

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Robert Ferguson W7262

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 1 Feb 2014.

State of Virginia

County of Pittsylvania Ss:

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared before Daniel Coleman, James Soyars, David F Clark and William L. Pannill the Court of Pittsylvania County now sitting, Robert Ferguson a resident of the said County and State aforesaid aged seventy 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 — that he entered the service of the United States sometime in the year 1779 as a substitute for Bazalier Wier and marched from the County of Pittsylvania in a Company of Militia Commanded by Capt [William] Witcher to Salisbury [sic: Salisbury] in the State of North Carolina and joined the North Carolina Militia at a place under Colo. [David] Mason who was stationed there two or three months, then marched to Charlotte in the said State of North Carolina, & remained at that place a few days — they were marched from there, for some time in various directions until they arrived at Stono Inlet on the Coast of South Carolina and were stationed near that place until their term of service ended [probably around the time of the Battle of Stono Ferry, 20 June 1779], being six months, that his discharge is lost and cannot be found. He does not know any person living that was with him on that tour but the service rendered is proved by Bazalier Wier who employed him as his substitute.

In the Spring of 1780 He was employed by Joseph Terry to assist him in driving a parcel of Cattle into the State of North Carolina When they arrived at Wilkes Courthouse, about the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 1780 he again entered the service of the United States as a Volunteer soldier and marched from the said County of Wilkes in the State aforesaid in a Company Commanded by Capt. William Cleveland and joined the Regiment Commanded by Colo. John Cleveland. that they continued marching in various directions, sometimes down the Catawba River not being stationed long at any one place — they were principally engaged in searching for and taking Tories until about the first of October they returned to said Wilkes Courthouse and were there discharged by Colo. Cleveland the whole of the time of service rendered on this tour was at least four months and fifteen days. his discharge is lost & cannot be found. He does not know a living person that served with him on this tour.

About the first of December 1780 he again entered the service of the United States as a substitute for William Bennett and marched from the County of Pittsylvania in the State of Virginia, in a Company of drafted Militia Commanded by Capt. John Winn to the Island Ford on Dan River, from there to the great falls on the said River where Danville is now situated, from there they marched into the State of North Carolina and joined the main army under Gen'l. Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] and Gen'l. [Robert] Lawson He was then transfered to a Company commanded by Capt. William Dix and marched with him in the army as aforesaid in various directions not being stationed long at any one place, but sometimes marched nearly all night untill they met with Lord Cornwallis in the County of Guilford, where a severe Battle was fought [Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781], the americans were defeated in that engagement and retreated to Troublesome Iron Works near Haw river, where they were again organized and marched from that place under Gen'l. [Nathanael] Greene in pursuit of the British until they arrived at Ramsey's Mill on Deep River in the State of North Carolina. He was discharged at that place by Capt. William Dix in the month of April 1781 — the whole of the time of service rendered on this tour is at least four months. his discharge is lost and cannot be found but the service rendered is proved by James M. Williams, who was a soldier with him at the same time and place [pension application W8505].

That about the last of April 1781 He was drafted as a Soldier and marched from the said County of Pittsylvania in a company of Militia Commanded by Capt. Henry Burnett through Halifax County to

Charlotte Courthouse Va. and joined the army at that place under Gen'l. Lawson – was transferred to a Company Commanded by Captain John Buckley attached to the Regiment Commanded by Maj'r. Purnell, from there was marched to Prince Edward Courthouse and from there through Cumberland County, crossed James River at Carter's Ferry and continued to march until they arrived at Dandridge's old field in Hanover County where he was again transferred to a Company Commanded by Captain William Clark. He marched with him under Maj'r. Purnell in the said army to a place called Morben Hill [sic: Malvern Hill in Henrico County] about seventeen miles below Richmond – was stationed there several weeks, then marched the whole army under Barren Stuben [sic: Baron von Steuben], Generals [John] Green, Stephens and Lawson to Jamestown a Battle was fought at that place [Battle of Green Springs Plantation, 6 July 1781], after which they went back to Morben Hill where they were stationed until he was discharged by Capt. William Clark about the last of July 1781. The whole time of service rendered on this tour is three months — his discharge is lost and cannot be found, but the service rendered is proved by Leroy Shelton who was a Soldier with him in the same company and at the same places throughout the tour.

That as soon as he returned home from serving the above tour which was in the month of August 1781 he enlisted with Wm. McCraw [Willim McCraw] who was a deputy Quarter master for the Southern army at Peytonsborg Pittsylvania County Va. during the war and remained in service of the United States engaged as a wagoner driving the public teams under the command of the said Wm. McCraw until after the end of the war, the whole time of service rendered under this enlistment was at least one year. his discharge is lost and cannot be found but the service rendered is proved by James M. Williams who was in the same service with McCraw at the same time.

That he was born in the County of Halifax in the State of Virginia in the year 1761. He has no record of his age but has seen it of record in his fathers family – but knows not what became of it — that he lived in the County of Pittsylvania when he entered the service of the United States and has lived in the said County ever since the war ended.

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

Robert hisRmark Ferguson

I Leroy Shelton of the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia do hereby Certify and Solemnly Swear that in the month of April 1781 I was drafted in a Company of Militia and marched from the County of Pittsylvania in a Company under the Command Capt. Henry Burnet to Prince Edward Courthouse and was attached to a Company under the Command of Capt John Buckley and marched from that place with him to Dandridges old Field where I was transferred to the Company under the Command of Capt William Clark and marched with him to Morben Hill and were stationed at that place several weeks and that Robert Ferguson of the said County of Pittsylvania was drafted at the same time and marched in the said Companies with me under the above named officers untill he perform'd. three months service and that the said Robert Ferguson was honably discharged by Capt Clark at Morben Hill in the month of July 1781.

Given under my hand this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832                      Leroy Shelton

[Also certified by Bazaliel Wier, Sr. and Joseph Ferguson.]

[The following are from [bounty-warrant records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

State of Virginia

Pittsylvania County to wit

This day Robert Ferguson aged seventy two years, personally appeared before me J M Williams Jr a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and made Oath that in the month of August 1781 he enlisted with William McCraw deputy Quarter Master for the Southern Army at Peytonsburg in the County of Pittsylvania in the State of Virginia for during the War, that he served true and faithfully as a Waggoner untill the close of the war, that he was present when the Public Waggons and Teams were sold off. That he was then honorably discharged from the said service, that he has never received his Bounty land or Authorized any person to receive it for him but that the same is still due him.

Given under my hand and seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833 J. M. Williams Jr JP

[On the same day Robert Ferguson assigned power of attorney to obtain the warrant for the bounty land, signing with his mark, R.]

Return of Articles Issued by William McCraw DQM'r. Peytonsb'g from the 1<sup>st</sup> July to last Sept'r 1782

Dates		No Vouchers	To whom Issued	Canteen Tacks	[Illegible]	Haversacks	Horseshoes	Nails	Gall's Tar	Canteens	Sides Leather
July	4	1	Gen'l [Lachlan] McIntosh		"	"	18	115	"	"	"
	8	2	Stanwix Hord		"	"	30	180	1	"	"
	29	3	Capt Jordan		"	"	"	"	1/2	1	"
	30	4	Mosias Maupin		"	"	"	"	"	"	1
Aug	3	5	Robt Ferguson		"	"	28	170	"	"	"
	7	6	Stanwix Hord		"	"	"	"	2 1/2	"	"
Sept	10	7	Hord & Farmer	9600	"	"	22	132	3	"	53
			Us'd in my office		15	"	"	"	"	"	"
Amo 't of Issues this Quarter				9600	15	"	98	597	7	1	54

[?]8 Iron Issu'd John Yeats 21 of Aug't.



State of Virginia

Pittsylvania County (to wit)

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid Drewry Woodson a Credible man of said County and made Oath accoring to law, that in the time of the Revolutionary War he lived in the County of Pittsylvania in the State aforesaid in the neighborhood of Peytonsburg, that he was well acquainted with Robert Ferguson, that he was a Public Waggoner, that he drove one of the continental teams in the service of the United States under the controul of William McGraw Deputy Quater Master for the Southern Army who had the management of the public stores, Arms &c. at Peytonsburg, and that the said Robert Ferguson Continued in the service under the said McGraw (he believes) to the end of the War, given under my hand this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July 1833

Samuel Fitzgerald JP

[Champness Terry, JP, made a similar statement.]

State of Virginia to wit

I James M. Williams [pension application W6505] a Justice of the Peace for the County of Pittsylvania, do Certify that in the month of July 1781 I enlisted with Wm. McCraw Deputy Quarter Master for the Southern Army at Peytonsburg in said County and served under him twelve months. that in the month of July or August 1781 Robert Ferguson entered the service with the said McCraw as a Public Waggoner and drove one of the Continental teams in the service of the United States as long as I continued in the said service. that I left him the said Ferguson under McCraw as a Waggoner and believe he continued to the end of the War. Given under my hand and seal this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 1833

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. M. Williams J. P.", with a horizontal line underneath.

[The file includes another table and another document that are mostly illegible in the online images.]

NOTE: On 20 June 1853 Besheba Ferguson of Caswell County NC applied for a federal pension stating that as Besheba Newbill (or Newbell) she was married to Robert Ferguson by a Methodist minister named Elliott on 4 May 1818, and her husband died in Pittsylvania County 28 April 1850. On 12 April 1855 in Caswell County, where she had lived for four years, she applied for bounty land. In 1867 her age was said to be 65 years.