

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Crenshaw S8257

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia, Nottoway County, to wit:

On the tenth day of October 1833 personally appeared before me Archibald A. Campbell one of the justices of the peace for the said county, William Crenshaw a resident of the said county, aged seventy three years, 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 the 7th day of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated, to wit:

That he entered the service of the United States on the 23rd day of August 1777 as a draft and served till the 10th day of October in the same year at Hampton in Virginia in Captain Thomas Branch Wilson's company of Militia, Colonel Bass Regiment and General [Thomas] Nelson's brigade, and that a company of regular soldiers commanded by a Captain Jennings were in service at the same time and place

That on the 10th day of May in the year 1779 he commenced a tour of Militia service, as a draft under Captain Richard Jones and Lieutenant Edward Booker, during which tour he served 10 days, only, and was discharged at the Chickahominy river.

That as a draft from the State and County aforesaid [sic: Amelia County, from which Nottoway was formed in 1788], he served a tour of Militia service in the state of South Carolina, from the 23rd day of June 1780 till the first day of the next following November, under Captain Gabriel Fowlkes in the Regiment of Virginia Militia commanded by Colonel Holt Richardson, Lieutenant Colonel [John] Glenn and Major Boice [sic: William Boyce], in General Stephens' [sic: Edward Stevens's] brigade in General Gates' [Horatio Gates's] army, during which tour he fought in the battle of Camden [16 Aug 1780], where the Baron De Kalb commanded the regulars, and troops from Maryland and Delaware were also there under Colonels [John Eager] Howard and [John] Gunby.

That in the year 1781 he, as a draft, served a tour of Militia service, of one months duration, commencing on the 28th day of February in a company commanded a part of the time by Captain Freeman Epes [sic: Freeman Eppes] and a part by Captain John Overstreet in the regiment commanded by Colonel Philemon Holcombe and Major Cunningham and St. George Tucker, in General [Robert] Lawson's brigade, during which tour he fought in the battle of Guilford in North Carolina [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781], where also, fought the before mentioned Maryland and Delaware troops and regular troops under General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene].

That in the last mentioned year, to wit, 1781. as a draft he served another tour of Militia service of six weeks duration commencing in April and terminating in the next June in Captain Gabriel Fowlkes' Company, Colonel Abraham Greens regiment, General Mullenburg's [sic: Peter Muhlenberg's] brigade in General La Fayette's [Lafayette's] army; during this tour whilst stationed at Richmond under General Mullenburg, General La Fayette arrived there, on Easter Monday [sic: arrived 29 Apr, not 16 Apr], and took the command, that he from that time continued in La Fayette's' army until, in retreating, it reached Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] courthouse, where it was joined by, he supposes, two thousand regular troops under General Wayne [sic: Anthony Wayne with 800 Pennsylvania Continentals joined Lafayette at Brock's Bridge on North Anna River, 10 Jun], and where this applicant was discharged other troops having been sent to relieve those with whom he served, they having served their full tour of duty.

And that on the first day of September in the same year last mentioned, Viz 1781 he enlisted as a soldier for the term of three years in a company commanded by Captain Nicholas . . . Lieutenant and Marshall Booker Ensign in Colonel Davis' regiment, in the State Legion & General Spotwoods [sic:

Alexander Spotswood's] brigade in which service he continued until the end of the War.

That he has no documentary evidence of his said services that he knows of but one person now alive, to wit: John Leith, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his military services; that he was born on the 28th day of January 1760. has seen his fathers Register, but knows not where it now is, that he has always resided and still resides in the county of Nottoway aforesaid, formerly Amelia; that Grief Ellington, a clergyman and Samuel B. Jeter and Francis Fitzgerald, are persons to whom he is known, in his neighbourhood and can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

[signed] William Crenshaw

I, John Leith of the County of Nottoway and State of Virginia, do certify upon Oath, that I was a neighbour to the applicant William Crenshaw, during the revolutionary war, that I well recollect his having been drafted for military services as setforth by him in his declaration, that I was with him in the battle of Guilford in North Carolina, and likewise at Culpepper courthouse when discharged there, and that I was likewise in service with him in the State Legion, which we had both joined for the term of three years and in which we both continued till the end of the war.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid. John hisXmark Leith

NOTE: A document in the file states that Crenshaw died on 27 Nov 1834.