

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension application of George Hofstalar S15176

fn18NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 5/9/11

[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.]

State of Alabama, County of Blount

On this 7th day of September in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and Thirty three personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Blount County now sitting George Hoffstalar [sic] a resident of Gurley's Settlement in the County of Blount in the State of Alabama 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 June 7th 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: That on the first of August in the year 1778 he enrolled himself as a volunteer for the term of the nine months in the militia of the State Troops of North Carolina & to serve as a private therein in the Company of Capt David Cowan and at the time of his enrollment resided in Rowan County in the Town of Sallsbury [sic, Salisbury] in North Carolina and he was enrolled for the term aforesaid under an offer from the Congress of the United States or from the State of North Carolina of a Bounty of one hundred dollars and he was then marched by the said David Cowan¹ from Salisbury to Guilford Court House and there a little North of Guilford we turned to the right and marched to the head of Mourns Creek near the Dan River and there we were placed under the command of Col Lytle [Archibald Lytle] and General Davidson [William Lee Davidson] of Rowan County North Carolina and Major Polk [Thomas Polk] of the Town of Charlotte who before that time had been wounded by a ball being

1 *Roster of Soldiers from North Carolina in the American Revolution with an Appendix Containing a Collection of Miscellaneous Records* (Originally published by the North Carolina Daughters of the American Revolution, Durham, 1932, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1984 reprint)(hereinafter cited as *NC DAR Roster*) lists a David Cowan as a Lieutenant in the 10th North Carolina Regiment in 1779 who was promoted to Captain in 1781. See pages 32, 118, 201.

shot through the corners of his mouth which had damaged some of his teeth; and we remained at the Head of Mourns Creek & vicinity three months on duty and Capt Cowan and his company were sent home on furlough and ordered to be ready to serve out their time when called on. David Dubbens [sic, Dobbins?] was our Lieutenant or Ensign & the other subaltern's name not recollected and he was again called out to serve out the term of his enrollment in the month of March in the year 1779 and joined General Lincoln's [Benjamin Lincoln's] Army at Purysburg [Purrysburg] in South Carolina early in March and here he was placed under the command of Capt Goodin² a Light Infantry officer under Col Archibald Lytle of Hillsboro North Carolina in the Battalion of Major Nelson³ also Light Infantry Officers and were not any longer to serve under our first captain but placed under the said Capt Goodin who commanded his Company a short time; who becoming feeble and unable to march with the Light Infantry, we were then commanded by Capt Goodman⁴ another Light Infantry officer under Col Lytle & Major Nelson and this Deponent was informed and believes that his said last mentioned officers Lytle, Nelson, Goodin and Goodman were Regular officers commanding the Light Infantry Troops & and from Purysburg we marched to a high Bluff below Augusta and from thence to Beach [sic, Beech] Island and thence to Colvin's⁵ farm on Savannah River and thence continued scouting several weeks below Augusta on the Carolina side and from thence we marched over to the town of Augusta after the British had left there and thence recrossed to Liberty Hill and from thence we crossed over and marched down to Briar Creek and we remained there encamped in an old field near the Burnt Bridge on the said Creek about one mile from General Ashe's [John Ashe's] Army and this Deponent was in the Battle fought there when General Ashe was Defeated. Major Davy [sic, Capt Harman Davis?] and Capt Patton were in the action and commanded the Light Horse. Col Elbert [Samuel Elbert] was there & commanded Regular Soldiers & the Artillery. The Light Infantry and all that escaped with us swam the River and joined General Rutherford's [Griffith Rutherford's] Army on the Carolina side – Col Lytle lost many of his men some were killed and others were drowned in attempting to swim the River and after our Defeat at Briar Creek we were marched to and engaged in the assault on Fort Stono in the Summer following of General Ashe's defeat. My officers Col Lytle, Major Nelson & Capt Goodman was engaged in the attack and being repulsed at Stono Ferry we then marched & encamped at Bacon's Bridge about Twenty miles from Charleston and continued scouting with General Pulaski's Dragoons – But the Light Infantry – encamped separately but were generally – scouting together. Several of the General Pulaski's Dragoons were Frenchmen and this Deponent served until some time in September in the year 1779 & until his time was out and he was discharged at what was called the Five Mile House by Major Armstrong a Regular officer and an old man near Sixty years of Age & this Deponent was a private soldier during said service.

2 Possibly a reference to Christopher Goodin who was, at the time referenced by applicant, a Captain in the 3rd North Carolina Regiment. Christopher Goodin was killed at the Battle of Eutaw Springs. *NC DAR Roster* 35.

3 Probably Major John Nelson who is listed in *NC DAR Roster* as being a major in the 4th North Carolina Regiment from February 1778 to February 1782. See page 26.

4 Possibly Captain William Goodman listed in *NC DAR Roster* as being a captain in the 4th North Carolina Regiment as of October 1, 1776 and killed at Eutaw Springs. See page 35.

5 I wonder if this might possibly be a reference to Galphin's fort which was located on the Savannah south of Augusta.

And he again enrolled himself as a private volunteer early in the month of September in the year 1780 (the day not recollected) in the Company of Capt Isaac White of the North Carolina Militia Mounted Men at the time of his enrollment resided in Lincoln County North Carolina and from the County of Lincoln under Col Greyham (But called Grimes) we marched & continued scouting in Lincoln & adjoining Counties until we were joined by Col Shelby [Isaac Shelby] and several other militia Colonels and marched with them and was in the Battle of King's Mountain against the Tories were commander Major Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson]. In this Battle Ferguson was killed. There was also a woman killed & lay by his side & said to [be] his kept mistress. In this Battle we lost Capt William Chronick (or Chronicle) a militia officer of Lincoln County N.C. and this Deponent served under said officers three months and was verbally discharged early in December 1780. The Tories were marched from King's Mountain to Moravian Town and there raw corn was thrown to them like feeding hogs and this Deponent was informed several were hung.

And he again enrolled himself as a private in the Company [of] Capt John Weir of Lincoln County North Carolina Militia and was a volunteer therein commanded by Col William Greyham [sic, William Graham] and Major Carooth [sic, Carruth?] and were enrolled for the term of three months and rendezvoused near the last of January 1781 the day is not recollected at McCowns' Ford [sic, Cowan's Ford] on the Catawba River and were there commanded by General Davidson and remained there but a very short time (to guard the Ford) to keep the British Army from crossing. The British infantry waded the River under cover of their cannon and a battle ensued & General Davidson was killed & this Deponent was in said battle and Capt Twitty & his Company of militia was also engaged. We then on the same day retreated to Salisbury and there Col Wasington's [sic, William Washington's] Dragoons swam their horses over the Adkin [sic, Yadkin] River each man carried a bundle of oats before him and they crossed in this manner at Sloans [sic, Sloane's?] Ford; and Col Graham and his Companies Capt Twitty and Capt Weir marched their troops down the River being unable to get over without swimming our horses and being heavily pressed by the Enemy who encamped in Salisbury the same night after our Defeat at the Catawba River. We then continued scouting in Lincoln and the adjoining counties until we served three months and were discharged in Lincoln County the last of April in the year 1781.

And he again enrolled himself as a Substitute in the place of John Carpenter in the Company of Capt Thomas Lofton under Col William Graham of the North Carolina militia in the month of May 1781 and the day of the month not certainly recollected but near the last of May and thence marched to Charlotte with Capt Twitty & Capt Lofton's Companies and from thence to Cross Creek against the Tories and continued there scouting on Rocky River and the waters of Pee Dee [River] for about two months and then returned & continued scouting until he served three months and was discharged in Lincoln County North Carolina in the latter part of August 1781. He was a private Trooper in said tour.

And he again enrolled himself a private volunteer in the company of Capt Abram Ferney⁶ from the County of Lincoln of the militia of the State of North Carolina and marched from home in the latter days of September in the year 1781 as the corn was getting hard and went to the Frontiers against the Cherokee Indians on the head of

⁶ Sic, [Abraham Forney W3976](#)

Savannah & Pigeon and French Broad [Rivers] and destroyed their corn and continued there scouting and served three months and was discharged after Christmas in December 1781. On this tour there were three companies & all mounted men. The Field officers were General McDowell [Charles McDowell] & his brother Col Joseph McDowell and Col Miller all militia officers one Capt & his Company was from Burke County and others from Lincoln and Rutherford counties in North Carolina.

This deponent was nine months of his services in the Light Infantry and the balance of his tours he served as a private Trooper under these Several officers therein mentioned & the said Deponent files the following answers to the several Interrogatories propounded by the Court as prescribed by the War Department. First, I was born in Frederick Town in the State of Maryland and in the year 1763 from the best of my information & have no record of my age. My Father died when I was about thirteen years old. I then went to Salisbury North Carolina where some of my relatives lived and I resided there when first I entered the service & I then removed to Lincoln County where I resided during the remainder of my services & since the Revolutionary War I have lived in Salisbury N. C. then again in Frederick Town Maryland & then in Hagers Town then resided in Tennessee near fifteen years then removed to Blount County Alabama & have lived here ever since about Sixteen years & now reside in said County of Blount. I was induced to entered the United States service the first term for the term of nine months under an offer of a Bounty of \$100 either by the Congress of the United States or the State of North Carolina & I then volunteered as well as all other times but one & then was a Substitute for John Carpenter. I knew the following regular officers & militia officers: General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], Major Hardman, General Williams, Capt William Betty, Col William Washington of Dragoons & one of his captains called Chisom & Col Marberry [probably a reference to Col. Malmedy], General Ugee [sic, Huger], Major Taylor, Major Dixon & Major Armstrong who gave me a Discharge & Major Davy & General Lincoln, a low heaving man with a Long nose & paraded on a Grey Stud horse. I knew Major Micajah Lewis who was said to have been killed at the Battle of Guilford & knew his brother William Lewis a Major & Joel Lewis I think was my Lieutenant under Col Lytle a part of my time and one George Connor his Adjutant, Capt Patton I think was a militia officer and this Deponent knew Capt Lytle said to be a Brother of Col Lytle, he was a regular officer under General Lincoln but believes he was not of the Light Infantry when General Ashe was attacked by the British, Col Lytle with his Light infantry were encamped near the Burnt Bridge in an old Field near a mile from General Ashe; Major Davy came on his Horse in full speed and gave Col Lytle the first intimation of the approach of the British Army and requested him to parade & march to battle without delay and he then instantly wheeled his horse & returned to his Dragoons. I knew him well and recollect distinctly his loud and commanding voice on that occasion; Major Davy was also in the attack at Stono Ferry and was wounded in the thigh & he kept his wound bound with a silk handkerchief. I knew Lieutenant Helton a Regular officer he was in the Battle at Stono & distinguished himself for his boldness & died a natural death shortly thereafter. This Deponent knew Major Dixon well, he was a Regular officer under Genl Lincoln he was an elderly man & resided on Dan River on the Virginia side & owned a ferry. This Deponent was on many scouting parties with General Pulaski & Major Davy & their Dragoons we frequently acted in concert – our Light Infantry never remained long at a time with the Main Army but mostly with the

Dragoons. This Deponent knew Genl Otho Williams first in Frederick Town in the State of Maryland – where he lived & done business for a merchant & I frequently saw him during my services in the Southern Army after he was promoted. I think Major Hardman and Capt Betty were also from Maryland. This Deponent received but one written discharge & that from Major Armstrong -- & I gave it to Major Carruth for the purpose of Drawing my pay but I never received my pay nor got my discharge again; and he has no Documentary evidence whatever of his services aforesaid and he knows of no person living whose testimony he can procure to testify to his Revolutionary Services; I am known in my present neighborhood to John Gurley, Thomas Rutherford, Henry Tidmore, Stanwick Hays, [illegible name, looks like Joseph Carbert] & John Livingston who can testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He hereby relinquishes 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.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ George Hofstalar, X his mark

[Saul Jones, a clergyman, and John Livingston, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify the name of George Hoffstaller does not appear on the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war or any other document affording evidence of service in said line.

Given under my hand this 1st day of November 1833

S/ Wm Hill

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$77.50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 21 months service in the North Carolina militia, 12 months in the Infantry and 9 months in the Cavalry.]