

**Pension Application for John T. Leonardson or Leonardson**

R.6294 (Veteran received a pension of \$26.66 a month)

State of New York  
County of Montgomery SS

I certify that the following is a true copy of the Record of the Marriage of Sarah Putman and John Leonardson as the same is contained in the Register of Marriages Solemnized in the Reformed Dutch Church of Caughnawaga by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Thomas Romyne at the time thereof Pastor of Said Church viz: "Register van die genem die heim selvan inde [?] 1792—August 26<sup>th</sup> John Leonardsy met Sara Putman—That is in English, Register of those who have entered into the matrimonial state "1792 August 26<sup>th</sup> John Leonardsy with Sara Putman."

From which it appears that said Sarah Putman and John Leonardson were lawfully joined in wedlock by the said Pastor on the twenty sixth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two. Simon I. Veeder

I Simon I. Veeder above named depose & say that I hold the office of keeper of records of said Church and that the above is a true extract from the Records of said Church as certified by me: and that the date of said marriage is expressed in fair legible figures. Simon I. Veeder

Subscribed & sworn this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 1793 before me; and I certify that I am well acquainted with said Simon I. Veeder & that he holds the office aforesaid. Abr<sup>m</sup> VanHorne J.P.

County of Montgomery  
State of New York SS

On this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 1843 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Judges of the County Courts in & for said County of Montgomery Sarah Leonardson a Resident of the town of Root in the County of Montgomery—aged seventy years who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth, on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by Act of Congress passed July 7, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay & pensions to certain widows."

That she is the widow of John T. Leonardson—who was a private in the Army of the Revolution & served in manner and for the terms particularly set forth and detailed in the papers on file in the office of the Commissioner of Pensions in the matter of the application of said John T. Leonardson for a pension under the Act of Congress passed 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832. That she received under said act last named a pension of \$26.66 per annum—That her maiden name was Putman—That she was married at the time herein after stated by the Reverence Thomas Romeyn who was at the time thereof pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church of Caughnawaga.

She further declares that she was married to the said John T. Leonardson on the twenty fifth day of August in the year seventeen hundred and ninety two that her husband the aforesaid John T. Leonardson died on the twenty ninth day of January 1841 that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January seventeen hundred & ninety four viz at the time above stated. (Signed with her mark) Sarah Leonardson

Sworn to & subscribed on the day & year above written before me the aforesaid Judge and I certify that said [it ends here]

State of New York  
County of Montgomery SS.

On this twentieth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County, now sitting John T. Leonardson a resident of the Town of Root—in said County & State aged sixty-nine years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath made the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he was born in the town of Johnstown in said County of Montgomery then County of Albany (1) in said State on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 1763. (2) He has no record of his age except that contained in his family Bible.

When he entered the service of the United States in the army of the revolution, he was living in said town of Johnstown, he lived in said town of Johnstown after the revolutionary war & he now lives in said town of Root.

He entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 1779 he was enrolled in the Company of Militia in his beat to wit:--the Company of Militia under the Command of Captain Abraham Veeder (3), in the regiment whereof Frederick Fisher (4) was Colonel. His other Company & Field officers were Nicholas Dockstader Lieutenant (5), Gilbert Van Deusen Ensign (6), Volkert Veeder Lieutenant Colonel (7).

The first military expedition in which he engaged was to Johnstown Fort whither he was he was [sic] ordered immediately after his enrollment being about five miles from the place where he resided and he remained in service at said fort for a term exceeding four weeks. In the next month he marched to Fort Stanwix as a volunteer in said Company & remained on duty there for more than two weeks—after his return from Fort Stanwix aforesaid he was ordered to Fort Plain and remained there on duty more than two weeks to wit in the month of September in the year last named—In the month of October (8) then next, he was out with the militia in pursuit of the enemy under Major Ross to Johnstown aforesaid, and was out in that expedition for the term of one week. He has on this occasion in the battle fought near Johnstown. [1781] In the month of May 1780, he was out on duty in the same company commanded by the same officers except Abraham Veeder who had then resigned his office & was succeeded in the captaincy by said Nicholas Dockstader. On this last tour he was on Duty for the term of one month at Fort Plain, and after the expiration of said term of one month he was ordered out again for Johnstown & remained there on Duty for the like term of one month. He was also served for the term of one month at Fort Plank, at Fort Ehle in Canajoharie nearly three weeks, two weeks at Fort Paris in Stone Arabia, one week at Albany, from thence he was ordered to Fort Stanwix again. He has besides [blot] engaged in the above expeditions, been out with scouting parties on many occasions to Switzenburgh and other places on the borders of Tryon County. How long he was out in each of these different tours he cannot specify but knows that the whole of the times for which he served his country in the war of the Revolution exceeds Eight Months.

He knew Colonel Marinus Willett & the troops under his Command, Colonel Veeder, Colonel Gansevoort (9), General Van Rensselaer (10).

The following are the names of persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood & who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution: viz Simon Veeder of the town of Johnstown [Caughnawaga is crossed out] (11) & Abraham Van Horne a clergyman of the same place.

He never received any written discharges from the service. He has no documentary evidence, but can produce the testimony of witnesses who can testify to his services to wit, Simon Veeder.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

(Signed) John T. Lenardson (12)

Subscribed & Sworn the day & year first aforesaid. Geo. D. Ferguson, Clerk

End Notes—John T. Leonardson (Lenardse, Lenardsy, etc.)

1. Tryon County was formed from Albany County in 1772. Tryon County was named after New York's Royal Governor William Tryon. When the War of Independence broke out, Governor Tryon sided with the King of England and thus he became New York's last Royal Governor. In 1784, the inhabitants of the then Tryon County no longer wanted the county to bear the name of a loyalist; the county was renamed Montgomery in honor of the American Major General Richard Montgomery who had been killed in the storming of Quebec City, Canada, on December 31, 1775.
2. It is recorded in the Dutch Reformed Church of Caughnawaga on page 10, John, son of Timothy & Bada Marinus Lenardsy was baptized on August 14, 1763.
3. As per militia law a male, upon turning sixteen, was to enroll in the local militia company or "beat" as it was referred to. Each company had boundaries, and each regiment also had the same type of boundaries or districts. Captain Veeder's Company or beat (Second Company) was Caughnawaga which is now the Village of Fonda and the Town of Mohawk, Montgomery County.
4. Frederick Fisher (Visscher) was appointed Colonel of the Third Regiment of Tryon County, which was also known as the Mohawk District Regiment, on August 26, 1775.
5. Nicholas Dockstader (Dachsteder, Doxstator, etc.) was commissioned Second Lieutenant on June 25, 1778 and then First Lieutenant on March 8, 1781. There is no record of Dockstader being promoted to Captain.
6. Gilbert Van Deusen was a sergeant under Captain Veeder. The Ensign was Garret S. VanBrocklin. VanBrocklin was commissioned as Ensign on June 25, 1778 and then as Second Lieutenant on March 8, 1781. On March 8, 1781, Richard Putman was commissioned as the Ensign.
7. Adam Fonda was originally appointed the Lieutenant-Colonel on August 26, 1775 but he declined. Volkert Veeder was then appointed the Lieutenant-Colonel.
8. The Battle of Johnstown was fought on October 25, 1781. Major John Ross commanded the British forces and Colonel Marinus Willett commanded the American forces.
9. Peter Gansevoort had been the Colonel of the Third New York Continental Regiment.
10. Brigadier General Robert VanRensselaer.
11. After the War of Independence the area now known as the Town and Village of Johnstown was known as the District of Caughnawaga. The town of Johnstown was formed from this district in 1790.
12. A son of John, Aaron, made a declaration in March (blank) of 1858 for the pension due to his mother that she never received before she died on September 16, 1846. Aaron was living at this time in the Town of Root, Montgomery County. He mentions a brother Robert. They are the only surviving children and heirs at law to receive her pension arrears.