

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Goddard, Nat'l Archives Series M804, Roll _____, #W25639

Transcribed by Nancy Poquette

Campbell County, Georgia}

On this 24th day of March, 1835, personally appeared in open court, John Goddard of Cobb County and state aforesaid (age unknown, as he has no record of same but from the most correct knowledge he has on the subject, believes himself to be between the ages of seventy and seventy-five years) who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration....:

That he was drafted for a three months tour in the militia in Guilford County, North Carolina. That he served under Captain Wilson as a private, whose Christian name he has forgot. There was two brothers in the company in which he served by the name of Wilson. One of them was captain, the other lieutenant. He recollects that one of the brothers was named Hugh, the other Andrew, but whether the captain's name was Hugh or Andrew has entirely escaped his memory. He does not recollect the month or the year in which he was drafted but distinctly recollects that it was a very short time after General Gates was defeated in South Carolina, and in the same year. Captain Wilson's company was attached to Colonel Pacely's [Paisley's] regiment under the command of General Davidson of the North Carolina militia.

That he was marched from Guilford County to a place then called the Cow Ford on the Catawba River, at which place they were met by the British and were forced to retreat to Charlotte in Mecklenberg County, and from Charlotte to Fifer's [?Colonel Phifer's?] Mills. At the mills there was a skirmish between a party of light horse and infantry of the British and the Americans, after which we retreated to ___airs Ferry on the Yadkin River, where we were joined by General Butler with Morgan's infantry and Colonel Washington's light horse. We there faced about and the enemy had to retreat in turn, and we pursued them into the vicinity of a place called the Waxhaws where we remained as near as can now be recollected, a month.

The British were then reinforced by General Cornwallis and we marched back to the Cow Ford on the Catawba River. Here we had an engagement with the enemy and General Davidson was killed. Not long after this my time expired (How long I do not recollect.) I received my discharge which was the only one I ever had, and this was lost six years ago by the burning of my house.

That he entered the service as near as he can recollect, in two months from the time his said discharge, as a volunteer in the said county of Guilford under Captain Dudley Reynolds. That he does not recollect that Captain Reynolds company was ever attached to any particular regiment, as there was great distress and confusion in that part of North Carolina at the time referred to. That he recollects that Captain Dudley marched his small force to a place called High Rock Ford on Haw River and joined General Greene and marched from there to Hillsborough, and from Hillsborough back to Guilford Courthouse, and remained there until we were attacked by the British and defeated. After this engagement, Captain Reynolds' company was broken and dispersed and was never afterwards reorganized. That he was in the service from th e time he volunteered the last mentioned time to the best of his recollection, one month of the three for which he had volunteered.

Directly after the defeat at Guilford Courthouse and dispersion of Captain Reynolds' company,

Captain Reynolds raised a company of horse composed in part of the same men that were with him at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. That he entered this company as a volunteer (private) for a three months tour. That said company marched under the command of Colonel Dudley? [no such colonel in Guilford County. Could this have been Paisley?] from Guilford County, NC to a place near Wilmington called Cross Creek, and after scouring the country for some time, we marched back to a place called Ramsey's Mills at the mouth of Haw River. There we fell in with a party of Tories; a part of the command of the Tory Colonel Fanning. That in this engagement he was wounded in the knee by a shot. From thence they were again marched down upon Cape Fear River near Wilmington where we remained until the taking of General Cornwallis, and that he was here dismissed, and that the company he belonged to was to have met afterwards at Colonel Moore's to receive their discharges; that he never attended and therefore got no discharge. He served in the last instance two months and 20 or 25 days, the precise time he does not recollect.

He further states that he knows of no living witness by whom he can establish the facts in the foregoing declaration and that he would have made this declaration in the county of Cobb where he now resides, but that said county has been organized but recently; that it is very thinly populated; that declarant is known to but few of the citizens of Cobb, and that he knows of no clergymen who reside in the county of Cobb. On the contrary, that he is known to a great many citizens of Campbell County, some of them have known the declarant for the last 20 or 25 years, who can testify as to declarant's veracity.

Interrogatories:

1st: When and in what year were you born? In Guilford County, North Carolina. He knows not what year he was born, as he has no record of the time.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so, where is it? To the second he answers that the answer to the first is as full an answer to the second as he can give.

3rd Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live? To the 3rd ques. he says that lived in Guilford County, NC when called into service, that he remained in said county after the close of the Revolutionary War something over a year; that he moved from Guilford to Lawrence [Laurens] District, South Carolina where he remained 8 years, and from thence removed to Columbia County in the state of Georgia and from thence to Jackson County, state aforesaid, and from Jackson to Morgan, and from Morgan to Hall county, and from Hall County, to Decatur, and from Decatur to Carroll (now Campbell) and from thence to Cobb where he now resides.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute? To the 4th interrogatory he answers that he has answered to questions in the 4th fully in his declaration.

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service. To the 5th interrogatory, he answers that he was quite young at the time referred to and that he does not recollect any other regular field officers than those he mentioned in his declaration, to wit: General Greene, Colonels Morgan and Washington. That he was but a very short time under the command of General Greene, and knew but little about the forces under his command, as will appear by referring to his declaration, where he has detailed all the circumstances in relation to

his services according to the best of his recollections.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it? To the 6th interrogatory he answers that he did get a discharge for the first three months tour he served and that said discharge was destroyed by fire about six years ago when his house was burned, as has already been stated in his declaration. That he does not recollect by whom his discharge was signed, as he cannot read writing, but he distinctly recollects that Colonel Paisley and Captain Wilson under whom he served were both present at the time his discharge was given him...

Cass County Georgia}

On this 27th day of July, 1852, personally appeared, Winny Goddard, aged 60 years...:

That she is the widow of John Goddard who was a soldier of the Revolutionary War and a pensioner of the United States at the rate of [\$22.78 per annum]. [Illegible sentence due to heavy ink blotting.] She declares that she was married to the said John Goddard on the __ [left blank] day of August 1818. that her said husband died on the 6th day of June 18__ [inkblot]. That she was not married to him prior to the 2nd day of January 1800, but at the time above stated. She further declares that she is now a widow. Winny Goddard, her mark.