

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Christian Fast¹ W4195

Anna Barbara

fn105PA/VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/3/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

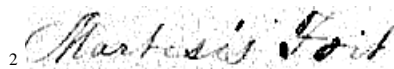
State of Ohio Richland County: SS

On this 23rd day of October 1832 personally appeared before the judges of the Court of common pleas of said County in open Court Christian Fast a resident of Orange Township in the County of Richland and State of Ohio aforesaid aged seventy years who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he was born in Frederick County Maryland the 23rd day of June 1763. That he has a memorandum of his age in his Bible which he transcribed from his father's Bible. When about 10 or 11 years of age he removed with his parents and settled in Monongahela County Virginia. In the spring of 1778 or 1779 he cannot recollect which but knows he was either in his 16th or 17th year he entered into the service of the United States as a volunteer in the Virginia militia at Martesis Fort² [sic ?] in said County under Captain Joseph Neel³ [?] and was stationed at Scott's Mill on the Monongahela River David Gilkey was next in command in the station but he does not recollect what office he held, Colonel Zachariah Morgan was the superior officer in that part of the country – he visited the station occasionally as an officer, and was ordered the detachment from the station against the Tories. The detachment was stationed at this part to guard the frontiers. A part remained at the station and a part made excursions through the country between that and the Ohio River and took turns in the same alternately. He served a term of seven months and was regularly discharged late in the fall, he had a written discharge or certificate of his service which he gave his father to draw his pay and has never seen it since, thinks his father drew pay for his services. About the last of May or first of June 1780 he entered into the service of the United States in the Virginia militia in said County as a substitute for his brother Jacob Fast at Jared's Fort on big Whitely and placed under Colonel Miner [Minor?] and served in that station one month and was regularly dismissed but received no written discharge.

In June or the first of July he thinks in 1781 he was residing in what is now Fayette County Pennsylvania. A draft was ordered in the Militia of one 5th part to go in Clark's [George Rogers Clark's] Campaign and if five persons furnished a man they escaped a draft: his two brothers, two brothers in law and himself belonged to the same company and he agreed to go in

¹ BLWt26389-160-55

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the expedition to clear them of a draft – Accordingly he entered into the service of the United States under Captain Michael Gatt⁴ – Melzor Baker was Lieutenant in the Pennsylvania Militia they marched to Wheeling and there joined General Clark's expedition against the Indians. He remained at Wheeling 3 or 4 weeks waiting for the arrival of Colonel Laughry [Archibald Lochry] and then set out with the Army down the Ohio in boats, without him. At the mouth of the little Kenkaway [Kanawha] an express arrived informing General Clark that Lochry had arrived at Wheeling and was following him but had no provisions. The General ordered Major Cracroft [Charles Craigrift or Crecraft] and nine men of whom he was one into a boat and put some provisions aboard, and directed the Major to remain with the boat and provisions until Lochry arrived, then join his party and follow on. When Lochry arrived he joined his party and continued down the River. After passing the mouth of big Miami, near the mouth of Laughry's Creek [Lochry's Creek] the whole detachment was killed or taken by the Indians, he was wounded in the hip by a ball – Colonel Lochry was tomahawked after he surrendered and many others.⁵ He now recollects the names of the following officers who were taken prisoners. Major Cracroft, Captain Orr, Lieutenant Baker of the Militia he thinks, and Captain, Stokely he believes of the regular Army. He was taken by the Indians back into Miami country and kept a prisoner among them & wandered about in the woods with them.

In the summer or fall of 1782 having obtained their conference he was permitted to go with them on an expedition from Gertys town [Girty's town?] against Wheeling. Colonel McGee commanded the expedition Simon Girty, James Girty and George Girty and Captain Elliott were white men in the expedition. They moved slowly eastward and on the way were joined by a company of mounted Englishmen from Detroit. They crossed the Ohio about three miles below Fort Wheeling and surrounded it and held a parlay, but the men in the fort refused to surrender. They then kept up a fire for a few days & tried to burn the fort – A proposition was made to penetrate the country and make an attack upon the settlements – the family into which he was adopted refused to join the party – The night after the party set out he ran away from the Indians and the next day he came on their trail and followed until by the signs he knew he was near them – He then took a circuitous route and ran all day – rested that night and the next day about 4 o'clock arrived at Ross' fort in the settlement on the waters of the Ten Mile [creek?] now in Washington County and alarmed the settlement, about sundown the Indians attacked it by [sic, but] they were prepared and resisted successfully. The next day he arrived at his father's about the 1st of December 1782: having been about seventeen months as he thinks from his best recollection. His officers were so dispersed that he never received any certificate of his services nor any pay. With respect to the date of the Campaign he speaks from recollection and may be incorrect. After the Revolution he continued to reside in Fayette County until the spring of 1816 when he removed his present place of residence in Orange Township Richmond County of Ohio where he had resided ever since. And the said Fast relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares his name is not upon the pension roll of any State. He knows of the existence of no documentary evidence by which his services can be proved nor does he know of any person living by whom he can prove said services except Philip Bowman⁶ whose affidavit is hereto annexed.

⁴ The War Department reviewer interpreted this name as Michael Catt

⁵ An excellent account of the engagement known as Lochry's Defeat is posted at <http://boards.ancestry.com/topics.Military.amerrev.general/803/mb.ashx>

⁶ Bowman's affidavit is posted at fn p. 42, but he only offers testimony as to his 'understanding' of Fast's service. Bowman does not claim to have been on the expedition with Lochry.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 23rd of October 1832
S/ Ellzey Hedges, Clk S/ Christian Fast, X his mark
[James Haney [could be "Heney"] and John Hickerd gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 14: On November 6, 1843 in Richland County Ohio, Anna Barbara Fast, 76 on the nights September 1843, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Christian Fast, a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$80 per annum for his service in the revolution; that she married him August 1, 1783; that her husband died June 25, 1841. The widow signed her application with her mark.]

[fn p. 16: family record:

Martin Fast son of Christian Fast was born the 12th day of June 1784

Nicholas Fast born the 11th day of June 1786

Jacob Fast was born the 13th day of March 1788

Ann Catrine Margret was born the 17th of July 1792

William Fast was born the 24th of March 1794

Christin [sic] Fast was born the 6th day of October 1795

David Fast was born the 1st day of August 1797

Francis Fast was born the 19th day of June 1799

Barbara Fast was born the 12th day of February 1801

Elisabeth Fast was born the 29th day of August 1804

George Fast was born the 4th day of June 1807

John Fast was born the 10th day of July 1809

Christeany Fast was born the 13th day of May 1811

Christian Fast was born the 19th of January 1790 and died the first day of September 1792

Nancy Fast was born the 7th day of November 1802 and died the 19th day of September 1804

[fn p. 17]

Christian Fast Of Nicholas Fast Was Born the 22nd Day of June 1762 and Was Married to Barbara Mason the First Day of August 1783

Barbara Mason Was Born the 9th Day of September in the Year of Our Lord 1767

Jeremiah, son of Ann C. Margret Fast, was born December 18, 1807

John, son of Christian Fast, Jr., was born October 16, 1814

[fn p. 18]

John Fast son of Christian Fast Junior was born the 16 day of October 1814

Martin Fast was born the 17 day of January 1816

David Fast was born the 22nd day of September in the year of our Lord 1818

Isaac Fast was born the 19th day of March in the year of our Lord 1820

Levina Fast was born April the 22nd in the year of our Lord 1822

George Fast was born March the 18 1824

Clemmer Fast was born the 24 day of March 1826

Christian Fast was born the 12th [illegible] 1828

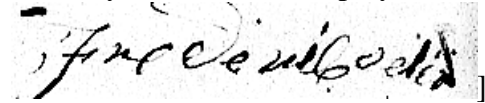
An. Elizabeth Fast was born June the 20th 1830

[fn p 32: On March 4, 1845, Martin Mason of Nicholas County, Ohio, gave testimony that he is

the brother of Ann Barbara Fast; he states that he frequently heard Christian Fast relate the time he was held in captivity by the Indians and of making his escape stating "...he [Fast] was adopted into an Indian family and in the night during the attack by the Indians on the Fort at Wheeling said Fast spoke to one of his Indian brothers and requested him to give him a drink of water – the Indian told him to go and get it himself – Fast then took up a small brass kettle which I have seen many times and went to the watering place and thence made his escape..."



[fn p. 34: On March 4, 1845, Frederick Selcer of Nicholas County of Ohio also gave a supporting affidavit stating that he, affiant, was raised in the same neighborhood with Christian Fast in Fayette County Pennsylvania; that Fast was drafted at the same time as the affiant's uncle David Dillinger to go on the expedition to Kentucky to fight the Indians; "... Soon after Fast's return which absence as near as I can now recollect was about eighteen months – I saw him and asked what had become of my uncle the said David Dillinger – he told me that he was captured the same time that he [Fast] was – and we went one day's journey together – then there were the Indians stayed back with him until the next day and then he discovered his leggings and knew that they also had his scalp by the color of his hair – when they overtook them...."



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service in the Virginia militia. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum (an increase from \$70 per annum), commencing March 4th, 1848 for her husband service in the Virginia and Pennsylvania service.]