

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

Pension Application of James Smith S11429

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

State of Virginia Scott County S.S.

On this 17th day of January 1833 personally appeared in open Court of the County Court of Scott County Virginia now sitting James Smith a resident of Scott County and State of Virginia aged 80 years, who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of the 7th day of June 1832.

That is to say he being drafted entered the service of the United States in the first tour for three months under following named officers, and served as herein stated that is to say in the spring of the year, but in what year he cannot say, it was during the revolution and sometime before the battle of King's Mountain [7 Oct 1780] this applicant thinks it was about the year 1780, he was a citizen of Washington County Virginia and he was drafted on a three months tour to go to guard Ramsours Mills which was as this applicant thinks was in the edge of North Carolina [in present Lincoln County], that they rendezvoused near the seven mile ford of Holstein River [sic: Holston River] under Captain Dolan or Lisbey but he does not know which, that they marched from there on to the Mills and joined the troops that were there before they went there but that he does not recollect who commanded them when there, that they remained there guarding the mills during the tour, nor had they any fighting at that place.

This Applicant after this tour at Ramsours mills returned home to Washington and was called out on another three months tour to Clinch perhaps in Castle Woods at Moors or Cowan fort [sic: Castlewood at Moore's or Cowan Fort] under Captain William Cowan against the Indians we lay there during the tower, had no fighting our time was spent in watching round about the fort, and in some small excursions through the Clinch hills. At the end of the tour this Applicant cannot say what he did with his discharge, this applicant sometime after his return from Clinch but he cannot recollect the precise time, became a spy against the Indians at Blacks fort in Washington County Virginia this applicants family was in the fort at the time, when this Applicant and one Gasper Minscour, served as spies for one month as this Applicant now recollects but he cannot say in what year it was, and this applicant got no pay for his service except what he took from Captain Craig [probably Robert Craig] in rum and brandy although he was entitled to one dollar per day for spying and \$7 per month for soldiering And then sometime after this he thinks he got a written discharge after serving his three months but he does not know what became of it this applicant removed but a short time after this home, when he was again drafted to go to Kings Mountain from Washington County Virginia and this Applicant substituted one Ralph Stoball who started for Kings Mountain. the troops went on some distance but from some cause or other they were discharged this was about the time of the King's Mountain Battle. this Applicant thinks it was shortly before. the Applicant was also drafted from the same place to go against the Indians at the Islands flats on Holston [at present Kingsport TN] and served three tours there against them, two months in the first and a month each in the last tours at Amos Eatons fort, but the Applicant cannot in fact say whether his tours in the Island flats was before or after he substituted Stoball to go to Kings Mountain although the substitution is here mentioned first this applicants recollections of particulars is not very good as he is now 80 years of age and that was almost fifty years ago. In the first tour to the Island Flats this Applicant marched there under Captain Isaac Shelby, that they remained there during the tour guarding the fort and scouting about during this applicant stay at the Long Island or Island flats (for the place was called both) in one of the tours the spies came into the fort and reported the Indians were in the neighborhood of the fort when a company went out under Captain Cock as this applicant recollects and had with the Indians a skirmish in which Cocks Company whipped the Indians. This Applicant think the company at the long Island while

he was there was commanded by Colonel Isaac Shelby, he does not recollect of any Major nor does he recollect any other officers at all but Captain Cock who lived in Sullivan County Tennessee at the same place where John Latham afterwards lived. this applicant thinks that Colonel Shelby was then a single man and lived with his father Shelby [given name blank, but was Evan Shelby] on a place now in Sullivan County Tennessee where the Blackmore family or James King lives. on the tours to the Island flats one Benjamin Maiden long since dead went and served along with this Applicant. He recollects distinctly that he got four discharges then called furloughs to go home one from Moores or Cowans fort, and one at the end of each tour at the Long Island but as he never retained any of his papers he Lost them. he has lived ever since the end of the old war on the the place where he now lives in Scott County formerly Washington Virginia his distinct recollection is that he served in all three months at Ramsours Mills three months at the fort on Clinch, three months at the flats and one month spying at Abingdon. But he has [no] documentary evidence by which he can prove it, nor is there any person living known to this Applicant by whom he can prove it. he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency whatsoever, nor has it ever been sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

[signed] James Smith