

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Torrons (Torrens) W9860 Anna f27VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 12/19/11

[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.]

The State of Indiana Hamilton County: SS

On this 7th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Bethuel Fellories President & Joshua Cottingham and David Osborn associate Judges of the Hamilton Circuit Court now sitting Samuel Torrons a resident of the County of Hamilton & State aforesaid aged eighty-six years the 11th of January next to the best of his information 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 in the year 1777 to the best of his recollection he volunteered under Captain William Morgan of Berkley [Berkeley] County Virginia for the term of three months & entered the company of said Morgan composed of the following additional officers – Lieutenant Thomas Hart – Ensign Michael Perdinger and this applicant was first Sergeant. It was in the fall of the year above written when an exhibition was planned for the company to which he belonged and two other companies raised in said County of Berkeley – one commanded by Captain Jackson and the other by Captain Scott to March into New Jersey. These three companies left Shepherdstown on the same day & crossed into Maryland – he thinks late in the fall of 1777 but in this he may be mistaken. Captain Morgan had the command of the expedition and had under him about 500 volunteers – a part from Virginia & a part from Maryland. His Company furnished their own provisions and baggage wagons – After the expedition left Shepherdstown they passed through Sharpsburg & Frederick Town Maryland – thence to Little York – crossed the Susquehanna River at Anderson's ferry – through Lancaster – thence to Philadelphia and crossed the Delaware River at Creels ferry to a town called Pluckamin in New Jersey – then to Bassen Ridge – then to Quibble Town – then to Piscataway. At the latter place the troops to which he belonged had a skirmish with the enemy – & in that skirmish one Colonel Bettis to the best of his recollection commanded – several of the expedition were killed & wounded – After this engagement they proceeded to Quibble Town – and were there stationed and daily went out in small parties into the British lines in order to keep the enemy from extending their ravages & to watch their movements. There were no other troops at that time stationed at Quibble town to the best of his recollection. They remained a short time over the three months for which they had volunteered when they were discharged – He received a written discharge from his Captain which he has long since lost – In the foregoing expedition in passing from Bassen Ridge to Quibble town they went through Morris town & saw a great many Regular or Continental troops but does not recollect the names of the officers. The applicant sometime in the summer of the year before the surrender of Cornwallis to the best of his recollection volunteered & enlisted into the Company commanded by Captain Nicholas McIntire –

Lieutenant Thomas Thornberry – Ensign Abraham Morgan and this applicant first Sergeant, for the term of three months all of Barkly County Virginia [Berkeley County]. They rendezvoused at a place called Worthington's Marsh where the company was joined by a Regiment or Battalion of militia or volunteers who were to the best of his recollection commanded by Colonel Scott. He thinks Captain McIntire's Company was composed of part volunteers & part drafted man. They remained at Worthington's Marsh five or six days when they marched to Shanandore [Shenandoah] River – thence to Forkquire [Fauquier] Court House thence to Elk run church – thence to Falmouth River and thence to Fredericksburg. At the latter place he was sick & unable to perform duty for some time. But the expedition continued their March to Boling green [Bowling Green] where they remained until discharge. This applicant received a written discharge from his Captain certifying that he had served the three months for which he volunteered to the best of his recollection. This discharge as well as the one received at the close of his first tour of duty has also been lost.

This applicant shortly after the surrender of Cornwallis volunteered a third time into the Company of one Captain George Clark for the purpose of guarding the prisoners taken at the surrender of Cornwallis who were confined at Applepye [?] Ridge in Frederick County Virginia. The company was composed of about 61 or two rank & file. The officers names except the Captain he does not now recollect. At the time he volunteered this time he was yet a resident of Berkly County Virginia from whence he marched to Applepye Ridge where they were joined by one more Company. They continued to guard the prisoners to a three months but the exact time not now recollected, at the end of which time the prisoners were released by order of the government and he received his third discharge from his Captain which discharge he has also lost, not the time he received it esteeming it as valuable as he has since found its preservation would have been to him. He has no documentary evidence to show the services above rendered nor does he know of any person living by whom he can prove the same.

He would also state that prior to his entering into the service of the United States as aforesaid he engaged a substitute for three years who was and indentured apprentice of his & who was bound to serve him about four years at the time of substituting him. He was by the name of Daniel Frazier & who was killed at the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] as he was informed – But he does not know to what company Frazier belonged at the time of that engagement.

This applicant was born as he is informed in the state of Delaware New Castle County in the year 1746. He has no record of his age at this time. He was residing in Berkly County Virginia at the several times he volunteered. He resided in the same County sometime after the revolution – then moved & resided in Pennsylvania several years – then in Ohio a number of years and for about 17 years in this state of Indiana & for the last eight or nine years in the County of Hamilton first above named. There is no clergyman residing in the County with whom he is acquainted. He is well acquainted with Samuel Holiday, Jacob Francet, Hiram Coffee and James McNutt who reside in his immediate neighborhood & to whom he is well done & who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

Since making the foregoing declaration he now remembers while on his first expedition in New Jersey that among the regular troops he saw at Morris town one Colonel John Morraw [?] & Capt. Carny of the regular Army. 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 Territory.

S/ Samuel Torrens

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samuel Torrens". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the first letter 'S' being particularly large and prominent.

[Samuel Holliday, Jacob Fauset, Hiram Coffey and James McNutt gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 14: On October 16, 1839 in Marion County Indiana, Anna Torrens, 73, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Samuel Torrens; that she married him January four, 1785 in Berkeley County Virginia by one Mr. Vann a Minister of the Presbyterian Church; that her husband died January 17th 1836; she offers the evidence of the family record of her second daughter Nancy McCaw who was born May 5, 1789. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 2: family record:

William McCaw was born 17th of August 1787

Nancy Torrence was born the 5th May 1789

William McCaw and Nancy Torrence was married 5th January 1813]

[facts in file: the eldest daughter of the veteran and his wife was named Elizabeth and was born about the year 1787.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for six months service as a private in the Virginia militia. Veteran's widow was pensioned in a like amount.]