

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Crafton W6763

Mary Crafton

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

On this ninth day of October 1840, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Mary Crafton a resident of said County and State, aged 71 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress, passed July 7<sup>th</sup> 1838, entitled "An Act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows –"

That she is the widow of Thomas Crafton, late of the said County and State, who was a private in the Militia service of Virginia, in the War of the Revolution. She declares, that she knows nothing of the services of her late husband in the Revolutionary Army, she having married him subsequent to the close of the war. She has heard him frequently speak of being in the service, and that he was engaged in some battles, and suffered severely whilst in the service. She has, also, heard the same from others who served with him: all of which, she verily believes to be true. That from bodily infirmity, old age, and the consequent loss of memory, she cannot call to memory at this time, the officers names under whom he served, and the Regiments to which he belonged, and other particulars relating to his service: She therefore will rely on the statment of others who served with him, and ought to know the particulars – whose certificates accompany this Declaration. That for the same reason above stated, she cannot state exactly the length of time he was in actual service altogether, but would suppose he was in actual service at least nine months, for which length of time she claims a pension. In support of her claim, she refers to the Army Records of the period, together with the accompanying certificates of old and respectable soldiers.

She further declares, that she was married to the said Thomas Crafton, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1785; that her husband the aforesaid Thomas Crafton died on the 28 day of January 1818; that she was not married to him prior to his leiving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January, seventeen hundred and ninty four: to wit, at the time above stated.

Mary herXmark Crafton

State of Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit: [8 June 1840]

I John Crafton do hereby certify, that I was well acquainted with Thomas Crafftton late of Lunenburg County, in the War of the Revolution. According to my best recollection at this time, he served a long time in the Revolutionary war but how long in the whole, I am unable to say, not being with him the whole time. I know that in 1780, the said Thomas Crafftton or Crafton, (for the name is differently spelled) was drafted under Capt [Sylvanus] Walker for 3 months, & marched to the South, being present at the time he marched. He was also drafted for three months under same, and marched to Guilford. In the month of August, 1781, he was drafted under Capt Knight for 3 months, and marched to Yorktown. I was a soldier with him on this occasion; & know the fact. I am in the 80<sup>th</sup> year of my age, & was a soldier of the Revolution.

[signed] John Crafton

State of Virginia: Charlotte County to wit: [12 Sep 1840]

I Ambrose Haley [pension application S8689], do hereby certify that I was acquainted with Thomas Crafton late of Lunenburg County, in the War of the Revolution, and have a most distinct recollection that in the early part of 1780 he was drafted in the Militia from the County of Lunenburg for the term of three months under Capt Walker, and marched to the South, and was engaged in the battle near Camden in August, 1780 [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780]. He served the said term faithfully, for

I was with him the whole time. I farther certify, that said Thomas Crafton, was drafted a second time under Capt Walker from Lunenburg for the term of three months, and marched to North Carolina, and was engaged in the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781]. He served the said term faithfully, for I was with him.

I am in the 82<sup>d</sup> year of my age, and a pensioner of the United States.

[signed] Ambrose Haley

NOTE: A document in the file certifies that Thomas Crafton was married to Mary Sammons by Rev. James Shelburne on 11 June 1785. On 9 Dec 1844 the administrator of the estate of Mary Crafton applied for the final pension payment up to her death on the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> of Nov 1843, for the benefit of her children, Thomas Crafton and Elizabeth Powers. He stated that Mary Crafton had lived in Lunenburg County for 79 years before her death.