

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Crossland S18784

fn79SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/9/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

(Copy)

To the Honorable the President and others the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina

The petition of John Crossland humbly sheweth that your petitioner was a soldier in an Independent Company raised and commanded by Captain John Bowie at the commencement of the Revolutionary War for the defense of the Western frontier of this State: That the said Company was ordered to Savannah at the time the unsuccessful attempt was made by the American Army to wrest that place from the power of the enemy who was then in possession of it. That your petitioner was placed on this party of Forlorn Hope who attempted to scale the walls of the fortification and received a wound in his leg in consequence of which he was taken prisoner and confined for five months on board of a British Prison Ship from which he then effected his escape and was afterwards ordered on an expedition to Briar Creek Georgia in Captain William Kirkland's Company of militia went in an engagement with a party of Tories he received a second wound in the left side for which last mentioned service he has never received any compensation. Your petitioner is now sixty years old and begins sensibly to feel the effect of old age accompanied by the effects of the two wounds he received in his youth and is in indigent Circumstances – has five children (two of which are cripples) and a wife to support from the produce of his labor. Your petitioner therefore prays your Honorable Body that you may take his case into consideration & place his name on the pension list of the State will grant him such other relief as the Bounty of the State may have provided for those who risked their lives & lost their blood in establishing the happy Government under which we now live for such as you in your wisdom may think meet & proper and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

S/ John Crossland, X his mark

Personally appeared before me John Crossland and made oath to the truth of the facts set forth in the above petition.

Signed John X Crossland

Sworn to before made this 27th day of November 1819

S/ S. J. Alston, JU

South Carolina Abbeville District: I do hereby certify that John Crossland enlisted in my Company as a private soldier in the service of the State during the late Revolutionary War. That he was a brave & good soldier and it is my opinion is entitled to the notice of his fellow citizens. That at the siege of Savannah he was in my company & when the storm was attempted he was by some means or other taken prisoner & received his pay from me up to the 31st day of July 1779 which I believe is all he has received.

S/ John Bowie

South Carolina Fairfield District: SS: On this day of November 1850 before me J S Stewart Judge of the Court of Ordinary for the District and State aforesaid Personally appeared John Crossland a resident of said District aged 60 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832.

That this declarant in behalf of himself and the surviving children of John & Sarah Crossland late of Fairfield District both now deceased states that his Father the said John Crossland was a Soldier in the Army of the Revolution as the heirs have always understood and still believe and as such he served the United States against the Common Enemy, from shortly after the commencement of hostility until the close of the war, and was allowed a pension by the State of South Carolina from the year 1826, at the rate of \$60 per annum which was afterwards allowed to his Mother Sarah Crossland.

Declarant further says his father the said John Crossland, Enlisted in the service of his country, shortly after the breaking out of the war in Captain John Bowie's Company of South Carolina Line and was constantly in service until the storming of Savannah in which attempt he was wounded in the Leg and taken prisoner by the British and confined on board a prison ship for 5 or 6 months from which he made his escape and returned to the service of his country and continued to serve as above stated until the close of the war and was in the battles of Savannah, Charleston, Eutaw [Eutaw Springs], Kings Mountain, Cowpens and many others not now recollected, but to give all the particulars of his said father's service declarant cannot, but always understood that a great part of his services in the revolution he was never remunerated for, as he could neither read nor write.

Declarant has no record of his father's service, and does not know of any person now living, by whom his Father's services could be proved. And further says that his father the above named John Crossland died at his late residence in Fairfield District on the 13th day of September 1845 leaving his wife Sarah Crossland a widow and three children issue of their said marriage and that his widow Sarah Crossland departed this life, in said district, the 31st day of December 1848, and that his brother James has not been heard from for the last 15 years, and that his sister Amelia Crossland now Amelia Hinnant and himself, the declarant on now the only surviving children and both of lawful age.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written, in Open Court.

S/ J. S. Stewart, O. F. D.

S/ John Crossland

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Crossland". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[fn p. 57: Letter dated May 10th 1851 from the South Carolina Comptroller General stating that he had searched the records and found no record of the service of a John Crossland in the war of the revolution as a militia man.]

[other documents in the file indicate that the veteran and his wife had 5 children, to wit: William, Polly, Milly, James and John.]