

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Smith S31967

fn20GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/12/09

[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.]

Georgia Henry County: On this 2nd day of July in the year 1833 before me James Sellers a Justice of the Inferior Court personally appeared John Smith a resident in the County of Henry who after being duly sworn makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832 -- That he entered the service under the following named officers -- and served as herein stated -- He entered the service under Lieutenant Henry Graybill (the Captain of the Company -- Drury Pace, having gone to Florida) during the Florida expedition conducted by Brigadier General Williamson -- Deponent's Company belonged to the Battalion of Major Huke Middleton [sic, Hugh Middleton?]. He entered the service at Huke Middleton's Ferry in South Carolina -- he does not recollect the County or District -- remained there, and about there until the Stono expedition was over during this time the Army was engaged in scouting and defending the inhabitants from the Tories. He was two months and twelve days in this service. He then moved into Wilkes County Georgia and was at Colonel Dooly Senior when he returned from the Siege of Savannah. He was put upon the minute roll of the militia -- in George Dooly's Company -- about this time James Dooly was killed by the Tories, and Deponent heard & informed the Colonel that his life was threatened & advised him to be on his guard & he was killed in a day or two -- he then lay out, until the last siege of Augusta. He then entered the service under Captain William Walker at Augusta under Micajah Williamson Major -- he entered this service in two or three weeks before the last siege which lasted about two months, he was in this service and then was dismissed & went home to Wilkes County Georgia -- He then went to Richmond County -- & substituted in the room of George Smith -- in the company of Captain Townshend [sic, Townsend ?] and adjutant Horatio Marberry -- the date Deponent cannot recollect but he thinks it was in March 1781 -- he marched to Ebenezer, where he met General Wayne -- Colonel White & others -- with an Army under their command -- he was two months in this service he was dismissed -- during this time, the meat was scarcely fit to eat -- General Wayne & officers ate the yearlings & the soldiers were allotted the old Cows -- which they could not eat, but took their double rations of [illegible word, short 2 or 3 letter word, possibly "ale"] -- one gill of salt to every 20 men, he returned to Wilkes County Georgia -- He again was drafted (being classed a minute man) under William Walker Captain joined the forces under Colonel Elijah Clarke & Major Anderson near Beard's Springs in Wilkes County -- marched over the Broad River and met and attacked a party of Tories & Indians -- killed two Indians & one white man -- Captain Holloway of our Army was killed. Deponent rode his horse, back over the River -- Holloway was carried to the middle of the River & sunk to prevent the Indians getting his body -- two Tories Luney & Murphy -- and by Colonel Clarke's directions were hung on a stooping Hickory at the lower end of the Big Shoals on the East side

of Oconee River with a rope he thinks Bill Dooly took the handkerchief off the head of one of them whilst hanging, they were left hanging -- about this time, an Indian who killed Captain Holloway was killed [several words obliterated] in last five or six days. He next went into service under Captain Ware & built a Block House on the Oconee River in two weeks -- returned home -- & next marched to Shoulderbone Treaty & entered the service under a Captain Bucks [?], was drafted -- Major Graves commanded the Battalion, Colonel George Dooly the Regiment -- General Twiggs was highest in command -- he was in this service three weeks. Deponent then marched to the Frontiers in the Regiment of Colonel Freeman & in the Battalion of Major Jack Clark. He again entered the service in the spring after Shoulderbone treaty under Captain Potts - - Colonel Barber or Carter, and did duty in Potts, & Knox & Georges forts on the Frontier lying on Clouds Creek & Long Creek in Georgia he believes he was six months in this service -- he then went into service under Captain Potts, Jack Clark Major -- Colonel Holman Freeman Colonel of the Regiment and Elijah Clarke General marched & rendezvoused [several indecipherable words] marched to the Battle Ground where Colonel Barber was defeated, buried our dead -- Colonel Barber was wounded -- followed the Indians to the Cut Bank Ford on [indcipherable name, looks like "Aleney"] River -- crossed & marched to Hightower Trace marched in different directions turned back on Indian Trail & found the Indians at Jack's Creek where took place the Battle called Jack's Creek Battle. Indians were defeated we [word obliterated] Captain Brumfield & Ellsbury & Capt. William Edwards died of a wound received in the fight -- at [several words obliterated] and soldiers -- Praty Wooten & Elliott privates were killed. Deponent then went home this service lasted four or five days. This ended Deponent's service, he has omitted a number of services but put them down in another narrative written by himself when cold & sober at home.

I was born in York County Pennsylvania on Muddy Creek on the 23rd June 1761.

2. I have a record of my age in my Bible at home transcribed from my father's

3. I was living in Richmond County when first called into service -- I have lived in Wilkes County Georgia about 40 years -- moved to Clark County & was elected and served as Clerk of the Inferior court of said County -- for about six years I lived in Walton County two years & have lived in this County where he now lives eight or nine years.

4. I volunteered into the first service at about 16 years of age. He was afterwards classed as a minute man & went into service whenever called upon except when I hired as a substitute -- & then considered that I was defending my country and at the same time receiving a small compensation from an individual when I could received little or nothing from my Country & when owing to the ravages of the Indians & Tories nothing of consequence could be made by labor.

5. The names of officers he has stated.

6. Never receive written discharges -- except for a short tour which is lost.

7. The Reverend William Griffin, William Crawford, Matthew Wadruf [?], Jether Harold & John Logian [?], & Tandy W. Key some of them near neighbors who have known him well for many years.

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

Before: S/ James Sellers, JIC

S/ Jno. Smith, R. H.

George Henry County: before me James Settlers a Justice of the Inferior Court of said County

came John Smith who after being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his service -- But to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below. He served two years as a private for himself & two months as a substitute and for such services he claims a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed 3rd July 1833

Before: S/ James Sellers, JIC

S/ Jno. Smith, RH

Georgia Meriwether County: Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Inferior Court in & for the County & State, Alexander Smith¹ who first being duly sworn according to law deposed & saith that he was well acquainted with John Smith (RH) who is a brother of his, that he said John was a Revolutionary soldier actually serving during the whole of the Revolutionary war, that he said Alexander served in the same Company & Corps with him the said John until the Treaty of Shoulderbone in the State of Georgia made with the Indians the date of which this deponent does not now recollect, after which the said John & himself departed said John removing higher up into the frontiers of the State.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this second of January 1835.

S/ W. B. Ector, JQ

S/ Alex^r Smith

¹ FPA S16530