

**Thomas Cresap to George Washington, March 21, 1775,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of
America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

FROM COLONEL THOMAS CRESAP. ¹

SKIPTON Mar 21, 1775.

SR.

I have just now Received Yours of Feby 7 : *last*, wherein you tell me that the Executors of Your Brother have been lately informed of my having taken Possession of some Lands belonging to him, which Information is not true; for I only claim my Own which I have been always in Possession of, And the very Person who made that Complaint has Rented it of me these two Years past and being called on for Rent thinks to come off from paying by this Method and carrying a Falshood. I have been in peaceable Possession upwards of Twenty Years, and what Buildings there are on the Land which I claim, was Built by me. Your Brother has a Lott adjoining to mine, *which was mine*, I having bought it of one Pindergras in the presence of several Gentlemen & paid him the Money down of the spot; after which he Sold it to your Bror. When Your Bror. came to *understand* the Matter, he informed me of it, and there being a good Understandg between him & me (& to prevent a Law-suit) I told him I wod. give him my Right to it, As Pindergras had run away and cod. not be come at, therefore must have lost his Money. This Complainant has Lived sevl Years on Your Brother's Land and Claims it as his Own.

I have no Objection to by or Sell, if You shod. have any inclination. I am Sr.

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Yr. most Obedt. Servt. THS. CRESAP

1 Colonel Thomas, like his son Captain Michael, was a well-known Indian trader. He emigrated from Yorkshire, England, when about fifteen years old. At thirty he married—Johnson, and at eighty years of age married a second time. J. J. Jacobs states (*Life of Captain Cresap*, p. 40) that when about one hundred years old Colonel Cresap performed a journey, partly by sea and partly by land, from his residence at Old Town to an island near Nova Scotia, and returned in safety.