State of Virginia  } ss.
County of Monongalia     } On this 26th day of August, in the year 1833, personally appeared before
the County court of Monongalia now sitting, and in open court, Philip Smell, a resident of said county
aged seventy five 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed 7th June
1832. That in the summer of 1776 he turned out as a volunteer from Bucks county Pennsylvania for two
months under Capt. John Ludwick of the Pennsylvania militia, that three or four other companies marched
at the same time to Amboy, from Amboy down opposite Staten island, where we could see the Hessians
every day, soon after the Hessians left the island and we were discharged by a general discharge after two
months service.

That during the same summer, he was drafted in Bucks county in a company of Pennsylvania
militia, commanded by Jacob Burk, from there we marched to Philadelphia, and were taken in row galleys
down to the Delaware to Billings fort, on the Jersey side, where we were put to work to finish it – that he
believes his company was there about ten days, and from thence we were marched to Wilmington – that he
was in the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], that we retreated into Pennsylvania, the enemy moving off
towards Philadelphia – that he recollect the place where he was discharged in Pennsylvania, but it was
after two months service, by a general discharge.

That a short time before Christmas in 1777 the militia were again called out, and he was again
drafted in Bucks county Pennsylvania, in a company of Pennsylvania militia commanded by Capt.
Christopher Weigner – that we were soon marched down with several other companies to the White marsh
[Whitemarsh], where we found Gen’l. Washington with the army, from the White marsh the militia were
marched across the Schuylkill, and about two miles from the river met the enemy, who attacked us and
forced us to retreat across the river, which we forded at Sweats ford [Swedesford] – that we remained on
the north side of the Schuylkill untill we were discharged by a general discharge at the end of two months
after he was marched from Reading.

That in the month of April or May 1778, in order to avoid being called out so frequently in the
militia he enlisted with ten others in Bucks county Pennsylvania, by a man named Star or Steer, for the
purpose as he stated of driving teams, for one year, that they were marched to Reading, where he was
ordered to take charge of a team – that from Reading he drove his team to Valley forge where the army
was encamped; from Valley forge he followed the army with his team to Monmouth, and arrived the day
the battle was fought [28 Jun 1778] – from Monmouth he followed the army to Brunswick, we crossed the
North river to the White plains [NY], and from thence to winter quarters (for the teams) in a small town in
New Jersey the name of which he has forgotten, that he remained with his team at this small village untill
some time in May 1779, when he was discharged after being a year in the service by a written discharge,
which he has long since lost, beleiving it of no value – that he cannot now recollect the name of any other
officers than those already named – that he does not know of any person by whom he can prove his
services or any part of them.

He hereby relinquishes evry claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares
that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in any state.

That he was born in Bucks county Pennsylvania, in the month of April 1758, that his age was
recorded in his fathers bible, which he believes is in the family of his brother George who lived in that
county – that he has a long time been personally acquainted with Rev Joseph A. Shackelford, Col. Dudley
Evans, Col. Richard Watts, Col. Samuel Hanway, and many others, and who he believes can testify as to
his character for veracity and their beleif of his services in the Revolution – That he removed from Bucks
county county Pennsylvania about the year 1790 to Berkley county [sic: Berkeley County] Virginia, and
from thence into this county in the fall of 1794, where he has ever since resided
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton, who investigated hundreds of pension applicants from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111. Singleton wrote “Entropy” on his report.]

Philip Smell, draws $20.
I, the undersigned Philip Smell at the requisition of the Secretary of War give the following narrative of my age and Revolutionary services to Wit. I am 77 years old
Some time during the Revolutionary War (I can't tell in what year) I volunteered in Bucks county Pennsylavnia under Capt. Jno. Ledwick & marched to Amboy, there several companies at this station. we were guarding the River or the sounds. the Hessians were at Statten Island on the opposite side of the River. I don’t recollect how long I remained in Service in this tour – when the British had possession of Philadelphia [26 Sep 1777 - 18 Jun 1778], I was in service at [undeciphered word], Philadelphia and on the Delaware under Capt. Jacob Burk for two months.
In the next succeeding winter I served another two months tour on the Schoolskill, under Capt Hinsman
I then was in service as a waggoner for nearly one year and thus ended my Revolutionary service.
T. P. Ray wrote my Declaration.
In Witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name.
Nov 3 1834
Philip Smell

Jacob Cooper,
Note this man is frail in body, and of very little mind

W. G Singleton/ Nov. 30 1834

NOTES:
Smell received a pension of $20 per year for only six months service, his 12-months tour not being credited, because the Pension Commissioner, James L. Edwards, erroneously believed that militia tours were never for such a long period.
A letter in the file indicates that Philip Smell died on 20 April 1835.