

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Smith S31376

fn20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/24/11

[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.]

State of Kentucky Adair County: Sct.

On this the 3rd day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before Benjamin Monroe Judge of the Circuit Court of Adair County now sitting Moses Smith a resident of Adair County & State aforesaid aged seventy-one 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 Congress, passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, that he volunteered from the County of Halifax in North Carolina shortly after the commencement of the revolutionary war (the date he does not now recollect) under Captain Lanley Powel [could be Tanley Powel: Lanley Powell: Tanley Powell] for the term, he thinks, of three months for the purpose of guarding the magazine of the United States at the town of Halifax and likewise the jaal [jail] of said town in which at that time there were a great many prisoners war criminals and it was believed there was danger of their breaking [out] hence the necessity of guarding it, the prisoners in said jail were put in irons, he lived immediately in the neighborhood of Halifax & received no discharge as he recollects when his time expired. A short time afterwards, he was drafted into the service of the United States for a tour of 3 months under the command of Captain ___ Jones and marched in a northern direction across the River Neuse and reconnoitered through that part of the country in pursuit of Tories etc. the other officers by whom he was commanded he does not now recollect & no memorable circumstance transpired during said tour, at the expiration of the term of 3 months aforesaid he received a discharge, he thinks from Captain Jones but it is now lost, he then returned home, remained there, perhaps, a few months and then volunteered he believes for 3 months more under the command of Colonel ___ Sowell [sic, probably a reference to Benjamin Seawell] he cannot recollect any of the other officers by whom he was then commanded he started from the County of Halifax and marched on to Ramsey's Mill upon deep River and there remained for some time, from there he was marched on in a southern direction and after some considerable time marching & maneuvering through that part of the country was marched back to Ramsey's mill without affecting anything of importance during said term, he remained a few days at said mill and from there marched towards home in the County of Halifax & was shortly afterwards discharged he believed by Colonel Sowell having served out his term of three months.

He states that he had not been long at home before he entered the service again in Halifax County North Carolina for a tour of three months under the command (of he thinks) Captain Ambrose Harper, Major Peoples & Colonel Whitar [sic, Whitaker?] in a Company of Horse he was marched from Halifax North Carolina up towards Hillsboro and Salisbury in Rowan County to Charlotte in Mecklenburg County from thence we marched through this country in search of the Tories but finding none we were marched toward Halifax County North Carolina and in that neighborhood we were discharged having no engagement during that tour and nothing of importance having transpired.

He states, that he had not been at home very long before he substituted for and in the place of ___ Sullivan for three months. He believes under the command of said Colonel Sowel the names of the balance of the Officers he does not recollect, he marched again to Charlotte and from thence into the State of South Carolina a few miles and on his return at Charlotte was likely to come into an engagement with the British but finding their numbers largely superior to that of ours it was thought advisable to retreat, thence remarching [?] through that country in the direction to Salisbury and thence down towards Halifax by way of Deep River until that tour was ended without any thing of importance having transpired.

He states sometime after his return home he was drafted for a 3 months tour in the County of Halifax North Carolina under the command of Colonel Sowel and was shortly put under the command of Captain Richards [James Richards] and General Butler. This tour was nearly in the same direction of the preceding, reconnoitering and maneuvering in pursuit of the Tories, but nothing of importance having transpired that tour except the desertion of Adjutant ___ Knight who deserted from our Army and took up arms against his country in defense of the British and was taken sentenced to Death and hung for that offense, and the Circumstance of Captain Richards having his hand cut off by a Captain Eve [sic, Captain Benjamin Eaves or Eakes] in Relation to a dispute between the parties in regard to which should march in front on that day they both being captains of our Army, and wishing to assume the same command and shortly after this circumstance he was discharged by said Richards & ordered to return home.

He states sometime in the same year he substituted for and in the place of Charles Moore to serve a three months tour called the County light horse under the command of Captain Ambrose Harper & by the direction of Colonel Long & General Jones, this tour was for the purpose of catching the men who were drafted and refused to serve and keeping horse wagons and carts for the benefit of the Army. This tour was performed entirely within the limits of the County of Halifax & North Carolina.

He states that sometime in the latter part of the same year he was drafted in Halifax County North Carolina to serve a three months tour under the command of Majors Armstrong and Donoho and Colonel Paisley he was marched up to the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin River where there was a small engagement between Captain Lewis's company and the Tories in which the latter was defeated and between 20 & 30 killed, he arrived at the place of battle just as it was over but not in time enough to take any part in it he encamped at that place all night and next morning being very cold he waded the Yadkin River and marched into Hoover Town at which time and place he was discharged his 3 months tour being ended & he being sick was taken by his Brother John Smith over into Henry County Virginia where he recovered and was then taken down home into Halifax North Carolina.

He states that in the ensuing spring he was drafted in Halifax County North Carolina to serve a three months tour under the command of Major Inloe [Enloe?] the other officers not now recollected, who marched the company until it was joined to the Army of General Green [sic,

Nathanael Greene] the place not recollected, but not very far distant from Guilford Court house, where he was maneuvering about until the battle of Guilford, which battle he was in until the retreat was ordered by General Green – from this place the British took up the line of March towards Ramsey's Mills on Deep River the American Army in pursuit of them and frequently in sight – at that place the British crossing the River on a bridge after their passage over the same day cut down the Bridge and prevented any further pursuit of them and after some time at that place he was discharged by General Green his term of service having expired and he returned home – having served two years and three months, he having received his discharges as before stated in this declaration and all of them being lost and destroyed. He states that he was born in the year 1761 in Cumberland County and State of Virginia and remained there until he was about 14 years of age at which time he with his Father moved into Halifax County North Carolina and there remained for a number of years after the close of the Revolutionary War and from thence removed into Henry County and State of Virginia, there lived about 12 or 13 years and from thence removed into Adair County and State of Kentucky which place he lives at this present time. He states that he has no particular record of his age.

He states that he can prove by Thomas Smith sundry tours as stated in this declaration and others by John Smith & John Creasey, he states that he can prove by Clergyman Lewis Ellison, John Creasey, John M Alexander, Joseph Alexander, William Young & James Cox by whom he can prove his character for veracity and the traditionary report of his neighborhood concerning his services as a soldier of the Revolution as before expressed in this Declaration.

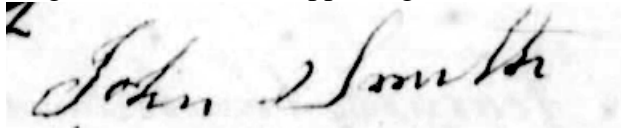
S/ Moses Smith, X his mark

State of Kentucky Cumberland County: Sct.

The affidavit of Thomas Smith Senior taken at his own house in the State & County aforesaid
Question 1st Have you any knowledge that Moses Smith ever served in the Revolutionary War either on his own account, or as a substitute for any person. Answer. I well recollect of his being a Substitute at 2 different times on a 3 months Tour, One for a man by the name of Solomon, the other by the name of Charles Moore; – In what County & State did the said Moses Smith live at the time of Rendering the aforesaid Services. Answer in the County of Halifax & State of North Carolina – Have you any Recollection or Knowledge of his serving any other Tours besides those mentioned, Answer, I recollect that he was frequently in the Army during the War but cannot Relate any particular circumstances.

S/ Thos. Smith, Sr.¹

[Vachel Dellingham and Lewis Ellison, a clergyman, Isaac McBee, John M Alexander, Ingram Alexander, & Rueben Alexander gave the standard supporting affidavit

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[fn 15: John Smith² gave testimony "that he met with the said Moses Smith twice in the revolutionary war, once at the battle of Guilford and once at the trading ford on the Adkin

¹ I do not believe that the signature is that of the affiant but rather of the person who wrote the affidavit as the handwriting appears to me to be identical.

² [John Smith W6085](#)

[Yadkin River]."
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[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]