

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Cross S3221

NC VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Tennessee } On this 9th day of July 1833
Anderson County } Personally appeared in open Court before us William McKarny Henry B Buter
and John Sieber three of the acting Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter sessions in and for said
County now sitting William Cross a resident of the said County and state in the said County of Anderson
and State of Tennessee aged 71 or 72 years who after 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 he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as
here in stated That he was born in Baltimore County Maryland some time about the 5th of March 1761
or 1762 as he was informed by his parents He has no record of his age He lived in North Carolina in
what is now caled Sulivan County Tennessee near the Virginia line at which place some time in
September 1776 he volunteered for a twelve months tour against the Cherokee Indians under Capt
William Hicks in the militia He volunteered as a drummer we Rendezvoused at Edward Coxes [Edward
Cox's] on the north side of Holston River at the time last aforesaid lay there a few day then marched to
Shoats ford on the south side of Holston River we there took possession of Shoats fort and made that our
head quarters during the whole tour we scouted through the country in quest of indians we had no
regular battle we had no officer with us higher than a Capt. Gen'l. [Evan] Shelby ordered a number of
Cpts to fortify and keep possession a the forts along near the Virginia line to keep the indians from
committing depratdations in virginia, as declarant was informed at that time. we continued there till
October 1777 at which time he was Honoruraby but verbally discharged He served at this time twelve
months for which he claims pension He served the whole time as a drummer.

Again while liveing at the same place some time in August 1781 as near as he can recollect he was
drafted for a three month tour against to British and tories under Capt Thomas Wallace in Col Isaac
Shebys Regiment of Militia we Rendezvoused on Indian Creek near the Iron mountain at the time last
aforesaid we ware there met by an express telling us that men ware not wanted at that time we ware
then permitted to return home and held ourselvs in readiness at a minits warning which we did and in
about three weeks we ware caled upon again and we marched to the same ground under the same
officers we lay there a few days there was a part of the company had horses and a part had none Col
Shelby gave gave press warrants to press horses to go to the High Hills of Santee [in South Carolina]
declearnt with a number of others were unable to press horses Col Shelby then ordered Declarant with
the ballance that had no horses to return to Ensign John Wallace and Sargent Abednago Hicks and guard
the froonteers against the indians which they did till the three months was out he was Honourably but
verbelly discharged He served at this time three months for which he claims pension He served in the
whole fifteen months for which he claims pension He may posebly be mistaken as to some of the dates
above mentioned but he is certain he served the full time above stated He has no documentary evidence
and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his actual service 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. There is no Clergyman whose testimony he can
procure at this time by whome he can prove the report of his service he continued to live in said Sulivan
County till about 1817 he then moved to Knox County Tennessee and lived there about a year he then
moved into said Anderson County and has lived there ever since There was no regular officers with the
troops where he served nor no continental nor militia regiments farther than above mentioned He never
did receive a writen discharge from the service nor a commission He is acquainted in his present
neighbourhood with Edward Hawkins Esqr Reubin Goldsam Thomas Kernal and Jonathan Scarbrow all

of whome he believes would testify that he is a man of veracity and that they believe that he served as a soldier of the revolution Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court

William hisXmark Cross

It appears from the annexed affidavit of Edwd Cox and Abraham Cross (the former of whome was the Lieut. under whome Wm Cross served his twelve months tour) That Mr Wm Cross was mistaken about being a volunteer that infact he was enlisted and I presume his name may be found in the department, but if not his proving actual service will be suficiant as I suppose

You will observe that the affidavit bears date Apl 18th 1833 and the Declaration July 9th 1833 which can be accounted for in the following manner towit In the course of last winter I advised Mr Cross to procure proof of actual service he then got a friend to write to Sullivan County on the subject but had no return he had a second letter wrote but without success he then made his application for a pension believing that he could not procure proof of actual service The said affidavit was forwarded to him some time in October last contrary to his expectation he states that he had no Colonal when he served his twelve months tour (See the Declaration)

Hon J L Edwards [Pension Commissioner]

With Greate Respect I am/ Your very Hum'l. Serv't.

James Hair

State of Tennessee } 18th Apl. 1833

Sullivan County }

At the Instance & request of David Cross of Sullivan County Tennessee I have caused Edward Cox & Abraham Cross to come before me to state on their oaths all & singular their knowledge of William Coss's of Anderson County Tennessee services During the Revolutionary war and Dep't. Deposeth & saith in the year 1776 in the early part of the year say in March as well as Dept can Recollect the said William Cross of anderson county enlisted in Sullivan county Tennessee then North carolina under Capt. William Hicks & Lutenant Edward Cox at the fort at Shoats ford and was amediately appointed Drummer for said Company and held the rank of Drummer During the term of said enlistment which was for one year Deponants further saith that said William Cross was engaged with them in rendering the following services in Building forts & guarding them and as spys against the Cherokee Indians and was actively engaged in said service During said enlistment further ths Dep't. saith not

[signed] Edwd Cox

[signed] Abraham Cross