

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Craighead S352

Transcribed by Will Graves

f26NC

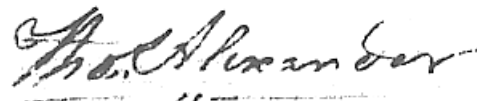
rev'd 12/17/10 & 11/20/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

North Carolina, Mecklenburg County

This day personally appeared before me William Gray one of the Justices of the Peace for said County, Major Thomas Alexander<sup>1</sup> and made Oath that after the fall of Charleston, South Carolina was generally overrun by the British armies, & North Carolina threatened with immediate invasion, several individuals volunteered their services, & joined the Army at Land's Ford, Catawba [River], under the command of General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter], and in particular, with part of the Army commanded by Major (now General) Davie [William Richardson Davie], on the evening before the Hanging Rock battle [August 6, 1780], which was in August 1780; that Robert Craighead was one of these volunteers; that said Robert Craighead was with this deponent when they both entered into the battle of Hanging Rock; that this deponent saw said Robert Craighead towards the close of the Action, who was then wounded in the right shoulder, and that this deponent further saith that he took care of said Robert Craighead after he had been wounded. Sworn to, and subscribed this 30<sup>th</sup> January 1818.

S/ Thos. Alexander



S/ William Gray, JP

Charlotte – Mecklenburg County, N. C.

To whom it may concern – Greeting

Being called on according to some late arrangements of the War Department, I have examined a wound in the shoulder of Mr. Robert Craighead which is said to have been received in the revolutionary War, and find, that, the ball having passed obliquely and near to the Pomum Adami entered the head of the os humeri immediately under the clavicle, which does not appear to have been injured, and after passing through the spongy head of the os humeri must have shattered considerably the processus acroiuon of the scapula. In consequence of the injury done to the cartilage of the joint an ancylosis has taken place which prevents the free motion, or rather, any motion of the shoulder but such as is given by the motion of the scapula – This at once prevents Mr. Craighead from manual labor of most kinds, and even injures the motion of the arm which is necessary in writing.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [Thomas Alexander S6495](#)

<sup>2</sup> Here are some very interesting explanatory observations made by Dr. Malcolm L. Marion, III, M.D.:

*It sounds like Mr. Craighead was shot through the anterior neck with the bullet also passing through the acromion (the small hook of bone which comes off the scapula (shoulder blade) and joins the clavicle (collar bone)) and then into the upper humerus (upper arm bone). As Mr. Dunlap indicates, this type of injury would probably lead to massive boney and muscle injury causing a frozen shoulder. With the medical care of the time, it is really surprising he survived. I would also assume from the entry and destination of the projectile, Mr. Craighead was possibly shot by someone from above. He could have been on ground at the time, maybe bent over, leaning to the left with the right shoulder elevated, or shot by someone from an elevated position.*

Sworn to & subscribed before me.  
S/ James Cowan, JP

S/ D. R. Dunlap  
Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> 1818

Landsford, Catawba, S. C., January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1818

Dear Sir,

Mr. Robert Craighead formerly a resident of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and now a citizen of Tennessee was severely wounded at the battle of the Hanging-Rock in the State of South Carolina, in the month of August 1780, and I believe serving as a Volunteer under my command. It would now be extremely difficult almost in any case to procure the certificates that might have been with propriety acquired at an earlier period; most of the officers who were in Service at that time are now no more; the defense of the Country in 1780 depended upon the zeal of the inhabitants, and of course upon the volunteer service; there were few or no regular Drafts for duty in the Western part of North Carolina, and the citizens generally ranged themselves under those Leaders in whom they had the most confidence. I recommend Mr. Craighead earnestly to your patronage, for he suffered severely in the cause of his Country.

I am very respectfully,  
Sir your and obt.

S/ W. R. Davie [William Richardson Davie]w



The Honble. John Williams

I certify that the foregoing letter is in the proper handwriting of Genl Wm R. Davie.

S/ John Williams

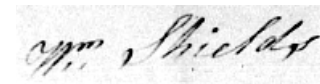
Senate Chamber  
March 19<sup>th</sup> 1818

North Carolina, Mecklenburg County

This day personally appeared before me William Gray one of the Justices of the Peace for said County, William Shields,<sup>3</sup> and made oath; that to his certain knowledge, Robert Craighead served as a soldier at the battle of Hanging Rock, August 1780, and that the said Robert Craighead was, in that battle, wounded in the shoulder. Sworn to, and subscribed this 30<sup>th</sup> of January 1818.

S/ William Gray, JP

S/ Wm Shields



[Craighead died May 7, 1821, according to other documents in this file.]

[Veteran was inscribed on the rolls of the invalid veterans and pensioned at the rate of four dollars per month commencing January 31, 1815, based on the ratio of disability being assessed at one half.]