

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Andrew Ferguson (Furgason) S32243 ¹

f49VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/12/06 rev'd 2/2/15

[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.]

[p 4]

State of Indiana Monroe County

On this 15th day of August 1838 personally appeared in open court before the probate Court of Monroe County now sitting Andrew Ferguson a resident of said county of Monroe and state of Indiana, aged Seventy Three years July last, who being first duly sworn according to law does 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.

I am a colored man. I was born in Dunwiddie [Dinwiddie] County Virginia Free and was seventy-three years old in July last and at fifteen years of age I was drafted into the service of the United States back General Green who was at that time (the first of January 1780) in Dinwiddie County Virginia. Two weeks previous to my being drafted and in company with my father (Andrew Peeleg [?] as he was called) was taken prisoner by the British under John and James Cuglie [?] [Cruger?]. We ran away from them because they whipped us with the cat of nine tails and fell in with the American soldiers under Green. General Green told us that if the British ever got us they would kill us and he had better draft us and so we craved out of a little hon [? horn?] black Tickets and he told us we should go with him and must fight the British. I was then put under the immediate command of Captain William Harris and Colonel William McCormick and stayed under their command and in this company during most of the time I was out. The first engagement I was at was the battle at Allegany. Colonel Morgan [Daniel Morgan] was there [as were] Colonel McCormick and Captain Harris. The British commanders, who had taken us prisoners, were there also. Jack Head our drummer was with us all the time. I was well acquainted with him but know not, what has become of him. The next place if I remember right was Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] away down in North Carolina. We got to that battle when it was partly over. We whipped the British badly who were commanded by Major Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson]. I do not recollect at this time the name of any of the American commanders except Colonel Campbell [William Campbell], Sevier [John Sevier] and Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland]. I saw at Kings Mountain a Tory they called Bill Cunningham kill an American [with]in two hundred yards of us. He was on horseback and then rode off. This Battle was fought sometime in October 1780. I was at Camden in South Carolina previous to the engagement at

¹ BLWt26076-160-55

Kings Mountain, but was not in the action. Colonel Morgan was at Kings Mountain and after the battle he'd marched us down into South Carolina to the River Pacolet not far from the Cowpens [Cowpens] as he said to join Green but I did not see Green there. While we were at the River Pacolet, the British under Colonel Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] came upon us and Colonel Morgan marched us on towards the Cowpens but before we got there we made a stand and whipped the British completely [Battle of Cowpens, January 17, 1781]. This took place I think sometime in the month of January 1781. Immediately after this Battle we started back to North Carolina. I recollect of Marion and Colonel Washington [William Washington] being at the battle at Pacolet also Colonel William Howard and Colonel Pickens [Andrew Pickens]. On our route back through Carolina the British under Tarleton pursued us and was prevented from overtaking us by the high waters. At Guilford we fell in company with Green [presumably Nathanael Greene] and Huger [Isaac Huger] and then went on to Virginia across the Dan River sometime in February. We did not stay long in Virginia until we went back into North Carolina about ten or fifteen miles from Guilford at somebody's iron works on Troublesome Creek. From there we marched in about two miles of Guilford and there we had a battle with Cornwallis [March 15, 1781] and after the battle was over we went back to the iron works. I was wounded in the head at Guilford and stayed about a month at the iron works. This battle was sometime in March 1781. I recollect that a man by the name of Arthur [appears to be spelled "Auter"?] Francis [appears to be spelled "Franerse"?]² from Dinwiddie County was wounded at the battle of Guilford also. I was well acquainted with him. General Greene made a speech to us at Guilford. General Steven [Edward Stevens] Lawson [Robert Lawson] and Huger were there and Colonels Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee], Campbell and Washington. I was afterwards ordered back to South Carolina and we had another fight at the Cowpens and stayed there a month or perhaps more and then we went to the Eutaw Springs and there we fought a last battle [Eutaw Springs, September A, 1781]. Colonel Morgan was there. General Greene and my Captain and Colonel [were there]. This battle was sometime in September I think as well as I recollect. There we were discharged and General Greene said he would take all our names down and we should get our pay. He gave me some kind of a ticket or other which I have long ago lost. After I was discharged I went back to the iron works in North Carolina and my head got worse and I stayed there sometime and was attended on by Dr. Harris and Dr. Sidney and Mr. Ferguson [spelled "Furgison"] sent one of his sons for me and I got home again in the last of November 1781. I have no documentary evidence of my service unless my name is enrolled among the troops of Virginia and I know of no person living by whom I can prove my actual service whose testimony I can procure. He hereby relinquishes any claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state and if any only on that of the agency of the state of Virginia.

Sworn and subscribe to the day and year aforesaid.

S/Andrew Furguson, X his mark

[Ransom Hawley, a clergyman, and David H Maxwell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

² *Arthur Franerse*

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Further statements of Andrew Furgison as an applicant for a pension

Andrew Furgison who has heretofore made and forwarded his declaration in furtherance of said claim makes oath and says that in his former declaration the only facts by which he recollects the time when General Greene took the command of Capt. Harris company and that it was in the winter season of the year and about Christmas times, and it was his best impression that it was January but in this he was doubtless mistaken, that some time previous to his being drafted by General Greene he had been in the service under Capt. Harris but had not at the time he made his former [declaration] and does not now recollect the precise time, that if the militia man of Virginia served in tours of short duration such was not the case with him for he was never discharged from the time when first he went into service of the United States until finally discharged as stated in his former declaration during most of which time he was under the immediate command of Capt. Harris, his reasons for not having filed his claim for a pension are these, Seventeen years ago when he was living at Vincennes in this State he tried to prove assistance in getting him a pension and was told at that time a Colored man could not get a pension and he never was undeceived until about four years ago Gen. Jacob B. Love of this place said he would and could get him a pension and he has been impatiently waiting to see what would do in the matter and having become tired of waiting any longer he filed before the Probate Court the declaration which has been sent on and to which this is a Supplement.

Said Furgison states that there never has heretofore been a declaration made by him in any State save this State, That it is impossible for him to be more specific as to his service and the names of officers than he was in his original declaration. Subscribed and sworn to this 8th day of June 1839

S/ Andrew Furguson, X his mark

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State of Indiana County of Knox: SS

On this 6th day of November 1844 personally appeared before me, Thomas Bishop, Associate Judge of said County and State, Andrew Ferguson, a pensioner of the United States as a revolutionary soldier, who made oath according to law that his pain and disability occasioned mainly by the wound he received in the head at the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781], and that in the leg at the battle of Camden [August 15-16, 1781] during the revolutionary war, have increased of late, that he most earnestly prays, and from the evidence of his services and sufferings during the war of the revolution, now and heretofore presented to the proper department, has just reason to believe himself entitled to an increase of the annual allowance now awarded to him – that the said wounds by which he suffers were inflicted upon him by the general enemy when he was in actual service and line of his duty as an American soldier in the battles mentioned, and as he served in the Army upwards of four years, he trust a review of his case with the annexed evidence, will ensure satisfaction.

S/ Andrew Ferguson, X his mark

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State of Indiana County of Knox: SS

On this 6th day of November 1844 personally appeared before me Thomas Bishop, one of the Associate Judges of said County and State, Daniel Strother³ (well known to me

³ [Daniel Strother R10275](#)

personally as a Reputed revolutionary soldier, and an old and credible inhabitant) and made oath according to law that he became personally acquainted with Andrew Ferguson now a pensioner of the United States when he and said Ferguson were in the service in the year 1781, in North Carolina under General Morgan near to Guilford, and also in Virginia; that when Generals Greene and Morgan were maneuvering against Cornwallis, he well remembers meeting the said identical Andrew Ferguson now here present, and frequently conversing with him, and after the battle of Guilford, in which this deponent and said Ferguson both served, the report that said Ferguson had been wounded in the battle reached him, and deponent afterwards visited said Ferguson when he was in the hospital in the County of Charlotte, Virginia.

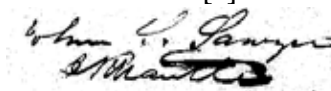
S/ Daniel Strother, X his mark

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We hereby certify that we have this day examined the person of Andrew Ferguson, identified in the foregoing Depositions as a revolutionary Soldier and Pensioner of the United States, and oh meeting here to describe the apparent wounds and injuries which he states to have been inflicted while he was actually in the service of the revolution and in the line of his beauty, as a previous examination and description he says has long been on file in the department, it is deemed sufficient to say that satisfactory evidence and examination leave no doubt on our minds, that he is now incapacitated, and in the opinion of the undersigned a lovely or totally disabled from obtaining his subsistence from manual labor.

S/ John S. Sawyer

S/ J. P. Mantle [?]



I hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with the positions whose names are affixed to the foregoing certificate, that they have signed and sworn to the same in my presence this 6 day of November, 1844; and that they are reputable and highly respected practicing physicians residing in Vincennes, Knox County Indiana.

S/ Thomas Bishop, Associate Judge

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State of Indiana County of Monroe: SS

On this 8th day of January 1851 personally appeared before me James Slocumb a Justice of the peace within and for the State and County aforesaid Andrew Farguson aged about ninety-six years a resident of Bloomington, Monroe County and State aforesaid, who being duly sworn according to law declares that he is the Identical Andrew Farguson who was a private in the company commanded by Capt. John Harris under General Morgan; he does not remember the name of the Regiment nor by whom it was commanded. He was pressed by the press master (using his own words) in Denwoody [Dinwiddie] County Virginia, together with his Father whose name was Andrew Furguson, and who served at the same time and in the same Company in the Revolutionary War with Great Britain very soon after the declaration of Independence, the date not remembered, That he was pressed as above stated in the County and State aforesaid and was to serve as he understood seven years or during the War, he continued in Actual service in said War about five years and six months, Was at the

battle of the Maumee [?] ⁴ on Packlet [River] South Carolina, from thence to Charleston where the British failed to meet them. Was in the Battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] and in Roan [Rowan] County North Carolina, at Musgroves Old Mill in South Carolina [August 19, 1780] and at Ninety Six, was wounded in the Battle at Camden [August 15-16, 1780], in his leg which is still sore, and under General Gates [Horatio Gates], at the Eutaw Springs and the Cowpens, he was also he says in the Battle at Guilford where he was wounded in the head, a silver plate was placed on the fracture by Dr. John Sidney, who attended him in the hospital; and still remains as evidence of the fact. He was honorably discharged at or near the place they took Cornwallis [Battle of Yorktown, October 19, 1781] but he has forgotten the name of the place, but he thinks it was in the year 1781 that he was discharged, he kept his discharge paper until a few years past which paper is now lost or mislaid, but he thinks the said discharge will appear from the musterroll of said Company,

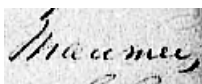
He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which he may be entitled under the Act granting bounty land to certain officers and soldiers who had been engaged in military service of the United States passed September 28, 1850. He further states that he is a colored man, that he was born free, his father being a free man and his Mother a free woman, that he is as will appear by the records of the pension Office, now receiving a small sum annually as an acknowledgment of his Services whither is not Sufficient to support him and his aged Wife in their old age, he now with proper deference to his station, throws himself upon his country for which he fought & bled, when in the prime of manhood, when he loved his country; and despised a Tory – he thinks from the Account of Services rendered when in his youth, that now in his old age he and his old Wife are entitled to a full pension in place of the small sum he now receives.

S/ Andrew Furgason, X his mark

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Bounty land claims under the act of Congress March 3, 1855
State of Indiana, Monroe County

On this 22nd day of March A. D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty five personally appeared before me a justice of the peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, Andrew Furgason, aged over ninety years, a resident of Monroe County and the State of Indiana, who being duly sworn according to law declares that he is the identical Andrew Ferguson who was a private in the company commanded by Captain ___ in the war of the revolution declared by the United States on the ___ day of _____. That he engaged at Dinwiddie [County Virginia] on or about the ___ day of ___ A. D. for the term of 14 days and was honorably discharged at ___ on the ___ day of ___ A. D. He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which he may be entitled under the act approved March 3rd, 1855. He also declares that he has not received a warrant or bounty land under this or any other act of Congress nor made any other application therefore. That he is a revolutionary pensioner of the United States under the act of June 7th, 1832 and listed on the Indianapolis, Indiana pension list roll and gives reference to his papers and testimony filed and the muster rolls in the pension office upon which he was granted a pension under said act of some of 7 June 1832 in proof of his right to the benefit of the provisions of the act

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approved March 3rd, 1855. That from old age and consequent infirmity he has forgotten many particular persons and things and incidents connected with his service in the war of the revolution.

S/ Andrew Ferguson, X his mark

[William Edmondson and David Smith gave testimony as to the identity of the applicant.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]