

Pension Application for Elijah Smith

S.21982

United States of America
Rhode Island District
County of Providence.

On this 28 day of October AD 1833, personally appeared in open Court being a special District Court of the United States within & for said district now in session Elijah Smith resident in Smithfield in said District & County 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 an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. He entered the War of the Revolution and served as follows—

In answer to the Seven Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department he answers & says—to the

1st. He was born in Smithfield April 24, 1761.

2^d His birth is recorded in a family record book made for that purpose.

3^d He lived in said Smithfield when he was called into service & had always resided in that town & he now resides there.

4th He volunteered before he was 16 years of age as a substitute for his father.

5th He served under General Spencer, General Sullivan, Col. Brown, Captains Daniel Mowry & Scott & Job Mowry, John Eddy.

6. He never received any written discharge.

7. His present neighbours are William Mowry, the Revd Leonard Wakefield & Levi Mowry.

And this applicant further says that when the British Troops landed on Rhode Island in December AD 1776, his father was called upon to go to British on the alarm, but he went as a substitute for him and served fifteen days in Capt John Eddys Company & Col. Brown's Regiment of Militia as a private at said Bristol.

And this applicant further says that as soon as he was 16 years old he was enrolled in Capt John Eddys company & in Col. Browns Regiment and the Regiment having been divided in three divisions each division to serve alternately a month at a time he served every third month from that time until after the British evacuated Newport—From April to December 1777, he served as a private three months at least in Providence & at other places on the shores of Naragansett Bay in garding [guarding] against the incursions of the enemy in said company & Regiment.

And he further says that between January 1778 and December of that year. Hew served four months at least as a private in said Company at the place [?] above except during Sullivan's Expedition he was on Rhode—Col John Angell commanded the Regiment this year, and his services this year were similar to the preceding except the attack against the enemy on Rhode Island.

And he further says that in the year 1779 and between January & December of that year he served four months at least in like services as a private in same company & Regiment. The above services were agreeably to a law of the State as he understood

which provided for the calling out of the militia in said manner it being considered the same as being drafted.

He swears that he never to his recollection, missed a tour of duty but always served when it came to his turn—

And this applicant further says that in the year 1780 in the month of March he enlisted as a private for one month to go & serve on Rhode Island in captain Daniel Mowrys Company & in a Regiment which was put under the command of Col George Peck & he went and served out his time accordingly & as discharged. He [?] that during the years aforesaid he served as a private twelve months & fifteen days as a private, in the Companies & Regiments & at the places in the companies & Regiments & at the places before mentioned for which he claims a a [sic] pension.

He has no documentary evidence of his services nor does he know of living witnesses to prove all of them. William Mowry was with him part of the time & his deposition is annexed and so also is the deposition of Benjamin Evans who was with him a month.

The Revd Leonard Wakefield and Levies Mowry of Smithfield can testify as to his reputation of having served.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. (Signed) Elijah Smith.

October 28, 1833, sworn to in open court. Witness B. Cowell., Clk.