

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Virginia documents pertaining to John Crabb VAS3171
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

The affidavit of Elcany Andrews [Elkanah Andrews S6507] who served on board the Galley "Accomack" in the War of the Revolution. This affiant says that the Galleys "Accomack" & "Diligence" went into service in the Spring of 1777 & were laid up in the winter of 1780-81 as he verily believes, having been in service upwards of three years & nearly or quite four years – that the Officers & men were enlisted for three years at first – that John Crabb enlisted on board the "Diligence" as Gunner when he first went into service and was killed on board s'd Galley by the bursting of a cannon whilst s'd galley was in service.
[29 Aug 1832] Elcany Andrews hisXmark

I certify that Bowden Snead [Bowdoin Snead W4810] came before me & made oath that his brother Robert Snead [R94] was Surgeon to the galley Diligence commanded by Capt. Watson [Johannes Watson VAS2458] in the Revolutionary War and that he the witness had often heard his brother (Robert Snead the Surgeon of said galley) relate the circumstances of the death of John Crabb, a gunner, on board of said galley, & that he (said Robert) stated, as is also the common understanding of the neighbourhood, that said Crabb was killed by the bursting of a Cannon on board said galley & whilst in service as a gunner. And the witness further states that he understood & believes that the Officers & men who enlisted on board said galley enlisted for three years and that said galley was in service about four years. And I certify that said Snead is a man of truth & entitled to confidence.

Witness my hand & seal as a Justice of the peace in & for Accomack Co. June 1st 1833
Jno. W. Custis JP

I certify that John Bull Sen'r made oath before me that he was acquainted with John Crabb and that said Crabb enlisted on board the galley Diligence when she went into service, as a gunner, and that he was killed whilst in service & not long after the galley was manned, as was said at the time, & always understood & believed from that time to the present day. The witness further says that he always understood that the crews of the galleys Accomack & Diligence were enlisted for three years and that he thinks they entered the service in 1777 & were laid up in 1781. And I certify that he is a credible witness & a man of good memory, as witness my hand & seal as a Justice of the peace this 3^d June 1833 at Accomack County.
Wm. R. Custis JP

I certify that William Thornton Sen'r aged upwards of 75[?] years came before me and made oath that he lived near where the galley Diligence was built & manned & that he always understood, & that it was the general understanding of the neighbourhood that John Crabb, a gunner, was killed on board the galley Diligence, when in service, by the bursting of a cannon – that this affiant does not know the fact only by common report. The witness further states that he always understood that the crews of the galleys Accomack and Diligence were enlisted for three years.

And I certify that said Wm Thornton sen'r is a man of unquestioned character for truth, and that full confidence is due to all his statements. Witness my hand & seal at Accomack Co this 15th June 1833 as a Justice of the peace.
Jno S Riley J.P.

I certify that Spencer Kellam [W1178] aged nearly 74 years and who is a man of truth, & entitled to full confidence in all his statements, came before me & made oath, that it was always said, understood & believed in this neighbourhood, that John Crabb was a gunner on board the Diligence galley commanded by Watson, and that he was killed by the bursting of a Cannon on board, and in service, not long after said

galley was manned.

Witness my hand & seal this 16th day of June 1833 at Accomack C H as a Justice of the peace in & for
said County.

Wm. R. Custis JP