

Pension Application for George Shaffer

W.16723 (Widow Charity Schaffer or Gitty or Gertrude, born in Little Britain in Ulster County. Charity died 10 June 1837.) Married George Shaffer in 1779 or before the burning of Schoharie on the 17 October 1780.

Private, Colonel Dubois, NY Line 6 years. Died March 2, 1828, aged 73

State of New York

Schoharie County SS.

On the seventh day of April 1819, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County, personally appeared, George Shafer aged sixty one years and ten months, resident in the town of Blenheim in said County aforesaid, who being by me duly sworn according to law , doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the Statute of Congress entitled and act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and navy service of the United States in the Revolutionary War, that he the said George Shafer enlisted in the town of Hurly, now in the County of Ulster, in Capt. Lees Company, Col. Dubois Regiment for the term of three years, that he served in said company and regiment two years and ten months—at which time he enlisted for during the said war, in Capt. Bevier's Company in the same Regiment, and that on the resignation of said Capt. Bevier, was transferred to Capt. Henry Dubois Company, and from thence to Capt. Hamtramack's Company in Col. Cortland's Regiment in which he served until the close of the war, and that he served in the whole in the standing army somewhere about six years or upwards. That he was in Fort Montgomery when it was taken by the British, at which time he made his escape, together with John Hosier and John McLanin and was in the Battle at White Plains Croton River Fox Meadow, and in Genl Sullivan's engagements with the Indians and Tories in which campaign in the Indian Country and also at the taking of Cornwallis at Yorktown Virginia, and that he now stands in need of the assistance of his country for his support, he being in indigent circumstances. (Signed with his mark) George Shafer.

Sworn before me Henry Hager on[e] of the Justices of the County aforesaid.

April 1818 numbered 13,835 & that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the law & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war past on the 18th day of march 1818 & that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contents or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereunto annexed & before me subscribed.

That I have a wife named Charity aged sixty two years that she is able to do some work as well as myself, but our advanced age does not enable us by our industry to make a comfortable living without assistance from my country or public or private charity, that I live in a house belonging to Mr. Patchin for which I pay no rent that there are no other persons belonging to my family.

Inventory

[House?] Value of \$12.00 [cut off]

4 pigs 4.00

1 ax & 1 old hoe 4/ 1.50

1 feather bed & bedding 10.00

Three small iron pots and kettles 2.50

2 trammels & three pails (crkd) 1.75

3 milk tubs 6/-two old barrels 4/ 1.25

1 wash tub 4/ shovel & tongs 12/ 2.00

1 pair sad Irons 4/ on [?] 12/ 2.00

1 sett knives & forks (old) 0.50
1 [?] teas 2/ 6 earthen plates 3/ .62 ½
6 pewter plates 6/4 earthen bowls 2/5 1.05
2 basins 2/ 1 dipper or cupboard 10/ 1.50
5 Iron spoons (old) 0.30
\$40.97 ½

(Signed with his mark) George Shafer.

Sworn to and declared in open court this 6th day of February 1821 before me. John Swart, Clerk

Department of the Interior. Claim for Military Service.

I certify that, in conformity with the law of the United States. Of the 4 July 1836, Charity Shaffer, deceased, widow of George Shaffer, who was a private in the Revolution, was entitled to receive at the rate of eighty dollars per annum from 4 March 1831, to 13 June 1837, when she died, and that the amount is now due and payable to John Shaffer, Henry Shaffer, Frederick Shaffer, Catherine Serviss, Joseph N. Shaffer, Margaret Shaffer, David Shaffer, William Shaffer, and Betsy Perry only surviving children of the said Charity Shaffer, dec'd.

Given at the Department of the Interior, this 27th day of September one thousand eight hundred and fifty three. B.W. McClellan, Secretary of the Interior.

Letter dated August 1, 1920, written in response to a request for information.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.16723, it appears that George Shaffer, while a resident of Ulster County, New York, enlisted, time not stated, and served six years as a private in Captains Lee's Bevier's Henry Dubois' and Hamtramck's companies, in Colonels Dubois', Cortland's, and Pawling's New York Regiments. He was in the battles of White Plains, Dobbs Ferry, Fox Meadow, at the surrender of Fort Montgomery, in General Sullivan's Indian expedition, and in the battles of Croton River and Yorktown.

He was allowed pension on his application executed April 7, 1819, at which time he was a resident of Blenheim, Schoharie County, New York, and was aged sixty-one years and ten months.

He died March 4, 1828, at Blenheim, New York.

The soldier married at Little Britain, in the town of New Windsor, Orange County, New York, in 1779 or 1780, Charity (also called Gitty or Gertrude) the daughter of Frederick Becker, of Vrooman's and Schoharie County, New York.

She died at Blenheim, New York, June 13, 1837, aged seventy-seven years and was survived by the following children: John, born October 20, 1782; Henry, born October 9, 1784; Frederick; Catherine Serviss; Joseph N.; Margaret; David; William; and Betsey Perry.