

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Thomas Smith R9867

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation and capitalization partly corrected]

State of Kentucky } Sct

Henry County }

On this 4th day of April 1834 Personally appeared before me David Adams a Justice of The peace in and for Henry County & one of the Judges of the County Court of said County Thomas Smith aged 71 years and after being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of an act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832

This declarant states that was residing in Pittsylvania County State of Virginia when he entered the services of the United States and served as herein stated & under the following named officers that in the month of february in the year of 1781 he joined Captain William Dicks [sic: William Dix's] Company of volunteers and rendezvoused at one John Piggs mill in said County of Pittsylvania on Banester [sic Bannister] river and was marched from said place of rendezvous under the command of Collonel Camel [sic: William Campbell] & Major Anthony Crocket & Captain wiliam dicks across Dann [sic: Dan] River at Perkinses ferry [Perkins Ferry] from thence he states they marched to Salem in the State of North Carolina [sic: North Carolina] and from thence on towards the Shallow ford of the Yadkin river where he states they met with General green [sic: Nathanael Greene] and joined in with his army near the Shallow ford and from thence he states they marched with General Greens army on towards Guilford Courthouse where he states they encamped a few days when they was attacked by Cornwallis [see note below] and after a conflict of some hours Engagement that General greens army had to give the ground with the Loss of a considerable Number of brave men however we made a retreat to Speedwells Ironworks [on Troublesome Creek in present Rockingham County] and in a few days Lord Cornwallis marched ontowards Willmington [sic: Wilmington] Low down in north Carolina by this time General Green had been considerably reinforce by some other militia forces and pursued on after wallis down through the lower parts of north Carolina where we encamped near nuse [sic: Neuse] river for some time near to where wallis had encamped at a little town that was called harberd [see note below] and he states he was taken sick and sent up to a town called Hillsborough and put in the hospital where he remained untill he was discharged in writing by his Captain Dicks and went home in the month of august 1781 it would be proper for me to remark that he states that hillsborough was on the rout that Captain dicks company went home and it was when Captain dicks was on his way home that he gave him his written discharge and for this service he claims a pension he states he has no documentary evidence of his survis nor knows of no living witness by whom he can prove said survis he states that from old age and bodily infirmity that he is unable to appear in open Court to make his declaration he hereby relinquishes evry claim whatever to pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll in the agency of any State or terratory.

Thomas hisXmark Smith

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 4 day of april 1834

David Adams JPHC

Answers to the question put by the magistrate

I was Born in Pittsylvania County [formed from Halifax County in 1767] State of Virginia in the year of 1763 and I have a record of my age as was left in my farthers Bible and when I went into the servis I was living in Pittsylvania County State of Virginia where I lived untill untill the year 1790 when I moved to Washington County State of Tennessee where I remained untill the year of 1800 when I removed to fiatte [sic: Fayette] State of Kentucky where I lived about two years when I removed to henry County in Kentucky where I have lived prety much ever since and where I now live and I volunteered under Captain william dicks for six months and there was General green and General [Edward] Stevens General Lee [sic: Lt. Col. Henry Lee] Colonel Wm Washington Colonel [Richard] Caswell Major Anthony Crockett Captain William dicks and one Captain Smith and I was seldom stationed long at any one place and I received a written discharge from Captain dicks which I have lost many years since

and I will state the names of John Razor and Stephen Shaw who can testify to my character for veracity and there belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution

NOTE: Greene's army crossed the Shallow Ford of Yadkin River early in Feb 1781, then continued past Guilford Courthouse in a race to the safety of Pittsylvania County across the Dan River with Cornwallis in close pursuit. Greene's army crossed the Dan just head of Cornwallis on 14 Feb. The Battle of Guilford Courthouse occurred on 15 March. After the battle and brief encampment at Speedwell's Iron Works, Greene pursued Cornwallis as far as Ramsey's Mill on Deep River in Chatham County in early April.