

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Godsey S8584

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Because of poor penmanship the transcript should be used with more than usual caution.]

North Carolina            }

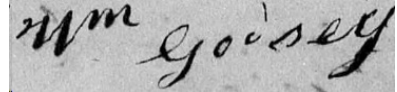
Rockingham County       }

On this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August AD 1832 personally appeared in open Court before John J Wright Jos. Miller & Wm. Barnett the Justices holding the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions for the County of Rockingham State of N.Carolina William God[edge of page] of said County of Rockingham aged sixty eight on the third day of November 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.

He states that he was born in Chesterfield County State of Virginia on the third of November 1763 according to the record or register of his age now in the possession of William Law in said County of Rockingham. He states that in the month of October 1780 while he resided in the said County of Chesterfield he volunteered and went into the militia service for a tour of two months under Captain Blackbourn Moses [probably Blackman Moseley] Robert Good [sic: Robert Goode] Major the name of the colonel he does not recollect that at this time Gen'l Stuban [sic: Baron von Steuben] was stationed at Chesterfield Courthouse that deponents company joined the army under his command and was crossing James River at a place called the hundred intending to make Williamsburg but before reaching it the troops were directed to recross the river which they did at Westerfer the residence of Col. Berd [sic: Westover, residence of Col. William Byrd], thence deponant was marched to Surry Court House and Smithfield. Below Smithfield he was stationed for some weeks. from thence the entire army was marched back to Petersburg in Virginia wh[ere] deponent was discharged by the were direction of his officers without any written evidence thereof being given him. Shortly after this deponent returned home. That early in the spring of the following year Viz 1781 and whilst he stil resided in the said County of Chesterfield he entered into and performed another tour of two months militia service under Captain Edward Moses of the County of Chesterfield Col. Fortner [sic: Ralph Falkner] Commanding, the name of the Major he does not recollect. That in this case he went as a drafted militia man or according to the number or classification of the militia each man being required to perform his tour when his number was reached – that he was marched under said officers to Petersburg from thence to Cabbin point [sic: Cabin Point on James River in Surry County] Mackys Mills Smithfield to Suffolk at the tar yards near James River, thence he was marched to Babbs old field where he was discharged at the end of the two months service. On this occasion he received a written discharge by order of Col. Fortner which he has long since lost and is now unable to produce the same. That during this service his Company was attached to the army either under the Command of Gen'l. Stuban or Mullenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] which he does not recollect. That upon his discharge he removed to the County of Powhatan state of Virginia where he substituted for one Robert Mosely of said County who had been by draft or allotment of the militia required to perform a tour of two months. That he accordingly marched under Captain Robert Hughes of Powhatan County – Boyes [sic: William Boyce] Major the Colonel name he does not recollect. his troop was attached to the brigade of Gen'l. [Robert] Lawson of the Virginia Militia. That he was marched and first rendevoused at Williamsburg and after the troops were embodied in considerable number he was marched to the seige of York Town where he remained until the surrender of the british forces [19 Oct 1781] when he was discharged upon the expiration of his two months service. It was a written discharge and he thinks signed by order of Gen'l. Lawson it has long since been lost and he cannot now procure the same. He states that in both the above mentioned tours he was in actual service for the full periods of two months each. He has no written or documentary evidence by which he can establish his service nor is there any one living he knows by whom he could prove his services or any part thereof except Thomas Law [sic: Thomas Lowe, pension application R6488] & John Baily [possibly

Thomas Bailey] That Thomas Law & the Rev Bird Low together with many other of his neighbours will testify to his character for veracity and their belief in his having performed the service herein set forth. That after the close of the war he lived in the Counties of Chesterfield Powhatan & Franklin in the State of Virginia for about twelve or fourteen years, since which time he has resided and stil resides in the County of Rockingham State of N.Carolina.

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 whatever

A rectangular stamp containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wm Godsey".

John Baily swears that he has heard the declaration of William Godsy read and he well recollect that said Godsy was at the sege of york when deponent was his mess mate under Captain Robert Hughes that he remained in service until the surrender of the British forces nor does he doubt that the said Godsy performed the entire service as set forth by him                      John hisXmark Baily

NOTE: Thomas Lowe stated that he had also been at the Siege of Yorktown but did not know Godsey until after the war.