

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Smith W1504
Transcribed by Will Graves

Elizabeth

fn78NC
2/25/11

[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.]

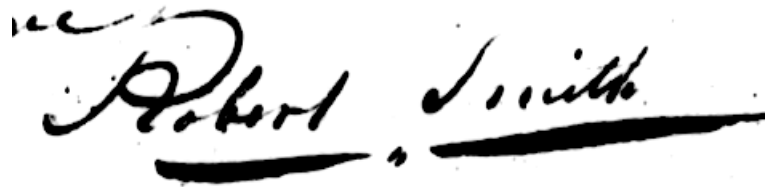
[fn p. 25]

State of Tennessee First Circuit: Hawkins County October 5th 1818

This day personally appeared Robert Smith before me Edward Scott one of the judges for said Circuit & State & being by me duly sworn according to law deposeth & saith that he is a Citizen of Hawkins County & has been a Citizen there of about thirty years is aged sixty-eight years. That he enlisted under John Walker of the first North Carolina Regiment for the term of six months in Johnston County North Carolina in the year 1775 that said Regiment was commanded by Colonel James Moore, that this Deponent under said Colonel Moore was marched to Wilmington North Carolina, that from thence to Brunswick where this Deponent remained until he was honorably discharged. That afterwards this deponent reenlisted under Captain John Ash [John Ashe, Jr] in the year 1776 in Johnston County aforesaid for the term of 18 months in said first Regiment at that time commanded by Colonel Nash [Francis Nash], Colonel Moore having been promoted to Brigadier General but owing to the Deponent having been crippled in his right leg which disabled him he was not in active Service during the last mentioned period but remained on duty in the State, that at the expiration of said eighteen months this Deponent was honorably discharged by Colonel Nash, but that said discharge having with the length of time that has elapsed, is lost that said Deponent served said period of 18 months honorably & faithfully that afterwards, viz., in the early part of the spring of 1778 as near as the Deponent now recollects he was appointed a 2nd Lieutenant in the 3rd United States North Carolina Regiment commanded by Colonel James Hogan [sic, James Hogun] & stationed at that time in Halifax North Carolina, that this Deponent marched from thence with his Regiment to Philadelphia, which place the British evacuated shortly before said Regiment arrived there, that from thence this Deponent with his Regiment was ordered to Monmouth, but said Regiment did not get there until after the battle fought at said place. Said Regiment was then ordered to West Point on the North River (New York) where said Regiment remained until the month of November or thereabout when General Washington marched the Army to Philadelphia to go into Winter Quarters, that sometime in the month of April or May 1779 this Deponent resigned his commission on account of the fatigues he had endured which had

impaired his Constitution, after having served honorably & faithfully both as a private and an officer in the service of the Country against the British. He further states, that he has lost his said Commission and discharges, but that it will be seen by reference to the War Department that he was in commission and that he served as above stated. That he served as a soldier two years, and as an officer at least twelve months. That he has never drawn any pension from the United States, that owing to his frail state of health and indigent circumstances he stands absolutely in need of the Assistance of his Country for Support. He further states that he has no other Evidence of his services in his power to adduce at this time. Sworn to and subscribed the day above.

S/ Robert Smith

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Smith". The signature is written in black ink on a light background. There are some small marks above the first few letters, possibly indicating a correction or a flourish. The signature is underlined with a thick, dark horizontal line.

[fn p. 30]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: August Session 1819

Personally appeared in open court this 24th of August 1819 Samuel Spears¹ a Citizen of Hawkins County & being duly sworn according to law depose & saith that he has been acquainted with the within named Robert Smith for a long time, that the Declaration he has sworn to is strictly true, as this Deponent served with said Smith in the said 3rd Regiment when said Robert Smith was a Lieutenant in said Regiment & that said Regiment was in the Continental Establishment.

S/ Samuel Spears, X his mark

[fn p. 16]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: On this first day of September 1821 Personally appeared in open Court for the County aforesaid, being a Court of Record, Robert Smith aged 70 years the first day of next April, Resident in Hawkins County, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress of the 18th day of March 1818 and the first May 1820. That he the said Robert Smith enlisted for the term of six months in the fall of 1775 in the State of North Carolina in the Company commanded by Captain John Walker in the first Regiment commanded by Colonel James Moore North Carolina line on the Continental Establishment. That he continued to serve seven months when he was discharged. That this Declarant afterwards viz. served in the Revolutionary War as follows. Enlisted in the month of May 1776 for the Term of eighteen months in the State of North Carolina in the company commanded by Captain John Ash in the Regiment commanded by Colonel James Moore, but afterwards commanded by Colonel Nash, said Colonel Moore having been promoted, that this Declarant having had his right leg crippled in a skirmish had with the Tories & British by a splinter striking his leg which was flung from the house at which the American Party were & which was at that time cannonaded by the Enemy,

¹ [Samuel Spears S39085](#)

that on account of his being disabled, as aforesaid he was not in active service, but was confined, on account of his said one 6 or 8 months, that so soon as he was able to do duty his friends Solicited for and procured him a 2nd Lieutenancy in the 3rd Regiment commanded by Colonel James Hogan, North Carolina line, that this Declarant remained doing duty in said Regiment about twelve months as an officer, when he resigned his commission on account of ill health & disability, but that said Commission is lost all together with his said discharge.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision 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 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed viz.

1 old mare and colt \$40 blind Horse \$5	\$45
9 head of cattle	40
22 head of hogs 11 of which are small pigs	22
Ten pewter plates & 3 dishes, old	5
2 Ovens without lids, one cattle & 2 pots	5
4 chairs, one lot knives and forks, old	1
2 Copping axes 1 old hoe and 1 ??	<u>3</u>
	\$121
Debts due	<u>8</u>
	\$129

That the Declarant is indebted to sundry Persons about \$100 for which his little property is liable to satisfy. That his wife is about 62 years old & frail & has one daughter about 24 years old who has lost one I, another daughter about 17, a little Boy about 12 who is a perfect Immediate. That this Declarant's health is so bad & he is so enfeebled that he stands in absolute need of the assistance of his country for support.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court

S/ Robert Smith, X his mark

On the same day personally appeared in open Court Samuel Spears & William Goings² Citizens of Hawkins County and who have the character of Good Citizens & made oath in due form of law, that they are well acquainted with the said Robert Smith, that they both knew him in the War of the Revolution, when he was a Lieutenant in the 3rd North Carolina Regiment on the Continental Establishment, that Samuel Spears belonged to the same Regiment Lieutenant Smith belonged to and William Goings the other affiant belonged to the first Regiment Virginia line, that the said 2 regiments lay at West Point above New York in the year 1778 sometime about Christmas day positively state that said applicant Robert Smith was a Regularly commissioned officer in said 3rd Regiment and they verily believes he is entitled to a pension. The affiant William Goings is now a Pensioner himself on the roll of the United States of number

² [William Goings \(Going\) W930](#)

12, 757 –

Sworn to & subscribed in open court

S/ Samuel Spears, X his mark

S/ William Goings, X his mark

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: February Sessions 1822

On the first day of March 1822 Personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record Robert Smith aged 72 years the first day of April next resident of said County of Hawkins being first duly sworn in due form of law, doth on his oath declare that he the said Robert Smith Enlisted in the service of his country in the American Army in the year 1776, under Captain John Walker of the North Carolina line for six months, the Regiment was commanded by Colonel James Moore and Colonel Nash [Frances Nash] his given name not recollected and that after the expiration of that time for which he was enlisted he afterwards enlisted for one-year under Captain Ashe [John Ashe, Jr.] and was still attached to the said Regiment commanded by Colonel James Moore, while in that service there was a small engagement with the British and Tories in the house of Colonel Dry's [?] in North Carolina in which I got wounded in the right leg and after my leg got well or nearly, I done service in the Army until my time of enlistment expired. My first discharge was given to me by Colonel James Moore but who gave me my second discharge I do not recollect but well recollect getting them both and some time afterwards my friends procured for me a Lieutenant's Commission in the regular Service, and I was first attached to Captain Ballard's [Kedar Ballard's] Company belonging to Colonel James Hogan's [sic, James Hogun's] Regiment of the North Carolina Line and was afterwards attached to Captain Bradley's Company but there was so many changes in the officers that I cannot recollect the names of my Superior officers so as to state them on oath, and after serving my country eighteen months or more as a common soldier and upwards of twelve months as an Officer owing to ill health & my leg not yet well nor did not get well for seven years, I was not able to perform duty and resigned my Commission and returned home to North Carolina, and a number of years thereafter my house got burnt and I lost all my papers including my discharge and my commission.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision 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 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed to with

3 Horses old & not worth more than	\$75
2 cows and 3 yearlings	25
2 sows and pigs and 3 or 4 shoats	10
2 pots one cattle & 2 ovens without the lids	4.50
5 Dishes and 6 pewter plates	3
5 or 6 knives & forks and one chair old	1
2 Axes and two hoes	<u>2.50</u>
	\$121

Debts due about

25
\$146

This declarant states on oath that to the best of his knowledge and belief he is indebted to different persons to the amount of about \$120 and has no other means of paying the same but out of the above described property, that he has a wife about 62 years of age of a weak & sickly constitution one daughter about 19 years old but knows not how long she may remained with him, and one son 13 or 14 years old quite an Idiot so much so that he has to be looked after and watched least he might ramble off, and that this declarant is very sickly and in bad health and unable to labor sufficient to support himself his wife & unfortunate child and that he stands in absolute need of the aid and assistance of his Country for support that this declarant begs leave to refer to a former declaration made at the February sessions 1820 of the Court of Hawkins County aforesaid and to the affidavits thereto annexed in a & support of said declaration. Sworn to & subscribed in open Court

"Signed"

S/ Robert Smith, X his mark

[Facts in file: Veteran died January 3, 1838 (place not shown); Soldier married March 1779 in Johnston County North Carolina Elizabeth (maiden name not stated); Elizabeth was born February 7, 1761; widow was allowed her pension by application dated November 17, 1838 while residing in Hawkins County Tennessee; widow died January 6, 1842 (place not given); soldier and his wife left the following children:

Susanna Smith who married Grimpfield Taylor

Elizabeth Smith who married John Lee

Allen Smith

Redden Smith

Claiborne Smith who in 1852 was living in Marshall County Alabama

Zelphina (also spelled Eilphina, Zeophina and Zilphia) who married John Draper (both living in Hawkins County in 1852; she was still alive in 1881 and living in St. Clair, Hawkins County)

Anna Smith deceased in 1843

Edith Smith deceased in 1843

Ferreby Smith married to Joseph Mooney who was born in June 1802 (both living in Hawkins County in 1852)]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per month commencing October 5th, 1818 for one-year service as a Lieutenant in the North Carolina Continental line.]