

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ezekiel Smith (Smyth) W25480 Margaret (Peggy) fn92NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 2/21/11

[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. 12: The handwriting of the scribe is very challenging: errors in transcription doubtless abound—use with caution. The veteran made an earlier application dated October 10, 1832 (Footnote.com pp. 40-44). It appears to be in the same handwriting as the application transcribed below and is equally challenging to decipher. The application below appears to me to be the more complete of the two applications and so I have chosen to transcribe only it but have inserted in red italics in bracketed text information gathered from the earlier application to shed light on the later one.]

Georgia Laurens County: On the 2nd day of April 1833 personally appeared before me Lott Warren in open Court Judge of the Session Court in and for the southern Circuit now sitting at Lawrence Court House in & for said County being one of the Counties constituting the Southern Circuit Ezekiel Smith resident in the County & State aforesaid aged sixty-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 the 7th of June 1832.

That this deponent relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any State.

That the first Term of his tour in the revolutionary service was commenced as a Substitute for Zachariah Hawes [?] for three months in Wain County[sic, Wayne County], North Carolina on the 20th of January 1781, under Captain John Granger [*Capt. John Grainger*], Colonel John Herritage, rendezvoused at Kingston [Kinston] same State remained at Kingston till the 9 or 10 of March next following, thence marched through Edgecombe County on to Parnesburgh [sic, ?], thence to Guilford County, then [indecipherable word] General Green's [sic, Nathaniel Green's] Head quarters about the 20th of March, then called on a fatigue party to make cartridges, there were 24 rounds & 3 flints, then marched in pursuit of Cornwallis to Chatham County Ramsays Mill on deep River where Cornwallis had made his escape across – then halted at which 7 British prisoners were taken by Colonel Lee & Colonel Washington commanding the Cavalry, General Greene then marched his army to Camden South Carolina but the militia were at that time left at Ramsays Mills, in a few days after General Greene's departure for the Southward, an express arrived from Colonel Aulston [sic, Alston or Austin?] [*perhaps James Alston*] to assist him being invaded [?] by Colonel Fannon [sic, David Fanning] & his Tory party, this deponent with others of the militia volunteered & pursued Fanning and the Tories for 15 days & nights in succession

in which time it took 6 of his Tories prisoners & by court martial were condemned to be shot, but reprieved by a promise to leave the United States, from thence pursued our route toward the mountains on the next day took one other of Fanning's men prisoner, brought him to camp, tried by court martial condemned & hung [?] known by the name of William Grimes, then we returned & joined the militia camps again in Wake County North Carolina, then & there discharged on or about the 20th of April 1781, got home in about 3 days to Wayne County & was drafted again for a second tour before he got home, applied & got a furlough on the first of May 1781 – rendezvoused at Kingston on or about the 13th of May same year, under Captain John Giles & Major Griffin, marched to Duplin County, there joined Colonel Kennion [sic, James Kenan], thence marched to Rockfish bridge there encamped cleaned [?] up parade grounds, threw up breast works then remained till in [indecipherable word or words] 15 July on or about the 15 July had a battle with the enemy under the command of General Gragg [sic, Major James Craig], British officer, & we were defeated, retreated to Herra's [?] bridge [*Hurst's [?] bridge on Goshen Swamp*] Duplin County & there rendezvoused & there remained for about 12 or 15 days, then marched across Neuse River into Wayne County there remained in camp until our 3 months expired & were there discharged about the first of August same year in a day or 2 days after the last discharge, volunteered for 3rd term of service day about the 3rd or 4th day of August under Captain Jacob Johnson and Colonel William Caswell rendezvoused at Kingston then and there received some Tory prisoners from Captain Simmons whom we conveyed to Tarboro Edgecombe County North Carolina, delivered this to a Guard, returned back to Kingston, then marched to New River Chapel when the British evacuated Wilmington we took possession, then remained until our 3 months service expired & were then & there discharged, then returned home to his father's in Wayne County on the first of November 1781 – 4th tour of service – substituted about the latter part of November same year for 18 months in Dobbs County North Carolina for Tison Tillman under Captain Evans Continental officer rendezvoused at Kingston about 2 or 3 weeks marched to Wilmington there remained something like a week or 10 days then marched to George Town South Carolina, thence to Ashley Hill on Ashley River to join General Green, Captain Evans then became a Major & Captain Coleman took charge of us Lieutenant Camplin first & Burton [?] 2nd Lieutenant Curtis Ivey then our adjutant, our duty was as a strong guard at Bacons Bridge on Ashley River to reconnoiter & suppress the black troops the British had armed six miles above Charleston & the refugees endeavoring to leave Charleston this duty was performed until the British evacuated Charleston in the month of November as well as recollected November 1782. Then General Green moved his head quarters with his troops to James Island, made his own head quarters in Broad Street Charleston, there kept his guard, January 5, 1783 this deponent & all were taken into Charleston from James Island there remained till Charleston was illuminated [?] for Peace, then sometime in the first of April were removed back again to James Island to head quarters, then & there drew our clothing – remained there till the first of June then conveyed across the Bay, the first day of July dismissed in small squads, & reached home on the 18th of month same year, Wayne County North Carolina.¹ The above declaration is as plain an account of the different tours as my memory can't furnish the [indecipherable word or words] the service was performed honorably & fairly. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Lott Warren, Judge

S/ Ezekiel Smyth

¹ "... carried back to James Island and there staid until about the last of June 1783 – was then taken to Haddrell's Point on the Northeast side of Cooper River – and remained there until the first day of July 1783 – and was then discharged."



[Jordan Baker & Francis E Flanders, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 81]

Georgia Stewart County: Personally came before me Warren A. May a Justice of the peace in and for said County Nathan Grantham² and after being duly sworn deposed and saith that he was acquainted with Ezekiel Smith and that his first acquaintance was formed with him in the year 1781 deponent further saith that he Ezekiel Smith was then a Soldier in the Army under the command of General Greene in the pursuit of Cornwallis from Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina to Ramsey Mills on deep River.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 7th day of September 1833

S/ Nathan Grantham



[fn p. 27: on October 31st, 1853 in Montgomery County, Georgia, Peggy Smith, 55, filed for a Widow's pension under the 1848 act stating that she is the widow of Ezekiel Smith a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$80 per annum; that she married him on the last day of April 1832; that her husband died the 2nd week of June in the year 1839.]

[fn p. 8: on August 13, 1855 in Laurens County Georgia, Margaret Smith, about 45 or 50 years of age, declared that she is the widow of Ezekiel Smith, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she made an application for a widow's pension in the month of October or November 1852 and appointed John R Cochran of Lawrence County Georgia her attorney to pursue her claim; that she married her husband in Laurens County Georgia in 1830 or 1831; that they were married by a Mr. Evans, a Minister of the gospel; that her name prior to her marriage was Margaret Chapman; that her husband died in Montgomery County Georgia in the year 1839 and that she makes this application to claim her bounty land entitlement.]

[fn p. 18: on September 19, 1872 in Telfair County Georgia, the widow, 78, filed for the reinstatement of her pension as the widow of a revolutionary war veteran.]

[fn p. 88: testimony given that the widow's name prior to her marriage was Peggy Beasley and that she and the veteran were married by N. Grantham, a Minister of the gospel.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service in the North Carolina line.]

² [Nathan Grantham S31716](#)