

September 25, 2001

Dear Mr. Turner,

I came across an inquiry of yours concerning Holden Turner. I have some information on a Holden Turner who looks like he could be the same person.

I am putting together a detailed demographic profile of one of the British regiments that served in the American Revolution, the 22nd Regiment of Foot. A man named Holden Turner joined this regiment; I do not have an exact date of enlistment, but he appears on a pay return of a recruiting party in "North Britain" on 6 November 1778. This puts him in the right place, and at about the right age, to be your Holden Turner.

This soldier was trained with other recruits at Chatham Barracks, and embarked on a transport bound for America in June of 1780. The transports stayed in British waters until sometime in August before sailing for New York, where they arrived in mid-October; the recruits disembarked on the 17th.

Holden Turner served in the regiment until the end of the war; his date of discharge is 20 November 1783. This discharge date reflects the date through which he was paid; it was quite common for soldiers to be paid thru a date later than the time that they actually departed from their regiment - sort of like severance pay. Based on this discharge date, it is likely that Holden Turner was one of hundreds of discharged British soldiers who took land grants in Canada.

Is there anything in this information which conflicts with your knowledge of Holden Turner? Or, anything that confirms that this is the same man? If he is the same guy, I can give you extensive information about the kinds of activities that he was involved in from the time of being recruited through his discharge from

the army; I have a detailed chronology of the service of the 22nd Regiment throughout the war, and am studying the recruiting activities now.

Do you have any additional data about him, such as whether he had a trade? How do you know his date and place of birth? Did he marry after 1783? I look forward to hearing from you.

Don N. Hagist, Bookseller

September 26, 2001

Well this still looks like it will take our information about Holden to a new level. I can't help think of Leslie Turner White's: *His Majesty's Highlanders* (1964) and the recruiting party described there as well as the shenanagins that the hero there got into with borrowing or lending money, etc. as Holden seems to also have done. Now we know that he spent time in Rhode Island, of all places.

Ralph Turner

September 26, 2001

Thank you for your very detailed response.

You have provided every bit of information that I had hoped for, and more that I had not expected.

As I mentioned, I am studying the 22nd Regiment of Foot during its service in America during the Revolutionary War. This grew out of involvement in historical re-enacting during the bicentennial; I and some others began re-creating the 22nd Regiment as it was in Rhode Island for three years during the war. The re-enactment group has grown into one of the

prominent groups active today -see pictures on their web site

<http://h-joswick.tripod.com/22ndregiment>

The original regiment is still part of the British army as The Cheshire Regiment, and the re-enactment organization enjoys ties with the "real" regiment.

My re-enactment experience led me to discover that there is not much literature on the common soldiers of the British army during the American Revolution - and much of the existing literature is quite poor. So I've set out to improve the situation by pulling together every scrap of information that I can find on the regiment and the people who served in it.

Demographics is one of the basic aspects of this research. There are some interesting nuances of the composition of British regiments about which little has been written; for example, in 1776, about 10% of the soldiers in most British regiments in America were Germans - not the 'Hessian' regiments serving alongside the British, but German nationals recruited to serve in the ranks of the redcoats.

There is one set of papers in the British Public Record Office which gives the service record of each man who served in the regiment - the date that he started receiving pay, the company in which he served, the date that he was discharged, and some other details. From this, I know that just over 1,000 men served in the regiment at one time or another from 1775 through 1783. Of these 1,000, about 200 eventually received pensions. From the pension records, we know their age, place of birth, trade, and occasionally such details as height and eye colour.

It is more challenging to find any details about the other 800 or so men - particularly the several hundred who enlisted after the war began, and were discharged when it ended. Very slowly, I am finding bits and pieces from a variety of sources.

This is why I'm so excited about Holden Turner, because he is one of the few for whom we have a fairly complete picture. Holden Turner's service record in the regiment is not remarkable - one of about 90 recruits who ar-

rived in America in October of 1780, and one of the roughly 250 discharged in America at the end of the war.

Early this year, I acquired copies of a batch of papers of an officer of the 22nd, Joab Aked, who was on the recruiting service in the British Isles. Each regiment in America had a few officers and soldiers recruiting in the UK throughout the war. Holden Turner appears on a "Weekly Pay Note of Ensign Aked's Recruiting Party" for the week of 31 October - 6 November 1778, and on a series of subsequent pay notes through February 1779. (I will send specific document references in a separate message, so that you will not have to cull them out of this one).

The next place he shows up is on weekly pay notes for Aked's party "at Chatham Barracks" in May and June of 1779. Chatham Barracks is in Kent east of London, and was a big training depot for army recruits; most soldiers recruited in the British Isles (except for Ireland) were trained there. This was a big military base; for Holden Turner, it must have been much like going to San Diego or Norfolk VA today.

From the PRO documents mentioned earlier, I learn that Holden Turner started being paid as a member of the regiment itself, rather than the recruiting party, on 1 June 1780. By correlating this with a lot of other information, I've found that this is the date that he boarded a transport ship in Chatham, one of a group of about 90 recruits for the 22nd Regiment on the transports Elizabeth and Sally.

They sailed to Plymouth, and remained there for a month or so, presumably waiting for a convoy to form. They sailed for America in August, and disembarked in New York on 17 October 1780. The 22nd Regiment was serving in New York City at this time; Holden Turner and the other recruits set foot in America in a part of the city called the Fly Market, and marched to the regiment. The company officers of the regiment drew names to determine which recruits would go into which company. Holden Turner was drawn by Captain Robert Lindsay, an officer who had served for a long time with the regiment. On 24 October 1781, he was trans-

ferred to Lieutenant-Colonel William Crosbie's company; transfers such as this were quite common, and I cannot offer any particular reason why this one might have occurred.

Holden Turner just missed the last major battle of the regiment, in New Jersey in June of 1780. He was no doubt with the regiment when they embarked to sail to Virginia to relieve Cornwallis' besieged army in October of 1781, only to be recalled when it was learned that Cornwallis had surrendered. The rest of Holden Turner's career was spent in garrison at various locations around New York City, including Long Island and Staten Island.

Holden Turner was discharged in late 1783, and as you know went to Canada. Several dozen men of the 22nd settled in Shelburne, Nova Scotia; these men all received discharges dated in October. Holden Turner is unusual in that his discharge date is 20 November, just days before the regiment sailed from America for the last time. Probably the discharge does not reflect the date that the man actually left the regiment; it was common practice to continue the soldier in pay until he arrived at his destination.

The reason that I found you this week is that I was reading through more of the papers of Joab Aked, and found a mention of Holden Turner in Aked's bank account. Apparently Aked advanced some pay to Holden Turner, and was reimbursed for this. This is very unusual, and I have no idea why it occurred. But it drew my attention to Holden Turner among the thousand men in the regiment. Since the name seemed unusual, I put it into a search engine on the web, and found your query on a genealogy site.

As I mentioned, I have a great deal of information on the service of the 22nd Regiment in America. I will put together some more details on the service that Holden Turner probably saw - where the regiment was posted and on what dates. I am also assimilating the papers of the officer, Joab Aked, and will be able to tell you something of his experiences as a recruit in England. It will take some time, but you'll hear from me from time to time as I get information assimilated. Eventually it will gel into a book, but I

am not working to any schedule.

Within the next couple of days I will send a list of the documents that specifically mention Holden Turner, with the detailed citations.

Again, thank you very much for contacting me and providing the information that you have; knowing Holden Turner's date and place of birth, and occupation, is extremely helpful to my on-going work.

Please do not hesitate to ask any further questions that you have on the 22nd Regiment or on the British Army in America. Also, please forward this information to anyone who might find it useful, particularly other descendants. And of course if you know of any other "old soldiers" of the 22nd Regiment, do let me know.

Don N. Hagist, Bookseller; dhagist@edgenet.net

October 25, 2001

I have rechecked my microfilm to be sure that I have the exact references. There are two sets of documents in which I've found references to Holden Turner; each collection includes several pages of interest.

The first set is in the West Yorkshire Archives, Calderdale, Yorkshire. It is an account book kept by Joab Aked, an officer of the 22nd Regiment who was on recruiting service; the call number is SH 7/A/3 This collection includes a set of pages, each titled "Weekly pay Note of Ensign Akeds Recruiting Party" The first one on which Holden Turner appears is the note "Commencing 31st October & Ending 6th Novr 1778" (See below). This note includes 22 men consisting of 4 serjeants, 3 corporals, 3 drummers and 22 private men, of whom 3, 3, 2, and 16 were present with the party; those not present were either absent without leave, recruiting in North Britain, or in prison. Each private man received 3 shilling 6 pence per week; of this, a certain amount was "stopped", or retained by the army, to pay for food, clothing and other expenses for the soldier. If a man was not present, all of his pay was stopped. The pay note

lists the stoppages, and from this we can discern that Holden Turner was present with the recruiting party at this time; he had only 6 pence stopped for the week.

The next several pages of in the collection are similar pay notes, for the following periods:

- 31 October - 6 November (a less detailed copy of the previous)
- 7 November - 13 November
- 14 November - 20 November (no names; summary only)
- 21 November - 27 November
- 28 November - 4 December
- 5 December - 11 December
- 12 December - 18 December
- 19 December - 25 December
- 26 December - 1 January 1779
- 2 January - 8 January
- 9 January - 15 January
- 16 January - 22 January
- 23 January - 29 January
- 30 January - 5 February
- 6 February - 12 February

The next series of pay notes are in a different format (but they follow immediately after the other set), and are headed "Weekly Pay Note of Lieutenant Aked's Party of the 22nd Regiment Chatham Barracks Commencing May 22nd Ending the 28th 1779" On these lists there are typically around 50 men, including Holden Turner, still being stopped 6 pence per week.

Subsequent lists are for:

- 29 May - 4 June
- 5 June - 11 June

The collection then jumps directly to 1784.

The next collection is in the Public Record Office; it is called WO 12/3872, pay lists for the 22nd Regiment of Foot. The first time that Holden Turner appears is on p.196, the lists for Robert Lindsay's company, New York, 26th December 1780; he is noted as being From the Additional Company, 1 June 1780. Based on information from other documents, we know that this is the date that these recruits embarked on ships at Chatham to sail for America; it is on this date that their company in the regiment is responsible for paying them, even though they would not actually join their regiment until October.

Holden Turner also appears on the following WO 12/3872 pages:

- p. 204 - *ibid*, 7 July 1781
- p. 215 - *ibid*, Paulus Hook, 2 January 1782 "Transferred to Lieut. Cols. Compy. 24th Octr. 81"
- p 216 - Lieut.Colonel William Crosbie's Company, Paulus Hook, 2 Jany. 1782 "Recd. Fm. C. Lindsay's 24th Octr. 81"
- p. 229 - *ibid*, Staten Island, 23 July 1782
- p. 231 - *ibid*, 2 Jan. 1783
- p. 241 - *ibid*, 7 July 1783
- p. 257 - Canterbury, 7 March 1784 "Dischd 20th Novr 83"

Don N. Hagist, Bookseller; dhagist@edgenet.net
An excellent selection of books on the Revolutionary War and related topics! See <http://www3.edgenet.net/dhagist>

The heading is "Weekly Pay Note of the Party under the Command of Ens'n Aked Commencing 31st Oct'r and ending the 6th of Nov'r 1778 Both Days Inclusive"

Isab. Alced. rec. a. t. g. documents
West. Yorkshire Archives, Calderdale
on 2/1/12

Weekly Pay Note of the Party under the Command
of Ens'n Aked Commencing the 31st Oct'r and ending the 6th
of Nov'r 1778 Both Days Inclusive

To 1 Serjt	at 6 ^{ps} Week	0..6-0
To 2 Corporals	at 4 ^{ps} Week each	0..8-0
To 2 Drummers	at 4 ^{ps} Week each	0..8-0
<hr/>		
Thos. Doude		
Benj. Craven		
Wm. Cadogan		
Holden Turner		
Robt. Findley		
Ball Collins		
Wm. White Junr		
Jam. Hainsborough	at 3 ^{ps} Week each	2..5-0
Jam. Smith		
Osbn Williams		
Thomas West		
Wm. White Junr		
Wm. Harris Starly		
Jm. Starly		
Ball m. Mathon		
<hr/>		
Bal ^{ce} of Vast Acct		2..11-0
D ^o bit Millon		0..0-0
		<hr/>
		3..11-0
<hr/>		
Rec ^d Cash		£3-3-0
Over drawn for En ^l Mathon		3-0-0
		<hr/>
		£3-6-0
Bal ^{ce} Due Serjt Mealey		5-3
		<hr/>
		£3-11-3

The heading is "Weekly pay Note of Ensign Aked's recruiting party commencing 31st Oct'r ending 6th Nov'r 1778". Holden Turner's entry is No. 7

Weekly pay Note of Ensign Aked's recruiting party commencing 31st Oct'r ending 6th Nov'r 1778.

Party's Strength	Ensign's			Subsistence Drawn for	S ^d
	Private	Drum	Private		
Head Quarter	9	3	2	1 day for 20	180
As without	1	1	1	3 Coffees	150
Drum	1	1	1	3 Drums	140
Private	1	1	1	23 Private's	180
Private	1	1	1	1 day Sergeant	110
Private	1	1	1	Subsist ^d	140
<i>Sum</i>					
<i>1000</i>					
<i>Name</i>					
1	1	0	0	100	
2	1	0	0	100	
3	1	0	0	100	
4	1	0	0	100	
5	1	0	0	100	
6	1	0	0	100	
7	1	0	0	100	
8	1	0	0	100	
9	1	0	0	100	
10	1	0	0	100	
11	1	0	0	100	
12	1	0	0	100	
13	1	0	0	100	
14	1	0	0	100	
15	1	0	0	100	
16	1	0	0	100	
17	1	0	0	100	
18	1	0	0	100	
19	1	0	0	100	
20	1	0	0	100	
21	1	0	0	100	
22	1	0	0	100	
<i>Sum</i>					
<i>1000</i>					

The heading is "Weekly pay note of Lieutenant Aked's Party of the 22nd Regiment Chatham Barracks commencing May 22nd ending the 28th 1779". Holden Turner's entry is No. 31, third from the bottom

Party's Strength		Substitutes, or men of equal rank
Rank	Name	Name
John Montgomery Sergeant		
1	Henry Mathison	George Thompson
2	Henry Brudenell	W ^m Skilling
3	Samuel Sturton	Haris Riden
4	Matthew Butcher	William Salmon
5	James Byre	Joseph Roberts
6	William Chancelor	James Ditch
7	Thomas Rivers	William Deall
8	William Shipper	Thomas Sturton
9	Samuel Scott Junr	James Davenport
10	James Spence	James Dorell
11	John Phillips	William Hellingworth
12	Joseph Johnson	Thomas Dyer
13	James Dap	Thomas Cook
14	Samuel Shaw	Jonathan Jones
15	Thomas Park	James Cook
16	Richard Halish	Robert Cook
17	Thomas Dling	Charles Hford
18	Robert Jenty	Robert Pouch
19	George Smell	
20	Samuel Millings	
21	John Brown	
22	Samuel Dore	
23	James Wilkinson	
24	James Barrett	
25	John Maccarty	
26	John Grant	
27	William Stanhope	
28	James Hays	
29	Samuel Scott Junr	
30	James Lindsay	
31	Holden Turner	
32	Sebastian Sims	
33	James Hurty	

Return of People Settled on the Maryland Loyalists' Block South of the Nashwaak, 1785
 This list of settlers was prepared as of January 1, 1785 by Captain John Sterling, Late of the Maryland Loyalists. The last person on the list is Holden Turner; a single man, he had some connection to Captain Alexander Leslie Jr. in Halifax and belonged to the 22nd Regiment

Capt. Townsend	1	1			Late Maryland Loyalist	
William Savage	1				Do Do Do	
Daniel Jones	1				Do Do Do	
James M. Lomb	1				Do Do Do	
Henry White	1	1			Do Do Do	
Zachariah Bailey	1	1		1	Do Do Do	return to the Nashwaak & settle near Keywick.
Hugh M. Donald	1				Do Do Do	
Samuel Woodard	1				Do Do Do	
Isaac Carroll	1				Do Do Do	
Capt. Sterling	1	1			Do Do Do	
George Hill	1	1			Do Do Do	
John Wilson	1	1			Late Garrison Batt	
Adjutant Pean	1	1			Late Pennsylvania	
Robert Anderson	1	1	2		2 ^d Regt. in Halifax	Transferred to the district of St. Louis
Jonathan Monday	1	1	1	1	Loyalist	
William Smith	1				Capt. Smith's Company	
John Lawrence	1				Late Pennsylvania Loyalist	Moved towards the Capt. Townsend's
Wm. Hall	1	1	1	1	Capt. Williams at Beaver	Has a lot near the Grand Bay as employed at present by Capt. Garrison
Wm. Jones	1	1	2		Capt. Rogers Company	Let some work for Capt. Garrison has not obtained his land the near St. Louis
M. Liddle	1	1	2		Capt. Smith's Company	
Isaac Gray	1	1	3	3	1 st Batt. N. Army Regt.	
Thomas M. Barry	1	1		3	2 ^d Batt. N. Army	
Thomas Simmonds	1	1		3		
Jacob Brewster	1				Late P. States Regt.	
Holden Turner	1				Belonged to the 22 nd Regt.	
Total	26	15	11	12		John Sterling Capt. Late Maryland Loyalist