

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Goforth Miles R4092

f17VA

(Sarah Goforth)

Transcribed by FA Weyler *edited 9/5/15 by Will Graves in italics*

28Oct2013

[p2]

State of Missouri

Washington County SS

On This Second day of September in the year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty two personally appeared before me William Lucas one of the justices of the County Court within and for the said County of Washington in the State of Missouri, Sarah Goforth aged eighty five years and a resident of Washington County aforesaid. Who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the act of congress passed July 4th 1836.

That she is the widow of Miles Goforth deceased who was a private soldier in the company commanded by one Captain Edmundson¹ who resided upon the Holstein [Holston] in Virginia. And that he was attached to a regiment or battalion or a body of men from the aforesaid Holstein County commanded by one Colo William Campbell who also resided upon the Holstein and commanded Virginia militia most of who (as she was informed by her said husband and she verily believes) were riflemen. That her said husband attached himself to the company of the said Capt. Edmundson some time in the fall of 1780 perhaps in October 1780 or on or about that time and that her said husband marched in haste also other companies and being attached to Campbell as aforesaid, they came to Kings Mountain in North Carolina upon the summit of said mountain the Virginian and North Carolina militia made an attack upon the British Troops commanded by one Colonel Ferguson [*Patrick Ferguson*]. The enemy were defeated and Ferguson slain.

[p3]

She verily believes that said battle was fought in the month of October 1780. That her said husband was in said Battle of Kings Mountain and received a wound by a musket ball from the enemy below the cap of his left knee Her said husband after the battle of Kings Mountain returned to the Holstein in Virginia as also did the other troops with whom he had marched. By this time he was no longer attached to the command of the said Colo W. Campbell, the said Capt. Edmondson having been killed in the said battle *to wit* the battle of Kings Mountain. Her said husband after his return to the Holstein was attached rather to the command of Col Arthur Campbell & was ordered to hold himself in readiness for call should his services be required. This part of VA being contiguous to North Carolina where numerous Tories resided and who had before this time been raiding and assisting by force of arms the British and committing various atrocities upon the persons and property of individuals friendly to the cause of liberty. She further states that she saw a certificate from an officer of the revolution showing that her said husband had been wounded at the battle of Kings Mountain. That in 1838 she sent said certificate to one Gordon Lynn then at Washington City as member of congress from this state the object of which said certificate sent as aforesaid was to obtain an act of congress for her benefit in such case. She states further that she does not know what has become of said

¹ Probably either Capt. Andrew Edmondson (Edmiston) or his brother Capt. William Edmondson (Edmiston), both of whom were killed at the Battle of Kings Mountain, October 7, 1780, along with their brother Lt. Robert Edmondson (Edmiston).

certificate but believes that she may be able to present the contents of it by the Honorable James H Rolfe formerly a member of Congress.

[p4]

She further states that her said husband was engaged in the services of the United States between the latter part of the year 1776 and the fall of the year 1780 up to the battle of Kings Mountain all which service he performed in the Comwth of Va upon the Holstein Clynych [Clinch] and Sandy Rivers and against the Indians who was hostile to the colonies and friendly to the British. That he was engaged in the aforesaid country and upon the aforesaid *rivers and tributaries* against the savage foe. That he was on several occasions commanded by one Rees Bowen who was afterwards killed at the battle of Kings Mountain. Also by one Capt Edmundson who was also killed at Kings Mountain. Also by one Charles Bowen. That her said husband was engaged most of the time between the years 1776 & 1780 as aforesaid in reconnoitering the country and guarding against Indians encroachment upon settlements and acting as an Indian Spy as occasion might require.

She further declares that she was married to the said Miles Goforth some time in the month of October 1785. She believes the 27th day of October 1785 in the state of North Carolina in the County of Rutherford by one James Withers a Justice of the peace. That she has no private or public record in her possession showing said marriage. That her husband the aforesaid Miles Goforth died on the 8th day of May 1821 with fever and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Sarah Goforth, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed on this 2nd day of September 1852.

William Lucas

[p5] routine county certification

William Lucas, presiding judge

Samuel Hanson, clerk

Elizabeth Brook [p11], neighbor of 45 years as to the marriage

Mary Morris [p14], neighbor as to marriage, knew them in Tennessee, they moved to Missouri in 1802. Miles Goforth died on or about 08 May 1821.

John McMurtry, neighbor

[p8] Notice of rejection by pension office 07 Feb 1853 due to no proof of service or of marriage.

[Ed. Note: Witnesses proved common law marriage. Isaac Roman, without reference to Sarah Goforth's case, swore to Goforth's service. <http://revwarapps.org/r8973.pdf>.]