

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Zachariah Goff W2730 Betsey Goff VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 25 April 2014.

At a Superior Court of Law continued and held for Bedford County at the Courthouse the 14th day of April 1818 before William Daniel Esq'r Judge Zachariah Goff came into Court and made oath that he enlisted in the regular or continental service of the United States of America during the Revolutionary war under Capt. Mayo Carrington of Cumberland County Virginia in April in the year of Christ 1777 that he belonged to the old tenth regiment commanded by Gen'l. Charles Scott of the Continental line; that he was honourably discharged in the month of October (as well as he can now recollect, his discharge being in the old paymasters office in the City of Richmond Virginia) 177[page torn] and that from his reduced circumstances he needs the support of his country for support which statement may [page torn] supported by the affidavit of Colo. John Watts [BLWt2431-300] of this County, who appeared in Court and made oath that the said Zachariah Goff was a regular soldier in the Continental line of the army of the United States of America during the revolutionary war, that he well knows the said Goff served three years or upwards in the said service and that he was, as he believes, regularly discharged and that he believes the said Goff to be in reduced circumstances, which is ordered to be certified.

State of Virginia Campbell County To witt

On this 20th day of Septem'r 1851 before me Richard Morgan a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, duly authorized by law to administer oaths, personally appeared Richard Daniel, a resident of said County and a man of credibility, who being duly sworn according to law declares, that he is 70 years old, and was well acquainted with Zachariah Goff a free Negro, who lived about 3½ miles from deponant at Bells Mill, now called West's old Mill and kept said Mill as a Miller and while acting in said capacity of Miller about the year 1795 or 96 he married Betsy Moss who was also a free Negro, and the daughter of Wm. Moss a free Negro – deponant being about 13 or 14 years old at the time of their marriage Deponant was not at their wedding, but that he was at their house a few days after they were married as aforesaid, and frequently afterwards when he went to said Mill to get Corn, or Wheat ground – he being but a mill boy at the time – and that said Goff, and wife was legally married he has no doubt; he always so understood it. They being very respectable for their class, and thought much of, by their white neighbours. Mr. Robt Alexander was clerk of the county at the time and kept his office at his house, near Mollys creek in said County – which office was burned down some years after said marriage of Zach'h. Goff to said Betsy Moss. That during the course of the year that said Goff and wife was married as above, or the nest year, they moved away from the County of Campbell to the County of Bedford, and have not heard from them since, that he now recollects. [signed] Rich'd Daniel

[The following is in [Bounty-Land records in the Library of Virginia](#). The online image of another document is illegible.]

This is to Certify that Zachariah Goff served in Colo Richard Parkers Regiment on continental establishment, which will appear from his discharge filed in the Auditors Office in 1803. Given under my hand this 28th November 1809. John Watts formerly a Captain in the first Reg. Light Dragoons

NOTES:

Compare the pension application of Abraham Goff (S39596).

On 25 Sep 1851 Betsy Goff, "a Free Negroe," applied for a pension stating that she married Zachariah Goff in Campbell County VA in June 1796, and he died in Bedford County in 1823.

An affidavit dated 16 April 1852 reads in part as follows: "Since the issuing, the pen'n.

certificate to Betsy Goff wid. of Zach'h. a U.S. pen'r. act 1818 Bedford Co Va I called on her, and she says that her husb'd. died about 3 weeks after drawing his pen'n. and which was the only time he drew. The pension Rolls shew, that his pension commenced the 14th of Ap'l. 1818 and that he rec'd. in all \$133.59 (which must have been up to the time of his death I suppose), and which must have occurred in Sep't. 1819." The affidavit was made in response to an objection by the Pension Office that Betsy Goff was not entitled to a pension, because her husband failed to submit a schedule of his property as required by the Pension Act of 1820.

On 28 May 1855 Betsy Goff applied for bounty land, stating that her name before marriage to Zachariah Goff was Betsey Ashberry. The file includes a family register, now almost illegible, written in a Bible printed in 1817 and transcribed below.

THIS BIBLE IS THE PROPERTY OF Elizabeth Goff

Register of the births of Zachary Goffs Children

Zachariah, born March [?] 1797

Patsey Goff born, July 4th 18[??]

Samuel Goff born Dec'r 20th 180[?]

Henry Goff born Aug't 16th 1806

Robert Brown Goff born [?] 24th [???

William Marion Goff born February [?] 18[??]