Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Austin Godsey R21991 Franky Godsey VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Capitalization partly corrected.]

State of Virginia } SS

County of Scott } On this day [12 Nov 1857] personally appeared in Open Court, now sitting, for & In said County, John Godsey & James Godsey, Children & Sole Heirs at Law of Austin Godsey & Franky his widow, both deceased, Who in due and Solemn form of law, doth, on their oaths, declare, that Austin godsey, was a Soldier in the Virginia Continental line, in the War of the Revolution, that he served to the end of the War in 1783, that the said Austin first enlisted for the term of two years, at the expiration of which, he returned home to the County of Buckingham in said state, and got married, to Franky Hix, or Hicks, that Immeddiately after his marriage, he again enlisted for the term of the War, and at its close was honorably discharged, that the said Austin Godsey & Franky his wife were married about the year 1779 or 1780, that the said Austin died, in the County of Scott about the year 1818, that his widow, Franky, died in Scott County on the 18th day of Novr. in the year 1853, that their sole and only Heirs at law, are the said John & James Godsey, they claim pension in right of their mother, the said Franky, under act of 7th of June 1832, commencing 4th March 1831 as marriage occured, before his service ended that they do not know, who his Field, or Subaltern Officers were, – They adduce proof of service, of marriage, and of death, with identity. [signed] John Godsey James hisXmark Godsey

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line as settled their Accounts and received Certificates for the balance of their full pay, according to An Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of the said Officers and Soldiers from the 1st January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (See Hening's Statutes at Large, Vol. 10, p. 462,) that a settlement was made on the 12th day of May 1784 in the name of Austin Goodsey as Sol. Inf'y. and evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him for £16.8.0 delivered to Col. [Samuel Jordan] Cabell but as the original settlements or copies thereof are not to be found in this Office the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated \$54.50

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 5th day of September 1856 G. W. Clutter AS.P.A.

This day [16 Aug 1858] John Godsey of the County of Scott & State of Virginia, personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace, in and for said County, and State aforesaid, and made oath, that Austin Godsey the husband of Frankey Godsey formerly Frankey Hicks, told him that he was in a number of battles from 1777 to the close of the war in 1784 [sic], & he further recollects of the said Austin Godsey telling him that he was in the battle of York Town when Corn Wallis surrendered to the American's [sic: Cornwallis at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781], and that he has seen his (Austin Godsey's) discharge frequently; and the said discharge that Austin Godsey received at the Close of the Revelutionary War was in his possession for a number of years, and may be yet tho he has not been able to lay his hands on it; And he also states that he heard Austin Godsey & his brother William Godsey [pension application W292] talk about the war, that they were mesmates together for several years in said war, and he has heard them talk about being in the battle of York Town together and when they were discharged returned home together; and that he can recollect when people were married by publishing it [i.e. banns], in Congregations assemblyed for public worship, he also recollects of seeing his discharge in Buckingham County Va, on the said Austin Godsey's return home from the war, he also seen the money or a part that he received for his servises as a soldier in said war (Continental money), as he Austin Godsey called it. [signed] John Godsey

[Punctuation edited]

This day [16 Aug 1858] Elizabeth Fugate of the County of Russell & State of Virginia personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for Scott County Va. and made oath, that Austin Godsey the Husband of Frankey Godsey formerly Frankey Hicks, told her that he and his brother William Godsey were in a number of battles from 1777 to the close of the war in 1784; and that William Godsey also told her that he & Austin were in the Revolutionary war together for severeal years, (or till the close of the war); she further states that she has heard Austin & Frankey Godsey often speak of their marriage, and she further recollects of hearing her mother speak of being at the marriage. Affiant has had a considerable acquaintance in Eastern Va & especial in the County of Buckingham & a considerable acquaintance in the Western portion of Va and affiant has never new nor heard of any other Austin Godsey but the husband of Frankey Godsey formerly Frankey Hicks but their two Grand sons by the same name. Affiant has every reason to believe that Austin & Wm. Godsey were in the war, for when they returned they had some continental money as they called it that they had received for their servises and affiant all ways heard them spoken of as men of truth, and she has heard other old soldiers conversing about being in the war with Austin Godsey & Wm. Godsey, and they all said that they had Elizabeth herXmark Fugate been honerably discharged.

NOTES:

On 12 May 1857 John Godsey stated that according to a family record kept by his father, he was 74 on the previous 7th of Feb, and that his brother, James Godsey, was 65 on the 22nd or 23rd of Aug 1856. He also stated that there was also a child 18 months older than he was, but he provided no details.

The file contains an affidavit dated 1 Aug 1857 regarding the service and marriage of Austin Godsey, allegedly signed by Clinton Godsey claiming to be a son of Frankey Godsey. Clinton Godsey subsequently denied making the affidavit, resulting in the exchange of charges and countercharges of misconduct by Godsey and the pension agent, J. W. Stevens of Abingdon VA. A letter by Stevens to the Pension Commissioner dated 15 Oct 1858 reads in part: "Since that time he [Clinton Godsey] is a drinking man, how true, I cannot say, but can say this much, he is a troublesom annoying man, he wrote to me about the prospect of his obtaining pension in right of his mother."

The file contains documents pertaining to Thomas Glaze (pension application W5283), evidently misfiled.