Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Goodwin S6900 f9NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 8/18/08 rev'd 9/10/15

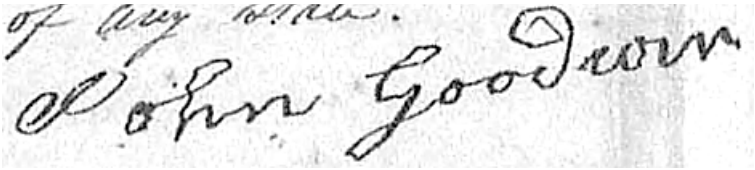
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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 Mississippi, Amite County

On the 17th day of June 1833 Personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Probate now sitting, John Goodwin, a resident of the County of Amite and State of Mississippi aged 73 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 the 7th 1832. That he was first drafted in the Service of the United States for six months, he resided at the time in Nash County, North Carolina. His Colonel's name was Eaton [Thomas Eaton], Captain Harris [Britton Harris] and Lieutenant Jesse Benton. He marched to Georgia under the command of General Ash [sic, John Ashe], and joined the Main Army near Augusta. When the Army marched to Briar Creek, he was detailed to guard the Baggage Wagons, and marched down the Savannah River on the Carolina side to Purrysburg, then back to the White House near the Sisters ferry. From there to Black Swamp where he remained until his term expired. He was mustered into service a few weeks before Ashe's defeat [Battle of Briar Creek], which he finds was on 3rd March 1779. He was discharged by an officer, a Lieutenant he thinks, by the name of John Hopkins, at the end of his term, and returned home. At Black Swamp the regulars were encamped some distance from them and although he frequently saw their officers, he does not now recollect of their names except General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln], who was the Commander in chief, and frequently visited their camp. During the Siege of Cornwallis at little York he substituted in the place of one Frank or Francis Wells, and served two months in the Cavalry. His Colonel's name was William Brickle and they were under the Command of General Allen Jones. They were stationed in Fosset's Old Field [sic, Fossett's Old Field] near Halifax. He could hear the cannon during the Siege of York but was in no engagement, as he was in the service at the time of Cornwallis's surrender [October 19, 1781]. This tour was performed in the latter part of the year 1781. In both tours he served as a private soldier, and only claims such bounty as the Government has allowed to the rank and File.

After the war he returned to York County in Virginia, where he was born, and went to school two or three years. He then returned to Nash County North Carolina where he resided 26 or 27 years. He then removed to Barnwell District South Carolina lived 14 or 15 years, from there removed to Amite County in the State where he has lived ever since. He is known to all the neighbors in his settlement but does not know any person in this part of the Country by whom he could prove his service. He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the roll of the agency of any State.

S/ John Goodwin



Interrogatories propounded by the Orphans Court of Amite County, Mississippi, to John Goodwin, who

is an applicant for a Pension.

1st When and in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in York County Virginia 6 December 1759

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

Ans: I have no record of my age with me, but have often seen the time of my birth as set down in a prayer Book by my Father.

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

Ans: When I was called into service I was living in Nash County North Carolina, since the war I have lived in Nash County North Carolina a short time in Virginia, several years in Barnwell District South Carolina, and for the last 20 years in this County. I have been more full on this head [?] in my declaration to which I refer

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

Ans: When I first entered the service I was drafted for six months and served as a private in the Infantry during the siege of little York I served two months in the Cavalry as a Substitute for one Frank Wells. In this Tour I served as a private also.

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.

Ans: My Colonel's name was Eaton, Captain Harris and Lieutenant Jesse Benton, we marched to Georgia under General Ashe. At Black Swamp I saw many of the regular officers, but have forgotten all of their names except General Lincoln who was often in our Camp. As we marched down to Purrysburg from Augusta we were much alarmed at one time and thought the British were about to cut us off. When those who had escaped from Ashe's defeat came in they told dreadful stories about the men being killed drowned and eaten by the alligators in Savannah River, they thought Ashe had betrayed them and some threatened to kill him. I recollect that he confined himself very closely to his tent. I am now old and very feeble, and I find my memory too much decayed to be relied on as to the particulars of events so long passed.

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

Ans: I received a discharge from an officer named John Hopkins and I think he was a Lieutenant. I kept it some years but never expecting to want of it I took no care of it and lost it, and I do not now know how.

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.

Ans: I refer to judge Edmund Smith, Reverend Jesse Young, William Gardner, Andrew Gray, Alfred one, John Obin and William Adams for my character for veracity.

S/ John Goodwin

[Jesse Young, a clergyman, and William Gardner gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of $28.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Infantry and 2 months in the Cavalry of the North Carolina militia.]