

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ransom Smith S3925

f27NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/25/11 rev'd 2/25/21

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of Tennessee Marion County } SS

On this twelfth day of October in the year 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Charles F Keith one of the Judges of the Circuit Courts of law and equity in the State of Tennessee at a court now sitting at the Court house in the town of Jasper for Marion County, Ransom Smith a resident of said County of Marion, and State aforesaid, aged seventy-one 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. That is to say as a volunteer under Captain Howell Lewis and Lieutenant Howell Rose who were under the command of General Butler [John Butler] and was marched under the above named officers from Granville County North Carolina to near Charleston South Carolina and was there but 2 or 3 days till Charleston was surrendered to the British [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]<sup>1</sup> a day or two before the surrender of Charleston this applicant and about twenty others were ordered and sent a few miles up the River to guard a ferry and did not return to Charleston. This applicant and the guard of which he was attached fell in with General Caswell [Richard Caswell] of North Carolina and remained with him a few days and then returned to General Butler's and was discharged by him and returned home, having served this tour three months. This applicant has no recollection of the dates nor does he remember the names of the Continental officers or regiments in Charleston, near which place he remained but a few days. A few weeks after this applicant returned he again volunteered under Captain Bartlett Searcy [Bartlett Searcey] and Lieutenant Elisha Simms who belonged to Colonel Saunders [James Saunders'] Regiment, and marched under the command of Colonel Saunders into South Carolina where this applicant was ordered on several Scouts against the Tories but was not in any engagement of importance during this campaign. The Regiment having served three months (the time for which they volunteered) returned to North Carolina and were dismissed by Colonel Saunders. The troops were not regularly discharged in writing but merely dismissed by Colonel Saunders he served three months this tour. In a short time this applicant volunteered a third time under Captain <sup>Joseph</sup> Blackwell [sic, James Blackwell] and Major Pleasant Henderson of Granville County North Carolina who were under the command of Colonel Malbury [sic, [Francis de Malmedy, Marquis of Bretagne] who this applicant believes was a Frenchman; and who marched the Regiment to South Carolina against the Tories, and was in several scouting parties against them during this tour & during which several Tories were killed, the Regiment returned into North Carolina and were dismissed by Major Henderson,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

Colonel Malbary having left the Regiment before being dismissed. This was a three months tour, This applicant shortly after returning home volunteered again under Captain James Blackwell and was marched by him to near the South Carolina line where Captain Blackwell's Company joined Colonel Joseph Taylor who had a small force under his command. This applicant was engaged as in his former service against the Tories and having served three months (the time for which he had volunteered) returned to Granville County North Carolina and was dismissed by Captain Blackwell. This applicant never received a written discharge but the one from General Butler, which discharge was by him put among his father's papers soon after he received it and don't recollect that he has ever seen it since. This applicant has no documentary evidence of his services nor is there any person who can testify to his services living in this Country that he knows of.

This Applicant states that he was born in Hanover County Virginia on the 11th of April 1761, he has no record of his age his father had one and after his death it was lost & never came to the hands of this applicant he is enabled to know his age by the record of an elder brother's age who lives in South Carolina and having frequently seen the original record of his father.

This applicant further states that he was living in Granville County North Carolina when he entered the service after the close of the Revolution he removed to Claiborne County in Tennessee and lived there near four years, he removed from there to Campbell County Tennessee, and lived there about twenty-two years – and removed from there to this County (Marion) Tennessee where he has lived about a year and still lives. He has stated how he was called into the service, and the most particular circumstances of his service as well as he recollects he was not with any Continental troops any length of time during his service.

He also states that he is acquainted, in his present neighborhood with and known to Joel Hilliard, John Townsend Esquire, John Bramley, James Baker, Gillam Shelton, Asa Shelton, John Holloway and John Baker also Jeremiah Holloway and Michael Burkhalter, a clergyman, some of whom can testify as to his character for veracity and good behavior and his services as a revolutionary soldier –

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that my name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State in the United States.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Wm S. Standefer, Clerk

S/ Ransom Smith

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ransom Smith". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background and is enclosed within a thin, irregular rectangular border.

[John Baker, Jeremiah Holloway & Michael Burkhalter, a clergyman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 20: On November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1844 in Marion County Tennessee, the veteran signed an affidavit (with his mark) stating that he had received a pension certificate from the Secretary of War but that on or about the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 1844 between Pikeville Bledsoe County Tennessee and Knoxville Tennessee the certificate was lost and cannot be found.]

[Note: a letter in the file indicates that the veteran died August 12, 1855: the file contains no family data.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one year's service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]