

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Goings (Going): W930

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee}

Hawkins County} May Sessions 1819

Personally appeared in open Court this twenty sixth[?] day of May 1819 William Going or Gowan, aged about fifty six years, a Citizen of said County & State, & being first duly Sworn in open Court according to law maketh the following Declaration viz. That he enlisted in the Regular Service of the united States during the War of the Revolution sometime in the year 1780 in the spring as [illegible word] as the Deponent now recollects at Hallifax [sic: Halifax; see note below] Court House State of Virginia under Captain Tilman Dixon of the 1st Regiment of light infantry commanded by Hal or Henry Dixon, and Major Donahoo, attached to George Washingtons Command, for during the War that this Deponant served under said Col. Dixon in said first Regiment three years at one continuous time without leaving said Service at any time and that having served his Country honorably and faithfully during said period was honorably discharged sometime in the year 1783 at York Town, State of Virginia, (when Cornwallis was taken in the year 1781) by his Excellency General George Washington.

This Deponant further declares on oath that he was in the following battles viz at the Battle of Brandywine, when he was wounded in his knee and ancle by Grape Shot thrown by the Enemy at the Battle of Camdin or Pine town[?] North Carolina [sic: Battle of Hobkirk's Hill at Camden SC] when General [Nathanael] Greene commanded, in the battle of the Cowpens, at the battle of Guilford, in the battle of the Eutaw Springs, and at the Battle of York Town when Cornwallis with his army were taken by Gen'l. Geo. Washington. He further saith that he had suffered great hardships, privations and excessive fatigue while in said service of which he now feels the effects. that he is in extreme poverty & distress and without the support of his Country he will suffer greatly. that his circumstances are sutch[?] having nothing at all to support himself with. That he has never drawn any pension from his country altho he believes he was entitled thereto on account of his wounds, but has hitherto supported himself by his labour, but is now compelled to apply for relief by reason of his feeble & debilitated state of health. He further states that his honorable discharge, which he received from the commander in Chief He has lost sometime ago in Virginia & that he knows of no person in this Country by whom he could prove his services and that having served faithfully & honorably more than nine months, the period required to be placed on the pension list, at one continuous time he hopes to receive the benefit of the act passed for the relief of the soldiers of the Revolution, whose case is comprehended by said act Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day & date above

William hisXmark Going

On this 29th day of August 1820. personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record in the County of Hawkins in the state of Tennessee, William Going, aged about 56 years, resident in said County of Hawkins who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows. enlisted in Captain Dixon's Company, first regiment Virginia line that he has received a pension certificate now in his possession, number 12, 757, that his first declaration was made out in said County Court of Hawkins County, about the 6th day of May 1819. and I do solemnly swear, that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by Gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an Act of Congress entitled "an Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States during the Revolutionary War, passed the 18th of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed, viz four hogs, 1 shoat & one oxen, 1 old chair, 1 axe & hoe, four forks & four knives, 3 Tin plates I am by occupation a daily laborer or farmer but am frail and not able to support myself and family, which is compose of

the following persons viz my wife aged above 46 years, 1 boy 11 years old, 1 Girl 10 years, 1 Girl 5[?] years and one boy aged two years, and that I stand in great need of the assistance of my country for support. sworn to & subscribed in open Court

William hisXmark Going

The Court values the property contained in the foregoing schedule to thirteen dollars and thirty cents.

NOTES:

There are numerous inconsistencies in this declaration. It is more likely that Goings enlisted in the North Carolina line in Halifax County in that state rather than in the Virginia line in Halifax County VA, since Captain Tilghman Dixon, Lt. Col. Hal Dixon, and Major Thomas Donoho were in the North Carolina line. Moreover, Going could not have been at all the above battles within a continuous three-year period, as is evident from the following time line:

11 Sep 1777 Battle of Brandywine; Goings about age 14
17 Jan 1781 Battle of Cowpens SC
15 Mar 1781 Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC
25 Apr 1781 Battle of Hobkirk's Hill SC
8 Sep 1781 Battle of Eutaw Springs SC
19 Oct 1781 Surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown VA

At the surrender of Charleston SC on 12 May 1780, Capt. Tilghman Dixon's company was captured and imprisoned for at least a year. The approximately two dozen NC Continental soldiers who remained free after the surrender were combined to form a company under Capt. Edward Yarborough in the NC Militia commanded by Col. Hal Dixon. These troops were not at the Battle of Cowpens, but were at Salisbury NC battling smallpox. They were, however, at the battles of Guilford Courthouse, Hobkirk's Hill, and Eutaw Springs. Capt. Dixon was also at the battle of Eutaw Springs, having been exchanged on 14 June 1781. None of the troops in that battle were at Yorktown. North Carolina state records show that a William Goin enlisted in Dixon's company on 25 May 1781 and served until 21 May 1782, and these dates seem most consistent with Goings's age and claimed service.

On 8 June 1839 Elizabeth Goings, aged 70, applied for a pension stating that in October 1793 she married William Goings, "who was a private soldier in Captain Tilman Dixons company in the first North Carolina Regiment," and that he died on 23 Aug 1827.

Another Transcription with notes

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of William Goings W930

Transcribed by Tracy Hutchinson

I have transcribed the documents to the best of my ability, however I am sure that there are mistakes.

**Sate of Tennessee
Hawkins County
May Session 1819**

Personally appeared in open court this twenty sixth day of May 1819 William Going or Goen and aged about fifty six years, a citizen of said County & Sate, & being first duly sworn in open court according to law maketh the following declaration was that he enlisted in the regular service of the united states during the War of the Revolution sometime in the year 1780 in the spring as near as this deponent now recollects at Halifax County Ct house state of Virginia under Captain Tilman Dixon of the 18th Regiment of light infantry commanded by Col Henry Dixon * major Donobro , attached to General George Washingtons command. ??? during the war that this deponent served under said Col Dixon in said first Regiment three years at one continued time without leaving said service at anytime and that having served his Country honorably and faithfully during said service was honorably discharged sometime in the year 1783 at York Town, State of Virginia (when Cornwallis was taking in the year 1781) by his Excellency General George Washington. This deponant further declarath on oath that he was in the following battles, was at the battle of Brandy Wine, when he was wounded in his knee and ancle by grape shot thrown by the enemy, at the battle of Camden, North Carolina when General Greene commanded, in the battle of the Cowpens, at the battle of Guilford, in the battle Eulany Springs, and at the Battle of York Town when Cornwallis with his army were taken by Genl George Washington. He further saith that he has suffered great hardships, pour rations and weapons fatigue while in said service of which he now feels the effects that he is in extreme poverty & distress and without the support of his Country he will suffer greatly that his circumstances are witch having nothing at all to support himself with . That he has never drawn any pension from his Country although he believes he was entitled there to on account of his wounds, but has hather to supported himself by his labour. Said is now compelled to apply for relief by reason of his feeble & debilitated state of health. He further states that his honorable discharge which he

received from the commander in Chief. He has left sometime ago in Virginia & that he knows of no person in the County by whom he could prove his services and that having served faithfully & honorably more than nine months the said requests to be placed on the pension list, at one continued time he hopes to the benefit of the act, send to the relief of the soldier of the Revolution, whose case is comprehended by said act.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day & date above

William X (his mark) Going

S D Mitchell Clk

By W B Mitchell his deputy

On the same day May aforesaid personally appeared in open court Colonel Eskridge Kinner a majestrate for said County of Hawkins and James Cox a citizen also of said County & State who being duly sworn according to law state they have been acquainted with said William Going applicant for a pension for sometime past that he has worked for them on their farms & always conducted himself well & behaved like an honest, upright man, that they have frequently heard him make the statements contained in the foregoing declaration & that he is in very reduced circumstances in life, stands in need of the assistance of his County for support, furthermore that from the knowledge they have of him they would & do believe that what he has stated above is true.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court this 26th of May 1819

C E Kinner

Jas Cox

S D Mitchell Clk

By W B Mitchell his deputy

State of Tennessee
Hawkins County
May Sessions 1819

I George Maxwell chairman of the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions for the said County do hereby certify that the foregoing named applicant for a pension viz William Going appeared this 26 day in court, & made oath to the foregoing declaration and at the same time appeared the foregoing named Colonel E. Kinner a Justice of the Peace in & for said

County of Hawkins & James Cox both respectable citizens of said county & also, deposed to the above affidavit. And I do furthermore certify that from the above evidence, before me and it appears to my satisfaction that the said applicant for a pension is in reduced circumstances, stands in need of the assistance of his County for support & that he was more than nine months in the continued service of his Country during the Revolutionary War at one time.

Given under my hand & seal this 26th May 1819.

Geo. Maxwell (seal)

**State of Tennessee
Hawkins County
May Sessions 1819**

I Shockley D. Mitchell clerk of the court of Pleas & quarter Sessions for said County do hereby certify & make known that the within applicant for a pension within with C. E. Kinner Esquire & James Cox appeared in open court on the 26 day of May 1819 & made oath to the foregoing declaration & affidavit & subscribed their names thereto. And I do furthermore certify that the said George Maxwell whose name appears amend to the declaration and to others viz Samuel Rhodes, Daniel McElrays, James Simmons, Thomas Pratts, William Johnson, Ebenezer Manns & Walter Beattys is & was at the time of signing the same & was before for many years and state is chairman of the said court of Pleas & quarters Sessions for said county & State & that full faith & credit is and should be given to his official act as such.

In testimony where of I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of office this 26 day of May 1819 at office in Rogersville.

S D Mitchell Clk

By W B Mitchell his deputy

On this 29th day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court during a Court of record in the County of Hawkins in the state of Tennessee William Going aged about 56 years, resident in said County of Hawkins who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows, enlisted in Captain Dixon's company, first regiment Virginia line that he has received a pension certificate now in his possession number 12757, that his first declaration was made out in said County Court of Hawkins County about the 6th day of May 1819 and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not since that time, by gift and or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish of as to bring myself within the provisions of an Act of Congress entitled "an Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the

land and naval service of the United States during the Revolutionary War passed the 18th of March 1818. And that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule surety annexed. And by me subscribed, viz four hogs, 1 pot & one oven, 1 old chair, 1 axe & 1 hoe, four forks & four knives, 3 tin plates. I am by occupation a daily laborer or farmer but am frail and not able to support myself and family which is composed of the following persons viz My wife aged about 45 years, 1 boy 11 years old 1 girl 10 years 1 girl 5 years and one boy aged two years. And that I stand in great need of the assistance of my country for support.

Sworn and subscribed in open Court
William X (his mark) Going

The Court value the property contained in the foregoing schedule to thirteen dollars and thirty cents.

State of Tennessee

I Stockley D Mitchell clerk of the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions for the County of Hawkins in the stat aforesaid do hereby certify that the foregoing oath and the schedule thereto annexed are truly copied from the words of the said Court and I do further certify that the total amount in value of the property exhibited in the aforesaid schedule is thirteen dollars and thirty cents.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of Office at Office this 29th day of August 1820
S D Mitchell Clk

Declaration in order to obtain the comforts of the act of Congress of the 7th July 1838 Entitled an act granting to late pay and pensions to certain widows.

State of Tennessee

Hawkins County

On this 8 day of June in the year 1839 personally appeared before the under signed or Justice of the Peace for the county of Hawkins aforesaid Elizabeth Goings resident of said county and state aged Seventy years who first duly sworn according to law doth in her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 Entitled "an act granting late pay and pensions to certain widows". That she is the widow of William Goings who was a private soldier in Captain Tilman Dixons company in the first North Carolina Regiment and she refers for a now particular account of her said husbands services in the revolutionary war, to the

declaration of her said husband on file in the war department. Her said husband was on the pension roll of the United States under the act of 1818 at the rate of Eight dollars per month and drew his pay at Knoxville East Tennessee. She further declares that she was married to him in the month of October, 1793, Seventeen hundred ninety three in Caswell County North Carolina, and that her said husband died at his residence in Hawkins County aforesaid on the 23rd day of August in the year 1827 and that since then she has not been married. She further declares that she was not married him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the 18th day of January seventeen hundred ninety four and at the time above stated. She has no record of proof of her said marriage.

Sworn to & subscribed before me on the day & year above written.

Elizabeth X (her mark) Goings

David Reynolds JP

State of Tennessee

Hawkins County

Personally appeared before me the under signed as Justice of the Peace in & for said County Peter Goings and Agga Goings who being first duly sworn according to law depositions I saith as following to wit Agga Goings declares that she is about fifty years of age, that she has been well acquainted with the late William Goings as Pensioner of the United States and also with his widow Elizabeth Goings, that the said William and Elizabeth were married in Caswell county North Carolina about the time stated by the said Elizabeth in her said declaration which is the month of October 1793 and that they ever afterwards lived together as man & wife until the time of said Williams death. Which took place on the 23rd day of August 1827 – and that his said widow has not been married since – And the said Peter Goings states that he has been acquainted with the said William & Elizabeth ever since he was a small boy, applicant being man aged about thirty years, and he believes said William & Elizabeth were married as she states, in Caswell County North Carolina and at the time stated, and ever since he was acquainted with them they lived together as man & wife and were so until?? By their neighbours the said William died in his house in Hawkins County on or about the 23 day of August 1827 – and that his said widow has not been married since the death of her said husband, and further deponent (???) say not.

Agga X (her mark) Goings

Peter X (his mark) Goings

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 8 day of June 1839

David Reynolds JP

Extractions from the next two recordings are as follows:

On this same day David Reynolds testifies that Agga and Peter Goings did subscribe to the official office with their testimony and that they were credible persons. David Reynolds also states that Elizabeth could not be in court on this day due to bodily infirmity and that he had been acquainted with William and Elizabeth for about thirty years and that they always lived as husband and wife.

Jas M Hord Clk certifies David Reynolds as the Justice of Peace at the time of signing.

Washington City
Jany 6th 1839

Dear sirs

I have received you reasons addressed to D. Alexander Esq. for suspending the application of Mrs Elizabeth Goins the widow of Wm. Goings decd. A Revolutionary Pensioner of Hawkins County Ten. For a Pension in which you say that the Certificate of the Clerk is in dispensably necessary before she can be allowed a Pension, She has proven her marriage by two creditable witnesses to my knowledge, she thinks it hard that she should be required to prove more than others, there are two widows of Revolutionary Soldiers in the same neighborhood who have been allowed Pensions who only proved their marriage by one witness, without any certificate of the Clerk. I have no doubt in my own mind but she is lawfully entitled to a Pension, I would not say so if I did not feel confident of the fact – It has been so long since her marriage to ck place that the Clerk cannot find the certificate of her marriage, I hope you will take up her case again, and if you can be satisfied of the justice of her claim, please grant it, and send the certificate to me –
Very Respectfully Yrs. Mo. Afft. Servt.

A McClellan

J. L. Edwards Esq.

P.S. Please send the Declaration & papers now on file in your office of Mrs. Sally Pratt widower of Thos. Pratt decd. a Revolutionary Soldier of Hawkins County Tennessee
& oblige Yours &
A. McClellan

**Yanceyville NoCa.
Clerk Office Jany 30th 1840**

Sir

In answers of yours of the 7th we have to say that the only evidence on Our County is by reference to marriage bonds filed in the Office – and we have carefully examined the marriage bonds in this office from the years 1789, up to the year, 1800. and can find no record of the Marriage of William Goings to Elizabeth his wife –

We find the marriage bond of John Going to Betsy Hickman in Nov. 1795 – I writ this last thinking that if there should be any mistake in the name you could correct it –

Yours Very Respectfully

Paul A. Haralson, clerk

G W G VanHook Clerk

To J L Edwards

Commissioner of pensions

Washington City, D.C.

Extraction from Nancy Lemmons Testimony on September 25, 1839

On the 25th day of September 1839 testimony was given by Nancy Lemmons stating that she was 69 years old and that she was well acquainted with William and Elizabeth Goings and that she was present when they did get married in Caswell at the house of William Rainey in the month of September or October in the year 1793. She further stated that she lived about twelve miles from the Goings when he died and her husband said that neither one of them could read or write and did not have a family bible and they kept no word of their marriage or births of their children.

From Hawkins County Will Book I - <http://www.rootsweb.com/~tnhawkin/will3.htm#WILLIAM%20GOING>

WILL OF WILLIAM GOING

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Dated: August 21, 1827

In the Name of God, Amen. I, **William Going** of the County of Hawkins and State of Tennessee, being of sound mind and memory at present, blessed be God, do this 21st day of Aug. in the year of our Lord one thousand, Eight hundred and twenty seven make and publish this my Will and Testament in manner following, that is to say: First of all. After paying my just debts, I wish my personal property and the tract of land coming to me from the United States be sold to pay my debts and the over plush money, if there be any, to be divided equally between my heirs, except **Sheard** and **Andrew Going**, my two sons, to have the 50 acres of land I now live on equally between them if the debts can be settled without selling the land. And I do ordain and appoint **Nicholas Long** my Executor of this my last Will and Testament without his giving bond and security, in the presence of us who are present at the time of his signing and sealing thereof.

William x Going (seal)(his mark)

Witness: (his mark) **John x King** and **William Willeford**

WILLIAM GOINGS

PRIVATE

VIRGINIA CONT'L LINE

\$96.00 ANNUAL ALLOWANCE

\$796.80 AMOUNT RECEIVED

JULY 16, 1819 PENSION STARTED

AGE 64

DIED AUGUST 23, 1827

William Goings' testimony for the Revolutionary War pension application of Robert Smith given on September 1, 1820.

Transcribed by Tracy Hutchison

State of Tennessee
Hawkins County

On the same day personally appeared in open court Samuel Spears & William Goings Citizens of Hawkins County and who have the character of good citizens & make oath in due form of Law. That they are well acquainted with the said Robert Smith, that they both knew him in the War of the Revolution when he was a Lieutenant in the 3rd North Carolina Regiment on the Continental Establishment that they ????? Samuel Spears belonged to the same Regiment Lt. Smith belonged to and William Goings the applicant belonged to the 1st Regiment Virginia line that the said two Regiments lay N West Point to New York in the year 1778 at sometime about Christmas they positively state that said applicant Robert Smith was a regularly commissioned officer in said 3rd Regiment and they turily (??) believe he is entitled to a pension. This applicant William Goings is now a pensioner himself on the roll of the Untied States of number 12757.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court
Samuel X (his mark) Spears
William X (his mark) Goings

William Goings' testimony for the Revolutionary War pension application of Samuel Spears given on September 1, 1820.
Transcribed by Tracy Hutchison

State of Tennessee
Hawkins County

On the same day personally appeared in open court William Goings who being first duly sworn according to law desposith & saith that he is at this time a pensioner & is the same person who made out his amended declaration with the schedule amend the this day that he is well acquainted with the above named Samuel Spears applicant for a pension that this deponent served with said Spears in Pennsylvania within places on the Continental Establishment and that what the said applicant has stated in the foregoing declaration is strictly true furthermore this applicant is entirely disinterested in said applicant getting a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court.
William X (his mark) Goings

**William Goings' testimony for the Revolutionary War pension application of John Petty given on May 22, 1822.
Transcribed by Tracy Hutchison**

**State of Tennessee
Hawkins County**

On the same day appeared in open court William Going aged about fifty six years a citizen of Hawkins County aforesaid who being also duly sworn states that he is acquainted with the said John Petty that they served together in the said Regiment Vig. The first Regiment commanded by Col. Dixon that said Petty served out his said period of 19 months honorably and that he is the identical John Petty who served in the Revolutionary War and that his aforesaid declaration he believes is substantially correct he further states that said John Petty's memory is weak and that the old man is very frail he believes also that he is in indigent circumstances & stands greatly in need of the aid of his Government this applicant is himself a pensioner of the General Government Revolutionary that his certificate is Number 12757 dated 16th May 1819.

Sworn to & subscribed
William X (his mark) Going