

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jonathan Smith S7556

fn30NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/24/11

[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. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Wake County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions November Sessions 1832

On this 22nd day of November A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court Captain Jonathan Smith before __ Esquire now holding a Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Wake aforesaid a resident of the County of Wake aforesaid aged seventy-nine 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 as a Captain of drafted Company in the County of Johnston and State aforesaid on the 6th day of June A.D. 1780, that his company rendezvoused at Smithfield in the County of Johnston aforesaid and marched from thence to Kingston [Kinston] where we joined the other Companies of militia under the command of General Richard Caswell and was placed under the immediate command of Colonel Axum [sic, Benjamin Exum] and was marched from thence to Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) to or near the South Carolina line, found the regular Army under the command of General Gates there I recollect of having seen General Smallwood and Baron DeKalb then marched to Rugeley's Mills there my company with other companies were placed under the command of Colonel Isaacs and by him were marched to meet General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] who we joined on the South side of the Wateree River – shortly after we United with the forces under General Sumter we heard of General Gates defeat at Camden and in pursuance of orders from General Sumter we retreated towards the town of Charlotte in this State in the course of our retreat we were overtaken by the British dragoons under Colonel Tarleton near the South side of the Catawba River and were routed and dispersed. I reached Charlotte saw General Sumter, and was ordered to rendezvous at Salisbury thence I went to Hillsboro, there I met with General Gregory and was there discharged with fourteen other persons and we all returned to Johnston County aforesaid. I was out about two months in this term and hired a Substitute who served the balance of the time, he is now dead. I have no documentary evidence – And I know of no person who can prove this service, whose testimony I can procure.

2nd. In the Spring of 1781 there was another company drafted in the aforesaid County of Johnston and Captain Crawford being unwilling to go and I being unwilling to stand a draft I volunteered as Captain to command said Company for three months. I ordered the men to meet

me at Smithfield and when they had complied with the order, we marched to Contentnea Creek, and joined the North Carolina militia under the command of Colonel Dobbs Spaight and General William Caswell and under their command marched in many and various directions over the Country to and between New Bern & Wilmington at that time the British forces were encamped in & had possession of Wilmington under Colonel Craig. We were then ordered to march to ~~Hillsboro~~ Wake Court house to protect the legislature then in session, from thence we were marched to Smithfield remained there about a week then marched to near Kinston & was there discharged this tour of service lasted for 3 months and longer – I and Colonel Needham Bryant disbanded the men. I have no documentary evidence but can prove this service by Nathan Gully.

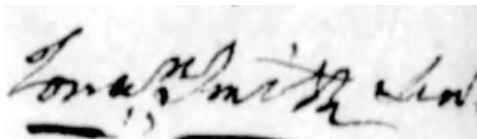
3. I was a volunteer in the cause of my Country in the latter part of the year A.D. 1775 under the command of Colonel Richard Caswell and was engaged in the Battle of Moore's Creek against the Tories. We've Whigs were successful in that action, several Tories were killed and some drowned in the Creek in attempting to make their escape. We were marched to Smithfield & discharge. This service lasted 3 weeks or more.

4th In August 1780 I volunteered as a light horseman under the command of Colonel Thomas Hunter of Wake County. I was in no engagement but some picket firing with Fanning [David Fanning], served this last about 10 days. I can prove this also by Nathan Gully.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

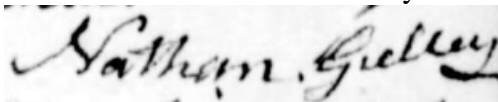
S/ Jonaⁿ Smith Senr.



[George Crowder and John Crowder gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I Nathan Gully hereby certify that I am well acquainted with Captain Jonathan Smith believe him to be 79 years old and I was a drafted man under his command as stated in the 3rd section of this declaration & accompanied him to the places therein stated and remained with him for the period of 3 months or more. I was also with him as stated in the 4th section. Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Nathan Gulley



State of North Carolina Wake County: Personally appeared before me Weston R. Gales the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for Wake County Captain Jonathan Smith who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by means of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his service – but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades – For 5 months and 10 days I served as Captain – Once as stated in my declaration as a Captain of a drafted Company for 3 months – and another time I was to draw by lot with another Captain to see who should go he seemed reluctant to go and I volunteered as Captain to the best of my recollection this term of service lasted for 2 months and 10 days making my whole period of service as Captain of militia 5 months and 10 days – for 21 days I served as a volunteer – and for

10 days I volunteered and served as a Captain of a light horse company which I have not included in the above service of 5 months and 10 days – and I swear that there is a mistake in my declaration committed by me or my attorney where it is declared that in the year 1780 I only served about 2 months whereas I informed him and the truth is that I served from the 6th day of June 1780 until the 10th of September of said year and did not get home until the 10th of September 1780 – And I hired a substitute for the purpose of completing said tour of 3 months –

S/ Jonaⁿ Smith, Senr.

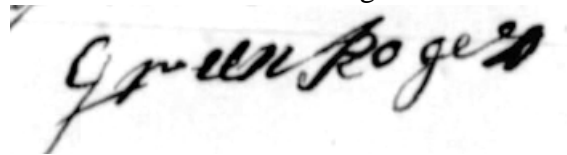
Sworn & subscribed before made this 4th April 1833

S/ Weston R. Gales, JP

State of North Carolina Wake County: Personally came before me this day Green Rogers aged about seventy-two years and six months and maketh oath that he served a tour of three months in the militia service of North Carolina during the Revolutionary War and that he was assigned to a company commanded by Jonathan Smith as Captain and that the said Jonathan Smith was reputed as having a commission as such and obeyed accordingly and further this deponent saith that he has been well acquainted with said Smith ever since.

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 6th of July in the year of our Lord 1833

S/ Green Rogers

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Green Rogers". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Facts in file, in 1852, Simon Smith, claimed to be the son of Jonathan Smith; he states that he was living in Raleigh North Carolina.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$103.77 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 5 months service as a Captain and 31 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]