

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Smoot S1252

f53VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/7/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky County of Hardin: SS

On this 20th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Honorable Paul J Booker, Commonwealth's Circuit Judge, now sitting, John Smoot, a resident of the County of Hardin and State of Kentucky – aged 77 on the 11th day of May last, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by act of Congress passed 7th of June, 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1775 with Daniel Morgan who was then a Captain and served in the Rifle Brigade commanded by Colonel Morgan – under the following officers – General Arnold [Benedict Arnold] was the field officer – Daniel Morgan was advanced to the Colonel and John Humphrey was the Captain after Morgan's advancement –: He served one year and left the service in July 1776 – He lived in the County of Frederick and State of Virginia when he entered the service. He was in no general battle during this enlistment. He marched from Winchester in Virginia to Cambridge in Massachusetts under Captain Morgan – where he (Morgan) was advanced to Major – he stayed at Cambridge from the latter part of July till last of August we then marched under command of General Arnold to Québec and John Humphrey was our Captain – He was taken sick and sent back to Cambridge with many other sick persons – From which place he was marched to Roxbury by order of General Washington, about the 1st January 1776 – Where we joined Captain Hugh Stevenson's Company of Rifle men – he continued there until we got possession of Boston – March following – then he was marched to New York City – then to Staten Island to guard that place where he remained till he had served out his tour of one-year when he was discharged.

He states also that [in] 1779 with Captain Ben Roberts, he enlisted in the service of the United States – and served in the Regiment commanded by Colonel George Slaughter and Colonel Clark [George Rogers Clark] in the Virginia line – under the following named officers – Colonel Slaughter and Colonel Clark were the field officers, James Slaughter was Lieutenant and Ben Roberts was the Captain – he enlisted for the term of two years in Culpeper County Virginia and marched out to the Falls of the Ohio (now Louisville Kentucky) – he arrived at said Falls in the month of October 1779 and remained there until the fall of 1780 – Then he hired a man to serve out the remainder of the two years service which was about six months. He was then discharged.

Also in July 1781 he volunteered with Captain Cadwalader Slaughter in Culpeper County Virginia and marched down to York Town where he remained until Cornwallis' surrender [October 19, 1781] – he served 3 months in this tour –

He lost all his discharges by fire – being burnt with his other property –

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present

and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Smoot". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "S" at the end.

[Charles H. Stuteville, a clergyman, and Reuben Newton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 14]

To all whom it may concern

This is to Certify that John Cole Senior¹ this day personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for Barren County in the State of Kentucky and made oath that John Smoot a Citizen of Craven County and State aforesaid did rendezvous at Winchester in the State of Virginia as an enlisted Soldier in Captain Daniel Morgan's Volunteer Company of independent Riflemen in July in the year 1775 – and did march from there to the grand camp at Boston and there served as a soldier until October – and then marched with the said Captain Morgan and his company on the Québec Expedition – and in the next January returned to headquarters; at Cambridge and from there was ordered by General Washington to join Captain Hugh Stevenson's Company of the same kind of Corps at Roxbury – and continued in the discharge of his duty, in the said Stevenson's Company until July when his time of enlistment expired and then was legally discharged at Staten Island and further this deponent sayeth not.

Given under my hand this 19th day of April 1831.

S/ John Martin, JP BC

[f p. 17]

The Deposition of George M Bedinger² taken at the office of John Davidson in the town of Carlisle County of Nicholas and State of Kentucky on the 31st day of May 1832 at the request of John Smoot for the purpose of enabling him to obtain from the United States a pension for services rendered during the revolutionary war.

This deponent being of lawful age and 1st duly sworn Deposeth and saith. That he himself was a soldier under Captain Hugh Stephenson in his Company of riflemen from the spring or beginning of summer 1775 full one-year and that he has now in his possession a Receipt Book containing about eighty receipts of soldiers belonging to Captain Stephenson's Company among which receipts is one given by himself in his own handwriting as to the signatures and another given by his brother Henry Bedinger whose handwriting he knows and who served in the same company with himself. This deponent further saith that his son Henry Bedinger gave him this book of receipts who said he obtained it from a son of Captain Stephenson this deponent further states that the most of the names in the Book of receipts he well recollects. The Deponent sayeth that he has not seen John Smoot for fifty-six years and that the name is still familiar to him though he has no instant recollection of the features or person of Mr. Smoot though from the great variety of circumstances which he (Smoot) related as having taken place in camp which he the Deponent well recollects and from his name being found signed to a receipt in the book of receipts in his possession that he is the same John Smoot and that he served under Captain Stephens [sic] in the same company with himself. The Receipts of John

¹ FPA S2458

² [George Michael Bedinger W2992](#)

Smoot is in the book in his possession and now produced is in the words and figures following viz.

Roxbury Camp January 1st 1776 Received of Captain Hugh Stephenson six pounds twelve shillings lawful money in full three months pay as a soldier in the Continental service and blanket money.

Test

Rec'd pd me

John Smoot, X his mark

Saml Finley

The deponent further states that he is of German dissent and used most generally to be called Michael Bedinger while he was John but that his Christian name is George M. Bedinger by which last name he has been most generally known for 50 years past. This Deponent further states that there is a receipt in his said book of receipts which is within presented given by John: in the words and figures following viz.

Roxbury camp January 1st 1776 Received of Captain Hugh Stephenson four pounds five shillings & sixpence in full of all amounts due me for 3 months wages in the Continental Army.

Recd' pr me John Cole

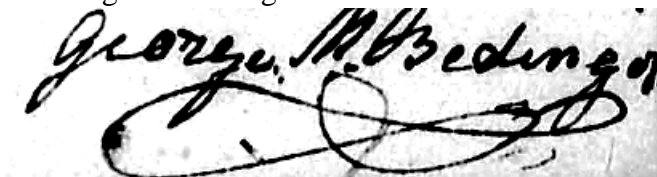
Test

Saml Finley

This Deponent further states that he knew Samuel Finley who was Ensign at that time and that he was a man of Business and that he believes the body of the Receipts in the book and his possession and which are attested by him is the handwriting of said Samuel Finley who was Ensign in Stephenson's Company where he served as a soldier.

And further this Deponent sayeth not

S/ George M. Bedinger

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George M. Bedinger". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The letters are connected and fluid, with a prominent flourish at the end.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service.]