

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Smothers (Smethers, Smithers) W26475 Elizabeth f34VA  
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/8/12

[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 Kentucky Morgan County: Sct.

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared before the County Court of Morgan County, now in session, John Smethers, a resident of the County of Morgan in the State of Kentucky aged 69 years the 5th of December 1832: who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1778 on the 1st day of January, with one Richard Harrison a recruiting officer, the number of the Regiment and line he does not now recollect, but that he served under the following named officers: to wit: General George Rogers Clark, Colonel John Montgomery, Colonel \_\_Crockett [Joseph Crockett], the Company he belonged to was commanded by Captain Robert George of the Artillery, He does not recollect the names and rank of all the officers, He states that he entered the service in Spotsylvania [County] near the Shenandoah River at a place called the large Red House, where he joined a part of the Regiment, from thence he marched to Winchester from thence he marched to Fort Pitt, from thence he took water and under the command of Colonel Crockett sailed to the falls of the Ohio, from thence they went to the mouth of Tennessee River and joined them main Army under the command of General George Rogers Clark, from thence they went about nine miles and erected a Fort called Fort Jefferson, when they remained about one year from thence they went to Kaskaskia and from thence to Cako [sic?]<sup>1</sup> where they had a battle and drove off the Indians, thence they marched to Ope Town where they had another battle with the Indians, from thence they returned to Fort Jefferson when they had various small skirmishes with the Indians. He states that he lived in Rockbridge County and State of Virginia, that he obtained his discharge in 1781 in the month of June, He also states that he was in the Battle fought at the Shawnee Towns on the Miami River – He states that he enlisted but once, but was in the service during the whole period from the time of his enlistment until his discharge. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he 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. The original discharge he states he has lost.  
S/ John Smothers, X his mark

[f p. 9: On April 15, 1853 in Morgan County Kentucky, Elizabeth Smothers, 69, filed for a widow's pension as the widow of John Smothers, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$80

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<sup>1</sup> *Cako* [possibly a mistaken reference to Cahokia]

per annum; that her husband died in Morgan County Kentucky February 2, 1842; that she married her husband March 6, 1828 in Morgan County Kentucky; that they were married by Jesse Cassity [Jesse Cassidy?], JP; and that she remains a widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia State Troops. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[Note: this file mistakenly includes the following affidavit clearly relating to some other veteran: most probably John Smithers/Smuthers FPA R9880.]

[f p. 31]

Statement made by John Smuthers relative to his Revolutionary Services viz.

I enlisted for during the war in Fredericksburg Virginia and served on board the *Rogally* [sic, row galley?] built at Fredericksburg under Captain White until she was taken by the enemy soon after she went to sea, and I was a prisoner on board a British ship seven weeks and was exchanged to the land service under Colonel Green in Captain Minor's Company thinks it was the 21st Regiment was at the battle of Kings Mountain under Colonel Mathers or Mathews in Captain Dudley's Company was at the surrender of York Town and served during the war and was discharged by General Weeden [George Weedon] my papers was burnt together with my house I have traveled more than eight hundred miles to procure a living witness to prove my actual service and I and [word obliterated and illegible] present of other witnesses

Henrico County to wit

This day John Smuthers personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing statement is true.

Given under my hand and seal this 18th day of August 1841

S/ Jno R. Burton, JP

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The [Virginia State Library](#) has digital images of documents relating to this veteran posted on its website.

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 30th day of June 1784, in the name of John Smithers, as a Soldier -- Illinois for £59.16.8, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Jno Broadhead and was given for services prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this  
17th day of July 1840.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

I hereby certify that it appears from the Muster and Pay Rolls of Captain Robert George's Company of Artillery in the Illinois Department That John Smothers or Smithers entered for and during the War that Company as a Matross on the 3rd of January 1780, that he continued therein until the 31st day of January 1783 when he was reported as being absent on furlough.

Given under my hand at the Auditors Office this 17th day of July 1840  
S/ Jas E. Heath, Aud of Virg.

To his Excellency the Governor of Virginia

Your Petitioner represents that on the 1st day of January 1779 he enlisted in the service of the United States at a place called Inglishes fery [Ingles Ferry near present Radford, Va.] on New River, State of Virginia under one Captain Richard Harrison and was marched by way of Winchester in the Valley of Virginia to Fort Pitt on the Ohio River and down the same to the falls of the Ohio River and there joined the Regiment of George R Clark I was placed under Captain Robert George that commanded the Artillery and served in that Company until the end of the war agreeable to his enlistment which was some time in the year 1783. Your petitioner further represents that he never received the bounty of Land promised by the State of Virginia therefore your Excellency will take the same into consideration and allow your Petitioner John Smothers now residing in the State of Kentucky and County of Morgan the quantity of Land due for the aforesaid Services annual petitioner in duty bound & so forth

S/ John Smothers, X his mark

[The attestation is somewhat compromised but in it the veteran is referred to as being 73 years of age and a pensioner of the United States in the attestation appears to be dated 1<sup>st</sup> October 1835.]

State of Kentucky Morgan County Sct.

I John Smothers a resident of Morgan County and State of Kentucky do upon my oath declare and testify That I did enlist in the County of Montgomery and State of Virginia on the 1st day of January 1778 for during the war in the Company of Captain Richard Harrison & Major Crittenden & Colonel Crockett's Regiment and did march with said Company to the falls or now Louisville Kentucky and there down the Ohio to the mouth of the Tennessee River there the declarant was transferred to Colonel Montgomery's Regiment who belonged to Colonel George Rogers Clarke's Regiment Captain George was the declarant's Captain at this time, which Regiment the declarant continued in until the end of the war,

I further declare that I have never received a warrant for the Bounty land promised me by the State of Virginia for said services, nor have I ever transferred my claim to it in any manner whatever.

Therefore know all men by these presents that I John Smothers aforesaid do hereby constitute and appoint Christopher Chim of Mercer County and State of Kentucky to be my true and lawful attorney [etc. etc. boilerplate power of attorney language]. Witness my hand and seal this 6th day of September 1839

S/ John Smothers, X his mark