

**Pension Application for Jacob Schoolcraft, Sergeant**

W.19323 (Maria Catrina)

State of New York

Schoharie County SS.

On this fifth day of October in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in Open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common pleas of the County of Schoharie in the State aforesaid, now sitting Jacob Schoolcraft, a resident of the town and county of Schoharie and State of New York, aged Seventy years and nine months who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on this oath make the following declaration in order to make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

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

He was firstly called into the service in the fall of the year 1776 he was ordered to appear at the lower fort in the town and now county of Schoharie, by Captain Christian Stubrach, (1) whose company he this deponent served in Colonel Peter Vrooman's regiment, he served the company at the fort, it being head quarters of Col. Vroman's regiment, and as soon as he Joined the company, he was appointed Orderly Sergeant of the company: he was in the service at that time between one and two months when he was discharged at the fort aforesaid.

He was again, in the spring of 1777, ordered to turn out and Join the company of Captain Stubrach at the lower fort in the town and county of Schoharie, which company belonged to Col. Vromans regiment, he according to orders Joined the company and served in said company as orderly Sergeant viz during the time frequently sent out among scouting parties but was not in any battle. He continued to serve in said company as orderly Sergeant till late in the fall when he was discharged at the Fort aforesaid but his discharge was not in writing.

In the Spring of the year 1778, he was again ordered in to the service again he accordingly Joined the same company and regiment to wit Christian Stubracks company in Colonel Vroman's regiment, that he Joined the company at the lower fort in Schoharie aforesaid and continued to serve in it from Spring till late in the fall when he was discharged at head quarters in Schoharie aforesaid, that during the time he served in said company as orderly Sergeant, that the Indians were almost continually about but that he was in no battle during this term of service but that he and others were frequently sent out scouting.

In the spring of the year 1779, He was again ordered into the the[sic] service to Join the same company and regiment at the place aforesaid and he accordingly Joined the company at the lower fort in Schoharie aforesaid and served in said company as orderly Sergeant that the said company there was commanded by Captain Stubrach in Colonel Vroman's regiment was stationed during the time at the lower fort aforesaid they were chiefly employed in Scouting and keeping off the hostile Indians which the inhabitants were greatly troubled with the town being one of the frontier settlements. There he continued to serve in said company till late in the fall when he was discharged at the fort aforesaid but the same was not in writing.—

In the spring of the year 1780 he was again called into the service by the same officers into Captain Stubrach's company in Col. Vroomans regiment that he accordingly Joined the company and regiment at the fort aforesaid and during the summer was chiefly employed in Scouting and guarding the fort and the town and adjacent neighbourhoods that in the month of October the British and Indians under the command of Sir John Johnson and Butler (2) made their appearance and committed great ravages burnt and plundered the town and murdered and Scalped all that fell in their way excepting those whom they took prisoners.—

They came and fired upon the fort but did not take it: they burnt Schoharie about the 18<sup>th</sup> of October 1780, and then they marched to the Mohawk river and burnt the settlements along the river. That part of Colonel Vromans regiment followed them, that he this deponent was with the troops that went; they went to Herkimer but did not overtake the enemy and they then returned to the fort in Schoharie. That the inhabitants were greatly annoyed and distressed by the hostile Indians during the war. That he continued in the service til in the month of May 1783 when he was discharged from the service in the town of Schoharie then in the County of Albany and State of New York. That during the whole term of his service from the time he entered, in the year 1776 till the time of his discharge in May 1783 he was Orderly Sergeant (3) of the Company. That his discharge was not in writing. That he was a resident of the town of Schoharie now county of Schoharie, and State of New York at the several periods of his entering the service. He has no documentary evidence of his Serving but can from the service of living witnesses.

1. To the first interrogatory of the court he answers that he was born the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 1761, at the town and county of Schoharie, then county of Albany and State aforesaid.
2. To the second he answers, that his age is recorded in the Lutheran Church Book at Schoharie in the County of Schoharie & state aforesaid.
3. To the third he answers, that he was living in the town of Schoharie, then county of Albany now county of Schoharie, when he was called into the service and has lived there since the revolutionary war and lives there now.
4. To the fourth interrogatory he answers, that he was ordered into the service by Christian Stubrach the captain of the company.
5. To the fifth interrogatory he answered that he does not recollect the names of any of the officers there were stationed at Schoharie that he does not recollect of many being stationed where he was stationed during the term of his service.
6. To the sixth he answered that he never had a written discharge.
7. To the seventh he answered that John Schoolcraft, (4) John L. Snyder, John Becker, Henry Becker, Jacob Becker and Bartholomew Swart are persons of the town in which he lives to him known and who can testify to his veracity and of their knowledge of his service in the revolutionary war.

But from the year 1780 as before he was not in the service during the winter months but only from early in the Spring till late in the fall of each year till his final discharge in May 1783.

He hereby relinquishes every claim what ever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.  
(Signed) Jacob Schoolcraft

Sworn to and subscribed this fifth day of October 1832 in open court. John Gebhard Jr. Clk

State of New York  
Schoharie County SS.

Bartholomew Swart of the town and county of Schoharie, aged sixty nine years and eleven? Months who being duly sworn according to Law, doth on his Oath say that he is well acquainted with Jacob Schoolcraft, whose name is above subscribed, and was well acquainted with; him before and during the revolutionary war and he this deponent knows that the said Jacob Schoolcraft served in the revolutionary War as an Orderly Sergeant in Captain Christian Stubrach's Company in Colonel Peter Vroman's Regiment from about the month of October in

the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty till the month of May one thousand seven hundred and eighty three that this deponent served in the same company and regiment from the month of May 1778, to May 1783 and further he knows that the said Jacob Schoolcraft was in the service before that time in the same company and regiment that during the term of their service they were not on duty during the winter season of each year and was generally from early in the spring till into the fall of each year that they were in the service (Signed) Bartholomew Swart

N. B. The words "Sixty Six" in the 2 line from the top word "Sixty nine" interline before sworn to Subscribed and sworn in open court the day and year aforesaid. John Gebhard Jr. Clk.

Town and County of Schoharie  
And State of New York SS

On this eighth day of November in the year one thousand eight hundred thirty six personally appeared before me William Mann one of the Judges of the County of Schoharie, Mary Cathorina Schoolcraft aged seventy seven years who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July fourth 1835: That she is the widow of Jacob Schoolcraft, who was a pensioner under the act of the Seventh of June 1832 at the time of his death. She further swears that she was married to the said Jacob Schoolcraft on the fifth day of November in the year seventeen hundred Eighty and that her husband the aforesaid Jacob Schoolcraft died on the twelfth day of August eighteen hundred and thirty-four, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. (Signed) Maria Catrina Schoolcraft

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before. Wm. Mann a Judge Schoharie County Court.

I do hereby certify that the credibility of Mary Cathorine Schoolcraft the above affiant is unimpeachable, and that she is unable in consequence of bodily infirmity to attend the court. Wm. Mann, a Judge Schoharie County Court.

N.B. The word "Seven" interlined before sworn to. Wm. Mann.

Letter in pension folder

April 27, 1926

Mrs. Adelbert J. Livermore

Newark Valley, New York

Madam:

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim W. 19323 it appears that Jacob Schoolcraft was born December 17, 1761 in Schoharie, (then Albany County), New York.

While a resident of Schoharie, New York he enlisted in the fall of 1776 and served at various times until May 1783 as Orderly Sergeant in Captain Christian Stubrach's Company, Colonel Peter Vroman's New York Regiment.

He was allowed pension on his application executed October 5, 1832 while a resident of Schoharie, Schoharie County, New York. He died August 12, 1834.

Soldier married November 5, 1780 in Schoharie County, New York, Maria Catrina (or Catarina) Zimmer. She was allowed pension on her application executed November 8, 1836 while a resident of Schoharie County, New York aged seventy-seven years. There is no other data on file as to his family.

Respectfully, Winfield Scott, Commissioner.

End Notes—W.19323—Jacob Schoolcraft

1. Christian Strubach was appointed the First Lieutenant in Captain George Mann's First Company in Colonel Peter Vrooman's Fifteenth Regiment of Albany County Militia. Captain Mann was a loyalist and late in 1776 or early 1777, he either resigned or he was removed as Captain of the First Company. Strubach was officially commissioned Captain of the Company on February 20, 1778. Jacob also had served as a private at various times in Captains George Richtmeyer, Christian Brown and Dirck Miller.
2. Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Johnson and Lieutenant Colonel John Butler attacked the Schoharie Valley on October 17, 1780.
3. Jacob only shows up in the companies including Strubach's as a private. An orderly sergeant has to be able to read and write. He was responsible to keep a record of orders and muster or pay rolls as part of his duties. Jacob's father was Lawrence Schoolcraft who served as the Adjutant of Vrooman's Regiment with the rank of lieutenant. The adjutant wrote orders per the commanding officer and a master rolls of the company; muster or payrolls. Jacob's pension is signed which supports the fact that he could write. It is possible he served as an orderly sergeant or clerk as some early war muster rolls do list clerks but was never officially appointed as an orderly sergeant.
4. John Schoolcraft is a brother of Jacob's. His other brothers were Lawrence Jr., Peter and William. They all served in Vrooman's Regiment.