

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Gordon S3403

f17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/19/08 rev'd 9/14/15

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Maury County: SS

On this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Lunsford M. Bramlett Judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit of the State aforesaid now sitting and presiding in the Circuit Court of said County William Gordon a resident of said County of Maury & State of Tennessee aged seventy-six 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 aforesaid Act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. He first entered the service as a volunteer about the 1<sup>st</sup> June 1780 (the day not recollected) for a three months tour under Captain Thomas Farmer & Lieutenant Horton & Ensign Bud [?] applicant then lived & resided in Orange County North Carolina and the Company to which he belonged was placed under the Command of Colonel Ramsey who was taken sick shortly afterwards & then Stephen Moore the Lieutenant Colonel took the Command of the Regiment. Applicant was marched from Hillsboro to Fayetteville & there joined several other Regiments and were all under the Command of Major General Caswell [Richard Caswell]. Marched thence from Fayetteville into South Carolina and upon the confines of South Carolina General Caswell fell [in] with General Gates [Horatio Gates] who had been sent on from the North with some two or 3000 regular troops after which General Gates had the command. Applicant was in the battle called Gates defeat which was fought in a few miles of Camden South Carolina on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 1780 [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780].<sup>1</sup> After Gates defeat the troops were pretty much scattered and that he marched back into North Carolina to Hillsborough & the three months not being quite out applicant was put in the Wagon Service & served out the remainder of the three months in hauling for the regular troops and got a written discharge signed by the wagon master whose name is not recollected which discharge has long since been lost Applicant not expecting that it would be of any use after the war broke it was not taken care of or preserved. This tour was performed in pursuance of the draft & call for volunteers which took place just after the British had taken Charleston South Carolina.

Applicant again entered the service as a volunteer about the middle of February 1781 under the command of Captain James Trousdale and served another tour of three months was marched by Captain Trousdale & met General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] somewhere near Dan River & continued to maneuver about with General Greene for some days & in filling & arranging the Companies Captain Trousdale not having a full Company – he and his men had to be attached to another company of Drafted man & be placed under Drafted officers or return home & it was left to the choice of the company & they chose to return home rather than to go under drafted officers & the Company was accordingly marched on to the neighborhood of Hillsboro which service lasted for one

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_camden.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html)

month & a half. And immediately after Captain Trousdale returned to Hillsborough Captain Trousdale was called for with his company to furnish three three months tours. And Applicant with said company were placed in Hillsboro to guard the Government Council, the Tories came seven or 800 and surrounded the troops at Hillsborough and applicant was taken prisoner<sup>2</sup>, and the prisoners were taken to Wilmington & from there to Charleston where they were confined on board of a prison ship for upwards of 12 months but 15 of the prisoners – amongst whom was this applicant got a parole & went home. Applicant states it to be about four weeks that he was out at this time when getting to parole he went home. And being taken prisoner & the Tories taking Hillsborough & the troops broke up that tour at about four weeks as above stated. The next tour that applicant served he entered the service under Captain Gwin [probably Captain Edward Gwinn, Gwin, Gwyn, Gwynn], Lieutenant Scovy [?] & Ensign William Vestal<sup>3</sup> for a tour of duty as a volunteer in a Horse Company under the aforesaid officers in 1782 and entered upon duty the last of March or the first of April this tour was performed in obedience to a call of the government of North Carolina to raise troops to fight against Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] a Tory Colonel. Applicant was march[ed] with the other troops to Bear Creek & upon Brush Creek & upon Pedee [River] and continued the troops did to scour upon those watercourses after Colonel Fanning until the tour of duty expired or nearly so this was a three months Tour & applicant believes it lacked about three days out when the troops were discharged, it was said that Colonel Fanning had fled & gone to Saint Augustine in Florida. At this time applicant got a written discharge at this time for a three months tour signed by Captain Gwin which is also lost. Applicant has no documentary proof of his services nor does he know of anyone whose testimony he can procure by whom he can prove the same. Applicant states that he was born in the State of Maryland from the best traditionary information that he has on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 1757, he moved from Maryland to Orange County North Carolina and from thence he moved to the State of Illinois Gallatin County in the year 1806. And moved to the State of Tennessee Maury County in 1815 where he now resides. 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 and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ George M. Martin, CMCC

S/ William Gordon

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Gordon". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

October 29<sup>th</sup> 1833

[John Hunter, a clergyman, & David Dobbin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the North Carolina militia.]

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<sup>2</sup> Tory Colonel David Fanning invaded Hillsboro September 12, 1781 taking the Governor Thomas Burke and others prisoners [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_hillsborough.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hillsborough.html)

<sup>3</sup> Another Orange County veteran, [S18251 William Tracey \(Tracy\)](#), claims service under a Capt. Scobia and Capt. Vestel. these may be the same officers as mentioned by this veteran.