

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Asher Crocket alias James Anderson: W2533: transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Cabell County Virginia S.S.

I James Anderson alais Asher Crocket do solemnly declare that I was a private soldier in the Revolutionary War, that I was enlisted in Hampshire County Virginia in the year 1778 by Col. Hite (sic: possibly Maj. Isaac Hite, aide-de-camp of Gen. Peter Muhlenberg) for three years & served faithfully under various officers & in divers expeditions, none of the officers now recollected, but Capt. Mayo of United States infantry before the close of the three years. I was re-enlisted for during the War by a Lieutenant ~~Halt~~ in North Carolina (his name was Hogan) served under Capt. Kirkpatrick of Muhlenburgh brigade (sic: Muhlenberg's Brigade) & was honorably discharged at Winchester Virginia in 1783, received my back pay by the hand of Captain Kirkpatrick at Winchester Virginia. And my discharge which duly testified all this under the hand & seal of said Kirkpatrick was unfortunately burnt with my house & all my personal goods in 1815 in Giles County Virginia. And after the Revolution, I went out under General Clark (sic: Gen. George Rogers Clark) as a Volunteer after the Indians in Kentucky & other places as a volunteer for 5 or 6 years, where I had the honor of being acquainted with his excellency Andrew Jackson, who no doubt recollects something of me. And I further most solemnly declare that I never did receive from the United States any compensation in lands for all or any of those services, further that to the further Particular in things I cannot on account of the decay of my memory & my commanders & compatriots in arms either dead or entirely out of my reach I therefore refer my compensations to the records & Generosity of my Country. James Anderson alais Asher Crocket

Cabell county to wit: This day James Anderson alais Asher Crocket, personally appeared before me Abia Rece, a justice of the peace in & for Cabell County & solemnly swore that the foregoing affidavit contains the truth & nothing but the truth. Given under my hand & seal this 26th November 1832. Abia Rece

State of Virginia

Wayne County to Wit

On this fifth day of July 1853 personally appeared before William Radcliffe, John B. Brown and John Frasher Esqs. members of the county court of Wayne County in open court sitting Sarah Crocket a resident of the said county of Wayne aged 8(?)9 years, who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of congress passed on the 3rd day of February 1853: that she is the widow of Asher Crockett, a revolutionary soldier who drew a pension of eighty dollars annually, a resident of the county of Wayne and State of Virginia and whose pension was paid at Richmond Virginia.

She further declares that she was married to the said Asher Crocket on the 11th day of September 1800; that her husband the aforesaid Asher Crocket died on the 16th day of January 1845, that she was married to him at the time above stated. She further swears that she was a widow at the time of the passage of the act and is still a widow and that she never before made application for a pension.

Sara Crockett

BOUNTY LAND CLAIM  
FORM OF DECLARATION

*To be made by the Widow of an Officer or Soldier of the Revolutionary War*

State of Virginia} SS

County of Wayne}

On this 19th day of April A. D., one thousand eight hundred and fifty five personally appeared before me, a Justice of the peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, Sarah Crocket, aged Eighty three years, a resident of Wayne County in the State of Virginia, who

being duly sworn according to law, declares, that she is the widow of Asher Crocket, alias James Anderson deceased, who was a Revolutionary Soldier, and who drew a pension of Eighty dollars per annum for the term of 10 or 12 years and Resided at the time of drawing sd pension in Cabell County State of Virginia, which pension was payable in Richmond Virginia, that she draws a pension under act 3rd Feb 1853

She further states that she was married to the said Asher Crocket alias James Anderson in Giles County Virginia on the 11th day of September A. D. 1800 by one David Ross a Methodist Preacher and that her name before her said marriage was Sarah Blankinship, that her said husband died at Millers fork, Wayne Co on the 16th day of January A. D. 1845 and that she is now a widow at the date of executing this her declaration.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the Bounty Land to which she may be entitled under the act approved March 3, 1855.

Sarah herXmark Crocket

NOTES:

A document in the file states, "Served under the alias of James Anderson to avoid service as an apprentice."

The document also lists "Hanging Rock- Camden Cowpens Guilford Yorktown," but nothing in the file supports Crocket/Anderson having been at those battles except possibly the siege at Yorktown, where Muhlenberg's Brigade was present.

Crocket/Anderson is often said to have been an African-American (see for example the brochure "Patriot Minorities at the Battle of Cowpens" <http://www.nps.gov/archive/cowp/minority.htm>), but nothing in the pension applications support that. The 1830 Cabell County VA federal census lists him as a "Free White Person" 70-80, and the 1840 Cabell County VA census lists him as a "Free White Person" and Revolutionary War veteran age 81.