

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Crossland S18784

f79SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/9/11: rev'd 2/26/20

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

(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

[p 7]

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.

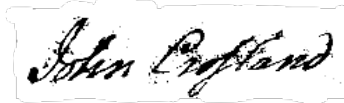
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written, in Open Court.

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 and is positioned below the typed name "S/ John Crossland".

[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



3 December 1792

[p 5]

I do Certify John Crosland [sic] a tour of duty at the 4 holes under Captain William Kirkland after his return Home

S/ John Cook

A True Copy taken from the original

[p 7]

The committee to whom the petition of John Crosland was referred

Report

That it appears to your Committee by the Petition of the said John Crosland that he served under the Enemies of his Country during part of the last War; your Committee are therefore of opinion that by so doing he forfeited his pay & that nothing ought to be allowed him.

[p 18]

South Carolina Richland District}

John Crossland came Before me and Made oath he was in the Service of this State During the Revolutionary War the length of time stated in his petition now before the Legislature and that he has never Received Compensation for his Services Although he has at Different times petitioned the Legislature therefore about twenty-four years and for want of the necessary Vouchers could never succeed that he at last Session and not until then procured the Certificate of Major Bowie

Sworn to the 15th day of December 1815

S/ John Crossland, X his mark

[p 20—the original of the petition transcribed above from page 4 of the federal pension application]

[p 9]

The Comitty to whom was Referred the Petition of John Croslen [sic] Report

That they have Maturely Considered the Prayer thereof and from information received from Captain John Bowie it appears to your Committee that said buoy made return for said Croslen within the time allowed by Law from the one Day of March 1779 to the 9th Day of October in the same year and as it appears that no and that have been Drawn for said Service your Committee are of opinion that the Treasurers be Directed to issue an indent for said Croslen for that time.

[p 11]

To the Honorable the Speaker & Members of the House of Representatives

The Humble Petition of John Crossland Sheweth

That your petitioner entered the service of his Country as a private in Captain John Bowie's company of State troops in the year 1789 [sic]. That his enlistment was in March of said year, and that he performed service therein until October, at which time he was transferred to the Command of Colonel Laurens and in the Storm of Savannah was wounded and taken prisoner.

Your petitioner remained in the possession of the enemy until March following, and suffered during his imprisonment on Board of a prison Ship many and great hardships.

That your petitioner is above sixty years of age has a family to maintain, among which is a son crippled from his infancy and unable to support himself; is in very reduced and humble Circumstances and actually needs the Charity of his Country. Your petitioner therefore prays that his case may be taken into the Consideration of your Honorable body and that he may be placed on the pension list.

S/ John Crossland, X his mark

Wit

S/ P. E. Pearson

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

Sworn to before me this 27th day of November 1819

S/ [indecipherable signature] QU

S/John Crossland, X his mark

[p 14 (copy) p 25 (image of the original)]

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 and 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 and when the Storm was attempted he was by some means or other taken prisoner. He received his pay from me up to the thirty first day of July 1779 which I believe is all he has received

S/ John Bowie



[pp 31-38: vouchers showing payment of an annuity of \$60 per annum to John Crossland from January 11, 1820 to 23rd February 1843: on p 35 there is a petition dated November 25, 1830 praying that his pension be increased but it was denied.]

[p 40]

The State of South Carolina Fairfield District }

The Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina

The petition of the undersigned Sarah Crossland [undeciphered word or words] Sheweth that she is the Widow of John Crossland deceased late a pensioner of the State of South Carolina for military services rendered in the War of the Revolution. That said John Crossland died in Fairfield District on the 13th day of September 1845. That deponent and said John Crossland were lawfully married on the __ day of __ during the Revolutionary War. That deponent is very poor and in very indigent Circumstances. That all her property would not sell for twenty dollars, and has not increased since her late husband John Crossland was placed on the pension list of this State. That petitioner is now seventy seven years of age, and is now week and [word too faint to discern]. Your petitioner prays that she may be made a pension as the Widow of said John Crossland and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray [undeciphered word]

S/ Sarah Crossland, X her mark

South Carolina Fairfield District} before me Personally appeared Sarah Crossland and made Oath that the facts stated in the above petition are true and correctly stated.

Sworn to & Subscribed before

me the 13 day of

October 1845

S/ Josiah Hinnant, Magt. F. D.

S/ Sarah Crossland, X her mark

[p 42]

South Carolina Fairfield District} Personally came before me Sarah Crossland the widow of the late John Crossland a pensioner and makes oath that she and her husband John Crossland were married sometime during the Revolutionary War. That the date or record of their marriage cannot be found but she knows that her late husband John Crossland served some considerable time as a soldier after their marriage.

Sworn to before me December 2nd 1846

S/ Josiah Hinnant

S/ Sarah Crossland, X her mark

South Carolina Fairfield District} Personally appeared before me a broom cross land (son of John Crossland late a pensioner and Sarah Crossland his wife) and makes oath that he has heard his father John Crossland frequently say that after his marriage with Sarah Crossland that he took up arms in defense of Country & served a considerable time in the war of the Revolution

Sworn to before me December 2nd 1846

S/ Josiah Hinnant, Magt.

[p 44: The committee to whom the petition was referred recommended that the petition be granted and that the widow be placed on the Pension Roll at the rate of \$30 per annum beginning the 1st day of March 1846. The file does not contain any vouchers indicating that the pension was actually ever paid to the widow.]