

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Craig W3075

Elizabeth

fn52PA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/1/11

[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. 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 fails 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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

Westmoreland County State of Pennsylvania: SS

On this 20th day of May 1839 personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of said court Elizabeth Craig a resident of Derry Township in said County aged seventy-three years who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath say and make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled "an act granting half pay & pensions to certain widows." That she is the widow of Samuel Craig¹ who was a Lieutenant and the Company commanded by Captain Robert Orr in the detachment of Troops which marched against the Indians under Colonel Lochry [Archibald Lochry] in the year 1781 being Pennsylvania Troops, This detachment was under Colonel Lochry marched to the Ohio River, and were there attacked by the Indians and the commandant Colonel Lochry was killed, and the whole force with but few exceptions were either killed or taken prisoners, among the latter of whom was your deponent's husband Lieutenant Alexander [sic] Craig and his Captain Robert Orr, your Petitioner's husband was taken to Detroit, and Niagara & remained a prisoner about a year & a half & returned in the winter or spring of 1783. She further declares that she was married to the said ~~Alexander~~ Samuel Craig in the year 1784 in the month of April, but the day of the month she does not recollect and there is no record evidence thereof and that her husband the said aforesaid Alexander [sic] Craig died on the 28th day of August in year 1808, That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794 viz. At the time above stated. The declarant further states that her husband entered the service of the State of Pennsylvania as she believes sometime before the Expedition and Colonel Archibald Lochry marched from Hanna's Town against the Indians In the month of August in the year 1781, That she does not recollect the day of the month of the Battle on the Ohio in which Colonel Lochry was defeated² but that her husband was absent in the service of the country as a Lieutenant from the month of August 1781 until February or March 1783 – that is counting the time he was a prisoner with the Enemy.

Sworn & subscribed on the day & year above written

S/ Elizabeth Craig

In open Court

S/ John Clark, Prot.

¹ The file of [Robert Orr S4631](#) contains an actual affidavits given by Samuel Craig describing Lochry's Defeat. Orr had filed for a pension as an invalid (he was wounded in the shoulder and his arm rendered useless) under pension acts predating the 1832 act. Orr collected affidavits from several veterans, including Craig, to support his claim for a pension.

² There is an excellent account of this engagement posted at <http://boards.ancestry.com/topics.Military.amerrev.general/803/mb.ashx>

Ezekiel Lewis

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Westmoreland County SS

And now to wit August the 19th 1839 personally appeared in open Court in the Court of Common Pleas for the said County of Westmoreland being a Court of record Ezekiel Lewis³ who on his oath duly administered according to law Depoeth & saith that he was a Soldier in the Company of William Campbell, a Captain of a troop of Light Horse or Dragoons in the year 1781, which as a place of rendezvous at Captain Carnahan's in Westmoreland County with other troops all under the command of Colonel Archibald Lochry, the Regiment or Detachment under command of said Lochry marched from said Carnahan's for the Indian country in the month of August 1781. Among the troops in said detachment was a company commanded by Captain Robert Orr, who's Lieutenant was Samuel Craig. The said Detachment or Command marched to the Ohio at Pittsburgh where we embarked, including the said Lieutenant Samuel Craig and proceeded down the River in Boats till near the mouth of the Big Miami River, at which place, when we were about landing to cook our Breakfast about 10 o'clock on the 24th day of August 1781 and while we were kindling fires on the beach, the Indians who were concealed in the weeds on the bank of above us, commenced an attack upon us & killed about forty-two and took the whole of the remainder prisoners no one escaping to tell the news, among the prisoners were as Lieutenant Samuel Craig, who I did not see, after the prisoners were posted among the different tribes of Indians, until we met at Detroit, which Deponent, thinks was about the last of October in the same year when the Indians sold us to the British, at the price as this Deponent understood of ten gallons of rum each or its equivalent in other Articles, this Deponent returned home 7th July 1782, being detained until that time a prisoner in Canada. Deponent does not know when Lieutenant Samuel Craig returned except from report. Deponent made his escape from captivity with four others, before he was exchanged or discharge, and in company with his comrades came home through the wilderness.

S/ Ezekiel Lewis

Ezekiel Lewis

[fn p. 9: On August 19, 1839, in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania, John Craig gave testimony that Samuel Craig lived with affiant in 1781; that Samuel Craig was then unmarried; that Samuel turned out a volunteer and served as a Lieutenant in Captain Robert Orr's company under Colonel Archibald Lochry in the expedition against the Indians; was taken prisoner and did not return home until a few days before Christmas in the year 1782; that upon his return Samuel lived with affiant again until his marriage to Elizabeth Shields; he believes Samuel and Elizabeth were married by the Reverend James Powers. The relationship if any, of the affiant to the veteran is not stated.

³ [Ezekiel Lewis S4533](#)

John Craig

[fn p. 27: On in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania, John Shields gave testimony that he is the brother of Elizabeth Craig, widow of Samuel Craig who was a Lieutenant in the Pennsylvania service; that Samuel and Elizabeth were married in April 1784 by the Reverend James Powers; that he knows that Samuel served as a Lieutenant and Captain Robert Orr's Company, was taken prisoner by the Indians and did not return until about Christmas 1782 having marched away in August 1781.

John Shields

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[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$226.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1843 for her husband service as a Lieutenant in the Pennsylvania militia.]