

**Henry Wells** appeared on 29Jan1834 in open court at Washington County PA, age 77, to apply for a pension according to congressional act of 07Jun1832.

About 01Sep1776, Wells enlisted in the Delaware Line (regiment number forgotten). From Sussex County, they joined other regiments and went to Valley Forge to attach to General George Washington's Army. <http://revwarapps.org/s11712.pdf> gives Wells' personal account of crossing the Delaware and the battle of Trenton and his service in the north.

We left the encampment at Camden in the winter. I think about the first of January 1781 and marched towards the Cowpens. An express had come for General Marion about the time of our leaving Camden and he and most of his Cavalry left of us. We pursued our march under our old officers until within about 1 ½ days before we arrived at the "Cowpens" when we fell in with the brave Colonel Morgan [Daniel Morgan] and his party, and he assumed the command of the detachment, and Colonel Washington [William Washington] was Second in Command. Our whole force at this time numbered something less than 900 men a great proportion of whom were militia, & less than 100 horse. By this time our Delaware Regiments were reduced at least one half. Some died on the field-- some fell by disease – and some died from hard treatment &c while prisoners. Two of my cousins fell into the hands of the enemy at Camden, one died from the severity of their treatment – the other lived to be exchanged, but he returned with a shattered constitution. A few days after our Junction with Colonel Morgan (having halted for a day or two) we fell in with a much Superior force of the enemy, at **the Cowpens**, under Colonel Tarleton. He outnumbered us in infantry and had three or four times as many Cavalry Yet notwithstanding our great disparity of force we came off victorious, having killed and wounded between four and 500 men and taken 500 prisoners. The result of this victory [January 17, 1781] is mainly owing to the skill and bravery of Colonels Morgan & Washington for who could refuse to follow, & fight for such leaders. The total loss of the Americans in this engagement, in killed & wounded was considerably under 100 men I think not more than 50. The Battle commenced about 10 or 11:00 O'clock A.M. and continued till late in the evening. At the outset we were much alarmed by the Superiority of the Enemy in numbers, but the powerful & trumpet like voice of our Commander drove fear from every bosom, and gave new energies to every arm. During the day, at every turn we seemed to gain new advantages. Washington & Morgan knew how to turn every circumstance to good account – they were an host [?]2 within themselves. After the Battle was over it was reported in the Camp that some stray fingers were found on the field which were said to belong to Colonel Tarleton. The Battle was fought about the middle of January 1781. Col. Tarleton was hard run by a small detachment of American horse and barely escaped being taken prisoner. It was generally agreed in the Camp that Tarleton could easily have been shot by those in pursuit of him, but their object was to take him alive. In this fight, I was struck across the left shoulder by one **of Tarleton's troopers**, with his sword with such violence, that the collar of my coat, my vest and my shirt, were each cut through, and the **flesh & skin slightly scratched** and bruised so much so that there was a **considerable knot or welt on my shoulder** for a number of days – the **wound did not unfit me for duty**. The prisoners taken in the engagement were sent into the interior of the Country (the name of the place I do not now recollect) and a part of the troops were sent to guard them, the balance of us went into winter quarters, and remained near the Cowpens, until the Spring, when the detachment sent off with the prisoners returned. During this time nothing particular occurred, the British were driven out of the neighborhood, and the Tories were so much under, that they were afraid to make a show of opposition.

Captain Peter Jacquett swore that he had the Delaware infantry company roster and Henry Wells served in his company.

Henry Wells was born 07May1754, in Sussex County DL to Alexander and Leah Wells. Henry married Elizabeth Hemans Beach. They moved to Brooke County VA about March 1837..