

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Abner Crump R13459 VA Half-Pay
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

I do hereby authorize and empower Goodrich Crump of the County of Powhatan, to settle with the Auditor of Public accounts for half pay or commutation allowed me as Captain in Colonel Dabneys [Charles Dabney's] Legionary Corps, agreeable to an act of assembly intituled "An act giving the compensation of half pay to certain officers of the state line, and receive certificates, or warrants thereon. In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my hand and seal this 22^d day of April 1791.

Abner Crump

Witness/ Wade Woodson/ Thomas Turpin/ Robert Carrington

5 yrs. full pay £720. principal
6 prc't Int 7 yrs. 8 mos. 8 dys £332.3./. Int.
Capt discharged 22 Ap'l 83 £12. pr month

[Virginia] Aud'rs Office/ 23 April '91 Rec'd. W'ts & Cert's as stated above/ Goodrich Crump

The foregoing is a true copy of a voucher filed in this department

Aud'rs. Office/ 3^d August 1832 Jas E. Heath Aud'r pub accts

State of Virginia Powhatan County to wit

This day [9 Oct 1832] William Pope Esquire (aged seventy years on the 23^d day of this month) personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for said County and after being duly sworn upon the holy Evangelist of Almighty God states that he became acquainted with the late Captain Abner Crump of the Revolutionary Army about the year 1785 at which time this affiant began the practice of the Law in Powhatan Court, that the said Capt. Abner Crump was at that time the Clk of the County Court of Powhatan, or was soon after appointed to that office, which he continued to hold untill his death. That this affiant continued to be well acquainted with the s'd. Crump from their first acquaintance to the period of his death which he thinks ocured about the latter part of the year 1801 or the first of the year 1802, but which can be ascertained with more certainty by reference to the records of the County Court of Powhatan shewing the date of the appointment of James Poindexter as the Clk of said Court, the said Poindexter being appointed as the immediate successor of Capt. Crump as the Clk of Powhatan This affiant further says that the said Crump died at Powhatan Ct House, and that he was either present at the time of his death or a few minutes before. That his will was proved & recorded in Powhatan County Ct. and that no other individual of the name of Abner Crump has [two illegible words] in the County except his nephew Dr. Ab Crump the son of Richard Crump who is now alive and to whom the s'd. Capt. Abner Crump gave the principal part of his Estate. That this affiant never heard of any other man of the name of Abner Crump being in the Revolutionary Army. That the said Capt. Abner Crump was in the habit of visiting the late Colo. Charles Dabney of Hanover with whom this affiant was also well acquainted and he has heard the said Colo. Dabney and Capt. Abner Crump often in conversation together narrating the events of their military services together, and from the same source derived his knowledge that he had been an officer in Colo. Dabneys Legion after the first Virginia State Regiment was reduced [incorporated into Dabney's Legion in Feb 1782]. That this affiant was well acquainted with the late Fred. Woodson [Frederick Woodson] with Colo. William Bentley, Colo. Wm. Campbell [William Campbell] and many other officers of the Revolutionary Army, among all of whom the individual who resided in Powhatan, and whose will is of record in s'd. Court was recognized as an officer of the Regular Army, and who had been an officer in Colo. Dabney's Legion. That some time before the death of the s'd. Capt. Abner Crump, he presented to this affiant as a token of his friendship the certificate or Diploma of his being a Member of the Cincinnatti association [Society of the Cincinnati] signed by the late Gen'l. George Washington as

President which Diploma the affiant now has in his possession

Rob. K. Dabney

Sir [Dr. George W. Crump],

On examination to your claim to Bounty Land from the United States, as the special devisee of Capt. Abner Crump dec'd. of Colo. Geo. Gibson's Reg't. [George Gibson's 1st Regiment] of the Virginia State line, and in virtue of the first clause of the last Will of that Officer [see endnote], it is not perceived that, you can legally claim, in your individual right, the Military bounty land due on the part of the United States, in right of Abner Crump dec'd in virtue of the decision of the Secretary of War, made in the year 1830 declaring that the Regiment commanded by Col. George Gibson did properly belong to the Virginia Continental line.

By the Will in question, the Testator bequeaths to you, the "remnant of his military claim to land," specially designating the same "as 2000 acres, of which Mr. Vanderwall render an account of 1000 acres". The land thus referred to in the Will, it is manifest, was a moiety of the 4000 acres granted in 1783 by the State of Virginia to Capt. A. Crump, as a Captain of the Virginia State line, and could not by any possibility refer to any other, inasmuch as the Resolutions of Congress providing bounty lands for the Officers of the Revolutionary Army did not embrace those of the Va. State line: nor were their claims to such bounty from the U. States ever countenanced, or satisfied, until the decision of the Secty. of war in 1830. Hence it was impossible for Capt Crump (whose will was made in 1797 and recorded in 1802) to know or believe that he had any valid claim for military Bounty Land from the United States.

In view of these facts, I consider the right to the 300 acres of bounty land now claimed from the United States to be legally vested in the heirs at law in fee of Capt. Abner Crump, there being no residuary devisee designated in his last will.

A Warrant for the land in question, will therefore issue to such heirs, on the production, at this office, of the necessary evidence of their kinship.

[The following is included in the file without further explanation:]

G. W. Crump is hereby appointed act'g. Commissioner of Pensions during the absence of James L. Edwards Given under my hand this 31 Aug. 1846. [signed illegibly]

NOTE:

The will of "Ab. Crump," signed on 27 Jan 1797 and probated in Powhatan County on 17 Feb 1802 made the following provisions:

To George Crump, son of the late Goodrich Crump, 2000 acres, the remnant of his bounty land, as well as his furniture and library.

To Joseph Royal Bentley, son of William Bentley, \$100.

To the legatees of his late brother, Goodrich Crump, 39 acres of land adjoining the land purchased of Richard Crump

To Abner Crump, son of Richard Crump of Powhatan County, 283¼ acres and his slaves named Ned, Sally, Henry, Daniel, Dick, and Peter. Ned and Salley to be emancipated after the death of his brother, Richard Crump.

The file contains 115 pages mostly dealing with legal issues.

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Addendum to Abner Crump R13459

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 7 Dec 2023.

[From [Virginia Half-Pay pension records on fold3.com.](#)]

State of Virginia: Powhatan County, to wit;

At a Court held for the county of Powhatan, in the state aforesaid, at the Courthouse of the said county, on this 7th day of May in the year One thousand eight hundred & forty nine;

On the motion of Wm. Crump admin de bonis non with the Will annexed of Abner Crump dec'd. it is ordered to be certified that it has been this day proven to the satisfaction of the Court, by the records now in the Clerk's Office of this Court, that Abner Crump was the Clerk of this County Court of Powhatan at a Court held for the said County on the 16th day of December 1801 and that James Poindexter was appointed Clerk of said Court in place of said Abner Crump dec'd. at a court held for the county aforesaid on the 20th day of January 1802, and consequently that the said Abner Crump died between the said 16th of December 1801 and the 20th of January 1802.

And it is also ordered to be certified that it has been this day proven to the satisfaction of the Court by the oath of William Pope of this county, in open Court, that the same Abner Crump who was a Clerk of the County Court aforesaid was a Captain in the army of the Revolutionary War in the Virginia state line; and it is further ordered to be certified that the said Wm. Pope this day produced and exhibited to this Court the original certificate, dated the first day of March 1787 signed by George Washington, shewing that Abner Crump a Captain of the Revolutionary Army, was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati.

And the Court doth also certify that the aforesaid William Pope was on the 19th day of November 1795 appointed attorney for the Commonwealth in the County Court of this county; and that he is at the present time the attorney for the Commonwealth in the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for this county.