

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Gabriel Smith NC18¹

Provided by Mr. Kermit Smith²

2/2/11

[The footnotes were added by Will Graves]

Montgomery County, NC- Gabriel Smith Revolutionary War Pension-1832

Declaration for Pension

State of Georgia, Franklin County

On this the 10th day of September in the year 1832, personally appeared before the Inferior Court of the County aforesaid now sitting for ordinary purposes, Gabriel Smith, a resident of Capt. Edwards District in the county and state aforesaid. Aged 67 years who being 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 U.S. Militia of North Carolina in Montgomery Co. of that state in the month of August 1780 under Capt. Thomas Childs and was marched by him to join Gen. Gates Army at Camden,³ but Gates was defeated before we arrived and we retreated back to Capt. Childs where he was discharged on furlough until further ordered.

After 7 days returned to Childs and was marched to Mays Ferry⁴ where we had a battle or skirmish with the Tories. Our Capt. Childs was wounded by a ball through the arm. We were afterwards placed under the command of Capt. Samuel Pond, and was marched to Drowning Creek, Betties Bridge⁵ and had another skirmish with the Tories there. We returned home and remained at home for a few days and having been reinforced, marched to Betties Bridge and had another fight with the Tories. Was taken prisoner by the Tories in the fall of 1781, and kept about 3 weeks when he made escape from them and returned home.

During these campaigns he was under the command of Col Thomas Wade, and served upwards of 6 months.

In about 3 weeks you volunteered in Montgomery aforesaid under Capt. Joseph Paison (Parsons) and Major James Crump and Col Thomas Childs (promoted). Was marched after the Tories into Randolph County, NC and others and generally through the county, but no battles to note. Took some prisoners and continued to serve from that time, to wit the month of March or April of 1781 until Cornwallis was taken at York in October 1781. Served on this last duty about 7 or 8 months, is known to Theophilus Taylor of the adjoining county of Habersham who was out

¹ I could not find that this application ever made it into the collection now held in the National Archives. Consequently, I have assigned it a number for indexing purposes for use in this database. Since the veteran served from North Carolina, the number assigned to him is "NC18" indicating that he is the 18th veteran from NC whose application was either (1) never filed in Washington; (2) filed in Washington but somehow omitted from inclusion in the microfilmed collections available on Footnote.com and/or HeritageQuest.com; or (3) for some reason is only found in the local County court records.

² Mr. Smith indicates: "The application is part of the Franklin Co., Ga. Ordinary Court Records and has been published in the 'Georgia DAR Historical Collection' that I found in the Georgia Archives."

³ The Battle of Camden occurred on August 15-16, 1780. See the wonderful website at <http://battleofcamden.org/index.htm>

⁴ This is a guess on my part, but I think this is a reference to the action at Mask's Ferry September 10, 1780. See http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_masks_ferry.html and <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/masksfy.htm>

⁵ Sic, Beatti's Bridge/Drowning Creek, August 4, 1781 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/beattisbr.htm> and http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_beattis_bridge.html

with him in the service.

1. Was born in Montgomery Co., NC in 1764 12th December.
2. Has a record of age in possession.
3. When he entered the service he lived in Montgomery Co., NC and from thence removed to Wilkes Co., Ga. In 1784 lived there 18 years, removed to his present residence where he has lived for 30 years.
4. The first 3 months he was a substitute for Jasper Smith and was always afterwards a volunteer.
5. Was at no station where there were Continental officers that he recollects.
6. Received a written discharge from Capt. Pond and from Capt. Tausons (Parsons) and does not recollect others, they are lost.
7. Is known to Matthew W. Vandivere, a preacher of the gospel, and to Theophilus Taylor, Tryon Patterson, who resides in his neighborhood and can testify to his character for veracity and to their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension of annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency of any state within his knowledge or belief.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year first above written

S/ Gabriel Smith, X his mark

Thomas King, Clk.

Affidavits were made and signed by Matthew Vandivere, Tryon Patterson, Theophilus Taylor.⁶ After proper investigation this document was approved and signed by William Turk, JDC, and Robert Pulliam, JDC.

*Treasurer and Comptrollers papers
#1998 Salisbury District, Gabriel Smith, unspecified
claim Sept 1784*

No 1998. State of North Carolina Salisbury
District Auditors Office Lower Board
8 September 1784 This may certify
that Gabriel Smith submitted his claim
and was allowed a sum of twenty
pounds five shillings three pence
& five farthings
John Auld
Theophilus Taylor

[Kermit Smith also provided the above pay stub from the Treasurer and Comptrollers Papers showing payment to Gabriel Smith for his services in NC.]

⁶ [Theophilus Taylor R10433](#)