Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Hezekiah Turner VAS4786 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From rejected claims in the Library of Virginia. Four pages are misfiled with Turnbull, Stephen.]

I Philip Slaughter [W29886] of the County of Culpeper & State of Va do hereby Certify that I was well acquainted with Hezekiah Turner While he was pay Master in (I believe the third Va Continental Regiment in the Army of the Revolution that I acted about the same time as Capt & Pay Master to the Eleventh afterwards the Seventh Va Continental Regiment & while we were performing the duties aforesaid in the same Brigade we became Acquainted with each other I Cannot recollect how long Captain Turner perform'd the aforesaid duty but well remember he was with the Main Army Under General Washington in the States of Pensylvania &c given under my hand this 23^d May 1832 in the Seventy fourth year of my age

I believe Capt Turner Phil Slaughter departed this life between the years 1815 & 1820 & that Mr Zephaniah & [undeciphered] Turner of this County I have always understood were sons of his & [undeciphered] 2 other Children

Contratos

Virginia At a Court continued and held for Culpeper County on Wednesday the 23rd day of May 1832.

The Court doth order it to be certified that it was this day proved in open Court by the oath of William Ashby a witness entitled to entire credit, that Capt. Hezekiah Turner who was reputed to have been an officer of the Army of the revolution, died in this County some twelve or fifteen years since, leaving the following persons his children and representatives, to wit, Zephaniah Turner, John Turner, Auburn Turner, Elizabeth Turner who intermarried with Capt. William Bayliss, Anne Turner who intermarried with John Wyatt, Susan Turner who intermarried with Stephen Chilten, and Maria Turner who had intermarried with Benjamin Tutt, children of Hezekiah Turner, and Henry Turner, Robert Turner, Zephaniah Turner and Elizabeth Turner afterwards Elizabeth Baldwin wife of Philemon P. Baldwin, children of Samuel Turner a son of said Hezekiah who died before his Father. That said children and Grandchildren of said Hezekiah Turner are all living so far as witness knows and believes with the exception of Maria Tutt who has since died leaving three children to wit Andrew Tutt, Katherine Tutt and Jane Tutt and also except Elizabeth Baldwin, who has since died, leaving as witness has been informed, two children to wit Robert Baldwin and another son of whose name witness has no information.

I William Tomlin Sr. [S6261] of the County of Fauquier & State of Va. do hereby Certify that in the year 1776 I entered the army of the Revolution under Capt. John Chilton [BLWt519-300] who belonged to the third Va. Regiment Commanded by Col. Marshall [Thomas Marshall VAS494] as a private Soldier and remained in said regiment untill the army went into winter quarters at Valley Forge in December 1777. That whilst in the said regiment I became acquainted with Capt Hezekiah Turner who I understood went from the upper end of Fauquier county Va. who at the time I became acquainted with him acted as paymaster to the third Va. Regiment to which I belonged and continued in that capacity when I left the third Va. Regiment in December 1777 and joined Col. Wm. Washington's Horse [William Washington's

Light Dragoons]. I knew scarcely any thing of Capt. Turner after I joined Col. Wm. Washington. I knew Capt Turner as an acting paymaster from April 1776 the time at which I entered the service until December 1777. I knew Capt. Turner after the war and never heard of his having resigned. He left as I have understood some children but I have never known any of them except Andrew Turner of this County and the wife of Stephen Chilton. Given under my hand in the 75th year of my age this 29th day of November 1832.

Wm Tomlin sen

Fauquier County Towit

Personally came before me, a justice of the peace in & for the county afors'd William Tomlin aged 75 years and upwards, and made oath that he personally knew Hezekiah Turner, and that he was an officer in the regular service in the years 1776 & 1777, and that affiant left him in service in the north, when this affiant returned to the South – and that he saw no more of him till after the close of the war. This affiant states that s'd Turner belonged to the 3rd Continental Reg't and bore the rank of Captain, and acted as paymaster to the s'd Rejiment. Affiant is confident that if s'd Turner had left the army before the close of the war that he sho'd have heard something of it but he never did & he therefore believes that he did remain in the Army till the close of the war. Given under my hand this 25th day of Dec'r 1833.

State of Virg'a Fauquier County to wit

This day personally came before me a justice of the peace, in and for the County afor[esai]d John Barker of s'd County, aged 80 years and upwards, and being first sworn according to law, deposeth and saith, that he personally knew Captain Hezekiah Turner, late of Fauquir County, and that he always understood that s'd Turner was paymaster to the 3rd Reg't which was chiefly engaged in the northern Service. That besides having always heard so, he has had repeated conversations with him after the close of the war and has heard him state the same. That he has frequently heard him speak of the circumstance of losing a large sum of money whilst he was paymaster, and that he had to make it up out of his own pay. This affiant was not engaged in the same service that the s'd Turner was, he the s'd Turner being chiefly in the service to the North, and therefore is unable to state the particulars of s'd Turner's Service. He never heard any thing of s'd Turner resigning his commission, & feels very confident that he did not resign – for being from the same county, and intimately acquainted with him, & in his family, he is well satisfied that he sho'd have heard it, if such had been the case – and further he saith not.

Sworn to before me this 1st day of February 1834.

Cap. Phil. Slaughter's letter to Th. Hord Sundry cases. Thomas Hord esquire, Auburn Post office, Fauquier County

Culpeper Springfield Feb'v 10[?] 1834

Dear Sir Yours of the 6th Instant, I have Just received, making Enquiries about the foll'g officers of the revolution.

Lt. Colo George Slaughter [W8729], was originally a Captain in the 8th Va Continental Regiment – afterwards a Lt Colo Commanding at Louisville Kentucky. He died 10 or 15 years ago leaving no Children – a Mr Garten (I think was his name) applied to me last summer to know who were his heirs. He said his Claim was settled, amounted to \$12,000 that his widow was living in Kentucky & was Entitled to one half & his heirs the other half. I inform'd him that his Nephews & Nieces & their descendants were in number at least 70 or 80 & no power [of attorney] ever coud be got from them. Some living in Virginia, Kentucky Indiana Ohio Tennessee, & Arkansas. he said that by a power of Atto they cou'd get the other half

Lieutenant Jas Slaughter [James Slaughter S31370] was an officer in Colo Slaughters Reg't. [undeciphered word] at Louisville Kent'y was Colo Slaughter's nephew & settled in Kentucky

Lt Wm Slaughter [William Slaughter R17891] was an officer in Colo Gibsons [George Gibson BLWt1985-500] Reg't Va State Line – died many years ago leaving a [part missing at bottom of page] Augustine Slaughter [BLWt2168-400], Surgeon. He was in the Va Continental line. Settled after the War, in Norfolk, died there, leaving a Brother & several Nephews and Nieces living in this County to whom He gave his Estate.

Lt Robert Slaughter [VAS426], of the Third Va Continental Reg't married & settled in Mercer County, Kentucky Near Harrodsburg He was liveing a few years ago.

Lt Joseph Slaughter [VAS4470], I think settled in Bedford County Va.

Lt Joseph Blackwell [S37781] (Call'd Him Joe) was in the 3^d Va Reg't from Fauquier County. died near the C'house [courthouse]

Lt Eustis [John Eustace BLWt682-200] I have but a faint recollection of

Lt & Pay Master Turner, was Third Va. Reg't. Father to Zephaniah Turner & John Turner of this County. He died near Woodville in this County.

Lt John Barbee belonged to the 10th Va Continental Regiment. Moved to Kentucky, near Danville in Mercer County, where he died leave'g Brothers & Sister

Capt Linchfield Sharpe [R17780]. I did not know in the Army

Gabriel Slaughter Father of your Nephew John H Slaughter, in Shannon Town, Mercer County, Kent'y was one of the Nephews of Lt Colo Slaughter. But there is no probability of his hearing anything from any of the foregoing [undeciphered word]. Isham H Slaughter & his Lady spent 8 or 10 days at my house when they were in Va about 3 years ago. his Lady was in Delicate health at that time. [part missing at bottom of page] heard any thing from them lately? [part missing at bottom of page]

Mem. Cap. Philip Slaughter was entirely in the Northern Service & has no knowledge of the officers of the Southern Army except from reputation.

Washington Feb. 21st 1834

Sir I have received your letter respecting the military service of the late Major Joseph Blackwell He enlised into the 3^d Virginia rejement early in 1776, I believe in January; and continued through the campaign of 1776, I believe of 1777. He came home I think at the close of 1777 and I do not recollect to have seen him in the army afterwards. I have no doubt he settled his depreciation account and that the time he remained in service appears in the auditors office

I do not know whether he resigned or became a supernumerary

I am sir respectfully/ Your obed't J Marshall [John Marshall S5731]

Capt. Hez. Turner was appointed Lt. & pay master early in 77 and continued to the end of that year. You will see the length of his service also in the Auditors office

I am respectfully

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State of Virg'a Stafford County to wit

This day personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in & for the County afors'd Robert L. Gillmore at present in confinement in the Jail of Stafford – aged 67 yrs & upwards – and being first duly sworn according to law – deposeth & saith that thirty odd years ago he resided at Warrenton in the County of Fauq'r and that whilst living there he was well acquainted with Hezekiah Turner – and affiant well recollects of hearing s'd Turner converse upon the subject of his revolutionary service – and that he has often heard him say that he was present when Cornwallis surrended his [undeciphered word] at the

Siege of York [19 Oct 1781] & also frequently heard him speak of Wallace's Cave – Affiant further states that from what he heard s'd Turner say he understands him to have been an office – and further aff't saith not. Given under my hand and seals this 16th day of June 1834.

State of Virg'a Augusta County to wit

This day personally came before me a justice of the peace in & for the County afors'd Smith Thompson [S38438] a citizen of s'd county aged 85 yers & upwards and being sworn according to law deposeth & saith that he was a regular soldier in the army of the Revolution and was in the northern service till the winter of 1780. That he was a barber by trade and became well acquainted with most of the officers and that he frequently saw Hezekiah Turner who was a paymaster belonging to the regular army. Aff't saw him at Trenton & Princetown [Princeton NJ] and afterwards at philadelphia as aff't was on the march with the Army to the South. S'd Turner was then in service. Aff't also states that at various time s'd Turner called on him for small change which, he always gave to him in change. Aff't further states that s'd Turner gave him an account of his having lost a large sum of money whilst in service. And further aff[ian]t saith not.

Given under my hand & seal this 28th day [part missing at bottom of page] 1834

To the Executive of Virg'a [26 Nov 1834]

Your memorialists Andrew Turner and Henry Turner of Fauq'r County Virg'a beg leave to represent, that they constitute a portion of the heirs of Hezekiah Turner late of Culpepper County and who was commissioned a Lieut. in the 3rd Virg'a Cont'l Reg't in the War of the Revolution and also was appointed a paymaster of s'd Regiment after entering said service as a Lieut and acted for some time in that capacity.

That the said Hezekiah Turner they have been informed continued in actual service till late in the War. That he was in Commission, and with the Army as occasion required till the return of peace tho' your memorialists only relate upon this subject what they have heard from others. They have always heard a family tradition that the sacrifices & losses in his private affairs whilst in service were considerable. Your memorialists respectfully ask that their claims for the Virginia land bounty for the War on account of the services of the s'd Hezekiah Turner may be refered for examination, and that the same may be allowed & that the evidence afforded by the records, as well as that furnished by your memorialists may be referred to in order to maintain their s'd claim. That many of the heirs of s'd Hezekiah Turner live at great distances; and had by powers of attorney only authorized one of your memorialists (Andrew Turner) to represent their interests in the s'd claims, before your memorialists were apprized that a memorial to be signed by all the parties was necessary. Your petitioner Andrew Turner is a son and your petitioner Henry Turner a grandson of the s'd Hezekiah Turner. That your memorialist Andrew Turner represents the interests of John & [part missing at bottom of page] children who are sons – and [part missing at bottom of page] of Culpepper - Rob't Turner of Shenandoah County a grandson - and your memorialists also state that Mrs. Wyatt a daughter, and Mrs. Chilton a daughter of officer have only authorised another person to receive their respective portions – and that with two great Grand Children, the one living in New York and the other in Shenandoah, are the only heirs of the s'd officer – your memorialists therefore pray that their s'd claim may be referred and examined on this their memorial for all the parties who are interested as well as themselves – and they will &c. [signed] Andrew Turner Henry Turner

1835 July 25 Rejected

I Certify that I was a Cadett in a Company raised & commanded by Captain John Chilton and in the year seventeen hundred and seventy six saw Hezekiah Turner of Fauquier County in the main army in the third Virginia Regiment. Some time in the latter part of '76 said Turner was appointed pay master of the Third Regiment. I well remmember his Saddlebags was stolen from his lodgings the night after the battle of Bradywine [sic: Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777] & he lost a large sum of money. I remember to have witness the punishment of the thief. I further remember the thief was detected by selling the hilt of s'd Turners

Sword to a Settler [sutler?] for whiskey & the settler gave information, I left the said Turner in the Army as paymaster when I left the service in last of the year of seventeen hundred & seventy eight. In the year seventeen hundred and seventy nine I went to the north to see my brother John Rosser [possibly VAS4312] who was a private in the army & saw the aforesaid Hezekiah Turner in the service as paymaster I do not know how long he served after I saw him in 1779. I do not think he resigned. Given under my hand this 1st day of October 1838

1840 Jny 10 The evidence does not satisfactorily prove three years service Rejected DC [Gov. David Campbell]