

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

Pension Application of Peter Cartwright R1759

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Illinois            }            In the County Court of Said County and State  
County of Sangamon    }            November Term 1852.

Be it remembered that on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty two, personally appeared before the Honorable Thomas Moffett presiding Judge of the said County Court, within and for the County and State aforesaid, during the sitting of the said Court for the despatch of business; the said Court being a Court of Record and having a seal and Clerk; Peter Cartwright a citizen of the said County of Sangamon and State of Illinois aged Sixty four years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the payment of the pension money, which was of right due to his deceased mother, Christiana Cartwright, in her lifetime (but which she never received) under the provisions made by the Acts of Congress of July the Seventh eighteen hundred and thirty eight (July 7, 1838) entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows"; and of March the third eighteen hundred and forty three (March 3, 1843) entitled "An act granting a pension to certain revolutionary soldiers"; that he is the only surviving child and heir at law of Peter Cartwright, and Christiana Cartwright, both of whom are now deceased; that the said Peter Cartwright, his father, was a soldier of Infantry in the Virginia Line on Continental establishment during the Revolutionary War with Great Britian; that he is informed and believes that he entered the Service in the County of Amherst and State of Virginia about the year seventeen hundred and seventy seven, or seventy eight (A.D. 1777 or 1778) and served upwards of two years and six months, and supposes that he must have served, at least for apart of the time under Col. [John] Gibson. His reason for believing this, is because a settlement appears to have been made in the name of his said father for his said Military Services on the thirteenth day of June seventeen hundred and eighty three (June 13, 1783), and the evidence of indebtedness of the State of Virginia to him for the balance of his full pay, amounting to the sum of Sixty two pounds, fifteen shillings, and ten pence of Virginia Currency (£62.15.10) was delivered to Col. Gibson.

That he has frequently heard his said father speak of being in several engagements, and particularly the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], during the revolutionary war, in which he lost two brothers, but cannot now remember, what others, so as to state the fact with any degree of certainty. That if his said father received any written or printed discharge from his said services he has no knowledge of it; and supposes, if he did, that it must have been lost or destroyed by time and accident many years ago. That according to his best information and belief, that at the time his father joined the army he was living in the County of Amherst and State of Virginia, and was then an unmarried man; that some years after the close of the war, to wit, on the twenty seventh day of February, seventeen hundred and eighty seven, (February 27, 1787) he entered into a marriage bond or contract to marry Christiana Garven (the maiden name of his mother) and they were soon after married as he believes in the year seventeen hundred and eighty seven (A.D. 1787) in the County of Amherst and State of Virginia. That further than this, he has no record proof of an actual marriage having been consummated between them. That his said parents moved from the State of Virginia, to the State of Kentucky, and settled there in the year seventeen hundred and ninety one (A.D. 1791), shortly after which time, the cabin or dwelling house in which they lived, was burned by accident, and their family Bible was consumed in the flames, which contained the record or register of the births, marriages and deaths of the family, so that he is prevented, at the present time, from resorting to that source for other evidence, than that which he has mentioned, to show that there was an actual marriage. That his said father always represented himself to be a soldier of the Revolution, and was so reported and believed to be, among his neighbors and acquaintances wherever he has lived, and that

his said father and mother always lived together as man and wife both before they left Virginia and after they moved to Kentucky, and were so reputed and believed to be, by their neighbors and acquaintances wherever they have lived up to the time of his death. That they had by said marriage the following named Children, to wit: Rosanna Cartwright, Peter Cartwright and Polly Cartwright – all of whom are now dead except this deponent, who is the only surviving child of his said father and mother. That his said father, Peter Cartwright, died in the County of Caldwell and State of Kentucky about the year eighteen hundred and nine, or ten, (A.D. 1809 or 1810); and that his said mother never married again after his father's death, but continued to live a widow, until she died in the County of Caldwell and State of Kentucky on the Twenty third day of December eighteen hundred and thirty Eight.

That neither his said father or mother ever drew a pension from the United States on account of his said services in the Revolution, nor did either of them ever apply for one to his knowledge; but that his mother was entitled to a pension, and might have drawn one, if she had applied for it, in her lifetime, under the acts of Congress of July the seventh, eighteen hundred and thirty eight (July 7, 1838); and March the third, eighteen hundred and forty three (March 3, 1843) as aforesaid. That the reason why his mother did not apply for a pension in her lifetime is, as he supposes, that she was ignorant of her rights, or did not know that she could procure the necessary testimony to make good her claim against the United States to such a bounty. And the reason why he has not applied himself for what was due to him in right of his mother as aforesaid, until the present time, is, because he also was ignorant, and was not informed until within a few months past, that he could lawfully make such a claim as the heir at law of his said mother. And finally, he hereby relinquishes every claim to pension money from the United States except the present, which he is advised is lawfully due to him on account of the vested rights of his mother, arising out of the services of his father in the revolution. [signed] Peter Cartwright

NOTE: The file includes a copy of a bond signed on 27 Feb 1787 by Peter Cartwright and (with his mark) William Cartwright for the marriage of "Peter Cartwright Battheldor" [bachelor] and "Christiana Garven Spinster," both of Amherst County.