Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Hamon (Haman) Critz W6755 Nancy Critz VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of North Carolina County of Stokes

On this 6th Jan'ry 1841 before me Floyd Webb a Justice of the peace of the Court of pleas and quarter sessions in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared Nancy Critz a resident of the County of Patrick in Virginia near the County line of Stokes aforesaid aged seventy five years, who being first duely 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 July 7th 1838 entitled, an Act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows, that she is the widow of Hamon Critz deceased who was a Captain of the Virginia Militia and commanded a company or companies in the service of the United States from the County of Henry Virginia, five years at different periods in time of the Revolutionary War as he informed this applicant, One of three months Tour to the South in N. Carolina, one Tour after Tories into Tory Setlements towards the mountains, one Tour guarding prisoners that were taken and sent to Albemarle in Virginia, one Tour he voluntarily raised a company of his own accord when he heard of the Murder of a Certain Letcher [William Letcher, 2 Aug 1780] by the Tories and went in pursuit of them without a call from the Col'n of the County of Henry, and the last was a Tour of three months which last service ended and he was discharged with his company in a short distance of Little York at the time when Cornwallis surrendered to Gen'l Washington [19 Oct 1781]. She thinks the whole of her Husbands sevices was at least fifteen months, for which services she claims a pension and begs leave to refer the pension department to the lists or, Rolls of the Virginia Militia for the more satisfactory proof of his services, as also to the evidence that will be annexed to this declaration of his services and her marriage to the said Hamon Critz as she has no documentary evidence to shew of either the services or marriage the papers discharges &c being all lost or destroyed. further she states that from bodily infirmities & old age she is unable to travel to Court without great injury to her health to the truth of which statements I am fully satisfyed

She further declares that she was married to the said Hamon Critz on the day of March seventeen Hundred and Eighty six, and that her Husband the aforesaid Hamon Critz died on the 5 day of August Eighteen Hundred & twenty Eight, that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January seventeen Hundred & ninety four at the time above stated, and she further declares that whilst she and her Husband remained to live in union together as man & wife she had the following named Children born of her body (towit)

Fredderick Critz born in the month of	Dec'r. 1786
Sally born in	Jan'y. 1788
William born in	July 1790
Hamon born in	March 1792
Jabe born in	Feb'y. 1794
Elizabeth born in	July 1795
Peter born in	June 9 th 1797
Nancy born in	August 1799
Polly born in	Nov 1802
& Achilus born in	Dec'r. 1804

The family records of the above having been lost or destroyed is set down from memory &c sworn to & subscribed the day and year first above mentioned before me F'd Webb JP Nancy herXmark Critz

At a Court held for Henry County at the Court house on Monday 20th day of January 1777

Haman Critz jr is appointed Captain of the upper part of Capt Hughes' [Archelaus Hughes's] comp'y, John France Lieut & Wm Webb [William Webb] Ensign, and James Shelton Captain of the lower part, Hugh Armstrong Lieut & George Taylor Ensign.

At a Court held for Henry County on the 17th day of February 1777

James Lyon, Hamon Critz jr, John Cunningham, James Shelton and Peter Saunders Esquires produced commissions as Captains of the Militia for the County of Henry under the Commonwealth, whereupon they took the oath prescribed.

[Copies certified 10 Feb 1841.]

State of N Carolina Stokes County

August 12th 1840

This day James Lyon Esq'r. personally appeared before me F'd Webb an acting Justice of the peace in & for said County, & after being duely sworn upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty god, deposeth and sayeth as follows,

And that he was personally acquainted with Col'n Hamon Critz in the time of the Revolutionary War, & that I have heard the said Critz & my Brother who were in the service together talking about the war, & that they started from my Fathers on a Tour to the South, & that I heard them both say that they were on Two other Towers, one after the Tories & the other not recollected,

& I further recollect he acted in the capasity of an officer & I believe as Capt. as they called him Capt Critz, an further states that the said Critz's character stood as fine as any man in the State of Virginia during his life

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date above written

[signed] Jas Lyon SC[?]

Patrick County Virginia

This day John Spencer Sen'r. [pension application W3884] a person of respectability for truth & veracity appeared before me Wm Critz a Justice of the peace in and for said County and he being duly Sworn according to law declares on his Oath that he marched as a private soldier under the command of Capt. Harmon Critz from Henry County Virginia, in time of the Revolutionary War to what was call'd Permunky [sic: Pamunkey] River passing by Petersburg and Richmond Virginia then on to Permonky river, where they joined head quarters and put under the command of Mag'r. Roberts, he says he served in this Tour three months under the command of said Capt. Hamon Critz and was discharged near little York about the time when Cornwallis Surrendered to Gen'l. Washington, he further states that Capt. Critz & himself served under many field officers that he cannot name at present but he knows he served three months under the Command of said Capt. H. Critz which ended at the time of the seige of little york aforesaid

The Affidavit of James Harris [W11223] an old Soldier first being sworn says Cpt Haman Critz named in the declaration of Mrs Nancy Critz served a 3 months tower of duty mostly in North Carrolina in the fall of 1780 [see endnote] he says he knows that he did for he the s'd Harriss was cook for Capt Haman Critz at the time of service he says that is all he knows of his own knowledge but he has strong reason to believe he served many other towers he says he was well acquainted with Colo Critz for 40 or 50 years before he died and heard him tell of his services at different times and further this deponant sayeth not

Iames hisXmark Harris

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of May 1841/ Wm Critz JP

The Afidvit of James Boaz [S6694] an old Revolutionary Souldier Sworn by me Wm Critz JP States he lived neighbour to Colo Haman Critz a Capt when in the Revolution for 25 or 30 years and they were verry intimat with each other and often times talking to each other about their toils and hardships in the war he say he thinks he served several Towers in the war with out a doubt he says he Capt Critz served 3 months Tower in winter and spring of 1781 for he saw him in the service at that time he saw him in March 1781 guarding a parcel of British prisners from South Carrolina to Va togeather with other Officers and Souldiers he say the tower povein by John Spenser a 3 months tower was performed in the Summer and early part of the fall of 1781 and was discharged about 3 weeks be th Surrender of Cornwallis if he is not mistaken in the year and says he thinks he is not James hisXmark Boaz Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10 of May 1841/ Wm Critz JP

Patrick County Va/ May 25th 1841.

This day James Lyon Esq'r. appeared before me Wm. Critz a Justice of the peace for the County & State aforesaid, & after being duely sworn upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, in addition to an affidavit heretofore given, in favour of Nancy Critz who has laid in a Petition for a pension for the services of her Husband Haman Critz, as Capt in time of the Revolution, Deposeth & sayeth, that he was well acquainted with Capt Haman Critz in the Revolution & that knows of his having served two Tours in the service of his Country of Three Months each, in the year of 1780 & 1781 and further states that he knows of his serving of three months Tour in the western part of Virginia after Tories in year of 1779 & further this deponent sayeth not

Sworn to & subscribed the date above written [signed] Jas Lyon

NOTES:

It is unlikely that James Harris was the cook for Critz in the fall of 1780. In his own pension application Harris stated that he was in the North Carolina Militia until late in 1780 and did not move to Henry County until 1781.

On 23 Sep 1840 "Mager William Carter" (pension application W3385) stated that he was present when Hamon Critz married Nancy Daulton (probably Nancy Dalton). On 7 Jan 1840 Peter Critz certified the family record in his mother's pension application. On 26 June 1844 Nancy Critz certified that she was still a widow, age 81. The file includes a letter from Frederick Critz dated 26 June 1844 to the Pension Commissioner requesting that correspondence regarding his mother, Nancy Critz, be addressed to him at Penns Store in Patrick County. On 3 May 1849 George C. Dodson of Mayoning VA wrote to the Pension Commissioner inquiring why Nancy Critz had not been able to draw her pension for one or two years. On 26 Sep 1849 Nancy Critz was said to be 86. On 28 April 1852 she granted power of attorney to pursue any claims for benefits for her husband's services. James H. Dalton and Elizabeth Tate witnessed this document. On 11 June 1853 she assigned power of attorney to Samuel M. Hughes of Stokes County and Dr. Elisha Smith of Rowan County NC.