

Pension Application for Edward Smith

W.15854 (Widow: Demeous)
State of New York
Cortland County SS.

On the 17th day of September 1845, personally appeared before the subscriber Walton Swetland a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County the same being a Court of Record Demeous Smith Resident of Freetown in said County aged eight seven years.

Who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4th 1836—Entitled an act granting half pay and pension to certain widows.

That she is the widow of Edward Smith who was a private and soldier and served a [??] the principal part of the Revolution. She further says that in the year 1779—her said husband was drafted in a plan called Franklin in the County of Putnam & State of New York and served in a company commanded by Capt. Comfort Ludington in Col. Henry Ludington Regiment and fin the same year he served in a company commanded by Capt. Mead in Col. Henry Ludington Regiment and in the same year 1779 he was drafted and served in a company commanded by Capt. Ouderdonk in Col. Hay Regiment and during the three terms of service this declarant believes that her said husband served upwards of six month or thereabouts.

This declarant further say that in the year and winter of 1780 the Army or a portion of it lay in winter quarters in a place called Franklin in said County of Putnam NY and that my said husband belonged to the same—and she further says that in the year 1782 her said husband was again drafted and served in a company commanded by Capt. White in Col. Weisenfel's Regiment and served about nine month –and this declarant further says that her said husband served at West Point, Haverstraw, White Plains, Fish Kill, Palz Kill, Highlands and continued to serve until the close of the War in 1783. She further declares that she was married to the said Edward Smith the 28th Twenty eighth day of November Seventeen hundred and eighty 1780 by Elder Closs in the town of Franklin in the County of Putnam NY.

That her husband the aforesaid Edward Smith died the 25th day of May (1841) eighteen hundred and forty one. That she was married to her said husband previous to his last term of service. (Signed with her mark) Demeous Smith

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written before. Walton Swetland, Judge of Courtland County Court.

Letter dated August 6, 1937.

Reference is made to your letter of July 17, 1937, requesting information relative to Revolutionary War soldiers, John Jersey and Edward Smith.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in the pension claim, W. 15854, based upon the Revolutionary War service of Edward Smith.

The date and place of his birth and the names of his parents were not given.

He enlisted at Franklin, Putnam County, New York, served at various times from 1779 until the close of the Revolution in 1783, amounting in all to about fifteen months, as private with the New York troops under Captains Comfort Luddington, Jacob Onderdonk, Joel Mead and Andrew White, and Colonels Henry Luddington, A. Hawkes Hay and Frederick Weisenfels.

He married November 28, 1780 in Franklin, New York, Demeous Worden or Wourden.

Edward Smith died May 25, 1841, in Freetown, Courtland County, New York.

In September 1845, his widow, Demeous Smith, was living in Freetown, New York, aged eighty-seven years.

Demeous Smith died May 25, 1848, in Freetown, New York, and was survived by the following children only, and all were of age: Parma or Parmea Russell who in 18[?]1 was living in Pawlings, Dutchess County, New York, Silas, Beda White, Stephen [?] Smith, and Jerusha Elsworth.

In 1845 Mary Uhle daughter of Edward and Demeous Smith was living in Freetown, New York, aged forty-one years. In 1846 Martin Smith, resident of Lodi, Onondaga County, New York, aged eighty-one years stated that he was a relative of Edward Smith. In 1855 Edward B. Russell of Virgil, Courtland County, New York, was the administrator of the estate of Edward and Demeous Smith but it was not shown whether he was the husband or son of Parma or Parmea Russell.

The pensions due both the soldier and his widow were allowed for the benefit of the children who survived the widow, namely those given above who were living in 1848.

The Revolutionary War records of this office fail to afford any information in regard to a John Jersey.