

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Goodson S6901

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 30 April 2014.

Floyd County Court and }  
State of Virginia } To Wit

On this 17th day of December 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the peace for the said County now sitting Thomas Goodson a resident of the said County of Floyd and State aforesaid aged seventy seven 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 the 7th of June 1832.

That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1776 as well as he can remember in the County of Botetourt and State of Virginia and served in the 7th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment for eleven months. He had enlisted to serve for two years but having become sickly, he obtained a sick furlough and returned home after the lapse of eleven months where he lay sick. Some time after recovering his health he hired a substitute to take his place in the ranks and who did take it in consequence of which he received his discharge from Capt. Thomas Bowyer in Botetourt County Virginia in the early part of the year 1777. The 7th Regiment aforesaid was at the time he entered the service Commanded by Colonel Dangerfield [sic: William Daingerfield], afterwards by Colo. [William] Crawford and at a still later period by Colo. McClanahan [sic: Alexander McClenachan]. [William] Nelson was the name of his Major, and [Thomas] Posey the name of his Captain and under the Command of Brigadier General [Andrew] Lewis during his first service of eleven months as stated before he was in several cannonades in driving Dunmore from Guinns Island [sic: Gwynn Island, 11 Jul 1776]– a short time after receiving his discharge from the Regular service he had the promise of a Lieutenants commission by Major Thomas Quirk [pension application W5958], and was three or four months engaged in recruiting his quota of men, and was also employed by said Major Quirk in managing a Pack Horse company and marched as far as Fort Chizzel [sic: Fort Chiswell] he lay there six weeks the troops had gone on. He then returned home and entered the Militia Service, in the County of Botetourt and State of Virginia, in a Company commanded by Capt. Joshua Wilson as an Orderly Sergeant. This company in obedience to orders, marched to Potts' fort on Sinking Creek in the North Western part of said County of Botetourt [now in Craig County] to man the Fort and keep off the Indians. In this Service he continued only five weeks. He was marched under the command of Colo. Charles Lynch, Capt. Samuel Easom being his Captain to the Lead Mines [at Fort Chiswell], now in the County of Wythe, where he remained in service making frequent excursions in the surrounding Country to keep down the Tories, four months. In all this Service he was a Volunteer and acted as an Orderly Sergeant. Whilst in the Service he received the Commission of a lieutenant. He cannot recollect in what year – (having lost his Commission) which lay idle in his pack some short time before the Battle of Guilford [Guilford Court House NC, 15 Mar 1781] when he went into active Service, and though not in that Battle he was in two preceding skirmishes [see endnote]. He was in a foraging party when the main Battle was fought after returning from this excursion in the South embracing a term of two months and remaining at home some time he was ordered on to York Town to operate against Cornwallis in 1781 where he continued in service three months or more as a first Lieutenant until after the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]. while at this latter place he commanded the advance guard and took one of the enemys redoubts. after this he was Honorably dismissed from the service at York Town (except that it was made his duty to attend the Sick and Baggage Waggon on their return to Botetourt County. at York Town he belonged to the Company of Capt. John Lewis. The Colonel was Samuel Lewis. Gen'l. Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] was the Commander of the Division. He hereby relinquishes all claim whatsoever to any other pension or annuity whatsoever, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any State or Territory whatsoever Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written

Thomas Goodson

Floyd County and State of Virginia Sect.

On this 18 day of March 1833 personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the peace for said County, now sitting Thomas Goodson a resident of his said County of Floyd, and State of Virginia, aged seventy seven years the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August last past, 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 as an amendment of his former declaration dated the 17 of December 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated.

In the year 1776 he resided in the County of Botetourt in the State of Virginia. Some time in that year, as well as he can now remember, he enlisted in the service of the United States under Lieutenant Rowland Madison for the term of two years; and was marched from the County of Botetourt to Gloucester Court house Va. and joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment on continental establishment, commanded by Colo. Dangerfield, afterwards by Colo. Crawford, and at a subsequent period by Colo. McClanahan. The Majors name was Nelson, the Capt. Posey, under the command of Brgadier Gen'l. Lewis. He remained in this service eleven months during which time he was engaged in several Cannonades to drive Lord Dunmore from Gwins Island. He was then taken sick and obtained a sick furlough, and returned to his residence in the County of Botetourt, where he remained sick for at least four months. After recovering his health, he hired a substitute who was received and took his place in the ranks, in consequence of which this applicant received a discharge from Capt. Thomas Bowyer of Botetourt Va. which, together with the furlough above mentioned, are lost or destroyed in some way, being considered by him as useless papers. – Some time after receiving his discharge from the Regular service he had the promise of a Lieutenants commission by Major Thomas Quirk a Regular Officer, and was three months engaged in recruiting his quota of men, and was then employed by said Maj'r. Quirk, in managing a Pack-Horse company, and was ordered by him to march them to the falls of the Ohio river [now Louisville KY], and there join Gen'l. [George Rogers] Clark, and from thence by water to the Opost [Fort Sackville at Vincennes IN] on the Mississippi river where he was to receive his Commission in pursuance thereto he proceeded under Capt. Taylor [possibly Isaac Taylor W601] who commanded the Company and marched as far as Fort Chizzle, but being taken sick at that place, the Company left him and proceeded on to their place of destination. He remained sick at Fort Chizzel and unable to travel six weeks. He is positive that he was engaged at least five months in this service. He then returned home, and entered the service in the County of Botetourt and State of Virginia in a Company commanded by Capt. Joshua Wilson as an Orderly Sergeant. This company in obedience to the order of Colo. [William] Preston marched to Potts' fort on sinking Creek in the Northwestern part of the said County of Botetourt to man the fort and keep off the Indians. In this service he continued three months when he returned home. Sometime afterward he marched in the Company of Capt. Samuel Eason commanded by Colo. Charles Lynch, to the Lead Mines (now in the County of Wythe) where he remained in service four months: making frequent excursions in the surrounding country to keep down the Tories. In all this service he was a Volunteer and acted as an Orderly Sergeant Whilst in this service he received the Commission of a Lieutenant (he cannot recollect what year having lost his commission) which lay idle in his pocket until some short time before the battle of Guilford when he was again called into Service in the Company of Capt. Eason commanded by Colo. Crocket [sic: Hugh Crockett] and joined the Brigade of Gen'l. Stevenson [sic: Edward Stevens] in the County of Guilford N Carolina. He was not in that battle, but he was in two preceding skirmishes. When the main battle was fought he was in a foraging party. After remaining in this tour two months he returned again to his residence in Botetourt County Va. After remaining at home some time he was again ordered to march in a Company commanded by Capt. John Lewis to Yorktown to cooperate against Lord Cornwallis in 1781. after arriving at the City of Williamsburg we joined the Brigade of Gen'l. Mughlenburg and was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colo. Samuel Lewis, and then proceeded on to York Town where he continued in service three months as a first Lieutenant while at this latter place he commanded the advance guard and took one of the enemy's redoubts. After the Surrender of Cornwallis he was honorably discharged from the service, except that it was made his duty to attend the

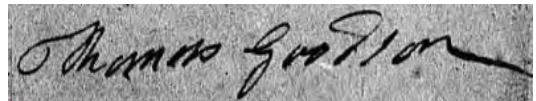
sick and baggage Waggon on their return to Botetourt County which occupied him fifteen days longer

He is unable to state precisely the length of time he was engaged in the service of the United States owing to the lapse of time since they were rendered, and the loss of memory arising from his advanced age, but he is positive that he has not augmented the time, on the contrary he is strongly inclined to believe he has fallen short in the estimation. He possibly may have erred as to time, but he very well knows he served the different tours mentioned, although the dates may be wrong.

He was born in the County of Frederick and State of Maryland, (according to the Register of his father in a family Bible now in the applicants possession) on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 1755 where he lived till he was five years of age, when his father moved upon New River, Augusta County Virginia, where he remained till a division of the County [1770] and he fell into the County of Botetourt, where a second division [1777] threw him into the County of Montgomery and a recent division of that county [1831] placed him in Floyd County where he now lives.

He has no documentary evidence, (they being all lost as stated above), nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service, all his cotemporaries in the war having departed this life or removed to places unknown to him except Daniel Howell Sen'r [sic: Daniel Howel (Howell), pension application S13413] & William Poage [W8502] whose certificates are hereunto annexed. – He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to any other pension or annuity whatsoever, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any other State or Territory whatsoever

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written



Floyd County & state of Virginia

On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1833 William Poage & Daniel Howill Senr personally appeared in open court, being a court of record and made oath the said William Poage that he knew the applicant Thomas Goodson while he wars in the service that he saw him first in the service on Sinking creek in the county of Botetout and that he was then an orderly sargent. He saw the applicant near Guilford C H North Carolina in the service as stated in the declaration of said Goodson and think's he was a Lieutenant. the affiant was then a sargent. He saw him also at the surrender of Lord Corn Wallis at York Town as a Lieutenant. he has always known him since and recolect the above facts clearly. The said Daniel Howill senr and knew the applicant Goodson from the time he moved to this couty utill this time he was in his company when a sargent on Sinking Creek as stated in the declaration. He was also with the applicant and under his command in North Carolina at the time of the battle of Guilford but was not present in the engagement. the applicant Goodson was then an acting Leutenat and Capt Eason was the commader of the company sworn to & subscribed in open Court [signatures illegible]

NOTES:

The two engagements before the Battle of Guilford Courthouse appear to have been at Clapp's Mill on 2 March 1781 and at Wetzel's Mill on 6 March 1781. Col. Hugh Crockett commanded mounted riflemen. For more on the Botetourt Riflemen see <http://southerncampaign.org/newsletter/v4n123.pdf> page 60.

The Clerk of Court was William Goodson. On 24 April 1852 William Goodson applied for an increase in pension, stating that Thomas Goodson died on 3 Sep 1837 leaving no widow but the following children in addition to himself: Elizabeth Goodson, Polly Sandifer, and John Goodson. A document dated 18 Sep 1837 certifies that William Goodson and John Goodson were executors of the last will and testament of Thomas Goodson, whose wife had died on 5 Feb 1837.