

George Peterson

Ancestor #P-269105

Military Service

Served as a Private in the New Jersey Regiment.

Recorded in Stryker's Official Register of Officers and Men of New Jersey, page 717 as originally established by the NSDAR.

The Petersons

The genealogical work, *Everhart – Miller and Allied Families*, offers the best-known sketch of the Patriot George Peterson, his ancestors and his descendants. This work was compiled by Mrs. Allie Everhart Miller and was originally published in 1923. The following excerpts are based on this publication.

Historian Charles P. Green of Hammonton, NJ, RFD No.1, writes in a letter dated 1927. "There is a well attested tradition that a Swedish gentleman of fortune named Peterson held a high rank in the army of King Gustavus Adolphus in the Thirty Years War". A descendant of this Peterson family, Hon. Richard H. Peterson, office 1203 Boyce Bldg., 30 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. (died 1925) writes in 1923: "I have our family Bible which gives our genealogy for several generations, and will give you a copy of such records. I have learned generally that we are descended in the male line from Israel Peterson, who was a Colonel on the staff of Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, and who fought in the Thirty Years War and upon his King being killed in the battle of Lutzen, Israel resigned and returned to Sweden, gathered his own colony on his own ship and bringing all to America in 1635, settled on the Delaware River near Trenton, NJ, about twelve miles above the site of Philadelphia, PA. After the Dutch Invasion in 1655, this colony removed down the river and joined a larger settlement at Raccoon, now Swedenboro, still later they were found in Atlantic Co. NJ. As far back as 1700, more than one hundred persons named Peterson resided in New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania". A map of the original Trinity Church grounds (Raccoon Settlement) was made in 1702 by Richard Ball. It shows the church on middle of the 20 acre tract, on a bank facing the creek; the land purchased Sept. 1, 1703, as the original deed shows, was still in possession of the vestry. This same 20 acre tract was bordered by the tracts of several families. On one side, the name of Peterson is recorded. This church was consecrated June 17, 1705. Mr. Green says: "On the list of members of Trinity Church were six Petersons, namely: Wolla, Gabriel, Andrew, Hans, Lars and Olaf; the last named being your ancestor"(referring to the author Mrs. E.B. Miller)

Olaf Peterson had one son of record – (Patriot) George Peterson, born about 1735, died 1790. He married Rebecca Ann in about 1756, she was born about 1738: George Peterson's Revolutionary War service is found in Stryker's Official Register of Officers and

Men of New Jersey, page 717. He is recorded as a private. His service has been established by the NSDAR. The NSDAR papers also record that George and Rebecca Ann Peterson had sons as follows: Charles, born 1758, Lawrence, born 1760, John born 1763, later we found a son Gabriel, born 1752, so the mother, Rebecca, must have been born about 1733 and married about 1751.

Charles Peterson (born 1758), son of the Patriot George Peterson, married Judith Horn, lived in New Jersey and then in 1824 relocated to Williamsburg, Ohio. In Williamsburg, he kept a store for several years and lived on the south side of Main St., below Mulberry Alley. It should also be noted that Charles' brother Lawrence married Margaret Horn the sister of Charles' wife Judith. In about 1834, Charles Peterson returned to New Jersey on a business trip where he also visited with his daughter Ann. While returning home from NJ, he took ill and died. As a result, he was buried in Funkstown, MD, rather than in the family plot in Williamsburg Township Cemetery. There is still today a vacant plot next to his wife Judith where Charles was to have been buried.

The children of Charles Peterson and Judith Horn were as follows: (1) George (1786-1848), married 1st, Rebecca Jenkins – the daughter of Patriot John Jenkins, then married 2nd Susanna Jenkins a relation of his 1st wife, and 3rd Emma A Clarke. (2) John (1788-1834), married Sophia Goforth, (3) Judith married Michael Garronetti, (4) Margaret (1796-1886) married Charles W Cline, (5) Mary (1800-1876) married John Briggs, (6) Ann (1803-1897) married John Huber.

This same Charles Peterson is also claimed by the Peterson family to be a patriot, but as of this writing is still not established by either the NSSAR or NSDAR. Charles' supposed record is said to be "Cert. No 22382, for 135. 4d. dated April 27, 1779, issued to Chas. Peterson for services as sergeant in Capt. Thomas Wanson's Company of Col. Abraham Wemple's regiment of the Albany County Militia (Schenectady district) Certificate of Treasurer (manuscript record) V. 5" sent from the New York State Library - Manuscripts and History Section, Albany, NY.