

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Nathaniel Crenshaw W6772

Unity Crenshaw

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 24 Feb 2019.

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

On this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1838, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in the County and State aforesaid, Unity Crenshaw, the widow of Nathaniel Crenshaw decd. aged 78 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 Act of Congress passed 4<sup>th</sup> July, 1836: That she is the widow of Nathaniel Crenshaw, who was a soldier of the state line of Virginia on Continental establishment in the war of the Revolution; and afterwards, a soldier of the Militia or Volunteer service of Virginia. That being a woman, (of course not in service) she is unable to give a personal narrative of her husbands services; but she has always understood, and believes the same to be true, that her husband in the year 1777, (the earlier part) enlisted as a soldier under Capt. Hopkins [Samuel Hopkins BLWt1065-450] in the Continental service for the term of three years, and served the said term faithfully, and was honorably discharged. That after the expiration of said 3 years, he married the said Unity Crenshaw; and subsequently, as a Volunteer or a soldier of Militia in the Virginia service, he was engaged in the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781], where he received a severe wound in the eye. That he was then in the battle of the seige Yorktown, in the year 1781 [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. That in all of his engagements with the enemy, she has always understood, he acquitted himself with credit to himself and country. she further declares that she was married on the 26<sup>th</sup> December 1780, to Nathaniel Crenshaw of Lunenburg and before his last period of service expired: That the said Nathaniel Crenshaw, her husband, died Intestate, on the 7<sup>th</sup> November , 1793: that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Unity herXmark Crenshaw

witness/ H. P Crenshaw

Virginia Mecklinburg [sic: Mecklenburg] County to wit:

I Bartlett Cox [S24964] do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with Nathaniel Crenshaw of Lunenburg County in the Revolutionary War and knew the fact as coming within my own personal knowledge that in 1777 as well as I can recollect he enlisted under Capt. Samuel Hopkins afterwards Colonel Hopkins for the term of three years in the Continental service the Regiment to which he was attached I cannot now call to memory but recollect distinctly he served as Sergeant & soldier three years faithfully in the Infantry and was regularly discharged from service. I further know that shortly after he returned home from the North he enlisted again in the Continental service as a soldier of Cavalry to serve "for and during the War". the officer under whom he enlisted I cannot call to mind but recollect distinctly that he belonged to the command of Colo. [William] Washington in the South and did serve faithfully to the end of the War. at the battle of Guilford he received a severe wound near the eye, which like to have occasioned the loss of his eyesight he was a brave soldier and was engaged in many battles both at the North and South I am in the 77 year of my age was a soldier of the Revolution and now an invalid Pensioner of the United States. Given under my hand this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October 1837

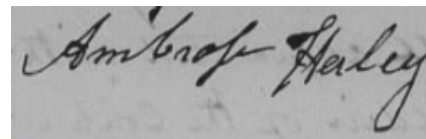
Bartlett hisXmark Cox

State of Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I Ambrose Haley [S8689] do hereby certify, that I was well acquainted with Nathaniel Crenshaw late a soldier of the Continental line in the war of the Revolution, and with his wife Unity Crenshaw; being raised in 2 miles of old Mr. Pamplin the Father of Mrs. Creshaw. I know well that Nathaniel Crenshaw married Unity Pamplin about the 26<sup>th</sup> of December, 1780, from the circumstance that I was married myself about the same time he was married and shortly after Mr. Crenshaw's return from the Regular Army. I farther certify, that said Nathaniel crenshaw was at the battle of Guilford, and seige of York

Town, as coming within my own personal knowledge, being there, and that the said marriage took place before the expiration of the last period of Mr. Crenshaw's service in the Army.

I father certify, that Unity Crenshaw the widow of said Nathaniel Crenshaw is still alive, and a widow, and that she has never married since the death of her late husband, the said Nathaniel Crenshaw. Given under my hand this 4<sup>th</sup> July 1838.



This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session, 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 29th day of October 1787, in the name of Nathaniel Crenshaw as a Soldier of Infantry for £34.8.4, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Richard Johnson and was given for services prior to the 1st January, 1782.

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 7th day of July 1838.  
Jas E. Heath AUDITOR.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

To his Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia: [23 Oct 1837]

The Memorial of the Heirs and legal representatives of Nathaniel Crenshaw, late a soldier and sergeant of the State line of Virginia on Continental establishment in the war of the Revolution: and also a soldier of Cavalry of the State line of Virginia on Continental establishment for the war: Respectfully sheweth:

That your Memorialist were too young to have any personal knowledge of the services of their late Father, the said Nathaniel Crenshaw, in the Revolutionary war, and depend entirely on the evidence of Bartlett Cox, a respectable man and credible witness, who was with him nearly the whole time, for a history of his services.

That sometime in the year 1777, the said Nathaniel Crenshaw in the county of Lunenburg, enlisted under Capt. Samuel Hopkins as a soldier for three years on Continental establishment, which term of three years he served faithfully, and was honorably discharged. He was made Sergeant in Capt. Hopkins company. That after his term of three years expired, he enlisted as a soldier of Cavalry under Col. Washington, to serve for and during the war, and at the battle of Guilford received a severe wound near the eye, which like to have occasioned him the lost of his eyesight. He served faithfully as a soldier of Cavalry [part lost at the bottom of the page] to the accompanying Certificate of Bartlett Cox [the same certificate as in the federal file transcribed above] & the Rolls of the Continental line filed in the Auditors office. That the said Nathaniel Crenshaw has departed this life, without drawing Land Bounty, and that your Memorialist are the only heirs and legal representatives.

Your Memorialist, therefore pray, that your Excellency will grant them the quantity of land allowed a soldier and Sergeant of the Infantry for three years service in the continental line: also, the quantity of Land allowed a soldier of Cavalry for enlistment and service "for and during the war"; in pursuance of the laws of Virginia in such case made and provided. And as in duty bound, shall ever pray &c &c  
[signed] Henry P. Crenshaw      Daniel Crenshaw      Mary Shelburn

This soldier may have been a sergeant during his service. He appears tho to have settled his account as a private & can only be allowed bounty land as such He is allowed bounty land for a service in the continental line during the war D Campbell [Gov. David Campbell]/ 6 April 1838

NOTE: A note on the pension certificate reads, "She died Sept. 2 1841"