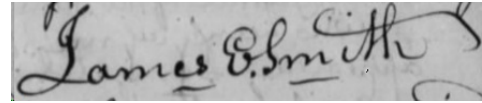


Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of James E. Smith W3727 Jemima Smith PA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

District of Pennsylvania Ss—

On the first day of May 1818, before me the subscriber Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, personally appeared James E Smith, aged fifty nine years, Resident in Philadelphia, in the said district, who being by me first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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. That he the said James E Smith entered the Service of the United States on the fourteenth day of March one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven, as Second Lieutenant of Artillery, as appears by a Commission hereunto annexed, granted by John Jay, and entered in the war office on the 18 May 1779. That he continued to serve in the Pennsylvania Regiment of Artillery commanded by Col. Thomas Proctor, untill the end of the war, and was discharged in Philadelphia in August 1783 in Philadelphia State of Pennsylvania, as appears by a Brevet Commission, dated the 1 day of December 1783, signed Thomas Mifflin, hereunto annexed. That he was in the Battles of White plains [28 Oct 1776], Trenton [26 Dec 1776], Princeton [3 Jan 1777], Brandewine [sic: Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777], Germantown [4 Oct 1777], Green Springs [Green Springs Plantation VA, 6 Jul 1781], Yorktown [siege, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], & Hunts Bluff Combehee River S Carolina [see endnote] &. And that he is now in Reduced circumstances and in need of assitance from his country. And that he hopes the foregoing evidence will prove Satisfactory being all in his power to offer



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED

For James Smith Gentleman Greeting. We, Reposing especial trust and confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct, and Fidelity DO by these presents constitute and appoint you to be a Second Lieutenant of Artillery in the Army of the United States, to take rank as such from the 14 day of March A.D. 1777. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a Second Lieutenant by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers, under your command, to be obedient to your orders, as Second Lieutenant. And you are to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, a Committee of the States, or Commander in chief for the time being of the Army of the United States, or any other your superior Officer, according to the rules and discipline of War, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue inforce until revoked by this, or a future Congress, the Committee of Congress before mentioned, or a Committee of the States.

Entered in the War Office
and examined by the Board
Attest// P. Scull Secretary
of the Board of War

Witness his Excell'y John Jay Esqr President of the Congress
of the United States of America, at Philadelphia the 18 day of
May A.D 1779, and in the third year of our Independence
[signed] John Jay

IN PURSUANCE Of an ACT of CONGRESS Of the Thirtieth Day of SEPTEMBER, A.D. 1783,
James Smith Esquire is to Rank as a Captain by Brevet, in the ARMY of the UNITED STATES of
AMERICA. GIVEN under my Hand, at Annapolis the first Day of December 1783

[signed] Thomas Mifflin

Entered in the War Office/ Attest Jos. Carleton Sec'y

United States Eastern District }
of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia } Ss

On this twenty eighth day of July A.D. 1820 personally appeared in open Court James E Smith aged sixty two years resident in the City of Philadelphia in said District, who being first duly affirmed according to Law, doth on his Affirmation declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows – the date of his first Commission was the 14th March 1776 in the 4th Regiment of Artillery, Commanded by Colonel Thomas Proctor Penna Line; continued to serve in said Corps to the end of the War; his Commissions accompanied his Original Declaration made May 1st 1818 No of his Pension Certificate 871.

And I the said James E Smith do solemnly affirm 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 disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions 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.

James E. Smith

Schedule

One Silver Watch not exceeding in value \$10.00

This Watch is the only article of Property at this Time owned by the Declarant, he having through Losses and adverse Circumstances as a Merchant, his then Profession, and in December 1816 assigned his all of Property and Claims of every description and delivered the same up to Assignees for the use of his Creditors since which Time he has not acquired any Property.

James E. Smith

The Family of the within declarant residing with him viz

His wife	Jemima Smith	aged. . .	55 years
Son	James S. Smith	“ . .	29
Daughter	Elizabeth R Smith	“ . .	25
Son	Joseph R. Smith	“ . .	21
	{Mary R Smith	“ . .	16
Daughters	{Jemima R Smith	“ . .	11
	{Hannah S Smith	“ . .	8

Of these the Two sons James S and Joseph R. are able to support themselves, and contribute in a measure by paying board towards the support of the other Members of the family. Elizabeth R. by her Industry is enabled to provide for her own Clothing – the minor daughters are unable to assist much towards their own support

James E. Smith

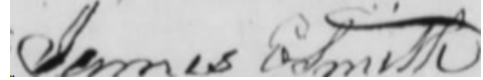
For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of an act, entitled “An act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution,” approved on the 15th of May, 1828, I James E Smith of the City of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, do hereby declare that I was an officer in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, and served as such from the 14 day of March 1777 until the 17th of October 1783, at which period I was a Captain Lieutenant in the artillery Pennsylvania line.

And I also declare, that I afterwards received certificates (commonly called commutation certificates) for a sum equal to the amount of five years’ full pay; which sum was offered by the resolve of Congress, of the 22^d of March, 1783, instead of the half pay for life, to which I was entitled under the resolve of the 21st of October, 1780.

And I do further declare, that I have received of the United States as a pensioner, since the 3^d day of March, 1826, Three hundred and sixty dollars

Witness my hand, this 26th day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred

and twenty eight

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James Smith". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted.

[Written in margin:] The Letter E anexed to James Smith was introduced when it was found necessary in order to dessegnate there being so many James Smiths going into Business in the city of N York at the end of the war.

NOTES:

The only Hunt's Bluff known to me was on Pee Dee River. It was the scene of an engagement on 25 Jul 1780, but Pennsylvania troops were not present. Combahee River was the scene of a skirmish on 27 Aug 1782 where a Capt. James Smith of Maryland was in command of artillery. That James Smith was mortally wounded in the action, however. Pennsylvania artillery do not appear to have been present in that action.

On 11 July 1838 Jemima Smith, age 69 on the previous 14 January, applied for a pension stating that she married Major James Smith on 5 Feb 1787, and he died on 14 Jan 1835. Mary R. Smith certified her application.

The file contains a copy of the marriage record from Christ Church in Philadelphia transcribed as follows: Married 1787 February 5th . James Smith and Jemima E. Russell, say seventeen Hundred and Eighty Seven February Fifth by Mr Blackwell.