Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Craig W8639 Transcribed and annotated by Sandra L. Sayers f36VA posted 3/10/12

State of Kentucky Rockcastle County

On the twenty-fourth day of December 1832, personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Rockcastle County Court being a court of record, William Craig, resident of the county and state aforesaid, aged 70 years 8th Dec. next, who being 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 7th 1832.

When he entered the U. S. Service in the Revolutionary War under Capt. James Dysart, in Washington Co. Va. and rendezvoused at what was then called the Townhouse about 10 miles above Abingdon Va and marched from there with Col. Campbell over the mountains through the Moravian town and into Gilford Co. North Carolina- there joined Col. Williams Regiment and in a few days he had an engagement with the British & tories at Haw Riverthe Americans lost but one man & it was said there were 17 of the enemy killed-- Sometime after this we returned home crossing Dan river at the mouth of Maho.; he was then discharged having been in actual service a little over three months as he believes but how much over he does not recollect. He does not recollect the date he entered the service. In the following winter he volunteered in the same Co. & State aforesaid under Capt. Thos. English as aforementioned guard and was stationed at Mockasin [sic. Moccasin] Gap and remained there three months or upward in actual service guarding and scouting on the frontier and was discharged. He was again called out the fall after to go after some Indians and followed them to the head of Sandy River down the same, but was not gone more than 10 or 15 days; this trip was under Robt. Campbell. He states he was in actual service over six months to the best of his recollection but being old & frail in memory he cannot recollect the precise period of service [a margin note reads "but it was just before the battle at Guilford C.H."] but feels confident that it was not less than 6 months and in addition thinks he was he kept & held in readiness for the service 12 months. He knows of no person by whom he can prove the services except what he can provide by John B. Dysart (whose father was his first Capt in the service) Andrew Colvin & Col. Chas. C. Carson who will also speak of his charrecter [sic, character] for veracity. In answer to interrogatory proposed by the Court he says –first he was born in the State of Pennsylvania Cumberland County. He has no record of his age only from mentions from his parents. He never received any discharge. He volunteered every tour and went for himself. He moved from Pennsylvania where he was born to Va. Fincastle Co. -lived there about 30 years moved from there to Blunt [sic, Blount]Co. Tenn lived there about 5 years & moved from there to Kentucky Rockcastle County where he now lives. He was well acquainted with Col. Campbell, Capt. Dusart [sic, Dysart] & Capt. Jas. Craig who belonged to the regular service. He hereby relinquishes all claims to pensions or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the role or the agency of any state whatever. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/William Craig

William brain

Richard Colyer (a clergy man) John B. Dysart Esq. Andrew Colvin & Col. Charles C. Carson came into court and stated upon oath that they lived in the neighborhood of the applicant and been acquainted with him for many years, and that they have no doubt his statements are true in that they believe him to be of the age he represents & that it is remembered and believed in the neighborhood that he was a revolutionary soldier and that they concur in that opinion and Andrew Colvin further stated that he knew of his own knowledge that the said applicant served one tour under Capt. Dysart just before the battle at Gilford C.H. and that he has no doubt he served on other tours as he states for he recollected to have heard of his service at the time and after. John B. Dysart further states that he had often heard his mother (who was the wife of applicant's first Capt) talk about said applicant's service in the old war.

And the said court do hereby declare their opinion that the said applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states.

Kentucky Rockcastle County S/J. James Terill Clerk of the Court

For the county of Rockcastle do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original procedings [sic, proceedings] of the said court in the matter of the application of William Craig for a pension.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal of office this 31th day of January 1833.

S/James Terill Clk.

William Craig was granted a pension of \$20 per annum, to commence 4 March, 1834.

William Craig died 25 March 1835. In 1852 Joseph Craig, son of William Craig, administrator of his mother Mary's estate, applied for widow benefits. The following application includes the names of William's children.

State of Kentucky County of Rockcastle

In the 9th day of June 1852 personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the Peace within and for the county and state above mentioned, Joseph Craig aged 38 years a resident of the county and state aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to law hath doth declare on oath and subscribes to the following declaration on behalf of the children and heirs of William Craig and Mary Craig decd in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of congress passed 7th July 1838 granting pensions to widows of persons who served in the war of the revolution against Great Britain or the benefit of the provision of such acts of congress as will apply to the following service case. Doth declare on oath that he is the administrator of the estate of Mary Craig decd the aforesaid. That the said William Craig decd was the husband of the aforesaid widow [sic, widow] and was a Revolutionary Pensioner That he is identical man whose name was placed upon the Kentucky Pension Agency while he was a resident of the County of

Rockcastle and state aforesaid about the year 1832 or 1833 at the rates of --- per annum during his natural life. not known under what act he was awarded his pension on account of services he recorded in the war of the revolution and continued to draw his pension up to his death. The said William Craig's pension certificates have long since been lost so it cannot be found. He further declares the said William Craig was married to his said widow [sic, widow] the year 1790 which took place in the county of Washington state of Virginia and that this the aforesaid widdow's [sic, widow's] name was Mary Carson before her said marriage, That her said husband the aforesaid William Craig decd died in the County of Rockcastle and state of Kentucky the 25th day of March 1835 leaving his wife Mary a widow[sic, widow] and some children who survives him and his said widow [sic, widow] and some of these children the aforesaid shortly after his death emigrated to Macon County state of Missouri and remained a widow [sic, widow] from the death of her said husband and remained ignorant of her rights to a pension up to her death never claimed one which happened in said county and state, MO, the 29th of December 1844 leaving the following and only children who survives the said William & Mary Craig deceased, viz-Mary Tinsley late Mary Craig. Elizabeth Guillis aged 60 years late Elizabeth Craig. Jane Elder late Jane Craig aged 43 years. Margaret Barnes late Margaret Craig aged 40 years. Joseph Craig aged 38 years.

Declare the aforesaid William and Mary Craig decd are the identacle [sic, identical] persons mentioned in the annexed marriage bond certificate and at their death left the only children the aforesaid, and their right to a pension will more fully appear by refference [sic, reference] to the declaration and proof on file of the said William Craig at the department of the United States at Washington County and the proof herewith is respectfully submitted.

S/Joseph Craig

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day and year above written. I do certify that Joseph Craig- whose genuine signature appears attached to the forgoing [sic, foregoing] declaration is personally known to me and that he is reputable and his oath is entitled to full faith and credit and that all measures -- & ---was made before the execution of this service and that I have the most reliable confidence his statements are true.

S/T. J. Smith, JP