

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Zachariah Goforth S3405

f16NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

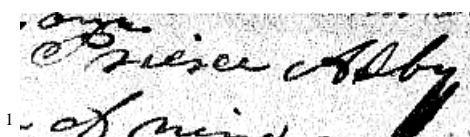
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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Wayne County: September Sessions of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County for the year 1832

On this 21st day of September A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court before the justices of said court now sitting Zachariah Goforth a Resident of said County & State, aged about 72 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated, that is to say: He entered the regular service in the County of Caswell State of North Carolina under the command of General Lyncoln [Benjamin Lincoln] in Colonel Archibald Lytle's Regiment, Major Henry Dickson [sic, Henry Dixon] Battalion, & Captain William Lytle's Company. He was a substitute in said service in the place of one Preece Asby [?]¹ – He was in said service for the term of nine months, & during the same, the troops of which he composed one, were marched from North Carolina on through South Carolina-- as far as Purrysburg-- where our troops received reinforcements of the five months militia & probably some others -- & where he & the said troops were quartered during the winter season. This applicant was put under said regular officers at Purrysburg. He was marched to said Purrysburg by the recruiting officers from North Carolina. He was marched from Purrysburg to a place called the Black Swamp about thirty miles distant – on Savannah River – where applicant was put into the hospital on the sick list, from thence they were driven by the British towards Charlestown – where applicant was confined for short time in the hospital, from thence he was marched to Stono, where he fought in the engagement at that place against the British. He thinks they were marched from thence to Bluford [sic Beaufort?] and thence to a place called Pine tree [Camden, South Carolina], where applicant and several others being left on the sick list were discharged their term of service having expired. He next went into service as a militia man under the immediate command of Captain George Hodge, in Colonel Taylor's [Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Taylor's] Regiment -- & soon [?] afterwards attached to General Arrington's [probably Henry William Harrington's] Brigade. He entered this service in Orange County & said State of North Carolina -- & from thence, they marched down on Pedee River-- against the Tories in that quarter -- & after being out two months on this expedition they were discharged & went home. This expedition was entered upon shortly after Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] – Applicant was out on a number of short scouting expeditions from that time until the close of the war in deed, he states that he was but little at home & when from home he was constantly engaged in defending his Country – During one of said scouting expeditions he was in hearing of the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] – But was not in


Preece Asby

the Battle fought at that place in consequence of the absence of his Captain so that he could not join his Company. He has no documentary evidence by which he can establish his Claim, nor does he know of any person by whom he can, prove any of the above facts now living although, he fully expects that there are others yet living who were engaged in the same service.

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.

S/ Zachariah Goforth, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the date above written

Test: S/ William Barnett, Clerk

Interrogatories put by the war department.

Question 1st When and in what year were you born?

I was born in Caswell County North Carolina in the year 1760

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

I had a record of my age in my father's Bible in North Carolina but I have some time since lost it by the Bible's being destroyed by my children using it [at] school.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

When I was called into service I lived in Caswell County North Carolina from thence I moved into this State where I have lived ever since & for the last 7 years in the County of Wayne, & State of Tennessee where I now live.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

I was a Substitute in both of the regular terms of my service. I was first for Pearce Asby in the nine months Service -- & in the two months tour I was a substitute for Thomas King But never received any pay for my service from the said Asby but did it for the last tour.

5th 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.

This I set forth as far as I recollect in the above declaration

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

I did receive one, & kept it for several years, but I cannot find it now I expect it is destroyed.

7th 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.

Colonel Isaac Grimes, Major Elijah Blackshine – Wilson Grimes a clergyman, Neally Copeland, John Dill, John Hollandsworth, Thomas & Abram Montague & others, are all persons to whom I am well known.

S/ Zachariah Goforth, X his mark

[Isaac Grimes & Elijah Blackshine [he signs his name "Elijah Blackshar"] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that it appears from the list of settlements of the accounts of the Officers and Soldiers of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Zachariah Goforth a private in said line and was allowed the sum of 41 pounds 15 shillings and one penny (£41.15.1)

Given under my hand this 15th day of January 1834.

S/ Wm Hill

State of Tennessee, Wayne County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions December Term 1833

Zachariah Goforth makes the following supplemental affidavit & application for a pension that as regards the period of the War in which he served, that he served in the years 1778 & 1779 & as regards the want of a clergyman's certificate, he is unable to procure one, there is but one clergyman in the County who knows of his reputation & he will not attend court nor give his certificate before a justice he has endeavored for the two last terms to procure his attendance but has wholly failed. He knows he served his Country & claims for Eleven months service as a substitute & two months for myself.

S/ Zachariah Goforth, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed in Open Court December 4th, 1833

S/ Wm Barnett

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$43.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year and one month in the North Carolina Continental line and militia.]