Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jacob V. Goodown S31701 Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Georgia, Jefferson County

On this 7th day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before Justices of the Inferior Court of the County aforesaid now sitting in Chambers Jacob Godown [sic] of the said State and County aged a little upwards of Seventy-four 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 the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in Captain Alexander Irwin's Company that he was residing in the County of Burke and State of Georgia when he entered that he was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Elijah Clarke that he entered as a private on the 20th of May 1781 that he was at the siege and capture of Augusta by the Americans under the command of Colonel Clarke & Pickens [Andrew Pickens] that after the capture of Augusta the Company of Captain Irwin to which applicant belonged was transferred to the Command of Colonel John Twiggs and after the capitulation of Augusta was stationed for some time on Spirit Creek in the County of Richmond & State of Georgia some time in the course of the summer of the same year the applicant was transferred to the Company commanded by Captain Abner Beckham [Abner Bickham] was in an engagement with the Indians of the Cherokee tribe under the command of Colonel John Twiggs on the Ogeechee River the Regiment to which he was attached a part of the time was Commanded by Colonel Asa Emanuel towards the latter part of the year 1781 This applicant was drafted from the militia in which he had been serving for the summer & fall to supply the Army commanded by General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] near Savannah for the term of two months which he served and was stationed at Ebenezer -- not far from Savannah and was discharged from General Wayne's command he thinks about the month of March 1782, he then rejoined the Army from which he had been detached and remained in service scouting against the Indians and Tories until near the close of the Summer 1782 That he was acquainted with few of the Continental officers except General Wayne after the close of the war the Army to which he was attached was disbanded in Burke County near Waynesboro in Georgia that during the whole of his service he was in the State of Georgia in Richmond, Burke, Chatham, Effingham and other parts of the State pursuing the Tories & Indians he was in the field during the whole of his service and was engaged in no other civil pursuit during the time he was engaged in service this applicant was a horseman and served the whole time as such except the two months he was with General Wayne in which he served in the Infantry he was attached to Company regularly embodied and ordered out by Competent authority, he never received a written discharge, he was born according to the

information of his family on the 17th day of August 1754 in the State of South Carolina on Broad River near Shereys Ferry [Shirer's Ferry ?] has no record of his age and has never seen any and thinks that never was any has resided in Burke and Jefferson counties in the State of Georgia ever since the close of the Revolution except about eighteen months which he resided in Talbert County in this State that he now resides in Jefferson County that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than twelve months as a private, ten months at the time as a horseman and two months as an Infantry man. That his service commenced as above mentioned about the month of May 1781 and he remained constantly in service until near the close of the summer of 1782 traversing the Country between Savannah & Augusta and upon the Ogeechee River and in various parts in Georgia and for which services he claims a pension that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service that Abram Busby a minister of the Gospel and John [illegibly faint text] are acquainted with the applicant in his neighborhood and can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution That 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 to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Jacob V. Goodown

S/ Eli Hudson, JIC

S/ John Clements, JIC

S/ Asa Holt, JIC

[Abraham Busby, a clergyman, and John Way & Lemuel M. Barr gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Georgia Jefferson County:

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Jefferson aforesaid Jacob Godowns [sic] a revolutionary soldier who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less he is certain than twelve months as a private soldier in constant-actual service over and above the time he served in scouting or patrolling parties, the time now claimed for he was with an embodied Corps all of the time called out as he has always understood by legal & competent authority, he cannot state the length & termination of the several tours composing this term of twelve months if indeed it was divided into tours. It might have been the case for ought this applicant now knows. The applicant first volunteered & then was drafted into the Army under General Wayne where he served two months as stated in his original declaration. The balance of the time he served under Militia Officers as stated in his original declaration. The applicant understood that his services continued for the twelve months, it may however have been divided into tours if it was, one tour, must have commenced immediately after the expiration of the other, as to this the applicant cannot positively state but this he knows that he was under the command of officers who were in the service of the United States and embodied for at least twelve months, ten months as a Dragoon or horseman & two months in the infantry,

the applicant thinks he might justly claim for three months more service, but he prefers to claim for less time than he thinks he is entitled to, rather than encounter the rest of claiming for a greater service than he has actually performed, the time and place which he served is that as described in his original declaration & for which he now claims a Pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th July 1834 S/ Robert Crooks, JP S/ Jacob V. Goodown

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$31.11 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 9 and 1/3 months in the Georgia militia.]