

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Smith S19469

fn31Mass.

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/4/11

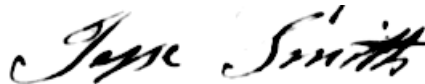
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 23]

I Jesse Smith of Salem in the County of Essex & Commonwealth of Massachusetts on Solemn oath declare

That I was called out of my bed about one o'clock on the morning of the 19th of April 1775 and was in the engagement with the British all that day: that the 21st of the same month I enlisted for eight months in Captain William Smith's Company Colonel John Nixon's Regiment, & served in the Massachusetts line during that Term – that in the month of December in the same year or the month of January 1776 I enlisted for one-year in Captain Adam Wheeler's Company in said Nixon's Regiment in General Sullivan's Brigade and soon after was drafted into General Washington's foot guards commanded by Captain Caleb Gibbs and served the full time of my enlistment: In January 1777 I enlisted in the Light Horse Company commanded by George W Lewis for three years & served said term in the 3rd Regiment of Light Dragoons of Colonel Baylor's Regiment afterwards commanded by Colonel William Washington, by whom I was discharged on the 13th December A.D. 1779. I further declare that by reason of my reduced circumstances in life I stand in need of the assistance of my country for support. And I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension heretofore allowed by the laws of the United States.

S/ Jesse Smith



Jesse Smith within mentioned on oath further swears that he is 62 years of age.

S/ Jesse Smith

Sworn to by J. Smith on 24 Apl. 1818

[fn p. 8: schedule as required under the Act of 1st May 1820]

Schedule

containing his whole estate and income, his necessary clothing and bedding excepted, to wit, (no real estate)

Old desk – Bureau – dozen old chairs	\$13.00
Shovel & tongs, to pair andirons – pot	3.00
2 kittles – 4 tables – light stand – 16 spoons	9.00

6 knives & forks – crockery & glassware	5.00
2 looking glasses – old carpet	11.00
4 candlesticks – 3 old trunks – quadrant	5.50
Bible & lot of books in use of family	10.00
2 other chairs – sugar bowl	4.00
2 shares of stock in the Salem Laboratory	40.00
Pew in South-Meeting house, on which is now due \$50 Taxes, more than it is worth	<u>00.00</u>
	\$100.50

He is sixty-four years and infirm – was a mariner, but has been too old to go to sea for several years, and has no regular employment, but sometimes serves as one of the Collectors for the town taxes, and now is one, by which he earns a little compensation.

His family are his wife aged 60, and his daughter Abigail aged 23

He served the first eight months of the War and during all 1776 at first in Captain Wheeler's Company in Captain Nixon's Regiment in the Massachusetts Line: and part of that year was drafted into Captain Gibbs' Company of Cards: – at beginning of 1777 he enlisted and served three years in Captain G. W. Lewis' Company of Horse in the Regiment commanded at first by Colonel Baylor and then by Colonel Wm Washington in the Virginia line.

S/ Jesse Smith

And at the same time he produces to the Court here the following Oath, taken and subscribed by him, before the Honorable Samuel Dana a Judge of said Court as aforesaid, to wit,

I, Jesse Smith do solemnly swear, that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. So help me God.

S/ Jesse Smith

Essex, SS. C.C.C.P. June, Term, A. D. 1820

[fn p. 15]

This is to Certify that Jesse Smith has served three years as a faithful Soldier in the third Regt. of Light Dragoons in the Service of the United States being the full time for which he Engaged and is hereby discharged from the sd. Regt.

Philada Decr. 13 1779
of Lincoln

S/ W. Washington Lt. Col.

This is to Certify that Jesse Smith has served three years
as a faithful Soldier in the 3rd Reg^t of Light Dragoons
in the Service of the United States being the full time
for which he engaged and is hereby discharged from
the 3^d Reg^t
Philad. Dec^r. 13. 1779 W. Washington Lt. Col. 18th
of Lincoln

I Jesse Smith of Salem in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts aged 87 years, Being sworn due on oath testify & say that I served as a soldier in the Army of the Revolutionary War and performed there in several tours of military duty, the last of which was under an engagement for 3 years in the 3rd Regiment of Light Dragoons – Virginia line commanded by Lieutenant Colonel W. Washington and Captain Lewis's Company and his Excellency's General George Washington's lifeguard's: and that I received an Honorable Discharge at the termination of said Service; which Discharge was forted with other papers to the Commissioner of Pensions, as proof in support of my claim to a Pension under the act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818. I further testify and say that I am in the receipt of a Pension of 96 Dollars a year under the above mentioned act, and that I am desirous to exchange the same for the benefit of the act of 7th of June 1832.

Attest

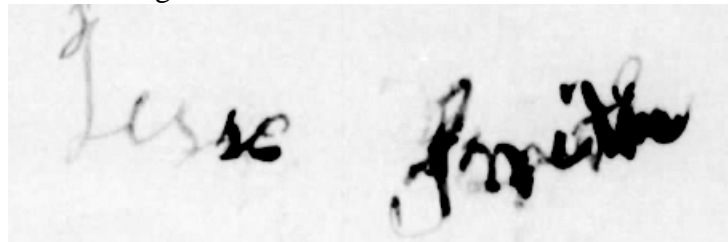
S/ John Bisnchard [?]

S/ Jesse Smith

S/ Abigail Smith

Js Smith's sight has so far

failed him that he could not write more legible –

A close-up photograph of the handwritten signature 'Jesse Smith' in cursive script. The ink is dark and the paper is aged and slightly yellowed.

[attested January 30, 1843]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service as a Dragoon in the Massachusetts militia and the Virginia Continental line.]