

### Pension Application for Georg Fols or George Folts

S.13,055

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

State of New York

County of Onondaga SS. On this eleventh day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Daniel Mosdey Esquire Vice Chancellor of the seventh court of the State of New York at a Court of Chancery now sitting at Onondaga in said County George Folts, a resident of Manlius in the county & state aforesaid aged seventy nine years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Early in the campaign of 1775 (1), but the precise month or day he does not recollect he enlisted in Captain Marks Damuth's Company of Rangers, to serve as he recollects during the war, that he served in that company two years and about one month certainly over two years, that he was discharged at Stone Arabia in Montgomery, then Tryon County verbally, by Captain Damuth or some other officers, there present, to this applicant unknown of which there were several that the time of his said discharge was as this applicant recollects in the summer of the same year of the Oriskany battle (2) in which General Herkimer was defeated which he believes was the summer of 1777 for at the time of that battle this applicant was sick, and unable to do duty, which he recollects to have been after his said discharge, that his serving as Ranger were in making excursions in the neighborhood of Fort Dayton in Herkimer where this applicant was stationed doing Garrison duty most of the time during his said term of service that he was frequently at German town six miles up the Mohawk from Herkimer where Captain Damuth was stationed part of the time keeping garrison that there were not to the knowledge of this applicant any general officers or field officers in service with the said Company of Rangers nor any other body of men besides the said company who served as near as he can recollect of about sixty men that he recollects drawing pay in Continental money as Rangers for two full years (3) at eight dollars a month but believes that he drew no rations nor clothes. That every year of the Revolutionary War after 1777, he served in the Militia at alarms and short tours of duty, the longest of which was Willett's Expedition against Oswego (4), which was twelve days, that he was in the battle at Canada Creek when Butler (5) was killed, and in the taking of Johnstown (6) from the enemy, and in all this applicant believes he served in the militia the full term of six months, besides his services in the Rangers, and was so situated at Herkimer where he resided by being exposed to attacks from the Indians, that he had always to be ready to march at a moment's warning, that late in the war the house of his father where he resided was burnt by the Indians and he lived a short time in the fort. That in his said Militia services, he was in the Company of Captain Henry Harter (7) in Colonel Bellinger's Regiment, that the said Colonel Bellinger built a house and lived in Fort Dayton at about the period of his services in the Militia that he knows of no other persons living whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services except John Doxtater and Adam Hartman, whose testimony he caused to be taken before a Judge in Herkimer County where they reside and whose testimony is hereto annexed and that he has no other documentary evidence of his service.

This applicant further said that he was born at Herkimer in the state of New York in the year 1753, that he has a record of his age in a bible made by an older brother, before his recollection & taken from his father's bible—

That he resided there when he entered into the service and continued to reside there till 1805 when he removed and declares is where he now resides, that he always entered into service voluntarily and served his country for himself and not as a substitute; that he never received a written discharge from the service, that he knows of many persons in his present neighbourhood who can testify as to his character for veracity, but speaking as he usually does in his own family the German language and having removed into Manlius in a neighbourhood usually speaking English at a period more than twenty years after the close of the war, he does not know of any person who can testify that he is reputed and believed in the neighbourhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution for he only conversed about it as he recollects with his old German acquaintance and neighbours, who are mostly dead & gone, tho he thinks he could find some of his former neighbours in Herkimer County who could testify that thirty years ago, he was in Herkimer reputed and believed to have been a soldier of the Revolution.

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 any state. (Signed) George Fols

Subscribed and sworn to in open court the day and year aforesaid. Daniel Mosdey, Circuit Judge & Vice Chancellor.

End Notes—George Fols (Vols, Volts, Folts, Foltz)

1. Captain Hans Marks Demuth's Company along with Captain John Winn, and Captain Christian Getman were authorized to raise their respective companies on July 23, 1776 by New York's Provincial Congress. *"That in the like manner & for the same service two hundred and one men to be raised in the County of Tryon to be divided into three companies each to consist of one Captain, two Lieuts., three Sergeants, three Corporals and fifty-eight privates."* Documents relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York, ed. Bertold Fernow, Vol. XV, State Archives, Vol 1, Albany. Weed, Parsons and Company Printers, 1887, page 116.
2. Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer of the Tryon County Militia Brigade. The Battle of Oriskany, N.Y. took place on August 6, 1777.
3. George is mistaken as to the length of service for Demuth's Company. March 27, 1777 -- *"Resolved, that the companies of Rangers commanded by Captain Elis Hasbrouck, Jacob Rusten DeWitt, Alexander*

*Baldwin, John A. Bradt, Marcus Demotte (Demuth), Christian Kitman (Getman), John Winn, Joshua Conckey, Isaac Moss, and Lieut. Gideon Squire be and they are hereby discharged."*

4. The Oswego Expedition took place in February of 1783. Colonel Marinus Willett commanded the expedition. George probably was a sleigh driver for the troops and or supplies.
5. Captain Walter Butler was killed on October 30, 1781 at the West Canada Creek.
6. George maybe was referring to the Battle of Johnstown which was fought on October 25, 1781. He is the first pensioner from the Fourth Regiment of Tryon County Militia to claim to have been in that battle. He maybe was referring to another incident such as when General Philip Schuyler marched to Johnstown in January of 1776 and when Sir John Johnson signed his parole and his tenants surrendered their weapons.
7. Captain Henry Herter (Herder, Harder, Harten) served in the Fourth Tryon. On Capt. Herter's Company payroll commencing June 1, 1779, the following is abstracted: *George Fols Co(rporal) had served two days in June, eight days in July, ten days in August, one day in September, nine days in October and three days in November.* On Captain Herter's Company payroll from March to December 21<sup>st</sup>, 1780, the following is abstracted: *George fols Corp, (served) two days in March, six days in April, six days in May, 6 days in June, four days in July, four days in August, one day in September, two days in October, five days in November and one day in December.* Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 72, folder 78, National Archives, Washington D.C.