

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Francis Goodwin R4126

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } SS.

Harrison County }

On this 24th day of October 1833 personally appeared before me Jonathan FitzRandolph a Justice of the peace in and for the county of Harrison in the said state of Virginia Francis Goodwin a resident of Harrison county in the State of Virginia aged seventy two 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 provisions of the act of congress of the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That in the year 1777 in March of that year he was drafted in Fayette County in Pennsylvania under Captain Connell to serve six months in the Pa. M[ilitia]. He was marched to a place on the Yohagany [sic: Youghiogheny] river about 16 miles from where Union Town [Uniontown] stands he was stationed on said river at a garrison which had been erected there under Col. Evans. There he acted as a guard to the Garrison and Magazine from March 1777 till in October 1777 He was discharged by Captain Connell having served more than six months as a private soldier in the Pa. Ma. Again in April 1778 he volunteered in what is now Monongalia county in Virginia to serve six months in Captain John Evans company of Indian spies and militia He was attached to a regiment commanded by Colonel Zachariah Morgan [sic: Zackquil Morgan] stationed at Pricketts Fort [now Pricketts Fort State Park 4 mi NE of Fairmont in Marion County WV] and ordered to guard it and spied westwardly in what is now Tyler Brook & Ohio Counties in Va. He did so spie and guard the Fort alternately from April 1778 till in Nov'r/ 1778 Having served more than his tour was discharged by his captain having served more than six months this tour as a private soldier and Indian spie. Again in the Spring of 1779 He volunteered as a militia man and Indian spie under Captain Levi Morgan and under the same Col Zachariah Morgan to serve six months in May 1779 He was again stationed at Pricketts Fort in what is now Monongalia county in Virginia Here he was again ordered to spie westward from this Fort in (now) Tyler Brook & Ohio counties in Va. from May 1779 till in November 1779 when he was discharged by Captn Levi Morgan having served this our full six months as a private militia man and Indian spie. Again in March 1780 He volunteered in a company of Virginia militia under captain Cooke Col. Martin was stationed at Martins Station on the Monongahela river in what is now Harrison County, Virginia and ordered by Col Martin to spie from Martins Station over to Pricketts fort and up to Herberts Blockhouse on ten miles [sic: Fort Harbert on Tenmile Creek in Harrison County] and to spie on the west side of the Monongahela river and give information to each of those places of any discoveries made in the several incursions which they made which was weekly in this service he continued from March 1780 till in December 1780 full nine months. The Indians which had been lurking and done some mischief on Bingamon creek were discovered to have recrossed the Ohio towards their towns. He was discharged by Captn Cooke

Again in the Spring of 1781 He again volunteered in the Virginia militia for the defence of the western waters as it was then called under captains John McCally Col. Duvall He was stationed at Nutters fort on the Westfork river in what is now Harrison County in Virginia [in present Clarksburg] and ordered to spie from thence to Lowthers fort thence to West fort [near present Jane Lew in Lewis County] thence to Buckhannon fort [near present Buckhannon in Upshur County] and back and so far west as the little Kenhawa river [sic: Little Kanawha River] and on its tributaries Hugh's river [sic: Hughes River] & performing the trip from Nutters fort to the others and back by the above route every four weeks. this he continued to perform from April 1781 till in October of that year more than six months the period for which he engaged He was discharged in October 1781 Having served more than six months this year as an Indian spie - a private in Captn McCally's company. Then again in the Spring of 1782 He was drafted to serve six months on the western waters under captain Christopher Carpenter. He was stationed at Richard's fort on the westfork river [near the mouth of Sycamore Creek] in what is now Harrison County Virginia under Col. William Lowther and ordered to spie in the adjacent country in what

are now Lewis Wood Jackson and Tyler Counties in Virginia done so until in November 1782 was discharged having served from May 1782 till in Nov'r. of that year more than six months. This end his revolutionary career he served after agst. the Indians as a spie until the year 1794 as a spie but none in 1783. He does not remember that he saw any general officers except some that passed to the West He saw of them Genls. [Edward] Hand and [Lachlan] McIntosh. He knew no regular troops his services was in the Militia and as Indian spie for more than three years from 1777 till 1782. He has no documentary evidence he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services as a soldier of the revolution. He hereby relinquishes his 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

Subscribed and sworn to this day and year aforesaid. Francis hisXmark Goodwin
The said Justice propounded to the applicant the seven the seven several interrogatories prescribed by the war department to which he answered as follows viz.

- 1st. That he was born in the Town of Derry in the County of Londonderry in the province of Ulster in that part of Great Brittain called Ireland in 1761.
- 2nd. That he has no record of his age.
- 3 That he was living in Fayette county Pennsylvania That after the war he continued to reside in Harrison County 18 miles from the Courthouse where he now lives in Va.
- 4th. That he was first drafted. 2nd. volunteered. 3rd. volunteered 4th. volunteered. 5th. volunteered 6th. He was drafted.
- 5th. He knew and remembers Cols. Evans, Zachariah Morgan, Martin, Duvall, and Lowther. The general circumstances of his service are set forth above as nearly as the lapse of half a century enables him to do.
- 6th. He rec'd. written discharges from each of his captns They are all lost long since He considered them of no further service to him only affording some proof that he had done his part in the war.
- 7th. He is known in his neighborhood to John Goodwin [possibly pension application S8587] (in no wise akin to him) and Uriah Schoolcraft both old men they can both testify to his character for veracity and their and the neighborhood belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution There are no clergymen residing near him Francis markXhis Goodwin

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners and applicants from Harrison and other counties of present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth. Singleton wrote "Not Entitled" on his report on Goodwin.]

Francis Godwin of Harrison cty charged to Lewis. applicant —

Called on Mr. Goodwin July 15, 1834. he stated that all the service he had done during the R. War was in scouting and camping against the Indians in defence of himself and his neighbours without authority and without officers. other than those of their own selection it was a sort of neighbourhood warfare always held themselves ready to repel invasions from the Indians Cant pretend to say how long he was in this kind of service. would not be certain about it. not very long. - Sometime in October last was in Clarksburg during the session of the county court & others met Jonathan Wamsley who told him he was entitled to a Pension - and took him into a tavern wrote his Declaration and as he thinks swore him to it himself. be that as it may, he never done any further or other swearing than what was done in the tavern. was not taken or required to go to court then in Session. and this is all he knows about the matter.

A true copy.

W. G Singleton Nov. 11, 1834.