

Pension Application for Philip Crans or Philipp Cranz

R.2452 (Widow: Elizabeth)

State of Pennsylvania

Bradford County SS.

On the 9th day of July 1839 personally appeared before the subscriber an Associate Judge of the said County of Bradford in the State of Pennsylvania aforesaid Elizabeth Crans aged eighty two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July the fourth 1836, and the explanatory of said act, passed March 3d 1837.

That she was married to Philip Crans who was a Sergeant in the Militia of Montgomery Township in Orange County in the State of New York that as such and among such troops, he performed various and almost continued services in the revolutionary war, that is when the British Army crossed New Brunswick and part of New Jersey, he was called under the command Captain Mathias Fetter to that place and kept three months at that place she thinks this service was performed near the close of the year 1776, and Commencement of the year 1777. Shortly after he was called with the Militia to Cowboys and held something like three months and from that place to Fort Montgomery where he was kept two month[s], under the same Captain he went from that place in the same year to Fort Clinton where he was kept some time she thinks two month[s].

After that in the years 1777 and in 1778 living on the frontier as was Orange County at that time, and Continually harassed by the Indians who were under the Cornplanter and by Colonel Butler and Brant, so that the Philip Crans spent the greatest part of his time during the year 1777 and 1778, he thinks at least her said husband spent in the services and defend of his country and more particularly to defend against Indians depredations and attacks nine month[s] in each year all these services as of times a Captains Command was called out was under the command of the same Capt and their Colonel Names were first Jacob Newkirk, but after his death Colonel [blank] Barber commanded the Militia, but it often happened that smaller parties that Captain Companies were called for on sudden emergencies were called for, in such cases as the orderly Sergeant it became his duty and he attended to it, to notify and called together a sufficient force to defend and generally headed them himself such as scouts & the like and was frequently in battles and skirmishes with depredating parties of Indians but after the later sixty one or two years the deponent cannot minutely recollect all the transactions which she knew took place, and after that length of time living witnesses cannot be obtained and being Militia transactions she supposes no publick records can be found. There are how ever herewith sent the deposition of James Miller which goes in some to prove his services also that of Chester Rout.

She further declares that she was married to the said Philip Crans on the 26 day of June 1776 by the Rev'd John Michael Kern, now or sometimes as will appear of record of the church of which he was pastor and also by their testimony. And that her

husband the said Philip Crans died April 20th 1812, aged 63 years & three years & 3 month as will appear by accompanying depositions and that she was a widow on the 4th July 1836, and still remains a widow as will more fully appear by reference to the proof sent annexed. (Signed with her mark) Elizabeth Crans

Sworn and subscribed on the day and year above written before me. Jonathan Stevens, Associate Judge.