

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Smither S14487

f19VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/7/12: rev'd 11/25/17

[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 'indecipherable' 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 County of Boone: Sct.

On this 25th day of February in the year 1833 personally appeared before me Horatio R Wood a Justice of the peace in and for said County of Boone & State of Kentucky William Smither a resident of said County & State aged Seventy Eight years who being first duly 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 the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated viz. That in the year 1776 or 1777 the time not exactly recollected he entered the service of the United States in the County of Orange & State of Virginia where he then lived as a private volunteer militia man under Captain Joseph Spencer – (who was afterwards Colonel Jos. Spencer). He volunteered & joined said company for six months & served said six months by being marched to the neighborhood of Norfolk Virginia & was there in the service engaged in a battle at the Long bridge [also called the Battle of Great Bridge, December 9, 1775] against the British when the British Captain Fordice [Charles Fordyce] & his Company was defeated. He was stationed at that place at least half of the six months & the balance of the time he was part of the time stationed at Williamsburg Virginia & was generally engaged when not stationary in marching about & guarding the country against the enemy & was the greater part of the time under Colonel or General Edwd Stephens [Edward Stevens] of Culpeper County Virginia. After performing said six months service he returned home & was discharged at Caroline Courthouse Virginia. He then moved to Spotsylvania County Virginia and in about two years afterwards he was drafted to serve a tour of three months under a Captain Bartlett¹ & served said tour by being marched to the main Army below Williamsburg not very far from York under General Lafayette soon after which they were all forced to retreat before the Enemy up the Country to Albemarle & here reinforcements were met, when our Troops were enabled to force back the Enemy & we went in the pursuit of the British below Williamsburg when his the Affiant's term of service expired & he was discharged this was but a very short time before Corn Wallace [Cornwallis was taken [October 19, 1781] in this service he saw General Washington & other officers of distinction. Soon after he this affiant returned home. He moved

¹ John Bonnell notes: "Captain Bartlett is Captain Thomas Bartlett, who commanded a Spotsylvania militia company from the beginning of the war until July 1781, when he turned over the company to John Tankersley. [Francis Turnlev S6281](#) and [Richard Steers S6163](#) were also under Bartlett during this tour, which constituted the bulk of Lafayette's Great Chase."

to Kentucky & performed no other service except against the Indians on the frontier in Kentucky.

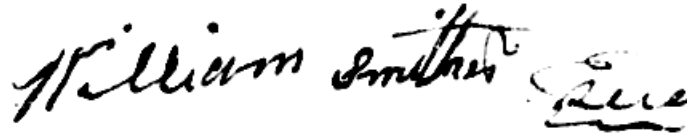
That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid before me.

S/ Horatio R. Wood, JP BC

S/ William Smither {Seal}

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Smither" followed by a flourish that appears to be "Seal".

[Jesse Terrill, a clergyman, and William Howlett gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: Veteran died May 1, 1835; there is no family data in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia service.]