

**Pension Application for Peter Fox (or Peter W.)**

W.7294 (Maria) Pension granted \$42.32 per annum commencing the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March 1848

B.L.Wt.9468-160-55 (Bounty Land)

State of New York

Montgomery County

On this fifteenth day of February one thousand eight hundred and fifty one personally came before me a justice of the peace within and for the county and State aforesaid. David L. Shull who being duly sworn according to law deposes and says that he resides at Stone Arabia in said county and he is a member of the Dutch Reformed Church of Stone Arabia that he had the records of said church in his possession and upon examination of said records he finds that Peter Fox was married to Maria Richter on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January A.D. 1796 by the rev. D. C. Pick, who was for several years the regular pastor of said church and was authorized by law to solemnize marriages. The record of the marriage is in the words and figures following viz:

Married on the 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 1796 Peter Fox

Married to Maria Richter by D.C. Pick

And that the above is a true copy of said record.

D.L. Shull

Subscribed and sworn to before on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 1851. And I certify that deponent is entitled to full credit

James W. Hamilton, Justice of the Peace

State of New York

Montgomery County

On this 19<sup>th</sup> day of Sept in the year 1832 Personally appeared in open court before the now sitting, Peter Fox a resident of the town of Palatine County of Montgomery aged seventy three years, 3d Sept this Inst. Month past has been first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declarations in order to obtain the benefit of the act passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 that he entered the service of the United States under the following officers and served as herein stated vitz:--

That this claimant declares that he belonged to the Regt of Militia commanded by Col. Jacob Klock and Peter Waggoner Lieut Col in the company commanded by Christopher W. Fox (1) that he was born in the month of Sept in the year one thousand seven hundred fifty nine as appears by family record that he this applicant was inrolled [enrolled] and kept himself in readiness armed and acquipt [equipped] in compliance with the requisitions of his superior officers and the laws of this country from the year 1776 to the conclusion of the war, that he been satisfied that he was called out on duty and that he hath performed services but the particulars doth not recollect.

That the applicant declares that he hat performed some duties which he knows, it to be impracticable to describe, and those he is satisfied and yet doth recollect he cannot describe neither date nor years with some exceptions only.

That this applicant declares that early in the war he was ordered to march under Capt Fox with his Company to George Saltsman in Palatine. They remained for about eight days, Scouting and guarding against the incursions of the common enemy and at another time for about ten days at George Gettmans, the same alike the preceding, also stationed at Fort Snell and like service under Capt Fox and his company, also at Fort Blank the three weeks in about same. Also at Frederick Empies – the like time, does not recollect under Capt Fox—also under command of Capt Henry Miller (2) for about two weeks, stationed at a place now called St. Johns Ville now Town of Oppenheim according to his belief about two weeks the like services latter part Febry & in fore part in March 1779.

That he went & marched to now county of Herkimer then Tryon to Fort Dayton there remained for about three weeks and performed the like duties and services to the best of his knowledge in the year 1779. That this applicant further declares that he was ordered out to march to German Flatts, now County of Herkimer in Mass with his Capt under Col. Klock. There stationed for a number of days. From thence marching to Andrustown southwest from German Flatts to the lakes but did meet no enemy at that time having been out for about two weeks.

Also ordered out to March to Young's Lake where the enemy generally would have recourse to harbour at the house of Adam Young but not discovering nor Mett [met] any Tories or Indians from Canada. There he believes in the year 1778.

That the applicant further declares that in the latter part of July men ordered out under Captain Christopher W. Fox to march to Fort Stanwix and on this march from Herkimer under the command of General Nicholas Herkimer, which on our way at about four miles this side of the Fort those engaged in

that memorable Battle at Oriskany (3) when claimant sustained his ground until that part of Genl St. Leger's (4) army retreated and left them.

That previous to Oriskany Battle same Summer Under the command of Genl Herkimer after he hath been drafted out of Capt Fox's company, marching down the Susquehanna River to Unadilla those with Capt Brandt who had a large number of warriors at his command with him and after several days, Genl Herkimer & Capt Brandt (5) held a conference at Genl Herkimer's encampment, escaped. In coming to an engagement that having, he had been out for at least three weeks. That is to say the latter tour [?] In June and July 1777 and the former when the battle was fought at Oriskany happened the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 1777 same year.

That this applicant further declares that in October 19<sup>th</sup> in the year 1780 after the battle generally called Col. Brown's battle in the Town of Palatine after Sir John Johnson with his Incendiaries which caused a general conflagration of all or nearly the whole old settlement of Stone Arabia and up along the Mohawk River, applicant declares that he went in pursuit of the enemy and there in battle at Klocks and Failings Flats.(6) Then continued in battle until the enemy took flight retreating.

This claimant further states that he volunteered in what is called Landmans Battle against a Large Party of Indians and Tories from Canada the Indian chief killed & several wounded which occurrence happened July 29<sup>th</sup> 1781.(7)

That this applicant further declared that in October 25<sup>th</sup> 1781 same year again in battle then under the Emmediate [immediate] command of Col. Marinus Willett against Major Ross and Capt Butler (8) and supposed about 500 of their incendiary crew from the enemy retreating which Battle terminated when with the loss of many killed on both sides and many taken Prisoner on both sides.

This applicant further declares that himself and eight others engaged for three months service by Col. Jacob Klock and Major Christopher W. Fox in the year 1780 for running scout on snow shoes during the winter enlisted to guard against the incursions of the enemy that this applicant states that he hath served faithfully under Capt Christian Gettman (9) for and during the term of three months, which company was divided into three groups. When out, in rotation continually, also in July 1781 when murder and depredation [?] committed at and round about fort Timmerman under the command of Col. Willett in pursuit of the enemy for about thirty miles. (10)

That this applicant further declares that he was ordered out Eimmediately after the cruel merciless butchering and inhuman murder at Cherry Valley (11) to march there all in mass. He believes under the command of Col. Klock but he feels satisfied that Col. Klock's Regt was ordered out previous not knowing at which place the enemy would approach situate & stationed at now Town of Canajohary for several days from there marched to Cherry Valley.

That this claimant further and last declares that often and very frequently hath been under the necessity to watch and to guard against the invasions of the daily expected Enemy at their Principal Fort vizt: Fort Paris with the Militia soldiers were so trained and instructed when Ascertainning and hearing the report of the alarming cannon generally each one not waiting for his corporal to be warned but would without any hesitation or equivocation shoulder his arms in hastening to the fort and prepared to march out on any occurrence or emergency which formed or thought expedient by their Superior officers.

That this claimant declares that after lapses of time for exceeding halfe a centrey [half a century] has rendered it impracticable to describe or remember all the duties and services performed during the Revolution but sufficient for his honor the secretary of the war department to be satisfied that he this claimant was always in compliance in the orders of his superior officers and also conformable to the resolution passed May 27 1775 hereupon it is resolved that the Militia of New York armed and trained man in constant readiness to act at a moments warning.

And that in conformity to the preceding resolution passed by the old congress as early then the year and date above mentioned. That this applicant not only in obedience to the orders and directions of his superiors, officers and the court of his country, but also, did consider it a duty incumbent on him to have kept himself always well-armed and acquipt [equipped] and in constant readiness so when called upon always willing on a minute's warning to march out on each and every emergency in defending the rights and liberties of his country.

And further this applicant saith not--

That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Peter Fox. (12)

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Geo. D. Ferguson, Clerk

End Notes—W.7294—Peter Fox

1. Peter enlisted in Captain Christopher W. Fox's Company, the Third Company, in Colonel Jacob Klock's Second Regiment of Tryon County Militia. Peter Waggoner or Wagner, etc., served as the

- lieutenant-colonel from August 26, 1775 till the end of the war in Colonel Klock's Regiment. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 75, Folder 121, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. On September 29, 1780, Captain Fox was commissioned as major in Colonel Klock's Regiment and First Lieutenant Henry Miller was commissioned captain in his place.
  3. The Battle of Oriskany was fought on August 6, 1777. Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer commanded the Tryon County Militia in the battle.
  4. Brigadier General Barry St. Leger commanded the British forces that besieged Fort Schuyler. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnson commanded the British forces that attacked General Herkimer's forces at Oriskany.
  5. General Herkimer met with Captain Joseph Brant at Unadilla on June 27, 1777. He could not persuade Brant to side with the Americans or to remain neutral. Captain Brant was at Oriskany with Sir John.
  6. The Battle of Stone Arabia was fought in the morning and the Battle of Klocksfield was fought in the afternoon of October 19, 1780. Colonel John Brown commanded the Americans at Stone Arabia and Brigadier General Robert VanRensselaer commanded the Americans at Klocksfield. Colonel Brown was killed at Stone Arabia and General VanRensselaer was ridiculed and court-martialed for not being aggressive at Klocksfield which allowed Johnson and his troops to escape.
  7. The Battle of Lampman was fought on July 29, 1781 near Mother's Creek.
  8. Major John Ross of the King's Royal Regiment of New York and Captain Walter Butler of Butler's Rangers.
  9. Christian Getman served as a Captain of the Second Company of the Tryon County Rangers from August 1, 1776 to March 27, 1777. Peter's name does not appear on the muster roll or payroll. This is the only time Getman served as a captain. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 74, folder 103, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
  10. The raid on Fort Zimmerman or Timmerman took place in August of 1781. The exact day is unknown but it ranges from August 5 to the 22.
  11. The Cherry Valley Massacre took place on November 11, 1778. Colonel Klock was criticized for not arriving at Cherry Valley a day or two before Captains Walter Butler and Joseph Brant attacked Cherry Valley. If he had arrived on the ninth or tenth as expected to reinforce the garrison at Fort Alden, many believe that the massacre would not have happened.
  12. Maria Richter Fox widow of Peter applied for the widow's pension on April 8, 1851 at the age of 81 in the Town of Palatine, Montgomery County, New York. She stated Peter died May 10, 1847 in Palatine. Peter and Maria Richter were married January 17, 1796 according to the Marriage Book of The Stone Arabia Dutch Reformed Church, Page 203.