

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Snodgrass S ___ X927

f39VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/13/12

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Transcriber's Note: The first page of this pension application is very difficult to read due to the poor quality of the digital image used to make the transcription. Errors in the transcription are likely.]

State of Tennessee, Sullivan County

On this 22nd day of August 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County now sitting, William Snodgrass, Esq., a resident of said County and State aforesaid aged 72 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 June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the year 1775 or 1776 under Capt George Adams by order of Colonel Arthur Campbell who was the Col. Commandant in Washington County Virginia at the time. He states that he was kept in the County to guard the frontier inhabitants against the Indian depredations. He states that he was in the service about six months and was (verbally) discharged by the said Capt George Adams. He states that the summer following, he volunteered under the same Capt and for the same purpose and under the same circumstances and continued the same length of time in the United States service and was discharged by the said Capt George Adams (verbally). He states that in the year 1778 or 1779 he volunteered under William Edmondson Capt and was marched to New Garden Fort on the waters of Clinch River now in Russell County Virginia during which tour he was also at Richland's Fort, Col. Smith's Fort & Elk Garden [?] Fort and during which tour the Shawnee Indians, or a party of them, were frequently killing the inhabitants in the frontier settlements and on one occasion he in company with others pursued a party of Indians below the Big Lick on Sandy River where we overtook the party of Indians, routed and pursued them to Cumberland Mountain. He states that he was in the service during this tour which was not less than six or eight weeks and that he was verbally discharged by the said William Edmondson and that in two or three days after he returned home he again volunteered under the same Capt Edmondson and returned to the same section of country where the company was divided and he was stationed at New Garden Fort where he remained until he was verbally discharged by said Capt William Edmondson after having served a tour of not less than six or eight weeks. He states that the following summer he volunteered to serve a tour in the same section of country and served his tour at New Garden Fort under Sergeant William McCormack who was a Sergeant in Capt James Daisey's company when he was verbally discharged by Sergeant William McCormack after having served not less than six or eight weeks. He states

that in the year 1778 or 1779, he volunteered under Capt Lewis and Col Evan Shelby to go a tour against the Chickamauga Indians of the Cherokee Nation and was marched to the Cherokee Nation, burned sixteen Indian towns, killed some Indians, took some prisoners and destroyed and burned the Indians' corn and returned home to Washington County Virginia after having served a tour of four months or upwards. He was verbally discharged by the above named Capt Lewis.

That in the year 1780 he volunteered under ~~Captain Dysart~~ Andrew Colville Col William Campbell Maj. & were marched to King's Mountain in the State of South Carolina where he was in the King's Mountain battle where Major Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] was killed and about 1000 of his men were killed and taken prisoners. A few days after, he procured a permit to go down ~~Broad~~ Catawba River on business where he remained 10 or 12 days in consequence of high water in which section of country where Col Tarleton's troops were at that time and that he and one other man who was in company with him took [to] the woods and made their way to Genl Sumter [Thomas Sumter] and Genl Davie's [William Richardson Davie] Army from whom we received an express to Col. Campbell whose Army we again joined at the Moravian Town where the Army and prisoners were [&] where we remained seven [?] days until a sufficient number of Whigs could be collected to pass the Blue Ridge as there were bodies of Tories in that range of mountains. He states that when he returned to Col. Campbell with the said express that the principal part of the American Army was discharged. He also was verbally discharged at the Moravian Town and returned home having served a tour of about four months.

He states that in 1776 he volunteered to guard some wagons to the head of New River to the Lead mines for the purpose of procuring lead to supply different forts in Washington County Virginia. He volunteered in Washington County Virginia. There was no particular officers belonging to the said company but a certain number of men were ordered out for that purpose. The distance was eighty or ninety miles over [?] a bad road. He does not recollect how long he was out that time. He states that about that time or shortly after he returned with said wagons to Washington County Virginia, he was ordered by Col William Edmondson to take charge of a company of men to apprehend a man who had been charged of having set the Cherokee Indians on the frontier inhabitants of whites. He pursued him above the salt works in Washington County Virginia where he took him and brought him back and delivered him to Col. Daisy. He again in 1781 volunteered under Gabriel Hase [sic, Hays?] to go and join Genl Washington at York Town in Virginia and previous to our arrival at York Town, Cornwallis surrendered and he was discharged verbally and returned home. The length of time in the service at that time not recollected having served in the whole between two & three years in the Revolutionary War. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and 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.

S/William Snodgrass

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Snodgrass". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[John Preston & Abraham McClellan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Supplement to the Statement made by William Snodgrass August 22, 1832 to the War Department, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

1st: When and in what year were you born?

Answer: In Frederick, now Berkeley County, Virginia, in the year 1760 on the 10th day of May.

2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Answer: I have a record taken from the Record which a Family of my father's contained, which has since been destroyed by fire. I have a transcript taken from the original in a family record Bible now in my possession.

3rd Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer: I lived in Washington County, Virginia, when I entered the service and continued in that County (except when in service) during the War. I have since lived in the State of Tennessee, principally in Sullivan County.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

Answer: I volunteered.

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: The first Captain I served under was Capt George Adams, by order of Colonel Arthur Campbell. I also served under Captain William Edmonston [sic] by order of said Col Campbell. I also served under Captain Aaron Lewis. Col Evan Shelby commanded the Virginians, Col Robertson the Carolinian, Col Montgomery the Regulars who were going to Illinois, the militia to the Chickamauga Indians. I also served under Capt Andrew Colvin. Col William Campbell commanded the Virginians, Col Shelby, Col Sevier, Col Cleveland and Col. Williams the Carolinians. I also served a tour to the Lead Mines under no particular Officer until the fall, when we joined Gabriel Hays's horse company of mounted volunteers. Having then heard of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, [we] were discharged.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it?

Answer: I do not recollect of kidding a written discharge when received by other Troops, we returned home and disbursed. I served as a private in the militia.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: Jonas Smith, Edward Smith, George Gamble, and Michael Fleenor¹ who served with the great part of the time whose testimony I have subjoined.

After conversation with my old comrades, I am enabled to render more accurate statement of my respective tours. They are memories appear better then my [sic, mine] was, Viz:

In the summer of 1775, under Captain Adams	6 months
In the summer of 1776 under ditto	3
In the summer of 1777, two tours two months each, on the frontiers of Clinch under Captain Edminston	4

¹ [Michael Fleenor W7288](#)

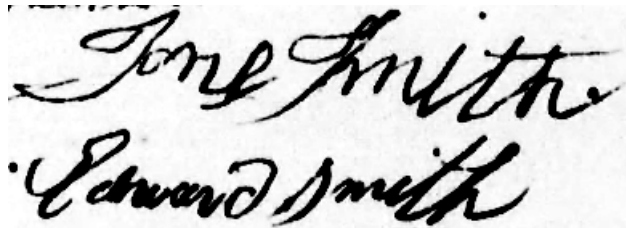
In the summer of 1778	12 or under Sergt. Wm. McCormack	2
	same year, a tour as substitute for James Glenn	2
In the winter of 1779,	a tour against the Chickamagua Indians	4
In the fall of 1780,	tour to King's Mountain	4
A tour to the	They had Nines and apprehending Cummings	6
A tour dispersing Tories & joining Hays's Horse,	Company in the Fall	<u>1</u>
		Years 2 & 4 mos

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State of Virginia Washington County: Personally appeared before me Robert Stewart one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County Jonas Smith² & Edward Smyth & made oath that they have been acquainted with William Snodgrass upwards of fifty years & know of him serving in the year 1775 & 1776 about six months each year under the command of Captain George Adams for the purpose of guarding the inhabitants of the frontiers of Washington County we were kept constantly on duty in guarding the women & children in the forts & the men in the laboring on their farms they also state that the said William Snodgrass was on the Chickamauga what campaign against the Cherokee Indians, we were at the Kings Mountain Campaign Edward Smyth & William Snodgrass continued in the service a long time after they [sic, the] other troops were discharged their tower [tour] was not less than four months also we understood that William Snodgrass & Samuel Meek were in the service in the year 1781 from early in the spring until about the 1st of December following we understood they were engaged in dispersing Tories in different parts of the Country we also in know of his serving several towers on the frontiers of the Clinch settlement the Militia were generally called out from two to three months in time we also understood that William Snodgrass was one of the guard with the wagon that was sent to the lead mines for they had to supply the troops during the Revolutionary War we also understood William Snodgrass was with a party of men who was sent to & a man by the name of Cummings who was suspected for setting the Cherokee Indians on the white inhabitants they further state that they have been acquainted with the said William Snodgrass ever since he was a small boy and know that he has always supported a good character and as to his credibility and veracity we have never heard it doubted by any person.

S/ Jons Smith

S/ Edward Smith



The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive ink. The top signature reads 'Jonas Smith' and the bottom signature reads 'Edward Smith'. Both signatures are written in a fluid, connected style typical of the late 18th century.

² [Jonas Smith \(Smyth\) S7565](#)

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Washington County Virginia to wit

This day personally appeared before me Robert Stewart a Justice of the Peace in and for said County George Gamble³ and after being duly sworn & after hearing the statements read that was made by William Snodgrass to the County Court of Sullivan State of Tennessee & states that he knows them to be true with regard to to Campaigns Chickamauga what & Kings Mountain and he also knows that report that he had some duty in garrisons or forts for 2 seasons the forts were still standing when he Gamble 1st came to the State of Virginia. He also states that he has often heard Captain William Edmundson Senior say that the said William Snodgrass has served several towers with him on the frontiers of Clinch he also knows that said Snodgrass & Samuel Meek were absent during the summer of 1781 and that he always understood they were on duty such as dispersing the Tories and that he has been acquainted with him for 54 years & he knows him to be a Man of credibility and that his veracity has never been doubted.

S/ George Gamble

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Gamble". The ink is dark and the writing is somewhat slanted to the right.

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Washington County Virginia to which

This day personally appeared before me Robert Stewart a Justice of the Peace in & for said County Nicholas Fleenor and after being duly sworn saith that he was with William Snodgrass of Sullivan County Tennessee in the Chickamauga what expedition in the year 1779 and further states that it was the [indecipherable word or words] of the country to his duty in garrisons or forts in said County of Washington he further states that he knows it was the young men who [indecipherable word or words] performed the towers of duty on the frontiers of Clinch and has no doubt but William Snodgrass performed is proportional part of duty with other young man he has been acquainted with said Snodgrass for 50 years he knows him to be a man of Credibility and that his veracity has never been doubted.

S/ Michael Fleenor, X his mark

[Facts in file: Veteran died September 18, 1849 leaving no widow; there is no family data in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the Virginia militia.]

³ [George Gamble S10720](#)