

Pension Application for Peter Shirts

W.19018 (Widow: Elizabeth. Married February 3, 1788, Claverack, Columbia County.)
Private in Col. VanSchaick’s Regiment, New York Line. Peter died 31st October 1832.
Ontario County SS.

On this twenty seventh day of April eighteen hundred and eighteen before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Ontario, State of New York personally appears Peter Shirts aged fifty five years resident in Lyons in said County, who being by me first duly sworn, according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled “An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War”.

That the said Peter Shirts enlisted in March 1778 in the State of New York in the Company commanded by Captain Cornelius Johnson in the first New York Regiment commanded by Colonel G. VanScaick [VanSchaick], that he continued to serve in the said Corps until the eighth day of June 1788 when he was regularly discharged from the said service at the then head quarters of the American Army which discharge was signed by Genl. G. Washington Commander in Chief of the American Army (and is here offered in evidence) That he was in the Battle at the Taking of Cornwallis and several smaller surmishes [skirmishes] and that he is in Reduced Circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support and has no other evidence in his power of his services. (Signed) Peter Shirts

Sworn to and declared before me the day and year before mentioned, Ezra Jewell, Judge as aforesaid.

State of New York
Ontario County, SS.

On this 21st day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court, (being a Court of Common Pleas in and for said county, and constituted a Court of Record by proceeding according to the course of common Law, with a jurisdiction unlimited in pint of amount, and keeping a record of its proceedings, and recognized as such Court by the laws and judicial decisions of said State,) Peter Shirts aged fifty seven years, resident in the town of Lyons in said County, who, being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows:

For six years that he insited in the year 1777 into the company commanded by Captain Lights in the Regiment commanded by Col. Peter Gansevoort in the New York Line afterwards Col. Gansevoort’s & Col. Goose VanSchaick’s Regiments were consolidated Col. VanSchaick took the command he was in Sullivan’s Campaign & At the taking of Cornwallis & was discharged & June 1783 by Col. VanSchaick & Capt Cornelius Johnson at Newburgh. And that he made application for a Pension on the twenty seventh day of April 1818 and that he received a Pension Certificate, No. 10257, and I do solemnly swear I was a resident citizen of the United States on the eighteenth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, and 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 land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War,” passed on the 18th day of March, 1818, and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts, or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed, and by me subscribed, viz.

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 horse \$20.00 | Brot up \$69.00 |
| 1 Cow 16.00 | 1 table 0.25 |
| 7 hogs 14.00 | 1 church 0.75 |
| 9 geese 1.75 | 3 pails -.50 |

1 calf 2.00	1 small wheel 2.00
5 sheep 5.00	1 great wheel 0.75
½ of old wagon 5.00	1 old lamp 2.50
1 chest of drawers 1.25	\$75.75
1 [?] & dishes	Peter Shirts

And I do further swear and declare that I am by occupation labourer & that by age & infirmity I am unable to do any labour of any consequence—and that my family consists of my wife Elizabeth aged forty eight years, my daughter Julia Ann aged fourteen years my son Stephen and aged [?] years my son Amos aged seven years my daughter Hannah aged five years one grandchild an orphan named Elias Shuts aged two years & that I have no other family. Peter Shirts.