



A Patriot Story

Samuel Cox

Military Service / Virginia

Residence: Frederick Co VA

Born: c 1755 | Ireland

Died: 12 Jul 1828 | Frederick Co VA

Samuel Cox was single young man, not many years in Virginia for he was born in County Antrim in Ulster, Ireland. Soon the thunder of rebellion overtook his plans for finding land of his own in this New World.

Samuel, living in Fauquier County, enlisted as a private in Captain John Ashby's Company of Riflemen, Colonel Thomas Marshall's Third Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army for two years in 1777. With the prospect of a land warrant if the Americans were successful in defeating the British, Samuel served for two years. He later joined Captain Valentine Peyton's company in the same regiment.

Samuel participated in several battles, most of them defeats for the fledgling American cause. He was at White Plains, Trenton, Prince Town, Brandywine, and Germantown. He was severely injured in the battle at Monmouth, "shot through the body" as he testified.

After recover, Samuel marched south with his regiment where he was at the Siege of Charlestown. There he was taken prisoner by the British forces. By his wit, he escaped and rejoined his regiment in time to be present at General Gates defeat. Samuel was honorably discharged from the Continental army in 1781.

By an Act of the Congress of the United States, Samuel Cox became eligible for a veterans pension in 1820. His annual allotment was \$96; he was sixty-four years of age, living with his wife, Elizabeth and three younger children in Frederick County, Virginia. Their residence was the 130-acre Cox homestead farm near Hardesty (Howellsville). Their land was on the western slope of Blue Mountain, not far from the Shenandoah River.

After his military service, Samuel spent the rest of his life as a married man raising six children in Fauquier and Frederick Counties in Virginia. His descendants would take up

land in the military tract of Ohio in the counties of Coshocton and Pickaway, using patents granted to Revolutionary War veterans.

Samuel was a tobacco farmer, wresting a living from the rocky slopes of his mountain home. As was the custom of his time and place, Samuel was a slave owner. Cox family members and slaves were buried in the family cemetery on Cox land. The farmhouse no longer stands, but the remains of the surrounding black stonewall can be found. The weathered, almost illegible headstone for Samuel Cox was unearthed by his descendants. It reads:

Samuel Cox
B. 1755 Ireland
Died July 12, 1828

Source(s): Revolutionary War Pension Record & Affidavit, NARA; Staats, Mary H and Gayle Cox Whitacre, *Genealogy of the Samuel and Elizabeth Cox Family of Virginia and Ohio*. 2nd ed. Ann Arbor, MI: B. Brumfield, 1975