

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Smith S31372

fn35NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

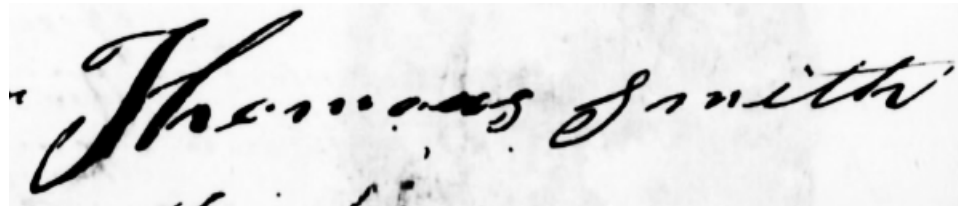
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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users 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.]

State of Kentucky Calloway County: Sct

On this 31st day of August 1833 personally appeared before the undersigned Samuel Watson an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid Thomas Smith a resident of the said County of Calloway and State aforesaid aged ninety-two 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He states that he has no record of his age but agreeably to what his parents told him he was born on the 9th day of May 1741 in the State of Pennsylvania. That his parents moved to the State of Virginia when this applicant was a child in which last mentioned state he was raised. That he married when he was about twenty years old and moved to North Carolina Surry County where he continued to live till the War of the Revolution when he entered the service as a volunteer in the North Carolina Militia under Captain James Doke who belonged to a Regiment commanded by Major William Hall and Colonel Walker under whom this applicant served. He states that he volunteered in said service in the beginning of the year 1780 and served eighteen months. He believes that he served longer but is certain that he served at least eighteen months as he was in service during the whole or nearly the whole of the year 1780 and 1781. From his great age and bodily affliction and infirmity and from the consequent loss of his mind and memory he finds it impossible to state the particulars of his service to any degree of certainty. He finds that the scenes of his former life are about altogether swept from his recollection by the ravages of time. Of the events of the day of the Revolution there only remains upon his mind of the recollection of these events something like a faint impression of some bygone drama: of all his friends and acquaintances of that day there remain not one alive to him known of all his own children amounting to the number of ten there is not one left by the scythe of time though some of them lived to the old before they died. Of his service however he will state all that he can recollect: most of it consisted in marching against the Tories under Captain Doke who commanded a separate and detached company of scouts or Rangers of home this applicant was one. The Tories were very numerous and troublesome and much endangered the lives of the citizens and their property. Hence it became necessary for some Captain and his company to be constantly employed to suppress them. This part of the service was assigned to Captain Doke by Major Hall and the Colonel of the Regiment

in which service this applicant was engaged during a part of the year '80 and the whole of the year '81. Under Captain Doke he ranged the country round on the waters of the Yadkin and Terrararut [?] rivers and as far back as the Blue Ridge for the purpose of watching the movement of the Tories and of suppressing and capturing them whilst out marauding and plundering expeditions. Whilst engaged in this service (he thinks in the summer of the year '81 or '82 – but is not certain which) this applicant was severely wounded 8 large buckshot having entered his body of which wound he was confined for two months before he was again able to march and performed the duties of the service. He states that while in the service under Captain Doke he marched against the Indians on Holston River where he served under Colonel Sevier. This he thinks was in the beginning of the year '80 and was perhaps the first of his service. He knows not how long he was on Holston against the Indians, but this trip was only a different expedition of the same service in which he was engaged, and made up part of his 18 months service. Immediately on his return he continued his service against the Tories as before stated. He will state that during his service of 18 months he was considered as an Indian Spy or minute man who was on all occasions to be ready for any adventure called for. He states he was discharged by his Captain at the close of the war But he has no written discharge at this time and has long since lost it; perhaps half a century ago and he knows not now how he did lose it. He states that after the Revolutionary War he lived for a great many years in Carolina: but he does not recollect the exact number of years. That his first move upon leaving Carolina was in Kentucky where he lived for a few years when he moved to Robeson County [sic, Robertson County] Tennessee where he lived till about 3 years ago when he moved to West in Kentucky where he has continued to reside ever since. He has no documentary evidence of his services nor does he know of any living witness whose testimony he could procure to testify to his services. He knows of no man alive with whom he was acquainted at that day But his neighbors to wit Banister Wade, Vincent Wade, Barley Anderson, Richard Bazil, Samuel Watson, William Smith, William M Wilson, James Long, Samuel Smith, Fountain Nanny, Lewis Nanny, Joseph Sommerville, Riley Piper, and others will bear ample testimony as to his character for veracity and integrity and as to his reputation of having been a Revolutionary Soldier. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State whatever. Sworn to and subscribed before me the aforesaid Justice the day and year aforesaid.  
S/ Samuel Watson, JP S/ Thomas Smith

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Smith". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[Richard Curd, a clergyman, and James Long gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Kentucky Callaway County: Sct

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Thomas Smith the above declarant who being duly sworn deposes and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, to wit: For 3 months I served as a private (volunteer) under Captain Doke and Colonel Sevier. For 15 months I served as a private

(volunteer) under Captain Doke and Colonel Walker making in all 18 months and for such service I claim a pension. By way of explaining his declaration so as to meet the objections of the department he will state that by using the expression "he was considered an Indian spy or minute man who was on all occasions to be ready for any adventure called for" he meant no more than to say that this was the case from the commencement till the conclusion of his service including the two years to wit 1780 and 1781. For although he served these two years yet he was not in actual service all the time of the said two years but feels very conscious that he was in actual service at least 18 months of the said two years. This will appear plain from a closer inspection of his declaration than perhaps the department has given it. He states that in setting forth in his declaration that he was wounded in the year '81 or '82 – he made a mistake and intended to say "in the summer of the year '80 or '81. ["

S/ Thomas Smith

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25 day of November 18 33

S/ Samuel Watson, JP

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