

### Pension Application for Killian Ritter

W.18,815 (Widow: Hannah Bort from Greenbush in Rensselaer County. Married July 1783. Killian died in 1835.)  
B.L.Wt26019-160-55  
Hannah Ritter widow of Killian Ritter, private in the war.  
State of New York  
County of Montgomery SS.

On the sixth day of August in the year 1832, personally came before Henry J. Diefendorf Esqr., one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County of Montgomery Killian Ritter (or as is sometimes written Ridder, a resident of Canajoharie in the County of Montgomery and State of New York aged about seventy six 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<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he was born in what was then called East Camp in Dutchess County about the year 1756 he cannot say positively as the records of his age were burned during the revolution in Schoharie, that he removed to Charlotte River near the present line between the County of Delaware and Schoharie in the year 1775.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That on the first of April in the year 1777 he enlisted in a company of rangers commanded by Captain Joseph Bartholomy (1) in a Regiment commanded by Col. John Harper in the New York Line for the term of nine months that in this term of service he went to the mouth of Schenevas Creek with the said Col. Harper where they surprised and took prisoners a party of Indians that during the remainder of this term of service this company was stationed in the neighborhood of Harpersfield and Charlotte River to protect the inhabitants and to watch a certain tory family by the name of Servass. He was honorably discharged on the thirteenth of January in the year 1778 and that his discharge is lost that he knows of no living witness by which he can prove these services.

And further that in the beginning of the year 1778 he removed to the town of Schoharie in the then county of Tryon now Schoharie where he enlisted on the first of April in the year 1778 in a company of Rangers commanded by Captain John Deitz (2) in the regiment commanded by Col. Peter (3) in the New York line, for the term of nine months, that during this term of service he was detached under the command of Col. Zebulon Butler (4) for an expedition to Oquago, that the remainder of the time he was employed principally in scouting the Country, extending to Catskill and Batavia, that he faithfully served, until the first of January 1779 and was honorably discharged at Schoharie as stated in the affidavit of Christopher Koenig which said discharge (if it was received) is lost.

And further that in the winter of 1778-9 that the militia were classed, each class serving one month alternately, that he was detached agreeably to said classification and that he served one month he thinks in February 1779 under Captain Jacob Hager, (5) Ephraim Vrooman Lieutenant under the command of Col. Peter Vrooman, that he served at Fort Debois at Cobleskill and that he knows of no surviving witness by which he can prove this service.

That he removed soon after to Greenbush now in Rensselaer County that after said removal he turned out in case of alarms and marched as far as Schenectady, and at one time as far as Palatine now in Montgomery County that since that time has lived at Niskauna, in Albany County where he lived seven years also in Guilderland in said County; that in the year 1800 he removed to Cobleskill in Schoharie County, that he removed to the County of Montgomery in the year 1820 where he has since resided and is now poor.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to an pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Killian Ritter. (6)

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Henry I. Dievendorff.

End Notes—Killian Ritter—W.18,815

1. Joseph Bartholomew was the First Lieutenant in Captain Lodowick Breakman's (Brakman) Company in Colonel John Harper's Fifth Regiment of Tryon County Militia.
2. Johannes Dietz was a lieutenant and raised a company of Rangers raised from the Albany County Militia in 1778. The record was found showing that Andrew Ridder received the pay for his son Johannes. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M 246, Roll 77, folder 167, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3. Colonel Peter Vrooman commanded the Fifteenth Regiment of Albany County Militia Dietz and most of the rangers came from this regiment.
4. Colonel William Butler of the Fourth Pennsylvania Continental Regiment. He commanded the expedition to Onaquaga (Acquago, Oquago, etc.). A book of interest on this expedition is Onaquaga Hub of the Border Wars, Marjory Barnum, Hinman, 1975, Valley Offset Inc.
5. Captain Jacob Hager and First Lieutenant Ephraim Vrooman were in the Second Company in Colonel Vrooman's Regiment. No record of Killian serving in this company, but it could have been a detachment made up from various companies. Killian served as a private in Captain George Richtmyer's Company (Third Company) in Colonel Vrooman's Regiment.
6. It appears that Killian which some mistook on the muster rolls as William served as a private in Captain John J. Lansing's Company in Colonel Morris Graham's Regiment of New York State Levies in 1780. He may have served as a substitute for John Ridder. The July 15, 1780 muster roll has John listed but the October 14, 1780 lists William and not John. It is also possible that Killian served in the Sixth Regiment of Albany County Militia as I found Andris Ridder serving as a private in this regiment under Captain Jacob DeFreest or DeForest, etc.