

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ralph Smith W7184<sup>1</sup>

Elizabeth Smith

f45SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/21/20

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 12]

State of Tennessee Lincoln County: County Court October Term 18

On the 19th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Lincoln County Tennessee Ralph Smith a resident of said County aged 69 years, on the 23rd or 26th of August last 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 1781, sometime in the month of April for a term of ten months with Captain Jacob Barnet [Jacob Barnett]; and served in the first Regiment (as he now thinks) of the South Carolina cavalry – the No. of the Regiment I do not know, but I recollect that our Regiment was always placed on the right – Our Regiment was commanded by Colonel [sic, Lt. Col.] Wade Hampton [sic, Barnett's Company was in the Regiment commanded by Lt. Col. Henry Hampton] & Major Rutherford [James Rutherford was Brigade Major under Lieutenant Colonel Wade Hampton], – the Company to which I belonged was commanded by Captain Jacob Barnet, first Lieutenant William Barnet [William Barnett] 2nd Lieutenant William Rogers – I lived at the time of my enlisting in York district South Carolina. I had first been drafted for a tour of 3 months and when I arrived at headquarters, on the Congaree River, just below where Columbia is now situated, I enlisted as above stated, which I think was on the 5th of April 1781 – there were two other regiments there besides the one in which I enlisted one commanded by Colonel Middleton [Lt. Col. Charles S Myddelton] and the other by Colonel Polk [William Polk] and all under the command of General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter] during the time of my ten months enlistment I was not engaged in any battle. About the beginning of summer, we marched towards Ninety Six, but understanding that the British had evacuated it, were marched towards Charleston, we turned our course and took some of them prisoners, but had no engagement with them – we pursued them to what was then called Congaree Fort, we were then engaged, principally in scouting parties, until sometime in September, our Regiment was ordered to join the forces under General Greene [Nathanael Greene], in order to attack the British under Lord Rawdon & the two armies met & had a battle at Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] him but I was not engaged in the battle, having been left at the Congaree, to take care of those who were sick in the hospital, in consequence of having no horse – we were then engaged in scouting parties against the Tories on the High Hills of Santee

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt12737-160-55

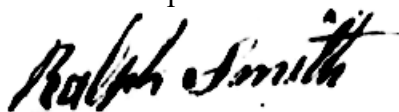
and in that vicinity until the end of my ten months service. Before the term of my first enlistment expired, I again enlisted in the same company & under the same Colonel Hampton & Major James Conyers (Major Rutherford having been killed at the Eutaw Springs) – for the term of 3 years – After we had become properly equipped we marched down on the Santee River, when Colonel Hampton married and retired from service. We were then placed under command of a Colonel whose name I think was Mebane [probably Hezekiah Maham], but he was not with us much and Major Conyers had the principal command of our Regiment until he died, which was a short time before Christmas in the year 1782 when his place was supplied by Captain Thomas Giles who was promoted to be a Major – we were then engaged in scouting parties in the neighborhood of Charleston until the British evacuated that town when we were dismounted and stationed in Charleston where we remained until the end of the war, when we were sent home upon a furlough about July 1783, which stated that we might remain until called upon by the proper authorities, if not called upon, it was to be considered as a final discharge – my furlough was signed by Major Henry Hearne, as well as I now recollect who was placed in the command when we were stationed in Charleston, but it is now lost. I have no documentary evidence of my services nor do I know of any person by whom I can prove them, except one Manyard Colley who enlisted in the same company that I did about the time that I enlisted the last time for 3 years, & whose affidavit will accompany this declaration – I continued to live in South Carolina till about 20 years since when I moved to this County where I now live.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Test S/ Robert S Inge, Clerk

S/ Ralph Smith



[p 31]

State of Alabama Limestone County

Personally appeared before me James Simpson a Justice of the peace in & for the County aforesaid Manyard Colley<sup>2</sup> aged seventy-four years & whom I certify to be a credible witness, who being duly sworn according to law states, that he is well acquainted with Ralph Smith, now a resident of the County of Lincoln in the State of Tennessee. That in the month of October 1781 affiant first became personally acquainted with said Smith & that he was then a private in the Company of Light horse commanded by Captain Jacob Barnett in which William Barnett was Lieutenant & that said company belonged to the Regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Wade Hampton, that said Regiment belonged to what was called the South Carolina State Troops & was under the command of General Greene – Affiant joined said company shortly after the battle of Eutaw Springs as a substitute in the place of one John Stevenson whose term of service he agreed to perform & that he served in said company four months, together with said Ralph Smith & that the original term of service of said company of Light horse was ten months, that at the end of said four months said affiant enlisted together with said Ralph Smith for the Term of three years in the same Company & Regiment & with the same officers except that Minor Wynn he was Lieutenant in the place of Lieutenant William Barnett that said Smith served with said affiant in said company of Light horse under said enlistment of three years until December 1782

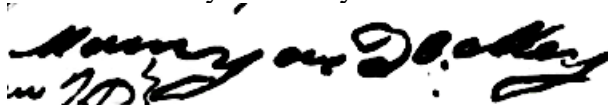
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<sup>2</sup> [Mainyard Colley SC1936](#)

at which time said Light horse were dismounted into Garrison in Charleston South Carolina at which time affiant left said Smith doing duty in said company in the Garrison of Charleston. Affiant left said troops because by the terms of Enlistment he considered himself discharged when said troops were dismounted, but that said Smith continued with said troops when he left. Affiant knew personally that said Smith served in said troops from October 1781 to December 1782 during all which time he served with him & always understood from his fellow soldiers that said Smith had served 6 months in said Company when affiant joined them & that he served about 6 months after affiant left them as aforesaid – Affiant states that he is now a Revolutionary Pensioner in the enjoyment of his pension –

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 19th of April 1834  
S/ Wm Simpson, JP

S/ Mainyard Colley



[p 8: On October 28, 1854 in Lincoln County Tennessee Elizabeth Smith, 86, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Ralph Smith, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she married him in the fall of the year 1788 the precise date not recollected but her first child was born October 10, 1790; she was married in the district of York in the state of South Carolina but she has no record of it private or public; that her husband died November 2nd, 1853. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 42: Certificate dated December 7th, 1855 from the South Carolina Comptroller listing payments made to a Ralph Smith for, among other services, 10 months service as a private in Captain Barnett's troop of Lieutenant Colonel Henry Hampton's Regiment of light Dragoons; 42 days private horseman under Major Robert Crawford; 14 days service as a private horseman under Captain Henry White; 20 days service as a private horseman under Colonel Kimball; paid for a rifle lost in Sumpters defeat in August 1780 and for a mare lost at "Great Savanna" February 1781.] [Note: Not all of these services were rendered by the same man, in my opinion.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$96.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 4 months service as a private in the Infantry and 20 months service as a private in the Cavalry of the South Carolina State Troops. Veteran's widow was pensioned for a like amount commencing February 3rd, 1853.]

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South Carolina Audited Accounts<sup>3</sup> relating to Ralph Smith                      AA26  
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 7152  
Transcribed by Will Graves

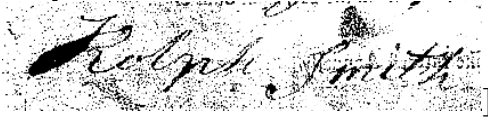
7/21/20

[p 4 : Printed form of Indent No. 279 Book M dated 1<sup>st</sup> October 1780 for “delivered to Mr. Ralph Smith late Private in Barnett’s [Jacob Barnett’s] Troop, H. Hampton’s [Lt. Col. Henry Hampton’s] Regiment Sumpter’s [Thomas Sumter’s] Brigade this our Indented Certificate for the Sum of Ninety-four pounds Sterling being amount pay and bounty due him for Services in that

<sup>3</sup> The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person’s surname first in the “Full name” box followed by a comma and the person’s Christian name.

Troop Together with Interest thereon from the first April 1782 to date hereof Agreeable to Resolution of General Assembly of the Eleventh March last.”]

[p 5: Reverse of the above Indent bearing endorsements by the veteran, Jacob Barnett, Peter Bocquet, Commissioner of the South Carolina treasury, James Cheed, Alex Jones and Jan. Thayer.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ralph Smith". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent flourish at the end of the word "Smith".

[p 20]

State of South Carolina York County} Gentlemen Please to Deliver to Captain Jacob Barnett the indent Due to me for the Ten months Service with the interest due on it and you will greatly oblige Gentlemen your Humble Servant

S/ Ralph Smith

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ralph Smith". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent flourish at the end of the word "Smith".

To the Commissioners Appointed to settle with the late State brigade  
Thomas Sumter  
William Henderson  
Richard Richardson

December 27<sup>th</sup>, 1786

S/ Thomas Gilmore, [?] JP