

## William Feeter or Vetter

A synopsis of William Feeter's pension was in the first book, but here is the full pension application for William Feeter. Jim Morrison included this one in the batch he let me copy.

S.13013

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

State of New York

Herkimer County

On this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year 1833, personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, now sitting William Feeter, a resident of the Town of Little Falls in the County of Herkimer and State of New York aged 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, 1832.

That he enlisted in the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

V	Klock's Regiment.	N. Y. Militia.
<i>William Vetter</i>		
Appears as shown below on a		
Receipt Roll*		
under the following heading:		
<small>* Received of Col<sup>l</sup> Jacob Klock by the hands of Jacob G. Klock, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Military Certificate Signed by Gerard Bancker, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Treasurer of the State of New York, to the Amount mentioned oposed to our Names, it being for Military services Performed by us in the late war, we say Received by us in full."</small>		
(Revolutionary War.)		
Roll dated	<i>Not dated</i>	
Date when Delivered,	<i>Aug. 28, 17</i>	
Number of Certificate,	<i>19008</i>	
Name Granted to,	<i>Martin Nestel Pvt.</i>	
To whom Delivered,	<i>William Vetter</i>	
P <sup>r</sup> order & number,	<i>No 95</i>	
Witness Present,	<i>Cornelius C. Beckman</i>	
Amount of Certificate, c.	<i>7. 14. 0</i>	
Remarks:		
<small>* From copy made in the R. &amp; P. Office, War Department, in October, 1861, of an original record borrowed from the State of New York.—R. &amp; P. 454,712.</small>		
Number of copies	<i>12</i>	
	<i>Arreston</i>	
	<i>(54716)</i>	

That deponent was born at the place called Stone Arabia in the (now) Town of Palatine in the County of Montgomery and State of New York, the second day of February in the year 1756, deponent has been informed, there was a record of his age made by the clergyman of the Dutch Reformed Church at Stone Arabia but deponent never saw it and does not know where (blotted) is. Deponent's father also had a record of the ages of his children which has been destroyed and these are the only records of his age of which he has any knowledge that at the time deponent entered into the service he lived at the now Town of Amsterdam in the said County of Montgomery in said State of New York with his father and since the Revolutionary War, deponent has resided in the said Town of Little Falls, where he still resides.

Deponent was enrolled in a company of militia at Amsterdam aforesaid in a company Commanded by Emmanuel Degraff Capt., the other officers of the company deponent does not now recollect, in the spring of the year 1776. During this year deponent was out several times with his company on scouting parties and went to Johnstown, Caughnawaga and Sacandaga all now in the said County of Montgomery.

Deponent was out several days each time, in pursuit of Indians and Tories who infiltrated the county.

Deponent does not recollect of being out in service at any time during the succeeding winter.

The spring following the year, 1777 deponent was out several time on scouting parties in pursuit of Indians and Tories, the last of June or first of July deponent was drafted to go with the militia to Fort Stanwix to shut up Wood Creek that emptied into Oneida Lake, Deponent went in a company commanded by Abraham Yates Captain and other officers deponent does not now recollect. The company went to Fort Stanwix from which place a guard was sent to protect the militia while they felt wood into the creek to prevent the British from ascending it with boats. Deponent does not recollect how long they were engaged there but when they returned to Amsterdam deponent thinks the militia had been out three or four weeks.

That at the ??? deponent returned from Fort Stanwix as above stated, the county was all in commotion, it was known that St. Leger was on his way from Oswego to attack Fort Stanwix, Burgoyne was advancing from the north and Howe triumphant at New York, the Tories held up their heads with confidence, their cause would succeed.

Most of the inhabitants at Amsterdam are Tories and were the father and brothers of deponent who a few days after the Battle at Oriskany which was on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August, turning deponent out of doors because he was a friend to his county and deponent went immediately to Stone Arabia where he was born and where most of the inhabitants were Whigs. Deponent went to the house of his uncle, George Steens? who in a few days went with deponent to a family of Grays, and they gave deponent a musket and the necessary equipage. Deponent was then enrolled in a Company of Militia Commanded by Sefrenus Cook Capt.; Nicholas Coppernol Lieutenant and Peter Goomis Junion, Ensign.

This was soon after the Battle at Oriskany and the Indians and Tories infested the county and deponent with this company was almost constantly engaged in pursuit of them. Stone Arabia is a high range of land from which could be seen the surrounding country for a great many miles and the militia were told that where a large smoke was seen to ride in any part of the county. To turn out immediately and deponent was out several times this summer in pursuit of the enemy from the same sign. The company to which deponent belonged was attached to a regiment commanded by Jacob Klock Colonel and Peter Waggoner was Lieutenant Colonel, the other officers deponent does not now recollect.

The next spring deponent was drafted to go to Unadilla, the Indians and Tories as it was reported had collected therein. Deponent went in a company Commanded by Samuel Gray, Captain, the other officers deponent does not now recollect. The militia sent guards at Fort Herkimer, the day before deponent went to Fort Herkimer an Indian spy was taken prisoner in the Mohawk River and was brot to the fort, the same day deponent arrived at Fort Herkimer. He and one Jacob Sart was sent with the Indian by Jacob Klock's the Colonel of the Regiment at Stone Arabia, who was inclined to send the Indian to Albany and deponent and said Sart returned immediately to Fort Herkimer.

A few days after a party of Indians and Tories approximating to eight or nine hundred made their appearance in the vicinity of the fort. The Indian spy above mentioned was as was supposed, sent out by this party to scout the country and gain intelligence. The inhabitants had information of the approach of the army and had moved into Fort Herkimer and Dayton. A scouting party had been sent from the fort down the Unadilla River to ascertain the situation and strength of the enemy. This party was attacked by the Indians and most of them killed. One or two returned to the fort and informed the inhabitants of the approach of the enemy. About all the building and

property were burnt and destroyed along the Mohawk and vicinity by the enemy in the vicinity of the forts. A party of Indians kept at a short distance from Fort Herkimer which contained only about 100 militia the Indians set a house on fire a short distance from the fort. Deponent and several others climbed over the pickets of the fort and ran and put the fire out and saved the house. The enemy stayed but one day in the neighborhood. The militia did not go to Unadilla. Deponent remained at Fort Herkimer some time, cannot tell how long. The militia was ordered to go from Fort Herkimer to Glaisburgh in the (now) Town of Minden in the County of Montgomery about two miles west of Fort Plain.

That killed at that place were under the command of Colonel Jacob Klock. They lay at the latter place till the massacre and destruction of Cherry Valley in the now County of Otsego, that bound Montgomery County on the south west. The first of November they served and pursued through the country and the militia at Glaisburgh was in pursuit of the enemy and they arrived within a few miles of Cherry Valley and encamped at a small house for the night. Deponent and one George Waffle were sent to scout the woods in the vicinity of the house when they encamped to ascertain if the enemy were in the vicinity. The next morning the militia marched to Cherry Valley and the garrison was collecting the dead into the fort with militia under the command of Col. Jacob Klock. Returned to the (now) Town of Minden near Fort Plain and lay at the house of one Mr. Seeber.

Deponent thinks soon after this he returned to Stone Arabia. The last of November or the first of December the Indians made their appearance in the north part of Stone Arabia. The militia were called out and deponent went with them to scout the county in pursuit of the Indians and were out a day or two. A few days after this the Indians again appeared in the same part of Stone Arabia and took a few prisoners and deponent and the militia went again in pursuit.

The next March in the year 1779, the Indians and Tories, as it was reported had collected in the north part of Stone Arabia in a settlement called Tilloborough. The militia were called out and deponent went in a company commanded by Samuel Gray. The militia collected at the house of Capt. Christian Gittman which was picketed and when at the time regular troops lay and when a guard was kept the militia was out a few days. Deponent and one Peter Gitman was sent out to scout the country, went on show shoes. Could find no Indians and returned to Stone Arabia. In February preceeding a company was enlisted at Stone Arabia under Capt. Samuel Gray for the purpose of carrying provisions and ammunition from Schenectady to Fort Stanwix in boats and the other forts between to ??? man the Mohawk River. The company mustered at Albany in February and was then sent home till the river opened in the spring.

In April as deponent believes, the company again mustered at Albany and then went to Schenectady to load the boats and proceed up the river to Fort Stanwix. Colonel Van Schaick commanded a regiment of troops that went in company with the boats, from Fort Stanwix. Col. Van Schaick's Regiment and Captain Gray's Company went to Fort Brammington at the outlet of Oneida Lake when the Captain Gray's Company and a small group remained and the regiment proceeded to destroy Oneida Castle. The troops returned in a few days and brot with them about thirty Indians prisoners who was put on board the boat and taken to Schenectady. The boatmen, being Capt. Gray's company, went twice after this to Fort Stanwix as deponent believes.

In June deponent thinks, the boatmen had permission to volunteer and go with the troops under the Command of General Clinton, who had passed up the Mohawk River early in the Spring to Canajoharie and from there he proceeded to Cooperstown at the foot of Otsego Lake in the now County of Otsego. Deponent with several others of the boatmen joined the troops and Gen'l Clinton at Cooperstown, they remained there a few weeks and then Gen'l Clinton proceeded down the river and joined Gen'l Sullivan at Tioga about the middle of August as deponent believes. The army under the Command of Gen'l Sullivan marched soon after to Chemung about ??? mile as deponent believes. The next day the army went the whole force of the Indians and Tories at Newtown. A battle was fought the enemy was soon driven from the position and retreated. Deponent was enlisted to help man boats to convey the men back to Tioga and from thence to Wyoming about one hundred miles below Tioga on the Susquehanna River from the latter place deponent returned with the boats to carry provisions to the Fort at Tioga at which deponent remained till Gen'l Sullivan returned from his expedition in the Indian County.

Deponent went with the army to Wyoming and from thence to Easton about sixty-five miles situated on the Delaware River. The army lay at Easton's a few days and then permission was given to the company to which deponent belonged commanded by Capt. Samuel Gray to proceed to Schenectady in the State of New York as fast as they pleased. The company crossed the Delaware at Easton and proceeded through the State of New Jersey to New Windsor situated on the North River a short distance above the highlands in the State of New York. They stayed at this place a few days and then proceeded home to Stone Arabia where they arrived late in the fall.

In January following, the year 1780, deponent again enlisted to carry provisions to Fort Stanwix and other forts west of Schenectady as before stated and went to Albany in February to muster and was then sent home to remain till the river opened in the spring at which time deponent went to Schenectady and commanded boating and continued in the same service most of the time till late in the fall. Samuel Gray was Captain and had commanded a division of the boats and each boat was manned by the men during the summer the boats were in service as deponent believes was on their way to Fort Stanwix and had proceeded as far as old Fort Schuyler where the City of Utica the County of Oneida is now situated when they were informed by a friend of Indians. That the Indians commanded by Brant were in ambush on the river to stampeded and take the boats. The boatmen landed and protected in a small point of ground adjoining the banks of the river and opposite their boats to guard themselves against the attack of the Indians. They sent an express immediately to Schenectady for relief and Gen'l Van Rensselaer came up the Mohawk River, collected the militia on his way and released them after they had been there eleven or twelve days and guarded they safe to Fort Stanwix.

In October of this year deponent was permitted to go home to Stone Arabia on furlough from Schenectady while he was there the enemy burnt Schoharie and Caughnawaga and proceeded up the Mohawk River. Col. Brown who commanded a small fort at Stone Arabia received orders from Gen'l Van Rensselaer who was coming up the river from Schenectady, to give the enemy battle and he could attack them in the rear. Brown marched out of the fort and attacked the enemy. Deponent and other militia of the Stone Arabia, John Brown died in the battle, Brown fell fighting manfully and about thirty or forty of his men were killed and the remainder retreated. Gen'l Van

Rensselaer did not come to the aid of Brown as he had promised. The next day deponent joined Gen'l Van Rensselaer and pursued the enemy beyond Fort Herkimer and the day after returned to Stone Arabia. Within a few days deponent came to Schenectady and continued to serve as a boatman till the river closed in the fall.

When deponent returned to Stone Arabia for the winter following Col. Willett came to Fort Plain and commanded the troops and militia on the Mohawk River till the close of the war. Deponent was frequently out on scouting parties in the spring and first part of summer.

In June Jacob Klock who ordered on the Mohawk River in the (now) Town of Oppenheim in Montgomery County and who had been a Lieutenant in the Continental Service turned Tory and went to Canada, he took with him several of his neighbors, in four weeks said Klock and those who left with him returned with a party of Indians and Tories and Canadians. One Philip Helmer who went to Canada with said Klock left the enemy and informed the inhabitants of the approach of the Indians and Tories and express was sent to Stone Arabia on Sunday and deponent and all the militia turned out. They were joined by a company of new Levies under the command of Capt. Jacob Sammons and Lieutenant Isaac Perry and went in search of the enemy. Deponent and six others sent as an advance guard and to follow the trail of the enemy. They overtook the enemy about noon, in the woods and fired upon them and killed one Indian. The enemy were resting when they were discovered and when fired a upon, fled and left all their packs, and many left their guns and balls. One of the party scalped the Indians that was killed and Andrew Gray carried the scalp to the fort at Stone Arabia, the enemy fled immediately from the country.

Deponent was frequently out on scouting parties during the summer and the first of September as he believes a party of Indians and Tories attacked a block house occupied by Jacob Timmerman in the (now) Town of Oppenheim in the said County of Montgomery. The alarm was given and the militia were called out at Stone Arabia and joined Col. Willett at the block house and went in pursuit of the enemy who had fled and taken several prisoners who resided near said blockhouse and pursued them to Jerseyfield (now called) the north part of the County of Herkimer and then returned home after this and during the fall the Indians again made their appearance on the Mohawk River and killed one Foster and his family and burnt his buildings. The alarm was given and the militia turned out at Stone Arabia and pursued the enemy a day or tow and then returned home from this time till late in the fall then there were alarms frequently given, parties of two and three Indians each were prowling about and they were discovered or attacked the inhabitants of any part of the country the militia always turned out and very often without finding the enemy. Several times during the following winter deponent was called out with the militia of Stone Arabia.

During the war and in the winter a settlement now in the Town of Fairfield in the said County of Herkimer was attacked by the Indians. Several of the inhabitants were killed and others taken prisoner and the buildings were burnt and property destroyed in another settlement in the now, northeast part of the County of Herkimer was attacked by the Indians and the inhabitants were taken prisoners and their buildings and property destroyed. Deponent was out with the militia in pursuit of the enemy at both times. Least stated thinks it was in the first part of the year 1782 but will not be certain.

In the spring of the year 1782, deponent went with a part of his company under the command of Capt. Samuel Gray to Fort Plain, then commanded by Col. Willett, they stayed a few days at Fort Plain and then the troops under the command of Col. Willett went into the south part of the now County of Montgomery to a place called Bowman's Creek in pursuit of the Indians and Tories who had collected there. They fled at the approach of Willett and the troops after ??? the country for a few days they returned to Fort Plain.

From this time till the first of October deponent was at **Fort Plain, Fort Plank about two miles west of Fort Plain**, and at Fort Herkimer and with the militia traveling the country in pursuit of small parties of Indians and Tories that infiltrated the country.

In October the British, Indians, and Tories under the Command of Major Ross and Walter Butler made their appearance on the Mohawk River in the now County of Montgomery. The alarm spread through the country. Deponent and two other young men started from Stone Arabia and went down the Mohawk River about twelve miles and joined Col. Willett at a place called Anthony's Nose, Willett proceeded down the south side of the river a few miles below Caughnawaga where Willett met an express who informed him the enemy was on the north side of the Mohawk River and on their way to Johnstown. Willett returned to the river and crossed over to Caughnawaga where he sent deponent and one William Wallace as a scout to ascertain the situation of the enemy.

They proceeded to Johnstown and discovered the enemy a little distance west of Johnson Hall they were building fires and encamping. Wallace returned to inform Col. Willett and deponent remained at the jail with six persons who were under the Command of one Capt. Liddle then keeper of the jail. Deponent and the company under Capt. Liddle when they saw Col. Willett advancing proceeded to the place where the enemy had built their fires and saw them retreating into the woods about half a mile to the north towards Kingsborough. Deponent and his party pursued as fast as they could run and came up close to the woods and halted. Col. Willett sent a party of men under the command of Major Andrew Finck to join Capt. Liddle's party and enter into the woods and finish pursuit of the enemy and there retreated, the enemy sent them into the fields. They entered into the woods a short distance and were fired upon by the enemy and one or two of their party ??? they returned the fire and the enemy retreated and deponent and his party pursued them about half a mile into the woods when they came up to the main body of the enemy. Deponent and Major Finck were in advance of their party and were fired upon by the enemy who stood on the top of the hill above them. The balls shook (can't read a section here) ten or fifteen but over deponent's head. Deponent fired at an Indian not more than twenty paces distance and the Indians fell. Major Fink then called out to his men to retreat as the enemy was surrounding them and they retreated into the open field and were followed by the enemy. Deponent and his party joined a company under the command of Captain Moody who had command of a cannon they made a stance a short time when they saw a large party of the enemy going through the woods to surround them and cut off their retreat to the town and then deponent and his party left the cannon and retreated to the lines & joined Col. Willett who had rallied his men and had received a reinforcement of militia. Willett advanced to thrust the enemy and again, took the cannon and the enemy were driven from the field and retreated.

During the battle several of dependents friends and companions from Stone Arabia were severely wounded and deponent was requested to go to Stone Arabia to inform their friend and bring them to Johnstown to take care of the wounded.

Deponent started immediately and went in the night to Stone Arabia about 12 miles and ate nothing from early in the morning till late at night when he arrived at Stone Arabia. The next morning deponent returned to Johnstown to Col. Willett who deponent learned had gone in pursuit of the enemy and deponent followed Willett to Fort Herkimer and stayed at the fort the night. All the militia had gone with Willett in pursuit of the enemy and deponent returned home to Stone Arabia. The battle between the enemy and Colonel Willett at Johnstown deponent verily believes was in the fall of the year, 1782 as above stated but by many of the Revolutionary soldiers it is said this battle was fought in the fall of the year 1781 which deponent thinks is incorrect.

In the time following many of the Tories that had joined Ross and Butler at Johnstown returned home to the now County of Montgomery. The Whigs were so much wronged against by them that they went in parties and whipped the Tories. The Tories swore the peace of there? And the Whigs to the number of eight or nine went captive to jail at Johnstown. The news was back to Stone Arabia and deponent and several others went to Johnstown, broke the jail and liberated the prisoners. The same winter Jacob Klock who had been a Lieutenant in the Continental service and turned Tory as above returned home about six miles from Stone Arabia, his father and Capt. Christian House sent a letter to Stone Arabia saying they would protect him to the utmost of their power, the militia of Stone Arabia was collected to go and take said Klock and they chose deponent, Samuel Gray and Isaac Paris their ??? and went to the house of said Klock's father. Where he stayed and was ??? but he had fled to the woods, a file of warnings was sent after said House and brought him to said Klock's and said House and stayed Klock then to for their lives with their hate under their (can't read section) they had done wrong and promised to do better.

That he is unable to obtain any witness who can testify in detail to his service and ??? for much witnesses.

That he was born at Stone Arabia in the now County of Montgomery in the year 1756.

That he has no record of his age.

That when he entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War he resided at Amsterdam in the County of Montgomery, Palatine District, since the Revolutionary War he resided at Stone Arabia about two years when he removed to the now Town of Little Falls in Herkimer County where he now resides.

That he entered this first service in the militia in which he was enrolled. In 1778 he was drafted and served in a detachment and in 1780 he volunteered to enter the service and served as a volunteer as related in his statement.

Some of the regular officers who were with the troops where he served, Colonel Willett, Colonel Gansvoort, General Clinton, Col. Van Schaick, Gen. Sullivan, Gen Poor, Gen. Hand, Gen. Maxwell, Gen. James Clinton, Surgeon Doctor Green.

That he never received a written discharge.

The affidavit hereto annexed made before Peter S. Dygert a Justice of the Peace on the day of this taking and date thereof, the 14 January 1783 which affidavit is figured by Samuel Gray and was the Captain during the deponents (seems to be a fold in the

original and the photo copy is not good here) companions in may perilous scout upon the trail after Indians and Tories serving the term stated in said affidavit. Deponent saith that his name there was a many times since has been spelled Vetter but saith this affidavit was made for him, this deponent and has ever since been possession.

The document rambles on about providing people who can swear to his truthfulness and veracity. Then he relinquishes claim to any other pension except the one he is applying for, etc.

(Signed in good handwriting) William Feeter