

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Joel Lewis W780                      Miriam Crabb    NC  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 14 June 2015.

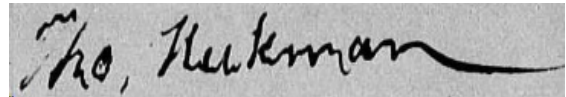
State of Tennessee    }  
Lauderdale County    }    On this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 1843 personally appeared before J. M. Alexander an acting Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid Miriam Crabb, a resident of Fulton in the County of Lauderdale, state of Tennessee aged seventy four years, 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 4<sup>th</sup> 1836 and the act explanatory of said act, passed March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1837: That she was married to Col. Joel Lewis in Surry County North Carolina, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March 1785, who at an early period of the Revolutionary war, left College in Virginia and entered the service of his country as a volunteer, that not long afterwards, his father having removed to the state of North Carolina, he obtained a commission in one of the Regiments of North Carolina Continental troops, and continued in the service in various grades untill the close of the war, actively employed, was taken prisoner at Gates's defeat near Camden [defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates, Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780], made his escape with great address and courage, was in the principal engagements in the south, commanded a Company at the battle of King's Mountain [7 Oct 1780], where he received three wounds, was immediately promoted at the close of the war, but in what regiment she does not now recollect, his commission having been destroyed as she believes by the burning of her house in Franklin County Tennessee. That in 1792 she removed to the vicinity of Nashville Tennessee, with her husband Colonel Lewis, where they continued to reside untill his death in November 1816. She further declares that she was married in March 1818 at Maryfield, her residence in the vicinity of Nashville, to Col Ralph Crabb, with whom in Dec'r 1820 she removed to Winchester in Franklin County Tennessee, where she continued to reside untill the death of Col Crabb on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of January 1836, since which time she has continued in widowhood, generally residing with her children in Alabama and Tennessee. She further states that she has never received or applied for any pension

Miriam Crabb

State of Tennessee  
Davidson County

This day personally appeared before Wilkins Tannehill, an acting Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid Thomas Hickman [pension application S4371], aged Eighty years, and being duly sworn, makes oath as follows, that he was born in Albemarle County Virginia in the year 1762; that his father continued to reside there untill the year 1772 and in that or the succeeding year removed to the southern part of the State of Virginia, and shortly afterwards to the State of North Carolina, Surry County, where he continued to reside during the whole of the revolutionary war, that in the year 1785 he the said Thomas Hickman, removed to Nashville, in Davidson County, now Middle Tennessee, that in the year 1788 he was elected Sheriff of Davidson County, in which capacity he served two years, and has continued to reside in the same County ever since; that he served in the Revolutionary war and now receives a pension from the Gen'l government. He further states that he was acquainted in Albemarle Co Virginia with William Terrill Lewis, Senior, the father of William Terrill Lewis Jr, Micajah Green Lewis, Joel Lewis, and James Martin Lewis and his family, all of whom were good and true whigs in the war of Independence, in which they served. About the year 1776 or 1777 William T. Lewis Sen'r removed to Surry County North Carolina, bringing with him his sons William T. Lewis and Joel Lewis, for each of whom in a short time afterwards, he obtained a commission of Ensign in one of the North Carolina regiments, his older son, Micajah G Lewis, at the same time holding a Lieutenants commission in the Fourth Regiment of the North Carolina Continental troops; that from the time of their entering the service they were active, enterprising officers and were promoted to higher grades during the war. that they were engaged in several of the battles in the South; that Micajah G. Lewis was killed in a night

skirmish with the enemy [at Dickey's Farm in NC, 26 Feb 1781] a few days before the battle of Guilford Court House; that Joel Lewis was taken prisoner by the Tories, on the retreat from Camden on the evening of the day of Gates's defeat, and afterwards made his escape; this deponent having a particular knowledge of these occurrences from having been attached to the same army at the same time. He further states that he was in the battle of the Alamance [Clapp's Mill near Alamance Creek, 2 Mar 1781] and he also believes in that of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] with Joel Lewis, who was among what were at that time called the deranged officers, being supernumeraries of the regiments, that went on to the State of Virginia; that Joel Lewis was continually employed as an active partisan officer, being among the foremost at all times to engage in any enterprise that might be on foot against the common enemy. That he was well known as a good officer, and at the close of the war was the commanding Colonel of what was called the North Carolina State regiment. This deponent further states that Colonel Joel Lewis was married to his wife Miriam in the year 1784 or 1785, that he saw them living together as man and wife in Surry County North Carolina previously to his removing to Tennessee; that in the year 1790 or 1791 Col Joel Lewis removed with his family to the vicinity of Nashville Davidson County, Tennessee, where they reared a numerous family and lived together until the death of Colonel Lewis, which according to his recollection was in the year 1816. He further states that he was intimately acquainted with Col Lewis and his wife Miriam, that after the death of Col. Lewis she married Col Ralph Crabb, who is since dead, but at what period he died this deponent is unable to say. Sworn to before me this 29<sup>th</sup> Apl 1843

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm. Hill", written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

State of North Carolina Office of Secretary of State

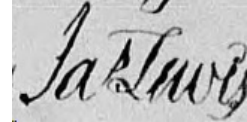
I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Joel Lewis a Lieut. in Capt. Gordon's company of the 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment, was commissioned on the [blank] day of [blank] 1779. I further certify, that it appears he drew a warrant for his services as a Lieutenant for four years; warrant No. 56, dated 21<sup>st</sup> Octo'r. 1783. Given under my hand this 6<sup>th</sup> May 1843/ Wm. Hill  
[See endnote]

[Punctuation and capitalization partly corrected in the following.]

Franklin County State of Tennessee June 16<sup>th</sup> 1843

The affidavit of James Lewis [pension application W303] aged Eighty seven years states that he and Joel Lewis was born & Raised in the same Neighbourhood (to Wit) in the County of Albemarle and State of Virginia. in the year 1776 I went in the Army & some time afterwards Joel Lewis removed to North Carolina and joined the North Carolina Troops and was promoted to the Rank of a Lieutenant, how long he served in that capacity I am not able to say. the first time I saw him afterwards was between the Battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] and Germantown [4 Oct 1777] we were both in those battles he Joel Lewis was under Brigadier Genl. [Francis] Nash who unfortunately got killed in the Battle of Germantown and had marched from North Carolina to reinforce Genl. Washington. The Regt I belonged to (to wit) the 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regt was all killed or taken prisoners I was exchanged in the month of June following some times afterwards the time not exactly recollected I saw Colo Joel Lewis in the State of North [sic] we had several conversations he informed me he had been promoted to the Rank of Colo which Regt was raised for two years which time Colo Lewis served faithfully and honourably. the Next time I saw Colo Lewis he had got Married to a Miss Miriam Esom [sic:Eastham] from that time forward I was frequently at his house about this time he and several of my connections removed from North Carolina and settled in the neighbourhood of Nashville at which place he Colo. Joel Lewis his Wife & family resided until the time of his death which event took place sometime perhaps in the year 1817 that Miriam Lewis the widow of Colo Joel Lewis intermarried with Colo Ralph Crabb perhaps in March 1818

that Colo Ralph Crabb died on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Jany 1836 that Miriam Crabb the widow of Colo Ralph Crabb is still living and resides with Doctor Wm M Lea in the County of Lauderdale Fulton Post Office and further deponent saith not In witness whereof this affiant hath hereunto set his hand the day & year above written This affiant saith that he is sure that this affidavit is substanschally correct but from the length of time & an imperfect memory the time & place may not be exactly correct.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. D. Lewis".

NOTES:

J. D. Lewis has compiled the following information about two different officers named Joel Lewis: [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc\\_patriot\\_military\\_colonels.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_colonels.html)

“Was a Captain in Militia. 1781-1782, Major in NC State Regiment. 5/5/1783, NC General Assembly back dated a promotion to Colonel and Commandant of the NC State Regiment as of Benjamin Williams's resignation on 11/5/1781. NC State Regiment was disbanded on 1/10/1783.”

“Was an Ensign. 1779, a Lieutenant under Capt. Robert Raiford. 1779, also a Lieutenant under Capt. William Goodman in the NC Light Dragoons (NC State Troops). 1780, a Captain, a Major in NC Militia, and a Colonel of NC State Troops. From Surry County.”

The file also includes a copy of a bond signed in Surry County NC on 24 Mar 1786 by Joel Lewis and Silvanus Piper for the marriage of Lewis to Miriam Eastham.