

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Crabtree R2421

fn25NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/16/10

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Declaration –

The declaration of William Crabtree taken for the purpose of obtaining a pension under the Acts of Congress in such cases made & provided, this deponent being now 85 years of age States that he entered the service of the United States in the State of North Carolina during the Revolutionary War in a company commanded by a Captain Edward Williams in which he served three months, and was then discharged, which discharge he has either lost or mislaid, that about the time or immediately after the battle of Gilford Court House [sic, Guilford Courthouse] North Carolina, he again entered the service as a Sergeant in a company commanded by Captain John Knight in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Colyer [Collier?] & Belford under a Major ___ Dugan, that he continued in the Service until the close of the war, that he was engaged in several battles with the Tories, particularly one fought at John Needham another at Mike Lawleys – where they took three prisoners and again on the waters of Caraway River, where our Captain was dangerously wounded in the head, at this engagement my brother was taken prisoner but made his escape shortly afterwards, and in his escape, was severely wounded.

The deponent further saith that he was in sundry smaller engagements with the Tories, the whole country being infested by them – no person at this day except those who were engaged in the service can have any idea of the hardships and privations that the Whigs of North Carolina had to undergo, the troops with whom I acted were kept constantly employed, and often almost in a State of starvation, our service was not confined to the day time only but often at night we had to meet the Enemy –

After this he was discharged, which discharge he also lost or mislaid so that it cannot be found.

S/ William Crabtree, X his mark

[James Harkins & Jacob Oglesby gave supporting affidavits.]

[The above declaration was attested September 20, 1842, in Muhlenberg County Kentucky September Term 1842.]

State of Kentucky County of Christian: SS

On this 8th day of November 1842 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable B. Shackelford Sole Judge of the Christian Circuit Court now sitting, William

Crabtree a resident of Christian County and State of Kentucky aged to the best of his Declaration seventy-nine years last August who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That sometime in September 1842 in the Circuit Court for the County of Muhlenberg & State of Kentucky he made his declaration in order to obtain a pension under said Act – to which this is an amendment.

That he entered the service of the United States as a private under the following named Officers and served as he states herein.

That when in his 15th year he resided in Randolph County State of North Carolina and in August 78 as he believes entered the Service as Volunteer for three months under Captain Bletcher or some such name. We rendezvoused at a Village called Dorchester where we joined other troops under the command of General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] within divided into Scouting parties against the British and Tories, and served for three months, when we were discharged and returned home. We remained but a short time at home when I again entered the Service as a Sergeant and substitute in place of a man by the name of Yaundt [?]. We met or rendezvoused at a place called Littrell's fort or Barracks, under the command of Captain Thomas Williams attached to Colonel Littrell's Regiment. We were engaged in Scouting parties, and continued at this place for three months at the expiration of which time we were again discharged. My recollection does not enable me to state in what year this tour of service was, but believes it was in '79 in the fall of the year he believes he again volunteered and served as Sergeant a tour of three months under the command of Captain Brit Fuller and met at Salisbury when our company was consolidated with Captain John Williams, on this tour we marched through Charlotte to near Lynches Creek, where we joined General Morgan & wintered there, we then marched from there in the spring back through Charlotte to near Kings Mountain where we were discharged. That after the Battle of Guilford he again volunteered as Sergeant in Captain John Knight's Company and served from this time until the year 1782 in this tour of service he served with Major Dugan, Colonel Collier, Colonel Belford. We rendezvoused at Colonel Beford [sic]. We were there attached into Scouting parties. We had an engagement with the Tories commanded by Fannen [sic, David Fanning] at John Needham's in Anson County. The second engagement with Fannen at Michael Lawly's when we again defeated them. We next engaged with Colonel Bryant near Canaway River when Captain Knight got wounded in the head, and we were again victorious. We then continued Scouting in parties until the end of the war in 1782 – that he served three months under Captain Bletcher, three months under Captain Williams as Sergeant, three months as Sergeant under Captains Fuller & Williams – and 12 months under Captain John Knight as Sergeant, making in all twenty-one months he served in the Army of the Revolution for which he claims a pension and makes this as an amendment to his former Declaration in order to obtain a pension under the act of June 7th 1832. That his written discharges were burnt and therefore has no documentary evidence and knows of no other persons than those named in his former Declaration by whom he can prove his actual service that are now within his reach. That ten years ago he resided in Florida and was engaged in the service there and although he knew of the passage of the law of the 7th of June 1832 being in the service he had no opportunity of proving even some of his service and has recently for that purpose visited Kentucky where his witnesses resided in order to prove the same and obtain his pension.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State or Territory of

the United States. That having so recently arrived in this Country for the purpose of procuring testimony of his service he has not had an opportunity of becoming acquainted with preachers of the Gospel.

He now makes the following answers to the seven interrogatories propounded to applicants. I was born in Randolph County North Carolina in August 1763 – or four the precise time not known.

2. I have no record of my age

3d. I lived in Randolph County North Carolina when called into service – Since the Revolutionary War I lived for a short time in Randolph County North Carolina, then in Edgefield District South Carolina, then for a short time in Houston County Georgia, I then removed to Jackson County Florida where I continued to reside ever since & now in Kentucky for the purpose of prosecuting my claim for a pension.

4th . I always volunteered except the time I substituted for Jacob Yaundt.

5th General Daniel Morgan, Colonel Washington, Captain Williams, are the principal officers he now recollects. I have in the preceding part of my Declaration embodied the General Circumstances of my Service in the Army of the Revolution as particularly as my recollection at this time enables me to do.

6th I received four written discharges from my captains, all of which were burned in my brother's House in Edgefield District South Carolina. –

7th I am known [to] Daniel H Harrison, James Harkins, Jacob Oglesby him, Jesse Fox, Wm A. Lewis [?], John Knight, F. P. Pennington many of whom have known me for 40 years by whom I can prove my character for veracity and their belief of my Services as a Soldier of the Revolution

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Witness

S/ D. S. Hays

S/ William Crabtree, X his mark

[fn p. 13: certificate dated September 22, 1846 from the North Carolina Comptroller listing payments made to a William Crabtree for military services during the revolution.]

[fn p. 17]

State of Kentucky Muhlenberg County & Circuit Sct.

This 20th day of September 1842 personally appeared before John Calhoon the Judge of the Muhlenberg Circuit Court in the State of Kentucky Joseph Newton aged eighty-two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare. That he has been acquainted with William Crabtree who is an applicant for a pension to the United States under the Acts of Congress from early childhood, when they resided in the same neighborhood in the State of North Carolina in the time of the revolutionary war. That the said William Crabtree acted as a Sergeant in the company commanded by Captain John Knight. That he knows of his being in three several battles, one at John Needams, one at Lawleys, and one other on Caraway River, all in the State of North Carolina, at which last battle Captain John Knight was dangerously wounded in the head a ball having passed through the upper part of the same. That he knows that the said Crabtree was in the service of the United States for the term of 18 months under the said Captain Knight

And I the said John Calhoon Judge as aforesaid do certify that the said Joseph Newton is a person of credit and good character. Given under my hand at Greenville this day above.

S/ John Calhoon

[fn p. 24]

Commonwealth of Kentucky Christian County

The deposition of Sarah Knight¹ aged 89 years, on behalf of Joseph Newton² & William Crabtree, applicants for a pension for their services in the Revolutionary War. This deponent first being duly sworn deposed & saith that she is well acquainted with both those gentlemen, having been raised in the same neighborhood in the State of North Carolina that she was also acquainted with Captain John Hill who was the stepfather of the said Newton, said Hill commanded a company of Militia during the Revolutionary War, and said Newton was a private in his company, for the space of six months in the service of the United States, from her sex, it could not be supposed that she was privy to his services, but from her acquaintance and other circumstances connected therewith, she has every reason to believe and does believe that the said Newton did perform the service aforesaid. She states also that she well recollects that the said William Crabtree along to the Company of her deceased Husband Captain John Knight, in the Revolutionary War in the service of the United States. That she believes he acted as a Sergeant in said company for the space of 18 months or two years. She is now so far advanced in age that her recollection fails her, therefore could not say with certainty the length of time he was in the service, but she is positive that the said Crabtree, was with her husband during the whole time, that she has often heard her husband speak of the services performed by the said Crabtree, during Sundry engagements with the Tories, who were the common enemy of our Country.

Sworn to & subscribed to before me this ninth September 1842

S/ William A. Sims, JP

S/ Sarah Knight, X her mark

¹ [John Knight R6030](#)

² [Joseph Newton R7635](#)