

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Moody¹ W25732

Selah Moody

f55VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

re'vd 6/25/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

Georgia, Oglethorpe County

On this fourth day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the Inferior Court while sitting for ordinary purposes Thomas Moody, a resident of the County & State aforesaid, aged seventy 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 on the seventh of June in the present year entitles and act supplementary to the act for the relief of certain surviving officers & soldiers of the Revolution. That he entered the service of the United States against England in the war of the Revolution under the following named officers & served as hereinafter stated.

That he was born in Cumberland County Virginia on the eighteenth of June seventeen hundred & sixty two as he learned by reference to the old family Bible before he left that County -- that he lived there when he was drafted in the early part of the summer of seventeen hundred & eighty to perform a tour of six months in the militia service in the Revolutionary war -- he doesn't recollect the number of the regiment to which he belonged -- He marched from Cumberland County under the command of one Captain Charles Ballow² to Hillsboro' in North Carolina where he was stationed four or five weeks passing through the various exercises & discipline of a soldier & where he was reviewed almost every day by General Stephens [Edward Stevens], he marched from that place under General Stephens to the battle ground about four miles from Camden South Carolina & for the last five days they marched day & night with no other stop than just long enough to prepare provisions & eat them -- reached the battle ground about midnight the day preceding the battle -- that night the guards of the two armies met and between midnight & day exchanged some pretty sharp firing -- the main armies did not meet until sunrise [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] -- after we were all drawn up in battle array Gates [Horatio Gates] came riding along the lines and gave orders somewhat to the following purpose, "Let not a single gun be fired until the British get within six paces, then everyone choose his man, fire on him and bayonet the rest." After he had passed Captain Ballow exclaimed in the heat of passion, "My boys, we have heard the orders, but I'll be damned if we'll stand to them, as soon as I give the word you must fire." Accordingly, as soon as the British came up within seventy or eighty yards he ordered us to fire & the command was generally obeyed -- deponent was stationed in the left wing of the army if he recollects aright & as he was in the act of reloading he turned about & saw the Americans retreating rapidly & particularly he noticed a Major whose name he has forgotten who seemed to be more alarmed than the rest applying his spurs to his horse and at the same time beating him with his sword to make him retreat with more rapidity. Presently the retreat became general & all rushed down into a canebreak about 500 [could be 600]³ yards off & pushed through it with all possible dispatch --

¹ BLWt40506-160-55

² See the pension application of Anthony Lipford for a reference to this same officer. [Anthony P. Lipford W2623](#)

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when they got on the hill the other side they were ordered to make a stand & a feeble effort was made to form a line & rally but the British came rushing down the opposite hill in hot pursuit & shouting huzzas for King George the Americans made a second break and ran like cowards. A fragment of Ballow's company got together again at Hillsboro' after running about half the way & marching rapidly night & day the other part. After spending some considerable time here they were marched to a place called New Garden in N. Carolina where they were discharged. The name of the officer who drew us up at New Garden and discharged us from this tour deponent has forgotten. He got no written personal discharge & he believes the officer in command took a discharge for the whole company. Ballow had before this lost his command by reason of his company being reduced to a fragment so small as to make it proper to have his men divided among other officers.

The next service this deponent performed was a tour of only two weeks duration -- he acted as a substitute in the place of one Langhorne Tabb who lived in Powhatan County Va. and entered upon this service about a week after his discharge from the first tour under the command of one Colonel Goode and Captain Thomas Hubbard who commanded a scouting party of minutemen -- marched from home to a little place called Osborn's Warehouses on James river -- the British at that time were said to lay on the mouth of the Appomattox [River]-- we were stationed at these warehouses four or five days when we heard cannon over toward Petersburg & concluded that the British were besieging the town -- we had had no time to deliberate when we saw our waggoner coming waving his hat up & down & announcing to us the rapid approach of the British -- our numbers were few & we retreated to a place parallel with Manchester about 7 or 8 miles off -- there in the evening our Colonel proposed that Captain Hubbard should take one hundred men, go on toward Manchester, find out where the British were & what they were doing -- accordingly we paraded 96 men & entered upon our march -- our orders were when the sentry fired on us, rush up & fire fourteen rounds on the main guard & then return to him -- but when we got there the British had burnt the warehouses in Manchester & gone down the river -- we went back & reported the news to the Colonel & he instantly followed them down to Osborns -- there the Colonel sent the Captain with ten men of whom deponent was one to find out where the British were -- we went on to a high rocky bluff on James River & spied them in that stream, they seemed to be taking on board their vessels some land forces as they sailed along down the river. They came apparently within a hundred yards of us & we were exceedingly anxious & gave them the fourteen cartridges we had prepared for the former occasion but were prevented by the Captain probably because he thought our fire would be inefficient -- we returned & made our report to the Colonel & after maneuvering about awhile we were discharged.

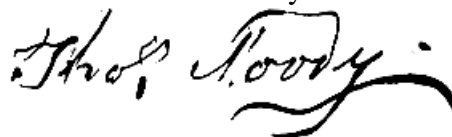
Soon after, say four or five weeks, it fell to my lot to serve a tour of three months in my own place -- on this occasion deponent marched under the command of Capt. Guttherie [sic, Guthrie?] to Prince Edward Court House where we joined General Lawson & Major Holcomb -- were stationed there about a month, from there were marched & crossed James River at Carter's ferry & were stationed for some time on the Potomac—he thinks this was the early part of the summer (say May) of 1781 -- from here we marched to Jamestown & were stationed there until our discharge. This tour was of three months duration & deponent performed the whole of it but he cannot recollect the day when he entered upon it nor the precise day of his discharge. He never received any personal discharge here nor did he ever indeed receive a personal discharge in his life.

After remaining at home some days & getting rested deponent agreed to take the place of a hatter named Robertson of the same County with himself for the sum of 100£ and some clothes -- as Robertson's substitute he served three months -- his Colonel on this tour was one Parker whose men called him General. The name of this Captain was Haskins -- he marched from home to Smithfield in Isle of Wight, staid there and at a place called Mackey's Mills for some considerable time under the discipline and performing the duties of a soldier -- from here he marched to Suffolk and was stationed there when information was received that there were a party of British not far from Long Bridge on the Dismal Swamp -- our Colonel ordered us to march in quest of them and we left Suffolk in the night and

reached the place where the British were between 10 & 12 o'clock in the day -- found them in a fort on the Swamp -- they had cut a kind of avenue through the swamp and thrown up a road -- Colonel Parker marched up to the head of the avenue and made three of his men advance and fire on the fort in order to induce the British to come out -- they fired their cannon in return but their pieces were so elevated as to send their balls entirely above us into the limbs of the surrounding trees -- our Colonel rode across the avenue in view of the fort several times and made efforts to induce them to come out but all without effect. He therefore stationed the guard at that place & the rest of his forces went below and crossing Long bridge to the opposite side of the swamp began to prepare refreshments -- but before we had been there one hour we heard some sharp firing by our guard -- we hastened back to it where we found that a party of the British who had been upon a foraging expedition had returned & attacked our guard. Several were killed on each side and the skirmish was over before we got there -- we posted a second guard at the same place & returned to our provisions—we remained at this place for a few days when the British sent us word if we did not leave there they would put us all to death. On getting this information we advanced up the Swamp and soon learned from a deserter that the British had left the fort and gone to join Cornwallis—on the same day we heard that the French had blockaded York River. We crossed the Swamp again and did not march far before we were discharged.

When deponent reached home he found that he had been drawn to serve at Yorktown and he took up his line of march thither under the command of Captain George Allen -- when he got there he was under no regular discipline, but was set to digging entrenchments and continued variously employed until the siege was completed. On this occasion his term was three months but as soon as Cornwallis was taken there was no further use for him and he was discharged without having performed much more than three weeks service -- thinks he can probably establish part of these services by Robert Colquet of this County. He lived in Virginia two or three years after the war and moved to Georgia in December 1785 and settled in Oglethorpe County where he has lived ever since. If Colquet's testimony can be procured he will forward it with this declaration. He hereby relinquished 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 in the Union.

S/ Thos. Moody

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thos. Moody". The signature is written in dark ink and has a decorative flourish at the end.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William H. Smith, Clerk

[Isham Rainey and Isaac Collier gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Evidence of the marriage of Thomas Moody to Selah (Celia) Goolsby on 12/29/ 1830 by John W. Raines, JP in Oglethorpe County, Ga.]

Georgia, Oglethorpe County

Personally came before Henry T. Dawson a Justice of the Peace in & for the Lexington District of the County & State aforesaid & being duly sworn deposes & says that from conversations held with Thomas Moody he knows that he must have served a three months tour described by him in his declaration for a pension (which this deponent has seen) with this deponent -- that is to say the three months he served in the lower part of Virginia about Suffolk, Mackey's Mills in Isle of Wight [County] & along there -- for this deponent performed the same tour under the same officers, & from our mutual conferences on the subject of the tour, deponent knows that no one could state a number of little circumstances connected with that service as he does without having been present & taking part therein -- but deponent never got acquainted with said Moody in the service but knows he must have belonged to the same Regiment although he might be & probably was in a different Company.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 4th of September 1832.

S/ H. T. Dawson, JP

S/ Isham Rainey⁴



Georgia, Oglethorpe County

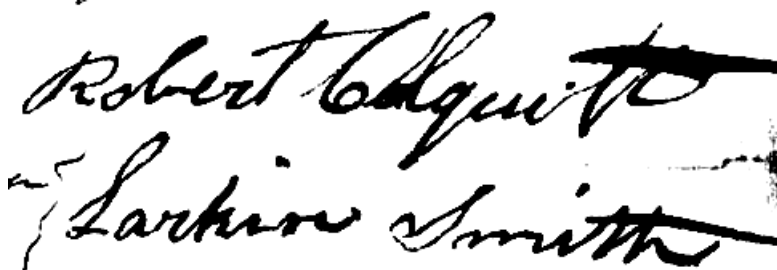
Personally came before me Henry T. Dawson a justice of the Peace for the County & State aforesaid, Robert Colquitt⁵ a Soldier of the Revolution to being duly sworn deposes & says that Thomas Moody, who is about to present his claim for a pension under the act of Congress passed seventh June of the present year served three months with deponent and the war of the Revolution in the lower part of the State of Virginia -- & deponent knows that said Thomas Moody started out with Gates at the time of his defeat. And at the same time comes Larkin Smith⁶ who testifies on oath that he was with Thomas Moody in the same tour of three months to which the said Robert Colquitt has above testified.

Sworn to & subscribed before me – this fourth day of September 1832.

S/ H. T. Dawson, JP

S/ Robert Colquitt

S/ Larkin Smith



The Amendatory Declaration of Thomas Moody, made in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 upon the subject of Revolutionary Pensioners of the United States; his original declaration not having been authenticated according to the Rules & Regulations of the War Department.

State of Georgia, Oglethorpe County

Personally appeared before Henry Jordan a Justice of the peace in & for the County & State aforesaid Thomas Moody, a Revolutionary Soldier, who makes oath of the following amendatory declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That a short time before he made his original declaration for a Pension he applied to the Reverend John Lacey, a minister of the gospel of the Baptist Church, who has lived as near him as any other minister & who was certainly better acquainted with him than any other to testify his belief of deponent's having served in the American War during the struggle for our independence, & he promised to be present at Court when deponent should make his declaration & said he would cheerfully testify according to the requirements of the War Department; but on the day he failed to attend for reasons which he himself will state on oath at the foot of this declaration, which statement when made deponent prays may be taken as a part of his amendatory declaration: That on the formal occasion it was considered sufficient that he should furnish the testimony of two credible persons even though one of them were not a minister of the gospel; he accordingly furnished to good witnesses one of whom was a member of the legislature. That

4 No one by this name (or any similar name) is listed among the pensioner of the State of Virginia.

5 No one by this (or any similar name) is listed as a pensioner for services rendered in Virginia.

6 [Larkin Smith S31974](#)

he has now had his papers corrected in the particulars marked out by the instructions of accompanying the return of his Original declaration & he now encloses the original declaration with the amendments & instructions & claims his Pension according to law.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 19th day of July 1833.

S/ Henry Jordan, JP

S/ Thos. Moody

State of Georgia, old Fort County

Personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in & for the County John Lacy who being duly sworn deposes & saith that he is a minister of the Gospel & that he was applied to by Mr. Thomas Moody the person who has made & subscribed beforegoing amendatory declaration to bear witness of his belief that said Moody had served in the Revolutionary War & that he engaged to do so at the time he (Moody) made his original declaration; but was prevented from doing so by having had to attend to his clerical duties over a distant charge from whence he could not reach the Courthouse in time to fulfill his engagement with Mr. Moody. That he has been personally acquainted with the said Thomas Moody about 34 years – that it is the opinion of the neighborhood that Mr. Moody was a Revolutionary soldier & that deponent always concurred in that opinion.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 19th day of July 1833.

S/ Henry Jordan, JP

S/ John Lacy, M. G.

[printed form with blanks filled in]

State of Georgia, County of Oglethorpe

On this 3rd day of September 1855, personally appeared before Henry Britain, ordinary, of the County and State above names, Selah Moody, a resident of the County of Oglethorpe in the State of Georgia, aged 70 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed Feby 3rd 1853 granting pensions to widows of persons who served during the Revolutionary war. That she is the widow of Thomas Moody who was a private of Virginia Militia in the war of the Revolution and a pensioner of the United States by reason of said services under the Act of June 7 1832 on the Georgia roll at fifty one dollars and fifty five cents per year. She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Moody on the 29th day of December AD one thousand eight hundred and thirty at Oglethorpe Co., Ga by one Jonathan W. Raines a Justice of the Peace, that her name before her said marriage was Selah Goolsby, and that her husband, the aforesaid Thomas Moody, died at Oglethorpe Co. Ga on the 10th day of November AD 1836 and that she has remained a widow since the death of her said husband.

S/ Selah Moody

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Selah Moody". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name "S/ Selah Moody".

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$57.55 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]