

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Robert Smith R9840

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia Lunenburg County, SS,

On this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833 personally appeared in Open Court being a Court of Record for the County of Lunenburg and now siting Major Robert Smith Resident of said County aged 73 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 that he was drafted in a militia tower of three months in the Revolutionary Wares on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 1781 and marched from the County of Lunenburg in a Company Commanded by Capt'n Francis Degraffenreidt to a place Called the long Ordinary near petersburg and from that to Cabin point [on James River in Surry County] and was attached to a Rgement Commanded by Col. Mereweather [sic: Meriwether] of the Brigade Commanded by Gen'l. Mulenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] where we Remained some time and that he was detailed from the Company and marched from that to Suffolk and was sent on a detachment with some Military stores to Powhatan Courthouse and after delivering the miletary stores at powhatan Courthouse he was discharged by Major Pendleton on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April haveing served his full tower of three months And that he immediately Volunteered under Col. Elliott as Commissary and was marched from Powhatan Courthouse to Petersburg and from that to Richmonand [sic] and from that to Raccoon ford in Culpepper County [sic: Raccoon Ford on Rapidan River in Culpeper County probably about 6 Jun 1781 when the troops of Gen. Anthony Wayne joined Gen. Lafayette] where we were stationed some time. And were marched again to Richmond and from that to the Morban Hills [sic: Malvern Hill 15 mi SE of Richmond] and sundry other places and at the Expiration of three months he was discharged but it has been so long that he cannot state the day of the month on which he was discharged, but well knows that he served his full tower of thee months and was Honourably discharged by Col. Elliott nor does he know of any person liveing that he can prove any thing as to his second tower Either Volunteering or being discharged. But his discharges in both towers have been lost

And in Answer to the differant Interrogetaries prescribed by the War department he Answers thus

Quest'n 1. Where and in what year were you born

Ans'r Agreeable to a Register kept by my Father I was born in the County of Lunenburg in the year 1761

Quest'n 2 Have you any Record of your Age and if so where is it

Ans'r It is now in the possession of the Family

Quest'n 3 Where were you liveing when called into service where have you livead since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live

Ans'r. I lived in the County of Lunenburg when called into service and live there now

Quest'n 4 How were you called into service were you drafted did you Volunteer or were you a Substitute

Ans'r In my first tower I were drafted and in my second tower I Volunteered

Quest'n 5 State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served and such Continental and Militia Rgements as you can Recollect and the General Circumstances of your services

Ans'r We were some times under Gen'l. Mulenburg and some times under Gen'l. Lafaette but from old age & Consequent loss of memory I do not Recollect much more than I stated in my declaration for in my last tower we were some times chaseing the British and some times they were chaseing of us

Quest'n 6 Did you ever Receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what

has become of it  
Ans'r In my first tower I Received a discharge which was given by Major Pendleton and in my second tower I Received a discharge which was given by Col. Elliott both of which has since been lost

Quest'n 7 State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your carrector for Veracity and their belief of your servises as a soldier of the Revolution

Ans'r I am known in my neighbourhood by the Rev'd. Pleasant Barns William Stokes & Stephen Petters

he hereby Relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Role of the Agency of Aney state [signed] Robert Smith

State of Virginia Lunenburg County (SS)

I William Stokes of the County of Lunenburg and State of Virginia do hereby certify that Major Robert Smith of the County of Lunenburg and state of Virginia (now applicant) was drafted in a Company of Militia in the Revolutionary Wars for three months and marched in Company with me in a Company commanded by Capt'n. Francis Degraffenreidt from the County of Lunenburg to the long Ordinary near Petersburg and from that to Cabin point where we were stationed some time where Robert Smith was detailed from the Company and sent on Extra duty but I make not hesitation in saying I believe he served his full tower of three months Geven under my hand this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833

[signed] Wm Stokes

I Robert Smith of the County of Lunenburg Virginia aged Eighty seven years served six months in the Revolutionary War. I marched as a private in the Company of Cpt Francis Degraffenried from the County of Lunenburg March 10<sup>th</sup> 1781 to the Town of Petersburg & after being a short time in service I was appointed Conductor at Cabin point of military stores as well as I recollect Gen Peter Mulinburg was in command, with Col. Merideth & Majr Pendleton. I remained but a short time at Cabin point & was ordered from thence with the military stores to Suffolk near Norfolk. from thence to Southhampton [sic: Southampton] – from thence to Powhatan C House having several waggons to attend to & the British being about Petersburg to [illegible word] them I was directed to be cautious & passed near the Burnt Ordinary of Nottoway after reaching Powhatan C House I joined Gen Lawsons [Robert Lawson's] Brigade & acted as Deputy Commissary under Col Elliott 2 Months or more & was then discharged about the middle of Sep. 1781 for all which service I received no compensation, I was then about 20 years old. While Judge James Gholson represented th District of Lunenburg I procured the evidence of William Stockes as to my services & put the paper into his hands, Stockes being the only man then living who marched with me, & to which paper If in existence I must refer to support the above declaration. – In testimony of which I herunto subscribe my name this 2<sup>d</sup> of April 1849. I further remark that I never heard from Mr. Gholson or what he did with the paper, & that I wish Capt Degraffenrieds Rool [sic: muster or pay roll] for my name & wheather my sevices as Conductor of Military stores is on record at Richmond Va. [dated and signed in Charlotte County VA] April 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1849 R Smith

State of Virginia } SS

County of Charlotte } On this 3<sup>d</sup> day of May 1852, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Charlotte county now sitting, Robert Smith, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged ninty one years, who being first 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 7 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

He was drafted, to the best of his recollection, for a Militia tour in the County of Lunenburgh,

Virginia, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 1781, and in company with William Stokes, marched in a Company, commanded by Captain Francis Degraffenreid from the County of Lunenburgh to a place called Long Ordinary, near Petersburg, and from thence to a place called Cabin Point, where they were attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. Merrewether. After being there some time, he was detailed from the Company and sent on some service, the nature of which he cannot now recollect. He was in several skirmishes, but not in any general battle.

He served for six months, and was discharged at Petersburg in the County of Dinwiddie State of Virginia. He was paid for a service of six months, as the accompanying certificate from the State Auditor will shew. [See endnote.] He has no documentary evidence, and he does not know at this time of any persons now alive who can testify from their own personal knowledge of his service.

He was born in the County of Lunenburg State of Virginia and since he left the service he has resided in the County of Lunenburg State of Virginia the greater part of his time and recently removed to Charlotte Cty. Va. he received no certificate of discharge

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

[Power of attorney follows.]

[signed] Robert Smith

Note

He says the Richard Johnson & Obadiah Clay were among his fellow Soldiers

W. H)

NOTE: Smith's applications were rejected on the grounds that the service as commissary was not regarded as military service in an embodied corps. The Auditor's report referred to in the 1852 application is for a Robert Smith who served in the Continental Line of Virginia.