitting Drury Ham aged 73 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 entered the service of the United States about the first of March in the year 1778 as a drafted militia man in Captain Thomas Wright's Company of the County of Greenbrier State of Virginia to serve a tower [tour] of three months which tower he served, some few days after he joined the said Wright's Company the said company marched to New River in the State aforesaid where his Company was attached to Colonel James Henderson's Regiment. He states that after the term of his service expired for which he was drafted he was discharged by his Captain Thomas Wright he does not recollect whether his discharge was in writing or not.

He states after he returned home from the tower aforesaid he removed to the County of Montgomery & State of Virginia and in the month of August 1778 he again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the company of George Parrish of the County of Montgomery & State aforesaid as an Indian Spy the Company to which he belonged was ordered to guard the frontiers on Knew River [New River] where they were attached to Colonel Taylor's Regiment which was commanded by said Taylor – he states that in about three months after he joined the aforesaid Company he was commissioned Lieutenant in said Company he states that he was spying about two years but was not in actual service more than eighteen months so that he served about fifteen months as Lieutenant in said company & about three months as a private and about the last of July or first of August 1780 he was legally discharged but he does not recollect by whom. And after he returned home he went to the County of Botetourt County State of Virginia and in the month of September 1780 he again entered the service of the United States as a Volunteer in the company of Captain Alexander Hanley in the County aforesaid to serve a tower of six months, the company marched to the County of Montgomery & State aforesaid on Holston River where they were attached to Major Campbell's Battalion and from that place they marched through North Carolina to South Carolina where they joined General Morgan's [Daniel Morgan's] Brigade and after they joined the aforesaid Brigade they marched to the Cowpens and that he was in the Battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] they then marched with the prisoners

¹ former widow

towards Salisbury North Carolina – in which time they joined General Greens [Nathanael Greene's] Army. They started from Salisbury towards Virginia and some 6 or 7 miles from Salisbury on the Adkin River [Yadkin River] they were overtaken by Cornwallis's Army where a portion of the Army was defeated, we then marched to Guilford where he was discharged his term of service having expired but he does not recollect by whom but he supposes that it was by his Lieutenant his Captain being killed in the engagement at the Adkin. He states that he does not recollect but very few of the regular Officers which he served with he recollects General Green & Morgan and Colonel Washington of the light horse.

He states that he was born in the County of Orange State of Virginia in the year 1760 on the 9th day of July so he was informed by his parents but he has no record of his age, he states that he resided in the County aforesaid until he was about ten years old he then removed to the County of Rockingham and State aforesaid from there to the County of Greenbrier State aforesaid and from there to the state of Kentucky in the year 1790 or 1791 to Madison County and from the County of Madison to the County of Lincoln and State aforesaid where he has resided ever since.

He states that David Shanks, Adam Wilson, Lewis Ball, Benjamin Duncan, Richard Single many more can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

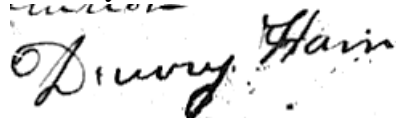
He states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to the whole of his service but he can prove by the affidavit of Joseph West & Martin Turpin as to a portion of his services.

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.

He here makes more full and complete answers to the interrogatories which is required of him and which was propounded to him by the court.

He states he was born in the County of Orange and State of Virginia on the 9th day of July 1760 and that he has no record of his age, and when he was first called into service he was living in the County of Greenbrier State of Virginia and the second time in the County of Montgomery and State aforesaid and the last time he entered the service he went to the County of Botetourt State aforesaid and there volunteered and sometime after he left the service he removed to the State of Kentucky, Madison County and lived there some time and then returned to the County of Lincoln and State aforesaid and which place he now resides. And that he first entered the service as a drafted militia man & the next time as a volunteer in an Indian Spy Company and the last time as a volunteer and all the officers that he recollects which he served with our Colonel Taylor, Major Campbell, General Green & General Morgan & Colonel Washington of the light horse. He has no recollection of ever receiving any written discharge but if he did it has long since been lost or mislaid. And that he received a Lieutenant commission in Captain George Parrish Company of Spies but he has no recollection by whom it was signed or what has become of it and that he is well known to Lewis Ball, Richard Singleton, David Shanks, Benjamin Duncan & Adam Wilson & many others that he can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

S/ Drury Ham

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Drury Ham". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Drury Ham".

[Moses Foley, a clergyman, Richard Singleton & Benjamin Duncan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

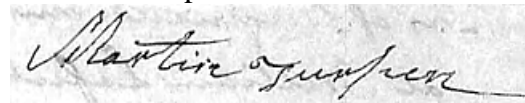
[p 23]

The deposition of Martin Turpin² taken at the house of Joseph Dorherty in the County of Pulaski State of Kentucky on the 24th day of May 1834 to be read as evidence in behalf of Drury Ham to obtain a pension.

This deponent being seventy-three years last January and after being duly sworn Deposeth and saith that himself and Drury Ham was about the first of March 1778 drafted to serve a tower of duty in the United States service in Captain Thomas Wright's Company of militia men that they served a tower of three months to guard the frontiers of Virginia. This Deponent was stationed at William Laferty's on New River and the said Ham about three miles above him at one William Lacy's on the same River in Greenbrier County State aforesaid. This deponent states sometime after they returned home from said tower he understood the said Ham was appointed an Indian spy by Captain George Parrish of Montgomery of the State of Virginia and that the said Ham went into service but he does not recollect how long he was gone that tower but he understood he was in service two summers from several persons.

This deponent further states that sometime in the fall of 1780 the said Ham again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the company of Alexander Hanley of Botetourt County State aforesaid to serve a tower of six months as I understood, that said Ham was in the Battle of the Cowpens and he also heard Ezekiel Johnson was killed by the side of the said Ham on the River Adkins. He also states that said Him was gone from home about six months on this tower. He also understood the said Alexander Hanley was killed in the engagement on the Adkin River. And further this deponent saith not.

S/ Martin Turpin

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Martin Turpin", written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

[p 83]

The deposition of Joseph West taken at the house of Andrew McBeath in the County of Wayne and State of Kentucky on the 23rd day of May 1834 to be read as evidence in behalf of Drury Ham in order to obtain a pension. This deponent being seventy-three years old deposeth and saith that he became acquainted with the said Ham sometime in the year 1777, the precise month he does not recollect. That the said Ham was born in the County of Orange State of Virginia. That he removed from that County to the County of Rockingham so he has been informed and this deponent first became acquainted with the said Ham he then was quite young. That sometime in the year 1778 the precise month he does not now recollect he removed to the County of Greenbrier and State aforesaid where the said Ham joined the company of Captain Thomas Wright and while he was attached to said Company he was drafted to serve a tower of three months in guarding the frontiers on New River which tower of three months this deponent knows the said Ham served for he saw him in actual service in the year 1778.

He further states after the said Ham had served the aforesaid Tower of three months himself and the said Ham removed to the County of Montgomery State of Virginia and there joined the company of George Parrish of minute men and some short time after he joined said

² [William Turner W6321](#)

Company he was commissioned a Lieutenant in said Company the said Ham as Lieutenant and this deponent as a private served a tower of twelve months as Indian spies on the frontiers of Virginia this was in the year 1779 & 1780 six months each year. He further states that shortly after they returned this deponent removed to the County of Greenbrier about the first of the fall of 1780 and some time after this this deponent understood that the said Ham removed to this County of Botetourt State of Virginia and shortly after he removed to said County which was in the year 1780 he volunteered to serve a tower of six months in Captain Alexander Hanley Rifle Company and he further understood that said Company marched to the state of South Carolina and while he was on this tower he was in the Battle of the Cowpens as I understood. He further states that from old age and infirmity he is unable to attend the Lincoln Circuit Court it being something like 40 miles from Court house to his residence and further this deponent saith not.

S/ Joseph West,³ X his mark

[p 11: On August 7, 1866 in Lincoln Kentucky, Mariah Perkins, 66, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Elisha Perkins and was formerly the widow of Drury Ham, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$200 per annum; that she received \$262.37 upon the death of her husband, Drury Ham; that she married Drury ham April 12, 1827; that her name prior to her marriage was Mariah Johnson; that Drury ham died at Hams Mills December 26, 1835; that she remained a widow until February 11, 1840 when she married him July the Perkins who died at Johnson Mill near Waynesbury Kentucky November 22, 1864. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 14: copy of a marriage license issued in Lincoln County Kentucky April 6, 1827 to Drury Ham and Mariah Johnson.]

[p 31: copy of a marriage bond issued February 6, 1842 Elisha Perkins & John Salle conditioned upon the marriage of Elisha Perkins to Mariah Ham issued in Pulaski County Kentucky.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$200 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year and as a Lieutenant for one year in the Virginia service. His former widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

³ [Joseph West R11342](#)