

Pension Application for John Shaver

W.19353 (Widow: Mary or Maria Smith, married John Shaver on October 25, 1774. John died December 1830. No children but adopted a girl, Margaret who married Abraham J. Gardner. Mary became mentally incapable "in her second childhood" by reason of her mental infirmity due to old age. Mary died October 20, 1838.)

John Shaver is referred to as Ensign and Captain.

State of New York

Columbia County SS.

I Samuel TenBroeck of living [& on?] in said County being sworn say that I am not ninety two years of age. That during the war of the Revolution I was Major of the Regiment in Lenox, Peter R. Livingston was Colonel and Henry Livingston was Lieutenant-Colonel in the then County of Albany now County of Columbia. John A. Fonda, Marks Platner, Cooradt Kline, Adam Hossradt, Jacob Shaver & Henry Pulver were captains also Elliot and Leonard TenBroeck.

John Shaver was an Ensign in said John A. Fonda's Company & afterwards became a captain of the same company. The said John Shaver was afterwards Colonel of said Regiment. The other captains of said Regiment in the War of the Revolution were Captains Rockefeller & Smith. I knew said John Shaver up to the time of his death & I know his widow who now resides in this town with Abraham J. Gardner. Said John Shaver as said was a very patrotick man & always ready when called upon to go—I remember of his going into service several times but cannot tell how many times he went nor how long he staid—I never knew any other John Shaver in the said Regiment that had any commission therein during the war of the Revolution. (Signed) Saml TenBroeck

Sworn and subscribed before me this 11 March 1838. W. A. Clarke, Commissioner of Deeds.

State of New York

Secretary's Office

I certify that on the 20th of October 1775 Peter R. Livingston was appointed Colonel of a Regiment of Militia in the Manor of Livingston in the County of Albany and Robert R. Livingston Jr., Lieut Col. & Henry Livingston, 1 Major of said Regt. The following officers of a company reveals appointed in the said Regt on the same day to wit.

John A. Fonda, Capt.

Peter Pulver 1 Lieut.

Fite Rossman 2 Lieut

John Schaver Ensign

On the 28th of May 1778 the following officers were appointed by the Governor & Countil of Appointment in said Regiment viz.

Peter R. Livingston Colonel Henry Livingston Lieut Colonel and

John A. Fonda Capt.

Peter Pulver 1. Lieut

Fite Rossman 2. Lieut.

John Shaver Ensign.

On the 21st September 1780 Peter R. Livingston resigned as Colonel of said Regiment & his resignation was accepted.

On the same day the following resolution was passed by the Governor and Council viz.

"Resolved that in Lieuts Col. Henry Livingston's Regiments of Militia in the County of Albany John Shaver be & he is hereby appointed Captain of a Company vice John A. Fonda who as resigned. John Shults first Lieutenant Vice Peter Pulver who is lame and unhealthy—Charles Shaver Second Lieutenant Vice Fite Rossman who refuseth to accept and Leonard Decker Ensign vice John Shaver promoted"—All which appears by the minutes of the provincial Congress & Council of Appointments

and it does not appear that there was more than one person of the name of John Shaver an officer in the said Regiment.

[Transcribers note. The pension is a large one, but the pages are out of order in many cases and the ink has faded to the point where it is not legible.

State of New York
Columbia County SS.

I Conrad Petrie of Conesville in the County of Schoharie & State of New York aged eighty one years being sworn says that in the time of the War of the Revolution I lived in the Town of Livingston in the then County of Albany now County of Columbia & State aforesaid where my brother Christian Petrie now resides about forty miles from where I now live. I came from thence to this place about fifty years ago in said war of the Revolution. I knew Cols Peter R. & Henry Livingston who commanded the Regiment to which I belonged which was called the Manor Regiment. I reside within the beat of Captain John A. Fonda's Company—and John Shaver when he was appointed captain of same company in place of John A. Fonda, I was well acquainted with the said John Shaver during said war & afterwards, said Shaver after said War became the Colonel of said Manor Regiment—said John S. Shaver in said war was first Ensign in said company & afterwards Captain as above stated. In the year seventeen hundred & seventy seven I was out in company with & under said John Shaver who was the Ensign in said John A. Fonda's Company, in two tours as follows.

In the spring of 1777 & in the month of May & as I think before the middle of May a part of the militia were called out to go northward. We went as far as Fort Edward in the State of New York. In the latter part of July of that year part of the Militia thus called out was permitted to return to harvest their grain & part remained at or near Fort Edward but I think about the month of August the residue of the Militia so remaining at Fort Edward were also permitted to return home. I was among those that remained until August & I returned home in August and was very shortly after I returned home in August called out again with the rest of the militia who were all called out the second time when we went to oppose Genl Burgoyne's Army, and I remained out until after said Burgoyne's Army surrendered to the Americans I returned with the rest of the Militia in the quarter I resided which was towards the latter part of October 1777. During these two Tours of service said John Shaver served as an officer over said company & during all of that time I served with & under said John Shaver, said John Shaver was a very active officer & had chiefly the control of the company while he was ensign. The two Lieutenants were considered tories & afterwards had others placed in their stations. The time said John Shaver served in the spring, summer & fall of 1777 according to my best recollection & estimate was as long as five months & could not I think be less than that amount of time. The first tour could not have been less than three months before we returned in August & whether said Shaver returned before after Burgoyne was taken I cannot now state.

I served some other tours prior to 1777 and about two years ago I went to Columbia County to make an effort to get a pension, but finding no witness which was thought sufficient I returned without doing anything, my brother Christian Patrie or Petrie is knowing to the fact of my trying to find evidence for that purpose. (Signed) Conroth Petrie.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of April 1839. Wheeler H. Clarke,
Commissioner of deeds.