Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Crittenden S9268 VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia

County of Orange

On this 29th day of April [1834] personally appeared before the Judge of the Superior Court of Law & Chancery for the County of Orange, in open court in the County & State aforesaid, William Crittenden a resident of the said County of Orange aged Seventy five years the 4th September next, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832; that he entered the army of the United States as a Waggoner master on the first day of April 1780 duly appointed & commissioned as such, that he was attached to the Regiment of Continental troops stationed at Albemarle Barracks [see endnote] & was employed chiefly under the Command of Colo James Wood, Colo Francis Taylor, Colo [Theodorick] Bland, Colo [Joseph] Crockett, Major John Roberts [pension application W2347], Major George Walls, George Rice deputy Quarter Master Gen'l. Thomas Standley Waggon Master General; That besides the service at the Albemarle Barracks he was engaged in various other quarters of Virginia at Winchester, Frederick Town Maryland, and afterwards he went to the Southern Army under General [Nathanael] Greene in the month of August or September 1782, at which time he left the Head quarters of the Southern army & returned through Camden [SC] to Virginia, after which he was not again in service, there being no command or duty for him to perform

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any state

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

[On 24 Jan 1842 William Crittenden successfully applied for an increase in his pension at a rate equivalent to that of a Lieutenant. The response to his claim lead to confusion with a soldier in the State Artillery with a similar name [William Crittington S8259] and the following statement.]

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I William Crittenden Sen'r of the County of Orange & State of Virginia do hereby Certify that I never was a Soldier of Artillery in the Army of the American Revolution that I never received any pay from the State of Virginia as such in October 1783 nor at any other time & that I never drew land from the State of Virginia for any such service or any other – but hold a claim against the State of Virginia for Land given under my hand this 2nd day of June 1842 [signed] Wm. Crittenden

[The following are from rejected claims in the Library of Virginia:]

Mr William Crittenden Sir You are by the authority and power invested in me appointed Waggon Master at the Post of Albemarle Barracks, in the service of the United States. You are to take proper care of every article and commodity delivered to your charge, and make just returns of the same to such persons as are by proper authority appointed to receive them. You are to exercise due and regular authority over the Waggoners under your command, and see that they keep their Horses, Geers, and waggons in good order, and fit for duty, that the United States as any individual, may receive no damage as prejudice by any conduct contrary to the meaning and intent of this your appointment. You are to pay a due and ready obedience to the Deputy Waggon Master General, and his assistants, to the Quarter Master General; acting as such at the Post of Albemarle Barracks, and all your superior officers in every

just and necessary command. And this shall be your sufficient warrant and authority for the execution of your duty, [illegible word] to the Waggon Master Generals Department.

Given under my hand this first day of April, one thousand seven hundred and eighty. Albemarle Barracks

Thos Standley D.W.M.G'l.

I John Roberts of the County of Rappahannock in the State of Virginia in the 82^d year of my age do hereby certify that I was an officer first a Captain & then a Major in the Regiment of Continental troops stationed at the Albemarle Barracks in the State of Virginia & I do well Remember that William Crittenden of Orange County was a Waggon Master in the Continental line as set forth in substance in his Declaration before the Superior Court of Orange County in April last – the said Roberts on his Oath says that the Regiment was organized in February 1779 & that the said William Crittenden shortly after that time, joined the Regiment with his Waggon & team & afterward was appointed Waggon master to the said Regiment - that I was well acquainted with him, & know that he acted as such untill the Convention Troops (in the aforesaid Regiment) was sent off from the Barracks to Convey the prisoners to Connecticut, which was in the Spring 1781 after this I saw the said Wm Crittenden in the state of South Carolina who said his Waggon was then loaded with Military Stores for Genl Greenes Army, this was about the month of August 1782 the said Roberts says he had given a former Certificate in substance, as the present [dated 19 May 1834; not transcribed] & that after the month of August 1782 he does not know how long the said Wm Crittenden served as Waggon Master aforesaid, but supposes it must have been some time thereafter given under my hand this 19 of November 1839 Jno. Roberts Maj'r. of late Reg't. Guards

To the Honorable Governors Council of the State of Virginia

William Crittenden of the County Orange & State of Virginia begs leave to state that, he was a Waggon Master in the Regiment of Continental Troops stationed at the Barracks in the State of Virginia – that he was in the Continental Line during the time of the Revolution for more than three years, & thinks he is entitled to Bounty Land for his services equal to the Rank of a Lieutenant he having received a pension for the United States equal to a Lieutenant, and prays your Hon'ble Board to grant him such Bounty Land as you in your Wisdom May think the law Entitles him to – & your petitioner will ever pray &c November 27 1839 [signed] William Crittenden

[From <u>Revolutionary bounty-warrant records in the Library of Virginia</u>. The online images are extremely poor.]

To His Excellency William Smith, Governor of Virginia

The humble petition or William Crittenden, only son of William Crittenden, Senior[?] who was an Officer in the Virginia line, and the Continental establishment, in the war of the revolution, represents, that his deceased father was duly Commissioned, according to Law as a Wagon Master, with the pay rank and emoluments of a Major, of the line, and that he continued in service in that capacity until the war was virtually at an end. His last services being in the year 1783 in the State of South Carolina, under Gen'l. N. Green, as shewn[?] by the deposition of Major John Robers filed with the Commissioner of Pensions at Washington.

That in consequence of the said appointment and service, as well as the acts of Congress allowing pensions to surviving Officers of the Revolution his said father was a pensioner of the United States, and that granting this pension [illegible word] was critically investigated at Washington by the proper authorities of the U. States, which question finally settled in favor of his said deceased father. Your petitioner further represents that by this decision he is entitled to all the emoluments of his rank in the staff, thus to the bounty in Land provided by the state of Virginia to officers appointed [two illegible words] as did his said father in the Virginia Line on Continental establishment. To this point your petitioner refers your Excellency to the file of precedents in the Executive department, and particularly to

the case of Judge Brookes, who was a Lieutenant of Artillery at first drew land only by his commission in the line. that having also acted as Quarter Master, of the same service, his claim to land bounty was reviewed a few years since, by [illegible word] of the [redecessors of your Excellency, and additional Land bounty was allowed, and paid him according to his staff appointment as Quarter Master. [If?] Judge Brooks, staff appointment gave him Land bounty; in a just construction of the law, the same Law and the like construction gives it in like manner to the father of your petitioner. He asks the same [illegible word] of right that was recognized in the payment of Brooke, and he asks no more. It cannot be supposed that the Law, that the Law intended to such inequality and injustice as to refuse one officer of the staff his dues, and allow them to others whose stafe, rank, service and emoluments, are identical. And in conclusion your petitioner asserts that his deceased father, gave him all his claims to this revolutionary bounty land, evidence of which will be filed herewith and is further shown by the deposition of Charles [illegible] Executor which accompanies the petition and the within acknowledgement of said Executor that the whole of this claim, by that gift is the property[?] of your petitioner. He begs in conclusion the grant of said land (justly his due) and he as in duty bound will ever pray.

William Crittenden/ [illegible word[decemb'r 4th [year illegible]

NOTES:

Albemarle Barracks was constructed 4 mi NNE of Charlottesville late in 1778 to house the Convention Army: Burgoyne's troops captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777. The Convention Army was at Albemarle Barracks from Jan 1779 until Feb 1781, when they were moved to Winchester Barracks. Maj. John Roberts delivered them at East Windsor CT in the fall of 1781.

On 7 Aug 1847 William Crittenden of Cloverdale in Culpeper County, stated that his father, the pensioner, had formerly lived in that county and afterward in Orange County for about 18 years before his death on 27 March 1847.