

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Michael Smith W4339  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Rebecca Smith MD

State of Maryland }  
Baltimore County }

On the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and eighteen before the subscriber Chief Judge of Baltimore County Court, personally appears Michael Smith who makes Oath on the Holy Evangelists that about the month of May 1777 he entered the service of the United States, by enlisting at Frederick Town Maryland, as Drummer in the Company commanded by Captain Myers in the first Regiment of Infantry Maryland Line – that he was afterwards marched to Valley Forge, fought the Enemy at the Battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] was subsequently stationed at West point, belonged to the Army which captured Cornwallis at Yorktown [19 Oct 1781] – that Colonel [Ludowick] Weltner commanded said Regiment – that he was transferred to the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment Maryland Line then marched to South Carolina, was wounded in an engagement at the Quarter House between Bacons Bridge and Charlestown [4 Nov 1782], and after the End of the war was discharged at Annapolis – and the said Michael Smith on solemn Oath declares, that from his reduced circumstances he needs the assistance of his Country for support.

United States of America  
District of Maryland SS.

On this fourteenth day of September 1820, personally appeared in open court in the District Court of the United States in and for the Maryland District Michael Smith aged about 62 years, resident in Baltimore in said District who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War, as follows: That he enlisted at the beginning of the Revolutionary War at Frederick Town in the fifth Maryland Regiment – Col Weldner in the Company commanded by Capt Myers and fought throughout the whole war as a Drummer, and was discharged at Annapolis according to his original declaration dated in March or April 1818 That he was placed on pension list Maryland Roll under the Law of the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818 according to a certificate in his possession dated November 4<sup>th</sup> 1818 No 4330

and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

He possesses no property whatever and has no other dependence besides his pension than Charity, being too old and infirm to work at his trade, which is that of a Baker. He has no family

Michael hisXmark Smith

State of Ohio  
Fairfield County Ss

On this sixth day of March A.D. 1859 personally appeared before me Jesse Leohner Judge of the Probate Court in and for the county and state aforesaid Rebecca Smith a resident of said county of Fairfield and State of Ohio, aged ninety seven years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836 and the several acts amendatory thereto, and other acts of Congress for the benefit of widows of deceased officers and soldiers who served in the Revolutionary war: that she is the

widow of Michael Smith, who was a drummer in the company commanded by Captain Myers, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Weltner, in the Maryland line in the Revolutionary War; that her said husband joined the army in the County of Frederick, and State of Maryland at or about the commencement of the war, and continued in actual service in said war until the close thereof; and that she has no documentary evidence of the service of her said husband: She further declares that she was married to said Michael Smith sometime in the year AD (1784) seventeen hundred and eighty four, in a Lutheran Church in the town of Middletown, County of Frederick and State of Maryland by one Rev. Hale (George Hale she thinks) a Lutheran minister at the time in charge of said Church: That no public or private record of her said marriage was kept to her knowledge; that her name before said marriage was Rebecca Ludwig; that her said husband died sometime in the year AD eighteen hundred and twenty one (1821) and that she was not living with her said husband at the time of his death, as hereinafter stated: That her said husband as she was informed died in the city of Baltimore and State of Maryland; and that she has remained a widow ever since that period: She further states that a short time subsequent to her said marriage with Michael Smith; her said husband and herself removed to the City of Baltimore, state of Maryland where they lived together until about the year AD seventeen hundred and ninety-four (1794), that in the year AD seventeen hundred and ninety one or ninety two she had a child by her said husband whom they named Katharine: that about two years after the birth of her said child, which was in the year AD seventeen hundred and ninety four, she left her said husband and returned to her mother who lived in Frederick County and state of Maryland; her reason for leaving her said husband was on account of his neglecting to provide for herself and their daughter Katharine and also on account of his drinking: that during the time she lived with her said husband in Baltimore city, he followed the baking business he being a baker by trade: that he worked at this business with a man by the name of Crouse of whom he spoke often: She further states she was never divorced from the said Michael Smith; that she never made any application for a divorce herself, and has no knowledge that her said husband ever applied for a divorce and she always regarded herself as the wife of said Smith in his life time, and his widow since his death: That their said daughter Katharine Smith, subsequently married George or John George Kuhns and lived some years in Waynesburg or Waynesboro in the State of Pennsylvania; that they afterwards emigrated to the county of Fairfield and state of Ohio, where they continued to reside until the death of said George Kuhns; and that her said daughter Katharine Kuhns formerly Katherine Smith, is still alive and a widow, and continues to reside in the town of Pleasantville in the said county of Fairfield and State of Ohio: She further declares, that about forty years ago she removed from Frederick County Maryland, to Fairfield County State of Ohio, where she has continued to reside ever since, living a portion of the time with her said daughter Katharine: that she had a brother George Ludwig, who married her husbands sister: that the wife of her said brother died many years ago, and that she has been informed that her said brother George died a short time since near the city of Lafayette in the State of Indiana: that she had several half sisters by the name of Arnold; children by the second marriage of her mother after the death of her first husband, Ludwig; one of her said sisters was married to Thomas McNamee, who also emigrated many years since from Maryland to said Fairfield County, Ohio, where they continued to reside until their death which took place some years ago; and several of the children of said Thomas McNamee are still living in the said County of Fairfield and state of Ohio: She further states that she never knew until within a short time that she would be entitled to anything from the Government for the service of her said husband in the Revolutionary war and she therefore never made any application for a pension: She further states that several persons were present at the church when she was married to said Michael Smith, and that she thinks that her brother George Ludwig and her half sister that married Thomas McNamee were among the number

[signed illegibly]

State of Maryland Set [4 May 1859]

I William L W Seabrook Com'r of the Land Office of Maryland, do hereby certify that it appears from the Muster Rolls of the Maryland Continental line now in this Office – that Michael Smith was enlisted in the German Regiment as a drummer on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 1778 and discharged on the 1<sup>st</sup> August

'80 at which time it appears from said Rolls the whole German Regiment was discharged. And I also certify that the name of no other Michael Smith appears upon the Muster Rolls in my charge, which appears to give the service of the Maryland Line no later than the close of 1780 – while upon the first pay Roll of the Maryland line the said Michael Smith appears to have received on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 1781 the sum of £60.8.6 and on the second pay Roll covering arrears from 1<sup>st</sup> August '80 to 1<sup>st</sup> January 82 and the pay from 1<sup>st</sup> January '82 to 15<sup>th</sup> November 83 there appear the names of Michael Smith 1<sup>st</sup> and Michael Smith 2<sup>nd</sup>. The former of whom received a total of \$275-30 and the Latter \$248.— the gratuity received by Michael Smith 1<sup>st</sup> being \$80 and that of Michael Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> \$50.60

NOTES:

The file contains a warrant for 50 acres of bounty land in Washington County MD issued to Michael Smith for his service in the German Regiment.

On 6 April 1859 Rebecca Smith applied for bounty land. On 7 April 1859 Katharine Kuhns, 67, stated that she married George Kuhns in the spring of 1816, and that she had no recollection of her father, but had “a distinct recollection of hearing her grandmother Arnold, Thomas McNamee and his wife Nancy McNamee and others in her early youth speak about her father Michael Smith and his marriage with her mother Rebecca Smith; that he was a very proud man....” She also referred to an aunt, Peggy Ludwig, formerly Peggy Kline. Other family information is in statements on 8 April 1859 by George McNamee, 66, oldest son of Thomas McNamee, and Polly Baker McNamee, about 64, and on 26 April 1859 by Jacob Ludwick, 63, and Henry Young, 80