

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

**Pension Application of John Cunningham
R2425**

Ann Craig, former widow

Transcribed and Annotated by R. Neil Vance

[Original spelling and punctuation retained]

June 6, 2010

Source: Footnote.com f29SC

Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of [the] third section of the act of Congress of the 4th of July 1836 And an act to amend the Acts of July the 4th eighteen hundred and thirty six and eighteen hundred and thirty eight allowing pensions to certain Widows

State of Tennessee

Carroll County

On this 23rd day of January, eighteen hundred and forty three personally appeared before me, Samuel Killough justice of the peace in and for said county of Carroll and state of Tennessee Ann Craig of the State of Tennessee and the County of Carroll aged aged [sic] eighty years on the 30th day of June next 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 of the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836 and an Act to amend the Acts of July 4th 1836 and 1838, approved August the 23rd, 1842. That she was the widow of John Cunningham, who was a Captain in the revolutionary war in the militia of the state of South Carolina. He entered the service in the early part of the war for she believes he was a militia Captain prior to time of the War being carried into the State of South Carolina¹ and left the service in September in seventeen hundred and eighty two she believes that John Cunningham served in the Revolutionary War three years or more and under Col. Bratton [William Bratton] mostly and part of his time Col. Love [Andrew Love] and Col. Watson [Samuel Watson] and was in the battle at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] the reason why she so well recollects that Battle she was residing and living in hearing and did hear the sound of the drums and fire arms and her father and two of her brothers were in the same battle in Capt. Barber's [John Barber] company². She then resided in the state of North Carolina in Lincoln County joining the State of South Carolina and York District in which District of York John Cunningham then resided because she was at that time personally acquainted with him and had visited his fathers house in York District in the aforesaid State of South Carolina he being a family connection and particular acquain[t]ances she believes that he was in two battles in the summer of seventeen hundred and eighty two in the lower part of South Carolina it being the destined place but the precise places she does not now recollect. But recollects that the two battles or skirmishes took place after she was married to the aforesaid John Cunningham who was a captain in the militia of the aforesaid State of South Carolina.

The reason why she so well remembers that the service terminated in September 1782 is, That she then was his wife and that she had a dangerous spell of sickness and that her husband John Cunningham was sent for by his father and that before she recovered it was some time.

That she further declares that she was married to John Cunningham who was a captain on the 28th day of February seventeen hundred and eighty two and that her husband John Cunningham, captain in the Revolutionary War and that he died on the 6th day of March seventeen hundred and eighty three. And she was afterwards married to William Patterson who died the 17th day of August 1794 and that she afterwards was married to James Holmes who died in December 1807 and that she afterwards married to James Craig on the 17th day of November 1814 who died on the 7th day of September 1828. And all the foregoing named husbands were in the battle of Kings Mountain in the State of South Carolina and District of York And that she has remained a widow ever since the 7th day of September eighteen hundred and twenty eight as will more fully appear by the proof hereunto Annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written

Witnesses

Samuel Killough J.P.

John Holmes

John Woods

Ann Craig

(her mark)

State of Tennessee

Williamson County

Personally appeared Thomas Alexander before me Reuben White one of the acting justices of the peace in and for Williamson County and state of Tennessee who first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath say that he is personally acquainted with Ann Craig the subscriber to the foregoing declaration That she was married to John Cunningham who was a captain in the revolutionary war the day of the month or the month he cannot recollect but the reason he recollects Ann Craig now once Ann Cunningham is that the said Ann Craig is his sister. And the reason why he recollects that the marriage took place before the revolutionary [war] ended is that his sister then Ann Cunningham now Ann Craig was taken dangerously sick that her husband John Cunningham was sent for he was then in the Army of the United States that some time the ensuing spring he died and that his father moved his sister then Ann Cunningham who then resided in York District South Carolina into Lincoln County in the state of North Carolina the distance of about twenty miles. That the reason Why he recollects that John Cunningham was a Captain that he went to school in one half mile of his house in York District in John Cunninghams

lifetime. That he has no record of his own age but was not old enough to be compelled to bear Arms himself that his father and two of his brothers was in the Army of the United States and he stayed at home that he always understood that Captain John Cunningham served a great deal in the Army that he now believes from every circumstance and hearsay from persons that was with him that he served as much as three years or more that he always heard it asserted that John Cunningham was a Captain and as brave a man as ever burned Powder that his own age is about seventy four years or seventy five years of age. Sworn to and subscribed on this 10th day of August 1843

Reuben White
Justice of the Peace for Williamson County

Thomas Alexander

[The file continues a second declaration by Ann Craig dated July 7, 1845 but it is very similar to her above declaration]

¹ [George Cunningham W2071](#) had a brother John Cunningham who is probably this soldier. According to George Cunningham, John Cunningham served as Lieutenant under Robert Thompson, was at Briar Creek, and replaced Thompson as captain after Hanging Rock. Again, according to George Cunningham, John Cunningham commanded a company under Col. Williams at Kings Mountain.

² [James Alexander W12190](#) was in the Lincoln County NC militia and says that he was at Kings Mountain. He may be one of Ann Craig's brothers. James Alexander says he was in Capt. John Barber's company in the summer of 1780 but says that at Kings Mountain his company was commanded by Isaac White.