

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Thomas Bell

S2973

Transcribed by Jim Long

Service: NC

Thomas Bell

S2973

Contents: Alive in 1835

25188

West Tennessee

Thomas Bell

of Montgomery Co. in the State of Tennessee  
who was a Private in the Co. commanded  
by Captain White of the Reg't. commanded  
by Col. Caswell in the N. Carolina  
line for 6 mos.

Inscribed on the Roll of West Tennessee  
at the rate of 20 Dollars -- Cents per annum,  
to commence on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1831.

Certificate of Pension issued the 7 day of December  
1833 and Hon. C.  
Johnson,

|                                         |       |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|
| Arrears to the 4 <sup>th</sup> of Sept. | 50.00 |
| Semi-anl. allowance ending 4 Mar        | 10.00 |
|                                         | 60.00 |

Revolutionary Claim,  
Act June 7, 1832.

Recorded by Danl. Boyd, Clerk  
Book E, Vol. 7, Page 73

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No. 28323  
Thomas Bell  
Tennessee  
Montgomery Co.

from 1780 Private  
6 months.  
\$20

Hon. C. Johnson,  
R. R.

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
Pension Office

*Sir,*

*The evidence in support of your claim, under the act of June 7, 1832, has been examined, and the papers are herewith returned. The following is a statement of your case in tabular form. On comparing these papers with the following rules, and the subjoined notes, you will readily perceive that objections exist, which must be removed, before a pension can be allowed. The notes and the regulations will shew [sic] what is necessary to be done. Those points to which your attention is more particularly directed, you will find marked in the margin with a brace, (thus: } ). You will, when you return your papers to this Department, send this printed letter with them; and you will, by complying with this request, greatly facilitate the investigation of your claim.*

**A Statement**, shewing the Service of Thomas Bell

Period when the service was rendered: 1780

Months: 3

Rank of the claimant: Private

Names and rank of the Field officers under whom he served: Capt. White, Col. Caswell

Age at present, and place of abode when he entered the service: 72, N. C.

Proof by which the declaration is supported: Traditionary

Period when the service was rendered: 1781

Months: 3

Rank of the claimant: Private

Names and rank of the Field officers under whom he served: Capt. Sherron

Period when the service was rendered: enlisted 1781 to Oct. 1781

Months: period not stated

Rank of the claimant: Not on Rolls

Names and rank of the Field officers under whom he served: Col. not stated

*I am, respectfully,*

*Your obedient servant,*

**JAMES L. EDWARDS,**

*Commissioner of Pensions.*

The applicant will be  
satisfied with a pension  
for his services as a militia  
man for six months.

C. Johnson

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State of Tennessee  
Montgomery County

The twenty-first day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty three Thomas Bell, a citizen of Montgomery County, aged 72 years, personally appeared before the County Court of Montgomery, & being duly sworn, upon his oath makes the following declaration, in order to obtain a pension under the Act of 1832, passed the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, as follows, to wit: that he was born the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 1761 in Warren County, State of North Carolina, as has been informed by his parents, & believes – he has no record of his age & never had – that he continued to reside there until the commencement of the Revolutionary War – that he entered the service of the United States as a drafted militia man in the year 1777 or 1778, under Capt. White in a regiment commanded by Col. Caswell, for a tour of three months & was marched into South Carolina toward Camden, & was in the neighborhood of Camden when the battle took place; guarded prisoners during the time of the Battle – he thinks Genl. Gates commanded at the battle that the British were successful in the Battle – after the three months service expired, he was discharged, returned home – he was again drafted in a three months tour & entered the service of the U. S. in a company commanded by Capt. Moses Sherron & marched in the company to Hillsborough. This company was attached to a Regiment commanded by some Col. whose name he does not now recollect & who was a stranger to him & also by Maj. Johnson & was in the Brigade commanded by Genl. Eaton at the battle of Guilford Court House. After the defeat, the company of Capt. Sherron, or a great part of them, met at Ramsey's Mill & continued with his company until the expiration of his term of service. He then enlisted in the Regular service for one year, he thinks, but does not recollect the length of term or the officers under whom he served, but was in service when Cornwallis was taken, and was stationed at Williamsburgh, and immediately after the taking of Cornwallis, he was discharged. He received discharges for all the tours served by him, but thinking them of no importance, they have been long since lost or destroyed. He continued to reside in Warren until he removed to Tennessee in 1819 or 1820, and settled himself in Montgomery County, where he has ever since resided. He is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state, and hereby relinquishes all claims whatever to any pension or annuity from the United States, except the one provided by the law of 1832.

X

Thomas Bell Senior  
(his mark)

Sworn to & subscribed

In open Court, 21 Oct 1833

Andrew Vance, Clerk

State of Tennessee  
Montgomery County

William Shaw, a clergyman of the county of Robertson & in the immediate neighborhood of Thomas Bell, & Greenville Nicholson, personally appeared in open Court, and being duly sworn, depose & sayeth that they have been many years acquainted with Thomas Bell, the applicant for a pension; that they

believe him to be seventy two years old as stated in the Declaration, and that he has the reputation in the neighborhood where he resides as having been a Revolutionary Soldier, and they concur in that opinion.

William Shaw

G. Nicholson

And the said County Court, after an investigation of the matter, and putting the interrogatories presented by the War Department, certify that they are of an opinion that the sd. Thomas Bell was a soldier of the Revolution, and that he served as stated in the above declaration. The said Court also certifies that William Shaw, a clergyman resident of the county of Robertson, adjoining Montgomery and in the neighborhood of Thomas Bell, and that said Greenville Nicholson is a citizen resident in the same neighborhood, and both credible persons, and that their testimony is entitled to full credit. Witness our hands & seals this 21<sup>st</sup> of October 1833.

P. Williams (JP)

Am. Rogers (JP)

Abner Gupton (JP)

State of Tennessee

Montgomery County

I, Andrew Nance, Clerk of the County Court of Montgomery, certify that the preceding is the original application of Thomas Bell for a pension before the county court of Montgomery, and one in open court the 21<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1833

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & suffixed the seal of my office at Clarksville, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October 1833.

Andrew Vance, Clerk

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February 9, 1937

Thomas Bell

S. 2973

BA-J/AWF

Mrs. A. J. Berger  
Box 379  
Arkansas City, Kansas

Dear Madam:

The data furnished herein were obtained from papers in pension claim, S. 2973, based upon the service of Thomas Bell in the Revolutionary War.

Thomas Bell was born January 3, 1761 in Warren County, North Carolina. The names of his parents were not stated.

While residing in Warren County, North Carolina, Thomas Bell enlisted and served as a private with the North Carolina troops, as follows –

In the year 1777 or 1778, three months in Captain White's company, Colonel Caswell's

regiment; three months in captain Moses Sherron's company, dates of this service not given; in 1781, about one year, was in service when Cornwallis was taken and was discharged immediately after, names of officers not shown.

Thomas Bell continued to live in Warren County, until in the year 1819 or 1820, then moved to Montgomery County, Tennessee.

He was allowed pension on his application executed, October 21, 1833, at which time he was a resident of Montgomery County, Tennessee.

The papers in this claim contain no reference to the family of the soldier, Thomas Bell.

In order to obtain the date of last payment of pension, name and address of the person paid, and possibly the date of death of this pensioner, you should apply to The Comptroller General, General Accounting Office, Records Division, Washington, D. C., and give the following –

Thomas Bell  
Certificate # 25188  
Issued December 7, 1833  
Rate \$20.00 per annum  
Commenced March 4, 1831  
Act of June 7, 1832  
West Tennessee Agency.

Very truly yours

A. D. HILLER  
Executive Assistant  
to the Administrator

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1922, Sept. 23 hist. to Mrs. Geneva Allen

1939, Feb. 9 hist to Mrs. A. J. Berger 2973  
INVALID.

1927, Oct. 8 hist. to Hon. E. E. Eslick for R.  
H. Crocket, see letter in Samuel Bell S. 6598

File No. 2973  
Thomas Bell  
Pvr., N. C. line

Act: June 7, 1832  
Index: - Vol. A, page 26  
[Arrangement of 1870.]

H. of Rep.  
4th Dec.

Dear Sir,

I suppose the applicant will be entitled to a pension of 6 mos., which he sufficiently stated in the declaration, and have made and endorsement accordingly.

Your friend,  
C. Johnson

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Harriman, Tenn.  
8/24/22

Commissioner of Pensions,  
Washington, D. C

Revolutionary War Division.

Dear Sir: - Wont you please send me the pension records, and all data pertaining to their families you have in your office, regarding the following Revolutionary War Pensioners?

William Bell, Sumner Co. Tenn., pension began 11/28/1832, age 85.

Thomas Bell, Montgomery Co. Tenn., pension began 12/7/1833, age 73.

I will appreciate it if you can forward these records right away.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Geneva Allen  
Box 336

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Kansas Daughters of the American Revolution

Box 379  
Arkansas City, Kansas  
January 20, 1937

Veterans Administration,  
Bureau of Pensions,

Revolutionary War Section,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Will you kindly advise me if your records show Revolutionary War pension applied for, or granted to, the following :

1<sup>st</sup>: Daniel Johnson or Johnston, who probably served from Penn., and died in Fayette County, or nearby county, Penn. (Had son Simon that I know of)

2<sup>nd</sup>: Thomas Bell, who probably served from either North or South Carolina and died in Dickson County, Tenn. (Had sons Thomas, Shade (?), Elisha that I know of.)

3<sup>rd</sup>: Benjamin or Thomas Coldwell or Caldwell, who served from Va., and died in either Va. or Tenn. – Had among others a son name Abiram.

If any of the above named records are filed, I am especially interested in learning of family data, - as wife; children; service record; place & date of births, deaths etc.

Thanking you most kindly for any assistance you may be able to give me, I am

Respectfully

Mrs. A. J. Berger

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
BUREAU OF PENSIONS.  
Washington, D. C., 9-23, 1922.

In reply to your request of \_\_\_\_\_, received \_\_\_\_\_ for a statement of the military history of Thomas Bell, a soldier of the REVOLUTIONARY WAR, you will find below the desired information as contained in his application for pension on file in this Bureau.

Dates of Enlistment or Appointment: 1777 or 1778

Length of Service: 3 mos.

Rank: Pvt.

Officers under whom service was rendered: Capt. White, Col. Caswell

State: NC

Dates of Enlistment or Appointment: 1777 or 1778

Length of Service: 3 mos.

Rank: Pvt.

Officers under whom service was rendered: Capt. Moses Sherron

Dates of Enlistment or Appointment: 1781  
Length of Service: about 1 yr.  
Rank: Pvt.  
Officers under whom service was rendered: Officers not remembered  
State: NC

Battles engaged in : none stated  
Residence of soldier at enlistment: Warren Co., NC  
Date of application for pension, Oct. 21, 1833  
Residence at date of application, Montgomery Co., Tenn., 1819 or 1820  
Age at date of application: b. Jan. 3, 1761 in Warren Co., NC  
Remarks: No fam. data

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BA-J/ILL  
Thomas Bell  
S. 2973

Mrs. A. J. Berger  
Box 379  
Arkansas City, Kansas

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War records of Benjamin and Thomas Coldwell (Caldwell) who served from Virginia and died in Virginia or Tennessee, Daniel Johnson (Johnston) who served from Pennsylvania or Virginia who died in or near Fayette County, Pennsylvania, and Thomas Bell who served from North or South Carolina and died in Dickson County, Tennessee.

There are no claims for pension on file based upon service in the Revolutionary War of the Daniel Johnson and Thomas Coldwell cited by you, nor of any Benjamin Coldwell; similar spellings of the surnames were used in the search of the records. The record of Thomas Bell who applied for pension while a resident of Tennessee is furnished herewith from pension claim, S. 2973.

Very truly yours,  
A. D. HILLER  
Executive Assistant  
to the Administrator.

From the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim S. 2973, it appears that Thomas Bell was born January 3, 1761 in Warren County, North Carolina.

While residing in said Warren County, North Carolina, he enlisted and served as a private in the



North Carolina troops, as follows –

In the year 1777 or 1778, three months in Captain White's company, Colonel Caswell's regiment; afterwards, three months in captain Moses Sherron's company; and in 1781, one year (officers not remembered) and was discharged after the surrender of Cornwallis.

He was allowed pension on his application executed October 21, 1833, while a resident of Montgomery County, Tennessee, having moved there in 1819 or 1820.

It is not stated that soldier was married.