Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Turner W4089 Transcribed by Will Graves

Milly (Milley) Turner f42NC

rev'd 8/3/17

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

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State of North Carolina, County of Nash: Superior Court of Law Fall Term

On this the 17th day of September in the year 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the honorable Judge William Norwood Court now sitting William Turner a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged eighty years, six months and thirteen days; 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 the 7th of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In the month of June in the year 1778 he volunteered into the service of the United States for the term of nine months; after the company was raised Captain William Lewis was chosen Captain who marched us to Halifax N. C. and from there we were marched to Petersburg Virginia and there joined the 3rd N. C. Regiment to Colonel Hogan [sic, James Hogun] Colonel Comdt. Robert Mebane Lieutenant Colonel and attached to a company commanded by Captain John Baker, from Petersburg he was marched to Richmond and Fredericksburg in Virginia to Baltimore in Maryland and to Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania and to West Point in the State of New York and was discharged in April or May in the year 1779. He having lost his discharge and having no documentary evidence to prove the above statement, he offers the certificate of the Rev. Jordan Sherrod a Soldier of the Revolution, and one who served in the same Company with himself – what is as follows:

I Jordan Sherrod¹ of Nash County, N. C. a Soldier of the revolution hereby certify that I have long known William Turner who has subscribed and sworn to the accompanying declaration, that he is a man of strict veracity and that he entered the service of the United States with me and others in the month of June in the year 1778 and served a term of nine months as set forth above, sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Also in the year 1781 he entered the service as a substitute for William Boddie of said County and served three months under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] Edward Gandy Captain he was near the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] but not in the action, owing to a wound he had some time before received in the arm, he was left to guard the baggage wagons in company with several others. After the Battle of Guilford we were marched down to Ramsey's Mills, and from there to Cheraw in South Carolina and to Camden in said State, and afterwards back to Pedee [River] where we were discharged.

He afterwards volunteered and joined a company of light horse (or Cavalry) under Colonel Griffin and served two months. After joining the company we went to Tarbro [sic,

¹ Jordan Sherrod S7489

Tarboro] and to Lugg's below Tarboro, and back through Nash, Franklin, Warren [Counties] and to Hillsborough and then to Ramsey's Mills and then to Crabtree in Wake where we were discharged. He then returned home in Nash County where he has lived to the present day. He knows of no other person that he can prove or testify facts set forth with them.

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 in open court the day and year aforesaid.

[Jordan Sherrod, a clergyman, and George Boddie, Senior gave the standard supporting affidavit.

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The following questions were propounded by the Court in the following answers given 1^{st} Where and in what year were you born?

Answer as informed by my Parents I was born in the State of Virginia on the 4th day of March in the year 1752

 2^{nd} Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer the record of my age was written on a blank leaf of an old Book; on examination recently, I find the leaf is torn out and lost or mislaid, so at present I have no record of my age, but believe it was entered as above stated, ie, 4^{th} of March 1752

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer, I have lived in Nash County ever since the Revolutionary War, and some years before the war began I resided in the same neighborhood, and am now living in the same place in Nash County where I settled after leaving the Army in the revolution

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer – I first volunteered into service for nine months. Secondly I entered the service as a substitute for William Boddie of Nash County for three months, and thirdly I volunteered in a company of light horse or Cavalry for two months

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: In the nine months service I recollect Colonel Hogun, Lieutenant Col. Mebane, Captain John Baker – and traveled through different sections of Country as I before stated. In the three months service I recollect General Greene, Captain Gandy and I believe Colonel Reed, Major with a we took two Tories and on them one at Ramsey's Mills and the other near the same place. In the two months service I recollect Colonel Griffin, Captain Arent, Lieutenant Drake. In this tour we took and hung one Tory on Haw River by the name of Waters.

 6^{th} Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I received a discharge signed by Captain John Baker in [the] nine months service, another I believe by Col. Reed in three months service and a third by Colonel Griffin, all of which are lost or mislaid

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer – The Rev. Jordan Sherrod & George Boddie Senior Esq.

S/ William Turner, X his mark

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State of North Carolina, Nash County

On this 13th day of February 1846 personally appeared before me William H. Abernathy an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County, Walker Masingill a resident of said County and State, and made oath in due form of law that they believe hereto attached, was taken from his family [text obliterated by an ink blot] contains the true ages of the Children of William Turner Dec'd, a Pensioner of the United States by his wife Milley (whose maiden name was Milley Masingill) which ages were set down by him the said Walker Masingill in the presence of, and at the request of the said William Turner. Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above mentioned before me.

S/ William H. Abernathy, JP



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Mourning Turner the Daughter of William Turner and Milley his wife was Bornd the 27 of August 1787 Annes Turner the Daughter of William Turner and Milley his wife was Bornd the 15 of Jany 1795 Susa Turner the Daughter of William Turner and Milley his wife was Bornd the 16 of April 1805

[p 15: On February 12, 1846, Milley Turner, 79, made application in Nash County, North Carolina, for a widow's pension stating that she is the widow of William Turner, a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$49.99 per annum for his services in the revolutionary war; that she married William Turner sometime in the month of March 1784 in the County of Nash; that they were married by Nathaniel Boddie a magistrate in said County; that William Turner died on the 30th of December 1843; that she has no record of her marriage but her brother Walker Masengill set down the ages of her children in his family Bible. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$49.99 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina Continental line. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]