

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Randol (Randall) Smith R9834

f16NC

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 'indcipherable' 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.]

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State of Kentucky Carter County: Sct.

Declaration of Randol Smith, who states that he was born on or about the 3rd day of April 1748 in the County of Amelia and State of Virginia, that whilst he was small his father removed with him to the County of Wilkes and State of North Carolina. That he has no Record of his age and only speaks of it from the information which he received in his father's family. He states that in the said County of Wilkes in North Carolina, he enlisted for the term of 18 months the date of his enlistment he does not remember but thinks it was in 1778. His Captain's names under whom he enlisted he does not remember, but his Colonel's name was Yarborough though usually called Yarber. He was much of his time stationed in Salisbury or its neighborhood & had a great deal to do in Scouts after Tories which were quite abundant in that part of North Carolina. He was near the Hanging Rock in North Carolina, when the Battle took place there, & had been guarding some prisoners which had before been taken & Colonel Yarber marched his men across the Yadkin River & down the Pedee [River] for some distance to the place where the Garrison was, At the time of the Battle at Hanging Rock he was guarding prisoners near Cheraw Hills, the Americans were beaten in the Battle & the party guarding the prisoners made their escape. He served as a private to the full end of the term of 18 months for which he enlisted & was discharged, & his discharge has been lost or destroyed. He further states that he afterwards volunteered as a private in the militia under Captain Naul his Colonel's name was Cleveland [perhaps Benjamin Cleveland], for the term of six months & served out his time & was Discharged – He was several times afterwards out as a volunteer under different officers – Sometimes he served only two months, sometimes more or less as the exigency of the cases required – while out as a militia man, he was wholly engaged in Scouring the Country against the Tories & frequently took small parties of them. He had at least four or five discharges for his different Tours of Service but never took any care of them, The different tours performed by him added together would make at least four or five years which services were all rendered during the Revolutionary War, but as to dates, his memory is so defective he will not be positive, but circumstances which occurred whilst he was in service might be multiplied until they would fill pages. Such as the depredations of the different gangs of Tories, their retreats to the Chestnut Ridges &c &c when pursued by us, Scouts in the part of North Carolina, where he resided were constantly during the war, kept up to guard against hordes of Tories who infested that part of the Country & he was constantly engaged as one of the Scouts. He removed from North Carolina to Greenup County, now Carter County Kentucky, & for the last thirty years past has resided in the

limits of Greenup & Carter Counties Kentucky. He states that he can prove a part of his services by Benjamin Wages, but knows of no other person now alive by whom he can prove any part of them but is acquainted with John & Jacob Henson & Henry Guy – who live in his neighborhood. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State, And that he is now about 95 years old, Sworn & subscribed this 13th day of January 1843.

S/ Randol Smith, X his mark

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State of Kentucky Morgan County: Sct.

The Deposition of Benjamin Wages aged about 115 years taken on by half of Randol Smith and who was a Soldier in the War of the Revolution as stated in his declaration. The deponent being first duly sworn deposeseth and saith,

That he was during the Revolutionary war much in the State of North Carolina. That he knows that Randol Smith of Carter County Kentucky who is about to apply for a pension served in the Revolutionary war on the American side for at least 5 or 6 months having frequently seen him in service during that time. He was under Colonel Yarborough and Cleveland some part of the time.

S/ Benjamin Wages, X his mark

[p 10: "The printed list of 1852 gives cause of rejection as 'the deficient proof of service.'"]

[pp 2-4: Letter postmarked Jan. 30th from Grayson, KY, addressed to Hon. L. W. Andrews,¹ House of Representatives, Washington City
Burleigh Jany 28th 1843

My Dear Sir,

Enclosed you will find the Declaration of Mr. Randol Smith an old Revolutioner, who request love you to try and obtain for him a pension, he hopes that you will use your influence in his behalf. I have been acquainted with the old man for near Thirty years, and from every information from himself & neighbours I have no doubt that he served his Cuntry during the Revolutionary War to the full extent of the time that he alleges, he is now very old as you will see from his Statement, holy dependent upon his neighbours for a support for himself and wife who is but a few years younger than himself, they live a lone by them Two selves in a small cabin in the woods not even enclosed by a fence & not nearer than a mile of a neighbour, the old people hopes that you will befriend them in this as necessity has caused him to make the request. I was at their cabin a week or two ago the old man is not able to get up when he is down without help. – The old man a few years ago gave all he had for a Negro Boy for the purpose of working

¹ ANDREWS, Landaff Watson, a Representative from Kentucky; born in Flemingsburg, Fleming County, Ky., February 12, 1803; attended the public schools; was graduated from the law department of Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky., in 1826; was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Flemingsburg; prosecuting attorney of Fleming County 1829-1839; member of the State house of representatives 1834-1838; elected as a Whig to the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh Congresses (March 4, 1839-March 3, 1843); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1842 to the Twenty-eighth Congress; served in the State senate as an independent candidate in 1857; again elected a member of the State house of representatives, in 1861, and served until 1862, when he resigned; judge of the circuit court 1862-1868; resumed the practice of law in Flemingsburg, Ky., where he died December 23, 1887; interment in Fleming County Cemetery.
<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=A000247>

& supporting him self & wife and in the course of Three or Four months the Negro was proven & taken away from him, it appears that the Negro had been stolen by the man that sold it to Smith. That is one cause of their dependent situation at the present. – A few weeks ago I sent to your care the Declaration &c of James Horsly² which I have not as yet gotten any answer be so good as to write me on the subject immediately & your prompt compliance to the above will be duly acknowledged by your friend Truly

S/ Thos. T. Hord

² [James Horsley S30490](#)