

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Benjamin Smith S38387

fn16GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 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.]

Virginia, To wit:

At a court held for Chesterfield County at the courthouse thereof on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1819, personally appeared in court Benjamin Smith aged Sixty three years, resident in Chesterfield County in the State of Virginia, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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;” that he the said Benjamin Smith enlisted for the term of twelve months on the \_\_ day of \_\_ in the year 1776 in Chesterfield County in the state of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Faulkner of the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment commanded either by ~~Col Read or Col- Stevenson~~ Col. William Prochy [?] ~~Richard Parker~~ in the line of the state of Virginia, on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States, about twelve months, when he was discharged from service in little York, in the state of Virginia, that he was in no battles during that term of service: -- That he the said Benjamin Smith enlisted again for the term of three years, on the \_\_ day of \_\_ or in the year 1777 in Chesterfield County in the state of Virginia, in the company commanded by Captain William Smith, which was attached to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Georgia Battalion, commanded by Col Starke in the Georgia line, on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said corps, or the service of the United States, the full term of three years, having been taken prisoner in the mean time, in the town of Savannah in the state of Georgia, that he ~~was ultimately exchanged, and~~ made his escape from ~~the prison ships of the enemy, off Tybee light house here he returned to his native state of Virginia~~ near the town of Augusta, and joined the American Regiment commanded by Col Clarke [Elijah Clarke], & having been separated from his corps never was regularly discharged, that during the last mentioned tour of service, he was in a battle at the halfway meeting house [Halfway Meeting House] between Sunbury & Savannah, in the battle at Savannah (where he was taken prisoner), in the battle at Augusta, and in the battle of the King's Mountain: -- That he the said Benjamin Smith again enlisted for and during the war, on the \_\_ day of \_\_ in the year 1781, in Cumberland County at Cumberland Old court house in the State of Virginia, in the company commanded by Captain Kirkpatrick, in the Brigade commanded by General Muhlenberg, on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said corps or in the service of the United States until the end of the war, when he was discharged from service near the

town of Winchester in the state of Virginia; that during the last mentioned tour of service, he was in no battle. -- And that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; that he has evidence to support this latter part of his declaration as to his poverty, which will be exhibited.--

Sworn to and declared in open court, on the day and in the year aforesaid.

I, Daniel Boisseau [?], presiding Justice of the peace now sitting in the court of Chesterfield County, do certify that, it appears to my satisfaction that the said Benjamin Smith did serve in the Revolutionary war as stated in the preceding declaration against the common enemy; for the term of nine months at one time, on the Continental establishment, and that it appears to my satisfaction from the testimony adduced, that the said Benjamin Smith is in reduced circumstances of life, and stands in need of assistance from the country. And I now transmit the proceedings and testimony taken and had before the court, to the secretary for the Department of war, pursuant to the directions of the aforementioned act of Congress. Given under my hand and seal this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1819.

S/ Daniel Boisseau

State of Virginia, Chesterfield County: to wit,

On the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year 1820 personally appeared in open court, before the County court of Chesterfield, which is a court of record, the act of the Virginia Assembly establishing the County courts corporally, declaring that that the said court, shall be a court of record, Benjamin Smith aged Sixty six years, a resident of Chesterfield County in the state aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows, In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Regiment in a company commanded by Captain William Smith in the Virginia line, on the Continental establishment, in the Revolutionary war, his original declaration was made on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 1818, and his pension certificate is numbered Eleven thousand eight hundred and ninety two [No. 11,892].

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818; and that I have not since that time, by gift, sale or in any manner, disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with intent thereby to diminish it, so as to bring myself within the provisions 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 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818: and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, or debts, or contracts, due to me; nor have I any income of any sort. And I the said Benjamin Smith do further swear, that I have no estate of any kind either real or personal whereof to make a schedule; that I am a farmer by occupation, but in consequence of old age and infirmity am totally unable to labor for a support, that I have no family, and am entirely dependent on the charity of my relations & others for subsistence.

S/ Benjamin Smith, X his mark

Sworn to, and declared on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 1820 before the County Court of Chesterfield.

S/ Wm Goode {Seal}

Presiding Justice of said court then sitting