

Goss, Abraham

Abraham Goss was born in 1765 in Northumberland County, PA. He was the third son of Elizabeth and George Goss, immigrants from Germany.

His two older brothers George Jr. and Jacob were killed during the Wyoming Massacre in Wyoming, PA in 1778. Abraham and his parents escaped by hiding in the laurel bushes. Shortly thereafter his father enlisted. Abraham soon enlisted as well, though only thirteen years old, in the Second Pennsylvania Regiment commanded by Col. Stewart. He served as a Fifer and Drummer for three or four years. It is said that during that time he rode on Gen Washington's horse. It is believed his father was killed in battle near Philadelphia, before August 1, 1783.

After the war, Abraham and his mother worked where they could find work and finally settled near the present site of Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. Abraham Goss removed with his mother to Bellefonte, PA, where he made a claim, but sold that property after two years. There Abraham Goss met and married Elizabeth Emenheiser. The family moved to Osceola Mills, PA. Abraham and Elizabeth had twelve children. Both Elizabeth and the thirteenth child died when that child was born. Abraham then married Mary Shively, without any children.

Abraham was finally granted a pension for his service as piper (fifer) and drummer at the age of 67/68, after many years of trying to obtain that pension.

He died in April 1847 at 88 years old and is buried in the "Old Goss Cemetery", the ground for which, was given by him, for burial purposes.