

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Isaac Crabtree S30972

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Tennessee }

Overtown County } September Term of the Circuit Court for the County and State aforesaid it being a Court of Record. On this 27th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Nathaniel W Williams Judge of said Court presiding and now sitting Isaac Crabtree a resident citizen of the County and State aforesaid aged 74 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of congress passed June the 7th 1832 – That he entered the service of the united states in June or July 1775 lived in Washington County State of Virginia turned out a volunteer under Captain Aron Lewis [sic: Aaron Lewis] rendezvous at Abingdon which was the County seat for said County of Washington and was then marched to Mockasin Gap [sic: Moccasin Gap in present Scott County] and thence to Blackamores fort [present Fort Blackmore] on Clinch river and remained there some time continually scouting through the mountains driving out the hostile Indians who had committed great depredations upon the frontiers of Virginia until in August or September they were then marched back to Washington he was then discharged by his Captain Aron Lewis has lost his discharge states that he served at least two months this Tower he states that in the year following which was in 1776 the last of June he again turned out under Captain John Montgomery rendezvoused in Washington County and was marched to Blackamores fort then to a station in the Rye Cove and ranged through the mountains there the principal part of the summer then was marched back to Washington and there prepared themselves and started on in 3 or 4 days to the long Island of Halsten at Fort Henry [sic: Long Island of Holston at Fort Patrick Henry, now Kingsport TN] there they rendezvoused and was then marched to the Cherokee Nation to Chota old Town and to Tisga [possibly Toqua] Burnt and destroyed both these Towns killed one Indian he then went to the dragging Canoe Towns burnt up both of these Towns and then marched to Tellico plains [Tellico Plains] and round the tellico Town and was then marched to Chilhowa Town [Chilhowee] and round that Town was then marched back to Long Island of Holston and then to Washington County Virginia where he then lived got no discharge got home in December a few days after Christmas was in a regiment commanded by Colonel [William] Russell that Tower. he thinks he served six months this Trip or in a few days of It this Tower was called the Christian Campaign [after Col. William Christian] he further states that in the following year that is 1777 he again Turned out a volunteer under Captain James Crabtree and was recommended to his Captain by Colonel Arthur Campbell as a Spy and appointed a Spy with leave to choose a comrade which he did and chose a certain Benjamin Richardson he thinks they set out the last of May or first of June and went into service and ranged through Clinch Mountain and the frontiers of Washington County Virginia he thinks he left the service this time about the last of September making about four months this trip making in the Three Towers about Twelve months he states that in the next year 1778 he again turned out a volunteer Ranger he thinks about the last of may and went to the Elk garden Fort [in present Russell County] and Joined Captain John Kincaid and ranged about that Fort the States that Colonel Daniel Smith came to the fort and took him and several other men making ten and went down Clinch and as they came to glade hollow fort [on Cedar Creek near Lebanon in Russell County] they met with about the same number of Indians he and Burton Litten and William Priest were some distance in front of the others when they met the Indians. the Indians were laying in ambush in Two sink holes and on each side of the trace and when they arose and placed themselves in a fighting attitude and fired on him when the firing commenced Colonel Smith and the balance with him wheeled and ran he and his Company kept their ground waiting for them to come up until the Indians or some of them were within Thirty or Forty yards of affiant and the balls flying round him like hail stones from a thunder

storm he began to think it was time to take care of himself seeing by this time the whole of his company had taken to flight and left him he retreated a short distance and was closely pursued by the enemy and wheeled to see how near they were to him and saw one within thirty yards he immediately raised his gun and taking sight at his breast fired and the indian fell back and uttered some coarse loud noise he then wheeled and took to flight himself and the Indians after him still firing upon him until he overtook some of his company and tried to rally them but without effect they continued their retreat and two of them were killed while they were running before him he then began to mend his gate [gait] and soon overtook the foremost man and went by his Colonel Smith but was unable to rally them the two men killed were the two who went in advance with himself Burton Litten and William Preest he states that they remained ranging about through the country until in September the conclusion was then that the Indians had left that part of the Country and the men all dispersed about the last of September he thinks he was out this trip about four months making about sixteen months these were the principal tours he served in the revolution he states that he was afterwards frequently engaged in scouting parties guarding the frontiers and keeping back the Indians but was not under any particular officer. can say how long he served in this way but thinks he served at least Two months or longer which would make in all Eighteen months which he is well satisfied he did serve he states that he was born in the County of Baltimore State of Maryland has a record of his age at home the date of his birth is 1757 that after the revolution he moved to Davidson County Tennessee then to the old settlements of Kentucky then to Wayne County Kentucky then to Overton County Tennessee where he now lives he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or an annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State believes he can prove something of the above service by Walter Greer [pension application S3415] and George Christian of said County he states there is no preacher of the gospel living near to him
[signed] Isaac Crabtree

NOTES:

Walter Greer stated that he had seen Crabtree at Fort Patrick Henry in 1776 and at Chota.

On 29 Feb 1840 Isaac Crabtree applied to have his pension transferred to Kentucky, having moved to Wayne County because "he is becoming very old and feeble and wishes to live with his son who resides in Kentucky." In this document he stated that he had served in a company commanded by Capt. James Thompson in the regiment commanded by Col. Daniel Smith.

On 7 March 1844 Harmon Wynn of Clinton County KY stated that when he was quite young he had lived in Montgomery (later Tazewell) County about 25 miles from Abraham Crabtree [pension application R2418] and his brother Isaac Crabtree, both of whom were reputed to be "faithful soldiers in the Revolutionary Ware against the Indians." He also recalled that "the said Abraham had a sore leg and was ever after a cripple," and that Isaac Crabtree had served in the Kentucky legislature.