

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Reuben Smithy (Smithey, Smither) S3943

f20VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/7/12

[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. 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 fails 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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

Commonwealth of Kentucky Woodford County Sct.

On this 17th day of September 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Woodford Circuit Court now sitting Reuben Smithy a resident of the State of Kentucky in the County of Woodford aged seventy-four 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 he resided in the County of Caroline and State of Virginia when he was drafted to serve a tour of duty in the militia that he went out under the command of Captain Buckner the number of the Regiment or the field officers in command he does not recollect he was marched from home to Williamsburg where he remained the whole time of his tour which he believes was three months and received an honorable discharge on the same paper with his brother Thomas Smithy¹ who obtained a pension under the act of Congress of 1832 (and is since dead) that discharge was sent to the City of Washington by his brother Thomas from Mercer County in this state is probably on file in the war Department and is his proof of service for this tour. He served as a private this as well as other tours the next tour he served he lived in Spotsylvania County Virginia he was again drafted and served a tour of three months under the command of Captain John Chew the Regiment was commanded by Colonel Oliver Towles the number of the Regiment not recollected. He marched from Fredericksburg in the State of Virginia having started to go to Williamsburg and on the way there went as far as Hanover Courthouse an express was received which term the troops back to Fredericksburg where we marched to and remained until he was honorably discharged. The next and last tour he served was in the year 1781 he still resided in Spotsylvania County when he was drafted for three months the names of his company officers he cannot recollect, Colonel McWilliams [William McWilliams] of Fredericksburg commanded the Regiment the number of which he does not recollect he was under the command of General Weeden [George Weedon], this tour he was marched from home to Williamsburg where he remained a short time from thence he was marched to little York to besiege Cornwallis where he remained until the end of the siege [October 19, 1781] and was honorably discharged, he solemnly avers that the foregoing statement is true as far as he can recollect that he has no documentary evidence of his service except the one discharge alluded to in conjunction with his brother, Thomas, that from the lapse of time his age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot be more explicit in his statement: 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 or territory.

¹ Thomas Smithey (Smithy, Smither) FPA S16532 [transcribed and filed in this database 3/7/12]

S/ Reuben Smithy, X his mark

Commonwealth of Kentucky Woodford County Sct.

This day William Smithy Personally appeared before me T. W. Sellers one of the Commonwealth's Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid and made oath in due form of law that he is now in the 84th year of his age that he was born and raised in Caroline and Spotsylvania counties in the State of Virginia that he is the brother of Reuben Smithy who is now and applicant for a pension under the act of Congress of 1832, that he knows of his brother Reuben serving as a soldier during the War of the revolution the length of time he served he cannot say nor the years in which the service was rendered, but he believes he served several tours during the same his great age and memory will not bear him out in being more particular in his statement.

S/ William Smithy, X his mark

[f p. 10: ... "Richard Mitchell² aged 70 years last August after being sworn in open Court states that he was acquainted with said Smith he before the War, that he served one tour of 2 months with him in 1781 under Colonel Mathews & Major Bourck [?]³ of the Virginia Line." ...]

[f p. 19]

Commonwealth of Kentucky Woodford County Sct.

This day personally appeared before me T. W. Sellers one of the Commonwealth's Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid John McQuady⁴ and made oath in due form of law that he is now 73 years old that he was born in Culpeper County in the State of Virginia that he resided in Spotsylvania County in the same state during the War the Revolution that he was there acquainted with Reuben Smithy who he understands is an applicant for a pension under the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832, that he believes said Smith he served a tour of duty in the year 1781 as a Militia man at the siege of York the length of the tour he cannot at this time specified as it has escaped his recollection.

September 28, 1833

S/ John McQuady, X his mark

[f p. 12: Power of attorney dated April 6, 1853 executed by Richard Smithey, son of Reuben Smithey who he describes as having been a revolutionary pensioner at the rate of \$15 per annum and who died January 25, 1846 leaving no widow. He signed his power of attorney with his mark.]

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

² FPA S1234

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⁴ Sic, John McQuiddy FPA W7603