

Ezra CRARY (1737 - 1828) P-140722
Captain, Connecticut Militia, New England Army

Patriot Ezra Crary was born on July 30, 1737 to Christopher Crary and Elizabeth Robbins. The Crary family is of Scottish origin. Ezra's great-grandfather Peter emigrated from Scotland to Connecticut before 1664. Ezra married Dorothy Randall, daughter of Nathan Randall and Eleanor Cottrell, on Christmas Eve, 1756. Their family would grow large and include Desire, Nathan, Elias, Nathaniel, Dolly, Betsy, Cynthia, and Eunice. Both Nathan and Elias were soldiers in the revolution as was the husband of his daughter Dolly, John Smith, and the husband of his daughter Desire, William Steward.

Ezra Crary decided early on to support the revolution. In May of 1776 he is listed a deputy of the General Assembly of Connecticut from Voluntown. That same General Assembly would vote to send troops in support of the rebellion and on October 10, 1776 approve the Declaration of Independence. They resolved that though now allied with the rebellion, the civil government of Connecticut would continue as established in the Charter. Later Ezra was appointed a Captain in the Connecticut Militia. He served under Lieutenant Colonel James Gordon and later Colonel Obediah Johnson in the 25th Regiment of Connecticut Militia.

Though there is no record of a pension for Ezra Crary, this is not unusual. Many felt in those days that if you were capable of taking care of yourself and your family that a pension would be undeserved charity. What is found in the pension records are affidavits given in support of the pension applications of others.

Dorothy Randall Crary died October 19, 1784, shortly after the birth of their last child. She was buried in Haven's Orchard (now Haven Hill or Crary-Walker Cemetery) behind her daughter's home. It may have been Dorothy and Ezra's home at the time of her death. There is some evidence that Ezra married again; this time to a Lois Hawley. Ezra did not pass on to his reward until August 4, 1828. He is buried in East Clarendon Cemetery in Rutland County, Vermont with many other Revolutionary Patriots – including his son-in-law John Smith.

Submitted for Harold Burton Crapo, Jr.
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Saramana Chapter SAR