

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Crowel (Crowell) R2542
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

MA VA

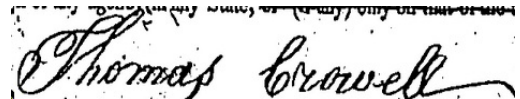
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

MAINE DISTRICT SS.

At a Special District Court of the United States begun and holden at Portland, within and for said District, on the twenty sixth day of July A.D. eighteen hundred and thirty-two before the Honorable Ashur Ware, Judge of said Court.

On this twenty sixth day of July aforesaid, personally appeared in open Court before said District Judge Thomas Crowell a resident of Brunswick in the County of Cumberland in said Maine District, aged seventy three years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated. Viz. That he served in a Company commanded by Capt. Murphy in the Reg't. commanded by Col. [Daniel] Morgan in the Virginia State troops – and that he served two or three years and was discharged at Valley Forge. That he previously served under Capt Shaw also and was at Ticonderoga and Saratoga and at the taking of Burgoyne in Oct. [17th] 1777. That he was at Monmouth Battle [28 Jun 1778] and afterwards that he was transferred to Col. Morgans Reg't. and went with said troops through Pennsylvania to South Carolina and returned with the Company again after having been at the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina [17 Jan 1781]. That he has lost his discharge but presumes his name can be found on the rolls in the War Department. He remembers being under Gen. [Horatio] Gates, after the taking of Burgoyne and General [Benedict] Arnold he remembers also. That he was born in Limerick in Ireland Dec'r. 21 1760 & has a record of his age at at home in a Bible at Brunswick aforesaid. That he lived in Boston when he first entered the service & was soon after transferred into the above named Company. he first enlisted under Capt. Dodge in the Massachusetts Militia before he was transferred, in the year 1776. The he enlisted as a volunteer and served as a Sergeant.

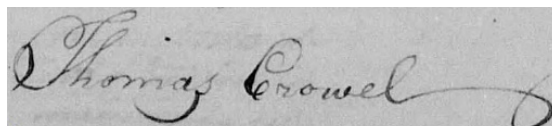
he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on any pension roll of any agency in any State.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Crowell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

The said Thomas Crowell would amend his aforesaid declaration by stating more particularly, as follows. That early in the Spring of the year 1776 he enlisted in a company commanded by Capt James Shaw at Windham, Maine and went with said Capt to Ticonderoga and our Company was joined to Col. Putnams Reg't. that he served as a Serjeant in said Company for the term of two years, and he thinks six months, but he is certain not less than two years & four months. That he was at the Capture of Burgoyne in 1777 – that he was also in Monmouth Battle and after that Battle, he was transferred into a Company of Virginia State troops commanded, as he believes, by Capt. Murphy, and in Colonel Morgans Reg't. and marched with said Company through Pennsylvania to South Carolina and was at the Battle of Cowpens, and was there wounded by a shot in his leg – that afterwards said Company returned to Valley Forge and was there discharged in the fall of the year 1781 as near as he can recollect and he then returned back to Brunswick, Maine where he has ever since resided & now resides. That he served in Col. Morgans Regiment two years, as he verily believes & that he served as a Sergeant also in that Reg't. and served over Four years in all in the Revolutionary War. He also served two years as a Serjeant & Clerk in Capt Holdens Co'y & Col. McCobbs Regiment in the last war with England. That he lived in Boston at the

commencement of the Revolution and went to Windham in the District of Maine and there enlisted as he has first above stated in Capt. Shaws Company; Before he left Boston he enlisted in a Comp’y commanded by Capt Dodge, but Thos. Russell, with whom he lived bought him off and he did not serve in that Company and soon after he travelled into the District of Maine and came to Windham aforesaid where he first enlisted under Capt Shaw

Subscribed & sworn to this 8th day of June 1833

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Crowell". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

To the Secretary of State, Massachusetts
Judith Crowell widow of Thomas Crowell late of Brunswick requests evidence of the services of her late husband in the army of the Revolution. She believes that said Thomas Crowell served at least two years – That he enlisted from Falmouth in the State of Maine under enlisting officer Lt. Shaw – that he was a ready penman, and was employed as an orderly Seargent in what Company or Regiment she is unable to state – but thinks he was removed into Morgan’s Regiment. And on account of his qualifications as a writer was probably removed from one Company to another. She therefore requests the Secretary of State to cause the rolls and other Revolutionary documents to be searched and a certificate granted of all the services of said Thomas Crowell, (or Crowel as he sometimes wrote it) in whatever Regiment or company it may have been performed
Cumberland Ss May 2^d 1845

[signed] Judith Crowell

Commonwealth of Massachusetts./ Secretary’s Office, Boston; July 25 1845.

I hereby Certify, That, from an examination of the Books and Documents, relating to Military Services in the War of the Revolution, which remain in this Department, it appears that the name of Thomas Crowell is not found upon the rolls of any officer of the name of Shaw; – there are no rolls here of Morgan’s Command, and there is no evidence whatever shown by any of the records, of service of any one of the name as described in the annexed application.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto affixed the Seal of the Commonwealth, the date above written.

John G Palfrey/ Secretary of the Commonwealth.

NOTES:

Philip Owen (pension application S28835) certified that he had seen Crowell at Ticonderoga. He also stated that he had often asked Crowell why he did not apply for a pension, and Crowell had replied that “he could live without it,” but that he was “now poor and needs his pension.” On 2 May 1845 Owen made another statement, including the following: “I also depose and say that several years ago when Crowell was desirous of obtaining a pension he came to me in company with Lt. Shaw – And that said Lt Shaw stated to me that he enlisted Crowell at Falmouth in the State of Maine – That said Crowell was Clerk of his company. That he wrote a good hand and was a valuable assistant. That said Crowell was drafted into Morgan’s Regiment, which Lt Shaw much regretted on account of his services with his pen as aforesaid.”

On 14 March 1851 Lucy Bowe, 49, resident of Topsham in Lincoln County ME, applied for a pension under the act of 1832 as the only living child of Thomas Crowell, who died on 10 Nov 1844. She stated that she was the “child of his first wife who died many years ago,” that he remarried after 1800, and that the “second wife died some two years ago leaving no children by said Thomas Crowell.” On 15 March 1851 Dean Swift, 58, made a supporting statement part of which is transcribed as follows: “Crowell always told me that he belonged to Morgan’s Rifle Regiment, that he had to act as Sergeant on account of his Penmanship – Mr Philip Owen deceased who was a Revolutionary Soldier and U.S. Pensioner has many times told me that he knew Crowell well as belonging to the Revolution Army

while stationed at Ticonderoga and other places. Some time in 1840 Crowell told me he was sure of getting a pension, for one of his old pupils W. H. Harrison was elected president [William Henry Harrison (1773-1841), elected in 1836 and 1840] and that he was determined to proceed to Washington and have an interview in regard to his claim for Military service in the Revolutionary war. Crowell said that he could by an interview convince the President that he Crowell had been the President's instructor in Richmond when said Harrison was six or seven years of age."