

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Fergason (Ferguson) W7263

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } SS

Cumberland County }

Be it remembered that on this 30th day of Sept 1833 Before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and state aforesaid personally appeared William Fergason a resident of the County of Cumberland aforesaid and State of Kentucky aged Seventy years next may 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 about the last of June in the year one thousand seven hundred and Eighty in the County of Amelia state of virginia he became the substitute for John White a drafted Malitiaman for three months and immediately entered the service of the united states as a private Malitiaman in Capt. James Johnson Company. Thomas Jetts Lieut he does not now recollect the name of the ensign He was marched on to Hillsborough [sic: Hillsborough NC] where he was Joined to Colo. Horreys [sic: see below] Regiment and was stationed at Hillsborough for some time but constantly scouting or ranging the neighbourhood that is scouting parties and this declarant taking his turn whenever called or ordered in this way they continued untill towards the first of August when he was marched on and joined General [Horatio] Gates army where he remained untill after the fatal battle of Camden [SC, 16 Aug 1780] soon thereafter his term of service expired and he was Honorably discharged by his Capt. he immediately volunteered under the said Capt. Johnson for three months longer and marched back to Hillsborough he was soon thereafter ordered on to guard some prisoners to Winchester [VA] still belonging to the same Regiment But the Colo did not go nor was he in the Battle of Camden, having a short time previous to the Battle been sent on to pedee [sic: Pee Dee River] as this declarant was informed he states that he went on with his Company in the last mentioned tour to Winchester where he was kept untill his time expired when he was again Honorably discharged by his Capt having served three months faithfully in Each of the af'd tours, he then Returned home

he again in the month of January or February he does not recollect which but it was soon after his return from Winchester volunteered for three months under Capt Gabriel fulks [sic: Gabriel Fowlkes] Lieut John Fulks he still living in Amelia County Virginia was marched on to Dan River where he was joined to Colo. Duvals [Duvall's?] Regiment he was kept marching to various places in continuel service untill they were marched to Guilford Courthouse [NC] where the Battle was fought [15 Mar 1781] having previous thereto joined General Greens [sic: Nathanael Greene's] army after the Battle of Guilford he was marched on to deep river in north Carolina at a place called Bells mills, where he was again Honorably discharged by his Capt having served out his full term of three months and then returned home a few days after he returned home there was a call for men and he again volenteered under Capt Charles Erby [sic: Charles Irby] for three months Liut Jennings does not recollect the name of the ensign he was march to Richmond virg'a and there joined Colo. Meads Regiment [probably Everard Meade's Legion], marched then to Petersburg and there had a small skirmish with the British he continued in that neighbourhood for some time then marched on to Fredericksburg and was there discharged, having met General [Anthony] Wayne at that place [Jun 1781]. he states that immediately after his return home he inlisted for and during the war in the virginia State line under Capt. Charles Erby and immediately entered the Service of the united States as a private soldier and was marched to Norfolk from there to Richmond and to various other places having joined Colo Duvals Regiment at Richmond. he was finally marched to Little york where he was at the Seige [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] and Surrender of Cornwallis some time there after he was discharged by his Capt he states that all the af'd service was done and performed in a Corps called into service by competent authority that he was in the field or in garrison at the time the services was performed he was not employed in any civil persuit and for which he claims a pension he states that he cannot positively state the length of time he served as an enlisted soldier in the last tour and ingagement mentioned But positively states that it was not less than six months he states

that soon after he quit service he left his papers with his mother his discharges among them, he began to travel from place to place and did not suppose his discharges of any use to him they were by his mother lost as he supposes so it is she has been dead for many years he knows not where they are But verily believes they have been lost for many years in the way before stated; therefore he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service he is informed that he cannot receive a pension for his last tour as an inlisted soldier unless he can prove his service by two witnesses unless his name is on the Roll he presumes it is there to be found, but if it is not he must Relinquish any claim for that tour as he has no expectation that he ever will be able to procure proof as to his actual inlistment and service he is now so afflicted from bodily infirmity that he is unable to make search and now living so far from the place of his services & no old acquaintance here it is entirely out of his power to make search indeed he is unable to attend Court for the purpose of making this declaration and if therefore his name is not on the Roll he hopes that his pension for militia services will be allow'd him

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

1 Where and in what year were you Born

Answer I was born in the County of Amelia State of virginia on the Eleventh day of May one thousand seven hundred and sixty four agreeable to the information of my parents and the family register which I have often seen & read all of which I believe to be true

2 Have you any register of your age if so where is it

Answer I have none now I once set it down in a testament and by accident it is town out

3^d Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live

Ans'r. I lived in amelia County virg when called into service, and continued that as my home untill after the final Close of the war when I moved to and settled in Bedford County virginia where I lived several years then I moved to Hawkins County (now) in the State of Tennessee, then North Carolina, from there I moved to the County of Pendleton State of South Carolina where I remained untill the year one thousand eight hundred and eleven, when he moved to the County of Franklin State of Tennessee where he remained untill the year eighteen hundred and thirteen when he moved to Cumberland County Kentucky where he now lives

4 How were you called into service were you drafted did you volenteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Ans'r. the first tour of three months I served as a substitute for John White a drafted malitieman the second third and fourth tours I was volenteer the fifth and last I was an inlisted soldier in the virginia state line.

5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served with such Continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect and the General Circumstances of our service

Ans'r Gen'l [Francis] Marion [Baron] de Kalb Green Gates Wayne & many others were with the troops and the general circumstances of my services I have stated in the foregoing part of my declaration

6. did you ever receive a discharge from service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

Ans'r. I received written discharges for each of my tours signed by my respective Captains all of which has been lost as heretofore stated

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character for varacity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution I am well acquainted and live a near neighbour to the Rev'd. William Cross Lewis Wright and many others all of whom would speak well of my character if they were present

Subscribed and sworn to the day & year af'd

[signed] William Fergason

State of Georgia } SS On this thirtieth day of March AD one thousand and fifty five
County of Habersham } personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace within and

for the county and state aforesaid Judieth Fergerson aged Seventy nine years a resident of Habersham County in the State of Georgia who being duly sworn according to law declares that she is the Widow of William Fergerson deceased who enlisted in the company commanded by Captain Snipes [possibly William Clay Snipes] in the Regiment of south carolina Commanded by Colonel Peter Horry [see note below] in the Revolutionary War with great Britian that her said husband Enlisted at ~~york town~~ in the State of virginia in the year of AD 1778 for the term of said war and continued in actual Service in said War for the term of 4 four years & six months and was honorably discharged at york town Virginia on or about the month of october AD 1782 She further states that she was married to the said william Fergerson in the State of North Carolina on or about the year AD 1800 by one Robert Cammell a Justice of the peace and that her name before her said marriage was Judieth Wood that her said husband died at habersham co in or about the year AD 1835 and that she is now a Widow. She makes declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which she may be entitled under the act approved March 3rd 1855. She refers to her proof upon which her name were placed upon the pension rolls of her marriage &c.
Judie herXmark Fergerson

NOTES:

Francis Marion was a Lieutenant Colonel, and Peter Horry was a Major serving in Marion's South Carolina Militia at the time of the Battle of Camden. Before the Battle of Camden Gates sent them to the lower Pee Dee River, where Ferguson appears to have served under them.

On 7 Jan 1842 in Habersham County GA Judah Ferguson, 66, applied for a pension stating that she married William Ferguson on 10 Feb 1791, and he died 9 Dec 1834. With her application is a copy of a bond signed 7 Feb 1781 in Greene County NC [later TN] by William Ferguson and Belfield Woods [possibly Belfield Wood, pension application W4492] for the marriage of Ferguson to Judah Woods.