

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Crittington(Crittenden) S8259 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia }
City of Richmond to wit }

On this 27th day of July 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Hustings Court of the City of Richmond now sitting William Crittington a resident of Wake County in the State of North Carolina 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 provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 18[32]

That he enlisted as a souldier in the Virginia Line in the War of the Revolution with Humphry Rook a recruiting officer for three years in 1776 and served as a drummer during the whole of that time under the following Officers Directly after his inlistment he was placed under the command of David Paunel [sic: David Pannell (Pannill) VAS117] a Captain of artillery and went with him in a vessel from Westpoint [sic: West Point] in King William County and state of Virginia to York Town in said State where he remained for twenty three months serving as a Drummer. About twelve months after his inlistement ill health compelled Captn Paunell to resign when his first Lieutenant William Speller [sic: William Spiller] was promoted & took command of the company but not long after Captn Spiller was ordered to the South when this affiant was placed under the command of Captn Thomas Marshall junr [R16057] Old Col Thos Marshall then having the command of the Regiment Having become experienced as a Drummer he was sent from York to Hampton in Virginia to teach the young Drummers, remained there for about five months and was then sent up to the City of Williamsburg in said state, remained there two or three months teaching the young drummers & then returned to york and remained there till the end of his term of service when he got his discharge from Coln Thomas Marshall but which has been lost or mislaid many years ago. After this he was almost constantly in the militia service 'till the end of the War generally acting as a substitute for James Mann, William Gilman, Ephraim Crittington & others Whilst in the militia service he was under the command of Captain Littlepage, Hurley and others whose names he cannot now recollect. He was with Gen'l LaFayette when in the Counties of Fluvanna, Culpepper & under the Blue Ridge and helped to cut his road [Marquis Road] for the baggage waggons and recollects that the General had four goats which gave him as much milk as one cow. Said Affiant did not take off his clothes for fourteen days when they were pursued by Lord Cornwallis, but when we were reenforced [by Gen. Anthony Wayne, 10 Jun 1781] we had the pleasure in our turn to give him a chase Being placed under the command of Col'n Taylor he served the balance of the War on the Glouster [sic: Gloucester] side of York River and at York Town. He resided in King William County in the State of Virginia at the time that he enlisted as aforesaid and removed to the State of [illegible] Carolina about forty years ago lived there six years & then removed to to North Carolina. He was in no regular battle during his service though he was at the siege of York and never went out of the State of Virginia.

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

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid William hisXmark Crittington

Interrogatories propounded by the Hustings Court of the City of Richmond to said William Crittington

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer Born in King William County State of Virginia – in the year seventeen hundred and sixty one.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. The time of his birth was recorded in the family bible but he has not seen it for many years,

and dont know what has become of it.

3rd Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary War and where do you now live

Answer. When he entered the army, he lived in King William County – after the war he lived in Hanover County State of Virginia about Ten years – and then moved to the State of North Carolina, where he has ever since lived – and now resides there.

4th How were you called into service: were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute. And if a substitute for whom?

Answer. I enlisted for three years – was not drafted. Did not volunteer. after I served the three years I was a Substitute for Samuel Ford – Billy Gilman – Ephraim Crittington, and for others not recollected.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service?

Answer General Washington, General La Fayette – General [Nathanael] Greene – Don't recollect the Regiments – I was a Drummer during all the time of my enlistment – when I acted as substitute I served as a private in the line – was in no regular battles – was at the capt. of York [capture of Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781].

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I received a discharge from Colo. Thomas Marshall, Sen'r which I lost soon after, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty one.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution

Answer. Samuel Norris – Nathan Norris, & Arthur Branch – who reside in Wake County, North Carolina – can testify as to my veracity, but not as to his services as a soldier of the revolution.

I Charles Z Abraham a resident of the City of Richmond in the State of Virginia aged seventy do hereby certify that William Crittington of Wake County and State of N Carolina having called on me to state what I know of him and his services in the revolutionary War do state as follows – that in the year 1777 or 1778 then being about fourteen years of age I was engaged by the directions of my father in transporting the mail from Fredericksburg to York Town in Virginia though principally from New Castle [now Old Church] to York Town and continued in that employment till the seige of york. I recollect that James Crittington and said William Crittington his son were both in the army and as I have been informed James enlisted in the continental service was under the command of Col'n Holt Richeson and was killed at the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] both of them were residents of King William County in which I was born and lived till I was eighteen years old I recollect that William Crittington enlisted and was under the command of Captain David Punel and William Speller of the Artillery and that he was a drummer having heard him beat. William Speller was a resident of King William and my schoolmate and I have no doubt Paunel was as I saw him there frequently but I cannot say positively as to him. I have not seen William Crittington since the revolutionary war that I recollect till he called on me but from my recollection of the features of his father and of himself when young and from various conversations which I have had with him on various I feel confident that William Crittington who has thus called on me and who is applying for a pension as he states is the identical man that I knew as a drummer in the War of the Revolution Given from under my hand this 30th July 1833 Ch's. Z Abraham

[The following is from [Revolutionary bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia](#):]

I do Certify that William Crittenton inlisted as a Soldier in Colo Marshalls Reg't of Artillery the 27th day

