To the Honourable the General Assembly

The petition of Wm Crayton [William Crayton] Humbly sheweth,

The [That] he faithfully served the United States as a Soldier Three years & six Months & fortunately escaped until the merciless Massacre of Col. Buford's Regiment wherein he received seven wounds: one of which cut [?] the leaders [?] of his left Arm, by which he is rendered incapable by hard labour of getting a living for himself, his Wife, & four small Children.

Therefore he humbly prays this Honourable House to take his case into consideration & grant him such relief as they in their Wisdom may think just & your Petitioner as in duty Bound shall Pray &c.
To the Hon. the Speakers & the other Members of both houses of the General Assembly –

The petition of William Craten [sic] Humbly Sheweth – That your Petitioner was one of the [word too faint to discern] Sufferers in Col. Buford's defeat & in recognition of the many wounds your Petitioner received in that [indecipherably faint word] massacre your Hon. house made him a small compensation in paper money for his present use & your petitioner then flattered himself he should recover from his said wounds. But to his great mortification he is constrained to
inform your Honors that from a wound received in his left arm the main leader [?] above his elbow was cut, & his arm thereby rendered of little use to him, that your Petitioner has a wife & three young children who rely wholly on his labor for support. Therefore your Petitioner humbly Prays your Honors to Grant him such relief as may compensate for the injury done his arm & your Petitioner as in duty bound will Pray &c

[reverse]

Craton's petition
November 22nd, 1782
Referred to Trade
November 28th 1782
rejected

[From bounty land records in the Library of Virginia]

I do Certify that William Craton enlisted as a Soldier for the War in December 1778 in the Virginia Continental line. May 20th 1783
[illegible signature] Lt. 4th V. R.
S/ P. Muhlenberg BG
[indecipherable word or words]
S/ Thomas Meriwether

[Note: I suspect the above is a copy of the original certificate as the handwriting appears to be uniform and that is clearly not the original signature of Gen. Peter Muhlenberg.]