

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Nathaniel J. Goff S31695

fn18SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 9/29/08

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original on footnote.com and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original.]

Georgia, Jasper County: Jasper Inferior Court Jan'y Term 1833

On the 22nd day of January 1833 personally appeared in open Court before Reuben C. Shorter, James Whitfield & John C. Gibson Justices of the Inferior Court of said County it being a Court of Record now sitting, Nathaniel J. Goff a resident of said County and State aged 70 years since the 25th of July 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. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, to wit: under the command of Captain Thomas Harvey of the Dragoons & after the death of Captain Henry in battle, the company was then commanded by Lieutenant Jesse Johnson & the battalion by Major Fields Perdue [sic, Field Pardue]¹-- this deponent thinks he entered the service about 1781 & continued in service he thinks till April 1783 at which time he was regularly & honorably discharged by his officers at Pickens' Block House South Carolina—this deponent further states that till the time he entered the service, he resided in Edgefield district South Carolina – he entered the service as a volunteer – he was in the battle of Eutaw [Eutaw Springs] – at the siege of Augusta under Colonel Lee [Henry “Light Horse Harry” Lee] – at the battle at Rodgers' [sic, Roger's Plantation or Rogiard's Plantation]² South Carolina with the Tories who he believes were commanded by a Colonel Cotton & the Whigs by Colonel Samuel Hammond – it was in this engagement that Captain Harvey of this deponent's Company was killed – this deponent was also in the expedition against the Cherokee Indians commanded by General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] – in the battle with the Indians this deponent had a horse killed under him belonging to his Colonel Samuel Hammond – the fights already stated are the most material in which he participated but he was engaged during his service in many skirmishes – this deponent marched through North Carolina [sic] where he met the British at Eutaw – to Georgia where him & his Countrymen captured Brown at Augusta & to Tennessee, & near that River where he fought the Indians – he recollects Colonel Lee at Augusta – General Greene at Eutaw, & also General Marion [Francis Marion] & Colonel Washington [William Washington] at the same battle, & those that Colonel Washington was captured in that battle – he has no Documentary evidence to prove his services as he has lost his discharge other than the letter of Colonel Samuel Hammond written some years back to a friend of this deponent on the subject of his services which is hereto annexed as a part of his evidence – this deponent always lived in Edgefield District after the War, until he moved to Georgia where he has lived ever since (about 12 years).

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, & declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

1 Moss, Bobby Gilmer, *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution* (Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1983) 751

2 O'Kelley, Patrick, *Nothing but Blood and Slaughter: The Revolutionary War in the Carolinas, Volume Three: 1781*, (N. p.: Booklocker.com, Inc., 2005) 274. This skirmish occurred in June 1781. See also, <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/rogersplantation.htm>

S/ Nathaniel J. Goff

S/ Reuben C. Shorter, J.I.C.

S/ J. C. Gibson, J. I. C.

S/ James Whitfield, J. I. C.

[Cyrus White, a clergyman, and John W. Barry gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Included in the Unselected portion of this file is the following letter from Samuel Hammond]

1829 -- July 23rd, Varells Farm Near Hamburg South Carolina

Sir,

Your letter of the 8th Inst. & has Just now been received and its Contents perused – The Old Gentleman in Whose behalf You Right was a meritorious Citizen in the War of the Revolution in the latter part of the War he Was attached to a Regiment of Dragoons in the Service of this State, as a Regular Corps, then Commanded by me. He Continued in Service beyond the term for which he was engaged Some Time influenced by Pure Patriotism, for the term for which he Was engaged he was to be Paid in Likely Negroes between the ages of 16 & 30, said Negroes to be taken from the Estates of the Tories who should be placed up on the bill of attainder & Confiscation, the services so engaged was faithfully Performed, & the Troops Honorably discharged, but the [illegible word, looks like “Sinity” or “Sivity”] of the State legislature, induced a Policy too liberal towards the people who had Joined the Enemy, to enable the state to fulfill these engagements to her patriotic Citizens in the Kind promised and by a Subsequent Act of the legislature those troops were Promised an Indent for Eighty Guineas for each Negro & in lieu thereof, Mr. Goff was entitled to one of those indents which he affirms he has never received, if so it is fairly Due to him or his Heirs together with Interest thereon. I drew up and presented for him the last Session a petition for Pavement & was called upon to attend the Committee to whom it was Referred to give testimony in his behalf. I did attend & after some time spent, the Petition was referred to the Comptroller General, who was directed to Examine the public Records & Report to the next Session of the legislature, whether Mr. Goff's Claim had or had not been paid by Delivery of an Indent & if the Indent had been delivered to whom it had been so delivered, if he reports that it has not been delivered and has not been taken up at the Treasury – I think there is no doubt of his having Justice done him & a payment made to him or Heirs – my own bad State of health prevented my being at Columbia in the Early Part of the last Session, and indeed after I arrived there that I could not attend to it as Soon or as Closely as I wished or I believe his pay might have been got then. His Own Presence Early the next Session will be important & I hope [illegible word] him Justice, if he has any friends able and willing to help the poor old patriot on the Way, they will not do more than their duty & I hope may enable him to remunerate their advances – I am myself old infirm and in [illegible word, looks like “Sladen”] Circumstances but if alive and able to Go to Columbia I shall do all I can for him – I received a letter some time since from a Citizen of Monticello upon this Subject. I was then confined by Sever indisposition & not able to write, but my son wrote a few lines acknowledging the receipt of that letter & communicated the cause of its not being attended to at the time. Please present by Respects to Mr. Goff and communicate the contents of this address from

Your Ob. Servt

S/ S. Hammond, Senr.

Judge Clayton of Georgia, upon looking at the above signature, says that he is acquainted with that of Col. Hammond and should think this his genuine Signature.

March 11 1833

S/ H. H. [illegible signature—does not appear to be “Clayton”]