

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Smallwood S3946

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/5/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Sevier County: SS

On this [written over and illegible] day of December 1832 Personally appeared in open Court before us Jonah Rodgers, John Mullendaux & John Jenkins three of the acting Justices of the court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in and for said County of Sevier and State of Tennessee now sitting William Smallwood a resident of the County of Blount and State of Tennessee but now in the said County of Sevier and State of Tennessee aged seventy-two years the 20th day of November last 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. He was born in Lancaster County Pennsylvania on the 20th of November 1760 as he is informed by his parents he has no record of his age he was living in Botetourt County Virginia when called into service at which place in the first of September 1780 he volunteered for a six months tour against the British under Captain Stephen Holeston [?] in Major David Campbell's Regiment of Militia we had no Colonel Rendezvoused at Botetourt Court House at the time last aforesaid. We marched through the old Moravian towns lay there some time thence to Salisbury where he lay there some time thence to the Catawby River [Catawba River] and at old Charlotte town then marched until we met General Morgan the second night after the battle of Cowpens then marched back and crossed the Catawby River at the Island Ford we were stationed at the Fords of the River to keep the British from crossing at the forts but they found their way across and killed General Davis [sic, General William Lee Davidson was killed February 1, 1781 at Cowans Ford]. We then had to retreat to Salisbury and then to Atkin River [Yadkin River] there we had a skirmish with the British troops of horse commanded by Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton] Captain Handley [perhaps Alexander Handly] was taken prisoner we there crossed the Atkin River and marched to Guilford lay there some time then we marched to Dan River, crossed Dan River we were there Honorably discharged (his discharge was signed by Major Campbell but is lost) in the first of March 1781 he served at that time six months. The reasons why this declaration was not made in Blount County where he resides are the following – he has lived in said Sevier County more than forty years and can prove actual service by Mitchell Porter<sup>1</sup> and Jeremiah H Compton<sup>2</sup> who both reside in Sevier County and he has lived in Blount County only about six months and he could not find witnesses there to prove actual service and he don't know as he can prove the report there. He lived in said Botetourt County Virginia about three years after the war was over then he removed to Sullivan

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<sup>1</sup> Mitchel Porter FPA W1477

<sup>2</sup> FPA W29

County North Carolina but now Tennessee lived there about two years then removed to said Sevier County he lived there till 1811 then removed to Warren County Tennessee lived there two years and moved back to said Sevier County lived there till about six months ago and then removed to Blount County where he now lives. He never was drafted nor a substitute. Colonel Washington who commanded a troop of horse was with the troops when he served a part of the time which is all he recollects. He don't recollect the name nor number of any Continental or Militia Regiments as the general circumstances of his service further than above stated. He never did receive a commission. He is known in the neighborhood where he formerly resided in said Sevier County to the Reverend Johnson Adams, George Fox, Jacob Bird, Samuel Pharis, Robert Matthews, William Williams and Joseph Webb all of whom he believes can testify that he is a man of veracity and that they believe he served as a soldier in the revolution. He was transferred from said Captain Holston and put under the command of Captain William Handley in the said Botetourt County Virginia and served the tour above stated under him till he was taken prisoner he was then commanded by Lieutenant James Tailer [James Taylor] till his time was out. He has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his actual service except Mitchell Porter and Jeremiah H Compton. 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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ William Smallwood

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Smallwood". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[Daniel Layman, a clergyman, and William Harper gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I Mitchel Porter aged 73 years residing in the County Sevier and State of Tennessee aforesaid, do hereby certify, that I became acquainted with the above named William Smallwood, while he was performing that tour of duty above mentioned, that I was a volunteer in the same Company with him, under the command of Captain William Hanley & Major Campbell aforesaid. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mitchel Porter". The signature is written in a bold, dark ink with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

I Jeremiah H Compton, aged 78 years, a resident in the said County of Sevier and State of Tennessee do hereby certify that I became acquainted with the above named William Smallwood, while he performed the tour of duty mentioned in his said declaration that I was a volunteer at the same time under the command of Captain Charles Robinson and Major Campbell, and was in company with the said William Smallwood at Salisbury in the State of North Carolina and at the Catawba River, and I recollect to have seen him at divers times and places while he was performing that tour of duty in his declaration mentioned.

S/ Jeremiah H Compton, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]