

Pension Application for Peter V. Veeder

W.19,574

In the matter of Jane Veeder widow of Peter V. Veeder, dec'd.
Albany Mar 13th 1847.

Sir,

I am favored with your communication of the 1st inst. in the above matter in which you state that "the alleged service of claimants in which you state that "the alleged service of Claimants husband in 1778 under Capt. Jellis Fonda is discredited by the Rolls of that company in your office. The name on these rolls is Peter S. Veeder & not Peter V. Veeder" and that "this service cannot of course be computed in the adjustment of Mrs. Veeder's claim."

I do not know that I can give a satisfactory explanation of this discrepancy, but I will attempt to explain the matter as I understand it.

The baptismal name of the claimant was "Peter Veeder (or Veader)—His father's name was "Vrooman Veeder" & hence particularly in the latter part of his life; he used "V" as a middle letter in his name. Several years ago when for the first time I saw the document (to which I have referred in my previous letters in this case) giving the names of the 20 men drawn out of or from Capt. Jellis Fonda's (1) Company to serve 9 months, I noticed that there were several names on that list not borne on the Militia Rolls of Capt. Jellis Fonda + —(e.g. Ephraim Bradt, John Visscher, John & Jacob Glen, Solomon Terilliger & others while Abm. (J.) Yates, John Clute, John Cassity & others are there). I have just examined Fonda's Rolls of 1781 which is all I have, his militia rolls for 1777 & I deposited in your office about the time I presented Capt. Jellis Fonda's claim for a pension.

Several intelligent gentlemen of the revolution who had served in the regiment of militia to which Capt. Fonda belonged (to wit of Col. Abm. Wemple) represented to me (and I have stated the fact before to your department that two minute companies were organized in the Schenectada District, which at a minute's warning when any number of effective men were required to be raised on an emergency, supplied the requisition. These minute companies were made up of volunteers from the different companies of militia of Col. Wemple's Regiment & they were commanded, the one by Captain Jellis Fonda aforesaid & the other by Capt. John Mynderse, who were both also Captains of Companies of militia in said Regiment. The law of the state before quoted by virt (2)ue of which 9 months men were raised to guard the frontiers of this state in 1778, was passed 1st Apl of that year and it would seem from the Document & alluded to that three months after (in July) there were some needed to make up the quota of Levies required & these 20 men were selected from said minute company of Fonda to served till 1 Jany 1779. These Minute Companies gave up their organization under the new arrangements which were adopted in the subsequent years of the war. Hence the name of my claimant is not borne at all on the Militia Rolls of Capt. Fonda for he belonged to this Minute Company, and the Militia Company in which he was enrolled, was that of Capt. Van Patten (3), and in that company of Militia the Comptrollers Rolls (advanced in this case) place him in subsequent year of the war.

+ Note too, that there were 2 Captains of the militia named Jellis Fonda, one from the Caughnawaga & the other from the Schenectada District.

I will not undertake to say that the name of "Peter S. Veeder" on the Roll in your office is intended for the claimant, the S. being a clerical error; but in considering this matter the fact should be borne in mind, that the same militia man was sometimes or in one expedition, set down in the returns made, under one Captain or Commandant, & at another under a different one.

But be all the things as they may, it is certain that the name of Peter V. Veeder is recorded as one of the 20 from the Schenectada District & Col. Abm. Wemple's Regiment (in a document certified by said Col. Wemple) for the 9 months service in 1778 on the N. York frontiers, pursuant to a law of the state in such case made & provided.

It is to be observed however that as the Draft in question was not made till July, no more than 6 months of the nine, can be claimed in the present case.

I am very respectfully your mo. Obt servt. G.F. Yates.

To Col. J. S. Edwards, Comm. of Pensions.

State of New York SS.

On this 29th day of April 1840, personally appeared before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Schenectada now sitting.—

Jane Veeder a resident of the town of Rotterdam in the County of Schenectada in said State aged seventy four years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed 7th July 1838, entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows." That she is the widow of Peter V. Veeder who was a private & sergeant in the war of the revolution but of the particulars of his services she can give no account from her personal knowledge, as she did not become acquainted with him till after the close of said war. She remembers to have heard him relate, that among other tours he accompanied to Schoharie & other places and one engagement for several months also at Stone Arabia & at the taking of Burgoyne—That her maiden name was Van Eps—That she was married by the Rev'd Thomas Romeyn of the Dutch Church of Schenectada, and that he served under Captain's Jellis Fonda & Emanuel DeGraff (4)—That she was married to said Peter V. Veeder on the twenty eighth day of July one thousand seven hundred & eighty nine (1789) that her husband the aforesaid Peter V. Veeder died on the ninth day of October 1814. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but that her

marriage took place previous to the first day of January one thousand seven hundred and ninety four, viz, at the time above stated—and further she saith not. (Signed) Jane Veeder.

Subscribed and sworn to the day and year first above written in open court before me. Arch'd Campbell,
Clerk

End Notes—Peter V. Veeder—W.19574

1. Jellis J. Fonda was the Captain of the First Company in Colonel Abraham Wemple's Second Regiment of Albany County Militia.
2. John Mynderse (Myndertse, Mynderon, etc.) was the Captain of the Second Company in the Second Albany.
3. John VanPatten was the Captain of the Third Company in the Second Albany.
4. For Peter to have served in Captain Emanuel DeGraff's Company (Seventh Company) in Colonel Frederick Visscher's Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia, he would have to move from Albany County to Tryon County. It appears that Peter never moved from the Schenectady area during the War of Independence.