## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Crabtree W17689

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina }
Orange County }

At a Court of pleas and quarter sessions for the aforesaid County of Orange, held at the Court House in Hillsboro' [Hillsborough] in Orange aforesaid on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of May 1833 the same being May Term for 1833 - personally appeared in open Court, William Crabtree, a resident of the County of Orange aforesaid, now in 75 year of his age who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the Benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the Services of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

This Declarant says that he served a three months Tour in the militia in the year of 1779, said Tour commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> June of said year. Thomas Farmer was Captain, John Walls Lieut't. & Hugh Tinnin was Col., during all of which Term we were employed in guarding the Town of Hillsboro' – at the expiration thereof he was regularly discharged and received a certificate therefor, from Col. Tinnin & returned home.

2<sup>nd</sup> Tour. 3 mo. Commenced on the 15 or 16 day of June of the ensuing year to wit 1780, we were in this Tour as in the former under Captain Thomas Farmer, Walls Leut. [see note below] Stephen Moore was Col. of our regiment, and Major John Nalls was with. We rendezvoused in Hillsboro' - went to Pittsboro in Chatham, the Cross Roads in Randolph, Cross Creek [now Fayetteville] in Cumberland, Cheraw Hills in South Carolina. Somewhere on this route we fell in with Gen'l. [Richard] Caswell, but the place not distinctly recollected - and at a place called the Cross Roads, we fell in with Gen'l. [Horatio] Gates, which was but a few days before the defeat of the Southern Army under Gates near Camden - which defeat was as well as this applicant now remembers on the 15<sup>th</sup> [sic: 16<sup>th</sup>] day of August of the aforesaid year of 1780. after said defeat this Declarant came home in company with Captain William Cumming [pension application S8265] and after remaining a few days we again went into Service in guarding Hillsboro' in Orange County aforesaid, under our previous Captain and Lieutenant and there remained till the expiration of our Tour which was a three months one which terminated about the last of September 1780 and obtained a discharge from Captain Farmer, our Col. not being in Town when our Tour expired — and that this discharge together with the former are now both lost That he was born in the County of Baltimore in Maryland on the 25th of Dec'r. 1758 and

3<sup>rd</sup> That he was born in the County of Baltimore in Maryland on the 25<sup>th</sup> of Dec'r. 1758 and was removed to North Carolina when quite small

That he has a record of his age, at home.

That he was living in the aforesaid County of orange when called into Service, near the Town of Hillsboro' and has been living there ever since the war of the revolution.

That in both the above Tours he volunteered as a private.

That he was acquainted Col. Hugh Tinnin, Col. Taylor, Gen'l. John Butler, Col. Reid, Gen'l. Caswell, Col. [William] Smallwood, Col. Mebane (Robert)

That he is known in his neighbourhood to Thomas Clancy esq'r. & Dr. James S Smith & others — but knows of no clergyman that is acquainted with his services - or the tradition of it in my neighborhood

His first term of three months he cannot prove by any person living.

His second he proves by Captain William Cumming, who served with him during all s'd. Tour.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not upon the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid William hisXmark Crabtree

## NOTES:

The widow of John Walls (pension application W18291) deposed that he was actually the

Captain of his own company from Orange County during the Battle of Camden. William Cumming (pension application \$8265), however, also stated that Walls was Lieutenant in Farmer's company.

On 2 Jun 1838 Mary Crabtree applied for a pension stating that she was born in Maryland on 30 Mar 1759 as Mary Spearman, came to North Carolina at about age seven, was married to William Crabtree in Hillsborough by Rev. "McKleJohn" early in Oct 1775., and that her husband died 10 Dec 1836. With her application she submitted a copy of part of a family record of the births of their first four children. The original is largely illegible but is transcribed as follows in her application:

Margaret Crabtree was born in the year of our Lord July 20<sup>th</sup> 1776. Elizabeth Crabtree was born in the year of our Lord February 25<sup>th</sup> 1779. Laurancy Crabtree was born in the year of our Lord, March 11<sup>th</sup> 1782. Haynes Crabtree was born in the year of our Lord, August 15<sup>th</sup> 1784.