

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant of William Crawford BLWt921-500                      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 2 May 2013.

City of Washington Ss    }            Benj'n. Wells [Benjamin Wells] being duly sworn deposeeth and  
D.C.                            }            sayeth that he became acquainted with Col. William Crafford in the year  
1767 and this deponant deposeeth that William Crafford (aforesaid) was then an Indian trader and was  
cauled Captain Crafford and this deponant deposeeth that he thinks some time in the year 1776 the  
aforesaid William Crafford was apointed a Colo'n. in the Armeey of the United States and and that Col'n  
William Crafford was very active in Raising the 13<sup>th</sup> Virginia Eyt. [Regt.?] which Eyt. was sometime  
afterwards commanded by Col'n. William Russell and this deponant was an Isuine Commesary [Issuing  
Commissary] in the United States Survice in the year 1779, and that Coln. Wm Crafford was at that time  
in the survice of the United States, and this deponant deposeeth that some time before Coln. Crafford was  
ordered on against the Indiens, he Coln. Crafford was cauled Gen'l. Crafford and he further deposeeth that  
he always considered Coln. Crafford in the Survice of the united States from the year 1776 untill the  
year 1782 or 83, when this deponant understood that the aforesaid Coln Crafford was killed by the  
Indiens [by Delaware Indians, 11 Jun 1782] and this Deponant deposeeth that he was apointed the attorney  
to settle the Estate of Coln. Crafford, (by his Coln. Craffords Ex[ecuto]rs) and that he had his House  
burned at the time of the western insarection [probably the Whiskey Rebellion] and that some of Coln  
Crafford papers was burned and this deponant depositeeth that he is acquainted with Sarah Springer and  
[page torn] McCormick surviving children [page torn] the late Coln. Crafford and further this deponant  
sayeth not  
given under my hand this 23<sup>d</sup> Day of Feb'y 1819                      [signed] Benj'n Wells

County of Fayette    }    Personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in said County, Uriah  
State of Penn'a. Sct }    Springer [pension application R10017], and being duly sworn, sayeth that he was  
personally acquainted with Colo. William Crawford, and that the said Colo. William Crawford entered  
into the service of the United States 1776 and belonged to the Virginia line on Continental establishment  
and that he (Colo. Crawford) continued to serve as aforesaid until the year one thousand seven hundred  
and eighty two, at which time he was ordered on an expedition against the Indians (by Gen'l. William  
Irvine who then commanded at Fort Pitt) on which expedition he was made prisoner, and burnt to death  
by the savages and this deponent deposeeth that he was a Lieut't. in the Continental establishment, under  
the said Colo. Crawford, and that he received money from said Colo. Crawford for the recruiting service,  
and he further saith that the s'd. Colo. Crawford superintended the raising the thirteenth Reg't and  
Commanded it for some time and was retained in service until he was killed as above stated. And that  
this deponent was frequently under the command of Col Crawford on detached parties –.

And this deponent perfectly recolects that a dispute arose between Colo. Crawford & Colo. Dan'l  
Brodhead [Daniel Brodhead] as to seniority, or, rank on the expedition against the Indians in the year  
1778 under the command of Gen'l [Lachlan] McIntosh and that Colo Brodhead was adjudged by the  
Court of enquiry to be the senior Colo. & Colo. Crawford the next on that expedition –

And this deponent saith that Gen'l William Irvine did at one time give this deponent a certificate  
that Colo. Crawford was a Col. under his command, and, ordered by him (Gen'l Irvine) on that  
expedition on which he (Colo. Crawford) was killed.

This deponent further saith that he applied at the Auditors Office and got a certificate from Mr  
Nourse, then Auditor that Colo. Crawford had drawn the money for recruiting the 13<sup>th</sup> Virg Reg't and  
that he the deponent put the above mentioned certificates into the hands of John Smilee[?] Esq'r at that  
time a member of Congress (since dead) for the purpose of obtaining a land warrant for the heirs of s'd.

Colo. Crawford.

Sworn to and subscribed before me a Justice of the peace in the County aforesaid this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 1819  
[signed] Uriah Springer

I John Irwin of Brush Hill, Westmoreland County Pennsy'a having served as Dy. Comm'y Gen'l [Deputy Commissary General] of Issues in the Western department & being Constantly stationed at Fort Pitt the head Quarters of said Department, — do Certify, that I was intimately acquainted with the late Colo. Wm Crawford from the Commencement of our Revolutionary War, untill his unfortunate Expedition against the Indians, in which he lost his life. That I find by old Books now in my Possession, he drew Rations as a Colonel early in the year 1777, from the Provision Stores at Fort Pitt, & several of the out posts in the department. That He was employed in an Expedition under Col. Brodhead against the hostile Indians up the Alleghany River [sic: Allegheny River, Aug 1779]. That either Commanded or Served in an expedition to the Muskingham River [sic: Muskingum River in Ohio; probably referring to the American massacre of Indians at Gnadenhutten, 7-8 Mar 1782], in which it was said the Moravian Indians suffered greatly & which was supposed to have been the cause of the Tortures inflicted on him at the time of his death, and that he also served in another Expedition of very great enterprise under General [George Rogers] Clark, which was commonly called "the Western expedition" —

This brief Skitch of part of his Public Services which fell under my own particular notice, becaus in all his various Expeditions & other service, he generally signed the Provision Returns for the troops or Corps which he Commanded.

But that I am not able to say with certainty to which Regiment or Corps of the army he belonged, — But I always considered him as a Colo. in the Virginia Line of the Continental Army      Witness my hand this 4<sup>th</sup> Febr'y 1820  
[signed] John Irwin

[The following are in the [Revolutionary-War pension files in the Library of Virginia](#). The file includes several documents similar to these, the last being a receipt dated 6 Sep 1797.]

I do with the advice of Council, hereby Certify that Hannah Crawford widow of Colonel William Crawford, who was killed in an Expedition against the Indians, is entitled to the sum of One Hundred and thirty five Pounds yearly, agreeably to a Resolution of the General Assembly passed the 9<sup>th</sup> day of this Instant, which allowance is accordingly made her, to commence from the said day.

Given under my hand as Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia at Richmond this Eleventh day of January 1787.  
Edm. Randolph

Rec'd. from the Sheriff of Frederick one hundred & thirty five pounds in full for the within 20<sup>th</sup> May 1789.  
Hanna Crawford

I do hereby authorise Adam Douglass to give a receipt to the Sheriff of Fredrick County Virginia for my pention Warrent in Witness whereof I have set my hand seal the 27<sup>th</sup> day April 1791  
Present/ William Thompson      Hannah herXmark Crawford

[The following are in the [Revolutionary bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia](#):]

Extract from a copy of a "List of Field Officers in the Service of Virginia," certified by "J. Nourse Clk." to be a true copy from the original lists in the War Office, and contained in a volume of the Washington Papers on file in the Department of State marked, "Arrangements of Officers, &c. Vol. 7, Virg'a."

Bat'ns	Names	Dates of Commissions	Promoted or Declined
	Lieut't Colonels	Au. 1776	
5.	William Crawford	Feby 13 <sup>th</sup>	Made Colonel

Extract from "A list of Officers who have served in the 7<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regim't. from the first day of Jan'y. 1776 to the 29<sup>th</sup> day of Aug't. 1778," contained in a volume of the Washington Papers on file in the Department of State, marked, "Arrangements of Officers, &c Vol. 7, Virg'a."

Names	Rank	Date of Commiss.
William Crawford	Colo	"

I do Certify that Colo. Wm. Crawford entered into Service as an Officer of the Virgin'a. Line [several words illegible in the online image] in the year 1775 and continued as such until 1781 at which time he became Supernumary.

Richmond June 16<sup>th</sup> 1783

[John Gibson, Colonel/ Daniel Morgan, Brigadier General]

To The Honl The Executive of Virginia

Your petitioners the heirs at Law of Wm Crawford dec'd would represent that their father entered the army of the Revolution in the Summer of 1775 as an officer of the Continental Army of the Va Line and continued to act as such untill he was killed by the Indians in 1778 [sic]. To sustain which claim they refer to the Journals of Council of the 12<sup>th</sup> July 1776 also to the petition of 9<sup>th</sup> January of 1787 made to the Legislature for & on the behalf of the widow of said Col Crawford – and also of the document on file in the Executive department on which his heirs received a grant of land for his services for three years as a full Colo. in June 1783.

Your Petitioners would pray an allowance in Land be made them equal to a service from 1775 to the end of the war, your Petitioners are residents of Brown & Adams County Ohio – as will appear from the annexed af't. your petitioners will ever pray &c

J. L. Crawford/ Wm Crawford  
By W H Todd/ Atty in fact

Petition of the Heirs of William Crawford, to his Excellency, the Govenor of the state of Virginia  
Your petitioners William Crawford George Crawford – surviving sons of John Crawford and the Heirs of Richard Crawford dec'd Rich'd Mason Crawford Ellen Crawford now Towles Serenna Crawford and Elizabeth Crawford, and the Heirs of Sarah Rowland dec'd James Rowland and Mary Rowland Etha ann Rowland, and the Heirs of Mary Cummings, John Cummings and Sarah Cummings now Elly, would respectfully unto his Excellency the Govenor of the state of Virginia that they are the Heirs of Jno. Crawford who was the son and heir at law of William Crawford who was a Colonel in the Virginia Continental line, as your petitioners are informed and believed – and your petitioners are informed and believe that the said William Crawford entered the service in the year 1775 and that he died in the service of the united states. and your petitioners are informed and believe [part missing from the

online image]

Crawford a land warrant was issued to his heir at law John Crawford for 6666<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> acres and that the said Jno Crawford departed this life in about year 1815 and that he has now living two sons William and George Crawford of Adams county state of ohio, and that his son Richard Crawford died in Lewis County Ky and that his children Rich'd Mason Crawford Serenna Crawford Ellen and Elizabeth Crawford live in the said county of Lewis state of Kentucky and that Sarah Rowland a daughter of Jno Crawford died in Adams county state of Ohio and that she has now living three children Mary Rowland of Adams County state of Ohio and that James Rowland lives in [blank] and Etha ann Rowland of Adams Co Ohio and Mary Cummings died in Mason Co Ky leaving John and Sarah now Elly Cummings as their children and only heirs at law your petitioners would respectfully ask his Excellency the [part missing from online image]

to grant unto them an additional allowance of Bounty land in virtue of the service of the said William Crawford in the Virginia Continental line in the army of the revolution and your petitioners would ever pray the same to be allowed unto them for and in consideration of the service performed by the said William Crawford  
William Crawford/ Geo. Crawford

NOTES:

James Martain (Martin), bounty-land application BLWt1016-100, and Ephraim Sutton, pension application S40536, also stated that they knew Crawford in the service.

Documents in the federal file list the lawful issue of William Crawford as John Crawford, who died before 24 May 1820; Sarah Springer, wife of Uriah Springer; and Effey McCormick.