

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Goff R4089

f26NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 3]

State of Mississippi, County of Jackson

On this tenth day of March 1834, personally appeared before the Judges of the Probate Court now sitting in open Court William Goff Senior a resident of the United States in the County of Jackson and State of Mississippi aged Seventy-three years, 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 June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, in the revolutionary war between the United States, and England.

1<sup>st</sup> With Captain Lanier [James Lanier] under General Butler [John Butler] and Colonel Johnston [Jonas Johnston] he entered the service in the year of 1778, Served five months as a volunteer was in the battle at Stono [June 20, 1779] and served with Colonel Lightle [sic, Archibald Lytle] and Major Eaton [Pinketham Eaton] Continental officers in South Carolina that he resided in the County of Duplin North Carolina --

2<sup>nd</sup> Tour as a Lieutenant in Captain Rutledge's [William Rutledge's] horse Company and marched through North and South Carolina and Joined General Marion's [Francis Marion's] Company at different times, 6 months Tower [sic, tour].

3<sup>rd</sup> Tour in Captain Van's [William Vann's] Company under General Kenan [James Kenan] three months tour.

4<sup>th</sup> Tour as a Lieutenant in Captain Kenan's [James Kenan's] horse Company under General Kenan three months tour.

5<sup>th</sup> Tour under Captain Rutledge's horse Company in which Captain Rutledge was killed by the British near Wilmington North Carolina three months tour.

6<sup>th</sup> Tour as a Lieutenant in Captain in Merritt's Company of Cavalry 3 months tour

7<sup>th</sup> Tour in Captain KingVans [sic, Kenan's ?] horse Company three months tour

8<sup>th</sup> Tour served as a beef drover for the Army four months tour by the order of the General --

[p 6] 9<sup>th</sup> Tour in Colonel Bloodworth's [sic, Thomas Blutworth's] Company two months Tour in which time he served thirty-two months five months a volunteer foot man and twenty-seven months as a Lieutenant horseman his Commission was signed by General Kenan was burned in a house and that it is not in his power to make any better testimony than what is here set forth. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Claim to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Goff, X his mark

[p 6: Thomas Hunt a clergyman, and Matthew Carter gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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The Court propounded the following interrogatories to which he answers were given as they stand by William Goff Senior Claimant for a pension

1<sup>st</sup> When and in what year were you born? (Duplin County North Carolina in the year A.D. 1761)

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it? (None lost by Fire)

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live? (Duplin County North Carolina & Georgia & Mississippi)

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom? (volunteer)

5<sup>th</sup> 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. (Generals Lincoln and Greene, Colonel Lytle, Major Eaton Continental & General Kenan and others volunteer officers --

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a commission, and if so, by whom was it signed and what has become of it? (I Received a Commissions signed by General Kenan and lost it by fire)

7<sup>th</sup> 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. (Thomas Hunt Clergyman and Matthew Carter)

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Goff, X his mark

[p 14]

State of Mississippi, Jackson County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace of the aforesaid State and County and first District – William Goff Senior who being duly Sworn, deposeth and saith that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades for five months as a private in the year 1777 in the same year – for six months as a Lieutenant Cavalry – and in the year 1779 three – three-month tours – Lieutenant Cavalry and in the year 1780 for two three-month tours, Lieutenant Cavalry and in the same year four months tour as Lieutenant ordered out by General Kenan to drive beef for the Army and that he served the above named tours under the officers named in the Declaration in the service of the United States and the deponent further says that his commission signed by General Kenan was burned in my house, and that he cannot make the satisfactory proof required by a living witness that he has any knowledge of but has here set forth the best proof in his power for which he claims a pension according to the merits of his case.

S/ William Goff, X his mark

[p 12]

Territory of Florida, County of Jefferson

On the 29<sup>th</sup> day of November A.D. 1837 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Thomas Randall Judge of the Superior Court in and for the Middle District and Territory aforesaid the said Court now sitting William Goff a resident of the County of Madison Territory aforesaid aged seventy-six years 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 7<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he first entered as a Volunteer under Captain Lanier of North Carolina who marched him to Fayetteville in that State. There they were met by General Butler, who marched them to

Augusta in the State of Georgia. There they met with General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene<sup>1</sup>] who marched them to Stono Point<sup>2</sup> in the State of South Carolina at which place they had a battle with the British. After this battle he amongst of those were discharged by General Greene and returned to North Carolina having been in the service 5 months and about 15 days. Deponent says that after this he entered the service of the United States as a Volunteer in a company of Light horsemen commanded by Captain William Rutledge of Duplin County, North Carolina, and under his command marched into South Carolina and there joined General Francis Marion, under whom he served in various scouts and was engaged in various skirmishes with parties of the British and Tories. This deponent further says that he and four others were with Captain Rutledge at the moss fields 15 miles North of Wilmington in the State of North Carolina when he was pursued by a party of British, that while retreating Captain Rutledge's horse fell through a poll bridge and killed himself and so badly hurt Captain Rutledge that he was captured and killed by the enemy that after the death of Captain Rutledge he fell under the Command of Captain Merritt, who succeeded Captain Rutledge. And this deponent says that in all he was in the service of the United States for 3 years and 4 months. And this deponent says that 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.

Interrogatories bounded by the Court to the deponent.

Q Where and in what year were you born? A. I was born in the year 1761 in the State of North Carolina County of Duplin

Q Have you any record of your age and if so where is it? A. I have a record of my age and it is in the State of Mississippi.

Q Where were you living when called into service. A. I was living in the County of Duplin and the State of North Carolina

Q Where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live? A. Since the Revolutionary war I have lived in Mississippi and in Louisiana and now live in the Territory of Florida.

Q Can you state the names of any of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia regiments as you recollect, and the general circumstances of your service?

A. General Green and General Morgan were known to us at that time as regular officers. I was at times with the tenth Regiment of North Carolina Militia. I do not remember any other.

Q Did you receive a discharge from the service? A. I did, but they were lost by fire.

Q Can you state the names of persons in your present neighborhood who can testify as to your character for veracity, and good behavior and your services as a soldier of the revolution? A. Thomas Bevins is now alive and has known me since the days of the revolution and can testify to my having served as a soldier in the revolution. My Brother also John Goff can testify the same. I can now produce Jesse Goodman and William H. Mathers who live near me at present.

S/ William Goff, X his mark

Sworn & subscribed in open Court before me.

S/ Wm Budd, Clk

[p 17: Jesse Goodman, a clergyman, and William H. Mathers gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 19]

State of North Carolina, Office of Secretary of State

I, William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the muster-rolls of the Continental line of this State in the Revolutionary War, that William Gough a Corporal in Captain Hogg's Company in the first Regiment, entered the service on the

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1 The claimant here misspeaks. Greene was not in SC at the time of Stono; Benjamin Lincoln was the commanding general of the Continental forces in SC at that time.

2 Sic, Stono Ferry

11<sup>th</sup> day of November 1777 for the term of 3 years, that he was a private in September 1777, omitted February 1779, mustered November 1779. A warrant for 1000 acres of land was issued for his services first August 1787, which he assigned to James Taylor in Pitt County. Given under my hand this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March 1855.

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State