

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathaniel J. Goff S31695

f18SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 9/29/08 & 9/3/15 & 7/8/21

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

Georgia, Jasper County: Jasper Inferior Court Jan'y Term 1833

On the twenty-second day of January 1833 personally appeared in open Court before Reuben C. Shorter, James Whitfield & John C. Gibson Justices of the Inferior Court of said County it being a Court of Record now sitting, Nathaniel J. Goff a resident of said County and State aged 70 years since the 25th of July last, 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, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, to wit: under the command of Captain Thomas Harvey of the Dragoons & after the death of Captain Harvey in battle, the company was then commanded by Lieutenant Jesse Johnson & the battalion by Major Fields Perdue [sic, Field Pardue]¹-- this deponent thinks he entered the service about 1781 & continued in service he thinks till April 1783 at which time he was regularly & honorably discharged by his officers at Pickens' Block House South Carolina— this deponent further states that till the time he entered the service, he resided in Edgefield district South Carolina – he entered the service as a volunteer – he was in the battle of Eutaw [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781] – at the siege of Augusta [May 22-June 6, 1781] under Colonel Lee [Henry “Light Horse Harry” Lee] – at the battle at Rodgers' [sic, Roger's Plantation or Rogiard's Plantation]² South Carolina with the Tories who he believes were commanded by a Colonel Cotton & the Whigs by Colonel Samuel Hammond – it was in this engagement that Captain Harvey of this deponent's Company was killed – this deponent was also in the expedition against the Cherokee Indians commanded by General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] – in the battle with the Indians this deponent had a horse killed under him belonging to his Colonel Samuel Hammond – the fights already stated are the most material in which he participated but he was engaged during his service in many skirmishes – this deponent marched through North Carolina [sic] where he met the British at Eutaw – to Georgia where him & his Countrymen captured Brown at Augusta & to Tennessee, & near that River where he fought the Indians – he recollects Colonel Lee at Augusta – General Greene at Eutaw, & also General Marion [Francis Marion] & Colonel Washington [William Washington] at the same battle, & those that Colonel Washington was captured in that battle – he has no Documentary evidence to prove his services as he has lost his discharge other than the letter of Colonel Samuel Hammond written some years back to a friend of this deponent on the subject of his services which is hereto annexed as a part

1 Moss, Bobby Gilmer, *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution* (Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1983) 751

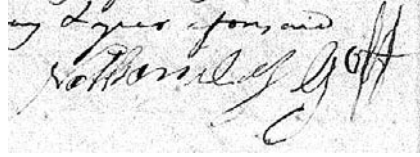
2 O'Kelley, Patrick, *Nothing but Blood and Slaughter: The Revolutionary War in the Carolinas, Volume Three: 1781*, (N. p.: Booklocker.com, Inc., 2005) 274. This skirmish occurred in June 1781. See also, <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/rogersplantation.htm>

of his evidence – this deponent always lived in Edgefield District after the War, until he moved to Georgia where he has lived ever since (about 12 years).

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, & declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Nathaniel J. Goff

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nathaniel J. Goff". The ink is dark and the paper shows some texture and slight discoloration.

S/ Reuben C. Shorter, J.I.C.

S/ J. C. Gibson, J. I. C.

S/ James Whitfield, J. I. C.

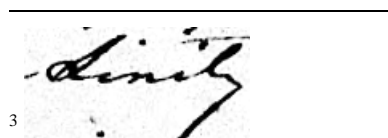
[Cyrus White, a clergyman, and John W. Barry gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 14]

1829 -- July 23rd, Varells Farm Near Hamburg South Carolina

Sir,

Your letter of the 8th Inst. & has Just now been received and its Contents perused – The Old Gentleman in Whose behalf You Right was a meritorious Citizen in the War of the Revolution in the latter part of the War he Was attached to a Regiment of Dragoons in the Service of this State, as a Regular Corps, then Commanded by me. He Continued in Service beyond the term for which he was engaged Some Time influenced by Pure Patriotism, for the term for which he Was engaged he was to be Paid in Likely Negroes between the ages of 16 & 30, said Negroes to be taken from the Estates of the Tories who should be placed up on the bill of attainder & Confiscation, the services so engaged was faithfully Performed, & the Troops Honorably discharged, but the [illegible word, looks like “Sinity” or “Sivity”]³ of the State legislature, induced a Policy too liberal towards the people who had Joined the Enemy, to enable the state to fulfill these engagements to her patriotic Citizens in the Kind promised and by a Subsequent Act of the legislature those troops were Promised an Indent for Eighty Guineas for each Negro & in lieu thereof, Mr. Goff was entitled to one of those indents which he affirms he has never received, if so it is fairly Due to him or his Heirs together with Interest thereon. I drew up and presented for him the last Session a petition for Pavement & was called upon to attend the Committee to whom it was Referred to give testimony in his behalf. I did attend & after some time spent, the Petition was referred to the Comptroller General, who was directed to Examine the public Records & Report to the next Session of the legislature, whether Mr. Goff's Claim had or had not been paid by Delivery of an Indent & if the Indent had been delivered to whom it had been so delivered, if he reports that it has not been delivered and has not been taken up at the Treasury – I think there is no doubt of his having Justice done him & a payment made to him or Heirs – my own bad State of health prevented my being at Columbia in the Early Part of the last Session, and indeed after I arrived there that I could not attend to it as Soon or as Closely as I wished or I believe his pay might have been got then. His Own Presence Early the next Session

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sinity". The ink is dark and the paper shows some texture and slight discoloration.

will be important & I hope [illegible word]⁴ him Justice, if he has any friends able and willing to help the poor old patriot on the Way, they will not do more than their duty & I hope may enable him to remunerate their advances – I am myself old infirm and in [illegible word, looks like “Sladen”]⁵ Circumstances but if alive and able to Go to Columbia I shall do all I can for him – I received a letter some time since from a Citizen of Monticello upon this Subject. I was then confined by Sever indisposition & not able to write, but my son wrote a few lines acknowledging the receipt of that letter & communicated the cause of its not being attended to at the time. Please present by Respects to Mr. Goff and communicate the contents of this address from
Your Ob. Servt

S/ S. Hammond, Senr.⁶



Judge Clayton of Georgia, upon looking at the above signature, says that he is acquainted with that of Col. Hammond and should think this his genuine Signature.

March 11 1833

S/ H. H. [illegible signature—does not appear to be “Clayton”]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$72.92 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 17 ½ months in the South Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁷ relating to Nathaniel Goff pp15
Audited Account No. 2922

Transcribed by Will Graves 7/8/21

[p 2]

March 12th 1782 Received a Lieut. Col. Samuel Hammond one Bay Horse for the Negro due me for Serving Ten Months in his Regiment State Troops the Receipt thereof I do hereby Acknowledge & myself therewith to be fully satisfied contented & paid. Witness my hand

S/ Nathaniel Goff [sic], X his mark

Witnesses

S/ John Hammond

S/ James Butler

Gentlemen

Please to deliver to Edmond Martin my Indent that may be in the Office either for Services done in the State Troops of South Carolina or for a horse valued to the same, he is also empowered and authorized to sign my name as an endorsement on the Back of the Indent and

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⁶ [Samuel Hammond S21807](#)

⁷ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person’s surname first in the “Full name” box followed by a comma and the person’s Christian name. The number behind the ‘pp’ indicates the number of pages in the file and the ‘Audited Account No.’ is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

pay the same in the Treasury of South Carolina as a discount or a payment against a Bond due the State by John Garrett, this being my only order for the same you will Oblige

Gentlemen Your Humble Servant
S/ Nathaniel Goff, X his mark

To the treasury of
South Carolina

Witness S/Hugh Middleton, JP

[p 4 : Printed form of Indent No. 87 Book M dated first of October 1784 “delivered to Mr. Nathaniel Goff late Private in Lieut. Col. Sam. Hammonds [Samuel Hammond’s] Regiment of State Troops this our Indented Certificate for the Sum of Ninety-four pounds Sterling being amount pay and bounty due him for Services in that Troop Together with Interest thereon from the first April 1782 to date hereof Agreeable to Resolution of General Assembly of the Eleventh March last.”]

[p 5: Reverse of the above Indent bearing the following endorsement, among others:

Charleston August 23rd 1785 I Nathaniel Goff due by these present assign over the within Indent to Thayer & Bartlett their Heirs Executors & Assigns for their own proper use & behoof for Value Received the Day and date above mentioned

S/ Nathaniel Goff

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathaniel Goff". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Nathaniel Goff".

[p 7]

The petition of Nathaniel Goff praying a Settlement of his Revolutionary Claim
Claims

C. Connor

[p 8]

State of South Carolina

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State, the petition of Nathaniel J. Goff respectfully Sheweth that during the Revolution war after performing upon several occasions as a Volunteer in the militia, he Enlisted in a company of Cavalry commanded by Captain Thomas Harvey belonging to a Regiment of State Troops then commanded by Colonel Samuel Hammond attached to General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] Brigade that he served the full term for which he was enlisted, say ten months, and further that he Voluntarily continued with the regiment and done duty as usual between two and three months after the expiration of the time for which he had Enlisted (at the request of his commanding officer) for which said services for ten months was to have been paid a Negro between the age of 16 and 30 Years but which the Legislature changed by law and allowed an indent of Eighty Guineas instead of the Negro as first promised which at that time was of little Value, that after being discharged he returned to the district of 96 – and Settled there and for all his services has never received payment in the whole or any but [sic] thereof – being now old, and poor with a considerable family of Children and orphan grandchildren left also poor in his charges, he respectfully prays that the Honorable the Senate and house of representatives will take his case into consideration and do for him what they may deem just – and proper – he asks no more than justice; and which he feels confident will be done; for the Evidence of what is herein set forth he respectfully begs

leave to refer to the annexed Deposition and Certificate which will show the justice of his pretensions and which he confidently hopes and believes will be done him, and as in duty bound he will ever pray Grateful

Signed Nath. J. Goff

[p 11]

South Carolina Edgefield District } Personally came before me L P Holloway one of the justices of said district Nathaniel Goff who being duly sworn as the law directs deposes and saith that during the Revolutionary war he enlisted as a Soldier in a Troop of Cavalry commanded by Captain Thomas Harvey belonging to a Regiment of the State Troops raised and commanded by Colonel Samuel Hammond attached to General A. Pickens' Brigade that he served in the said Regiment the full Term for which he was enlisted which was ten months during which time he was in the Battle with his Captain at Rogers plantation [June 18, 1781],⁸ near the present Village of Edgefield where his Captain was killed and the Enemy defeated that he was with his officers at the siege of Augusta⁹ and all the skirmishes near that until it's fall and the Surrender of Brown [Thomas "Burnt Foot" Brown] – that he was also in the Battle of Eutaw Springs¹⁰ – that he served under the command of Lieutenant Geo. Hammond [George Hammond or Col. Hammond?]¹¹ – with General Pickens in his Expedition against the Cherokee Indians¹² and was with them in a signal and successful battle in one of the middle Towns, that in that Campaign he wrote a large and valuable horse, the property of Colonel Hammond who with many others failed from hard traveling in deep Snow without forage and was left with many others and lost which placed him on foot at the balance of that march rendered more Tedious by the number of persons in charge and further saith that after his return he was remounted by his Colonel and served with him in the lower part of the State under Command of General Green [Nathaniel Greene] and was discharged near Brown's bridge near the close of the war when most of the State Troops raised for the same term were discharged for all which Service he has never received the pay promised him (a Negro to be between the ages of 16 and 30 years nor any other way as commutation though he was informed that the State Legislature had passed a law for paying 80 Guineas instead of a Negro as was engaged – in the terms of enlistment

S/ Nathaniel Goff



Sworn to before me this
the 15th of Jan. 1828 S/ L. P. Holloway, JP

[Note: The veteran's petition was rejected. The grounds for rejection are not stated in the documents in this file.]

⁸ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_rogers_plantation.html

⁹ Siege of Augusta (second/Clarke) [May 22-June 6, 1781] <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810522-augusta/>

¹⁰ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html



¹¹

¹² MAY be a reference to https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_indian_villages.html