

**PETER SITZ, GERMAN AMERICAN PATRIOT
Revolutionary Dispatch Rider and Bateauaman**



Orange, New Jersey Memorial for Dispatch Riders

OF GERMANY

Johann Heinrich Seitz, born in 1711 was from Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany. He was just one German after German from whom Captain Peter Sitz, Seitz, Sitze, etc. took root.

The Palatine was once a region of south-western Germany in the Holy Roman Empire that existed from 1085 to 1803. It was known as Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany. Religious chaos of the 1600's in Europe drove many Germans out of the Rheinland-Pfalz area onto ships sailing for the New World. Perhaps it was religion gone awry that drove the Sitzes/Sitz/Sietz Germans to the American colonies where some became known as the Pennsylvania Dutch.



Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Johann Henrich Seitz arrived in Philadelphia on the good ship **Queen Elizabeth** in 1738.

Arrival of Peter's Grandfather Felzinger and His Father Sides, 1738 on "List of all ye Alens Names."

[List 56 A] A List of all y^e Mens Names from 16 years & upwards, Passengers on b^d y^e Ship Queen Eliz^a, Alixand^r Hope, Command^r. [Qualified September 16, 1738.]

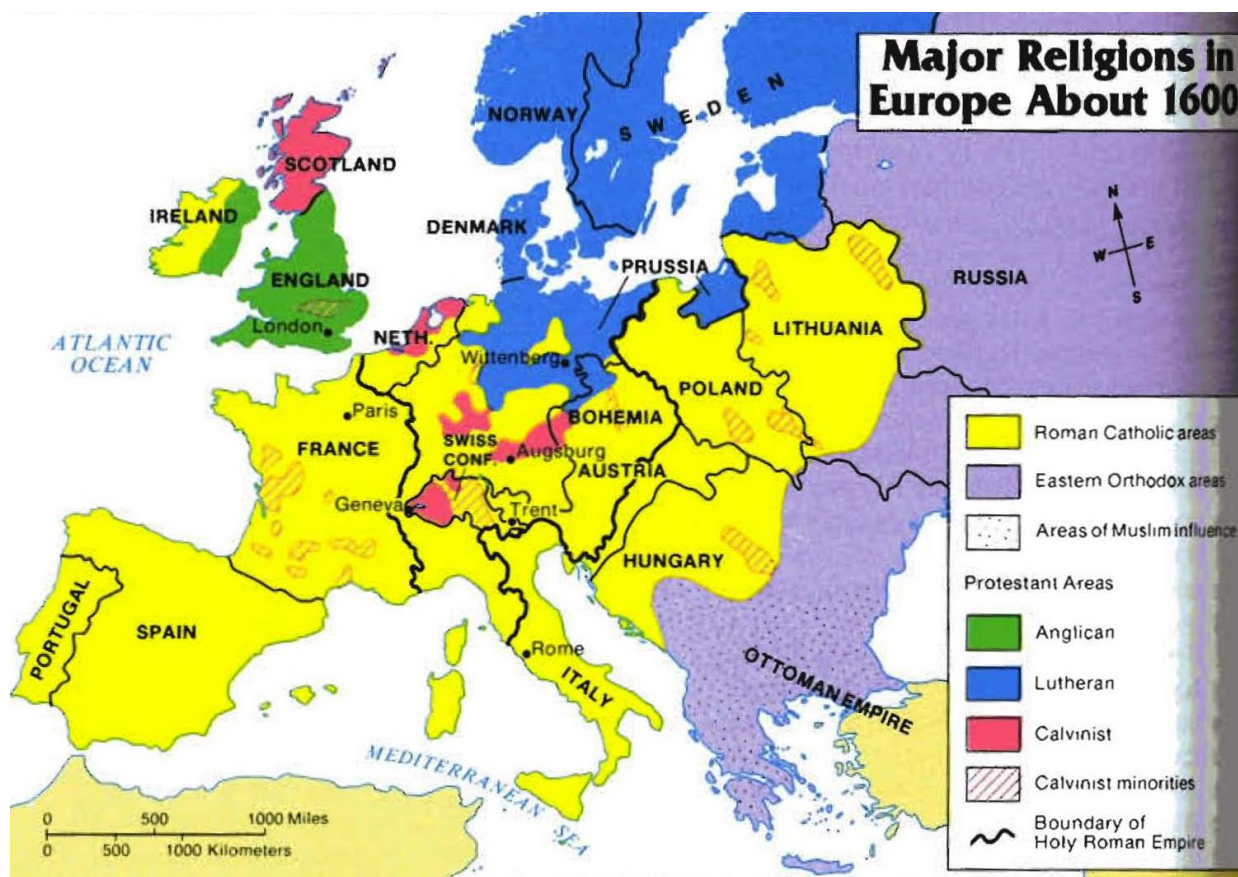
	AGES		AGES
Ludwick Sible	23	Jn ^o Georick Sliger	19
Hans Otho Jerselo	45	Andres Felsinger	51
Georick Parkman	33	Jn ^o Henrick Sides	26
Wm. Brant	50	Andres Lerick	50
Barnet Roat	25	Peter Lerick	20
Hans Otho Sliger	45	Antho. Lerick	18
Georick Sliger	23	Christian Laback	39
Jn ^o Sliger	21	Rinard Laback	70

The Sitzes, etc. are numerous and varied. Possible forebears of Johann Henrich Seitz left interesting paper trails. The problem lies in sorting them out. One theory on his earliest Sitzes ancestor, whose German name got written on paper, is Hans Christoph Seitz; his birth date is 3 July 1642 and was recorded in Pfalz, Germany, the Palatine area. He was married to Anna Maria Kressler born 1665.

It is believed that Hans Christoph and Anna Maria Kressler Seitz could be the parents of Johann Heinrich Seitz--albeit very elderly ones. The earliest that Johann Heinrich Seitz appears on paper is on the 1738 passenger list of the **Queen Elizabeth**. Johann Heinrich Seitz's age was given as 26 years--making his year of birth 1712, when his supposed parents were getting on in years. Listed among the other passengers was Johann Heinrich's wife, or future wife, Dorothea Elizabeth Felzinger. Her father, Andreas Felzinger, also stepped off the **Queen Elizabeth at Philadelphia**.

Perhaps it was religion gone awry that drove the Sitzes/Sitz/Sietz Germans to the American colonies.

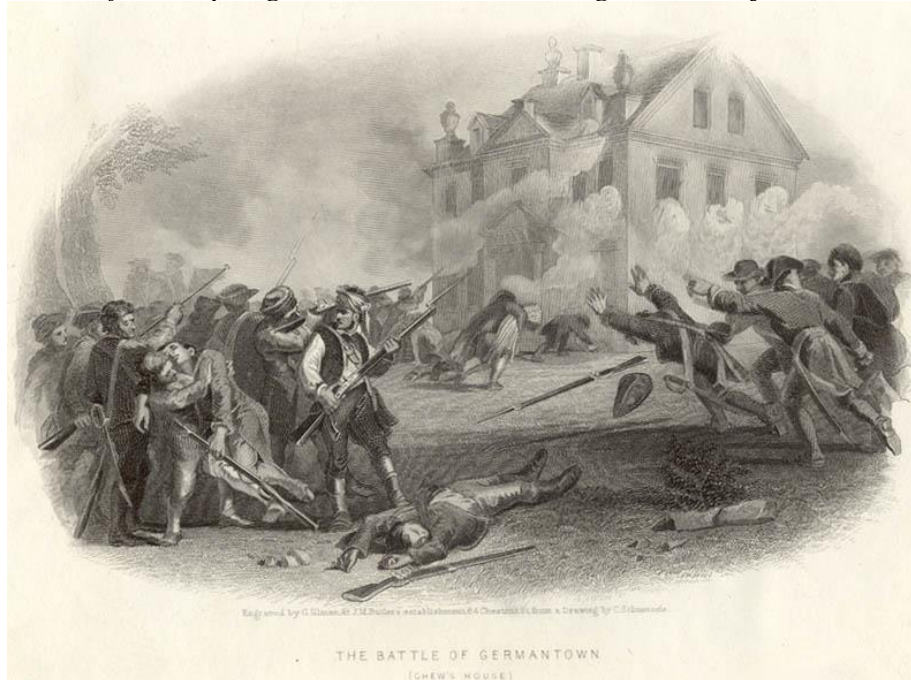
OF THE COLONIES



Whatever religion the Sitzes/Sitz/Sietz believed in, Philadelphia was a good town for them to land in. Unlike in Europe, many of the major religions were practiced there, freely. Even some new ones, like the Quakers and Mennonites, were thriving.

*Philadelphia was founded in 1682 by William Penn, an English Quaker and advocate of religious freedom. The city served as the capital of the Pennsylvania Colony during the British colonial era[3][16] and went on to play a historic and vital role as the central meeting place for the nation's founding fathers whose plans and actions in Philadelphia ultimately inspired the American Revolution and the nation's independence following the Revolutionary War. Philadelphia hosted the First Continental Congress in 1774, preserved the Liberty Bell, and hosted the Second Continental Congress during which the founders signed the Declaration of Independence. Once the Revolutionary War commenced, **the Battle of** was fought within Philadelphia's city limits. The U.S. Constitution was later ratified in Philadelphia at the Philadelphia Convention of 1787. Wikipedia*

*American forces lay siege to the Chew House during the **Battle of Germantown**.*



The Battle of Germantown was a major engagement in the Philadelphia campaign of the American Revolutionary War. It was fought on October 4, 1777, at Germantown, Pennsylvania, between the British Army led by Sir William Howe, and the American Continental Army under George Washington.

*Brigadier General Francis Nash, whose **North Carolina brigade** covered the American retreat, had his left leg taken off by a cannonball, and died on October 8. His body was interred with military honors on October 9 at the Mennonite Meetinghouse in Towamencin.[25] Wikipedia*

*Grave stone in Upper Burying Ground,
Germantown, Pennsylvania[22] of 3 officers and
6 unknown soldiers of Washington Army.*



PENNSYLVANIA MAPS



Montgomery County, Pennsylvania

Montgomery County borders Philadelphia to its southeast, Bucks County to its east.



Bucks County, Felzinger home

Andreas Felzinger remained in the Philadelphia area and represented good reason for his grandson, Peter Sitzes, to visit the Bucks County, Pennsylvania region prior, during, and after the Revolutionary War.

For whatever the need or opportunity, early on, Johann Henrich Seitz moved his family, south. Shortly after there were officially Carolina colonies, Johann took his family to what became North Carolina, a Royal colony or, Province. Peter, his son, was born on December 5, 1750, in south western North Carolina in an area that would become Lincoln County.



Lincoln County, NC Map



Anson County, NC Map

Johann Henrich Seitz, if Americanized as Henry Sides, can be found on a list of men in Captain Samuel Cobron's militia company in the Catawba River area, dating from about 1753-55, at the start of the French and Indian War. At this same time period, he is found in Anson County, North Carolina land records.

Anson Co. NC - 24 September 1754 - Henry Sides granted 300 acres on Killian's Creek.

Anson Co. NC - 13 October 1756; Crown Patent. book 15 p. 196 - Henry Sides granted an additional 140 acres on Killian's Creek.

Peter, born 1750, was just a boy when a few years following the 1757 war and Anson County land grants, Johann Henrich Seitz died.

Peter's mother, Dorothea, had written a letter to her own father telling him of her husband's death. She is believed to have also died in North Carolina, in Anson County.

While these German records are contrived into a biographical narrative based on family research that is sometimes faulty, Dorothea Felzinger's father, Andreas Felzinger, left an authentic American beginning. Andreas was also aboard the 1738 **Queen Elizabeth**, and his documented history maps out the German family of his grandson Peter and their migration across the colonies. Since Peter's American odyssey began with his Grandpa Felzinger, his first steps could have been out of Bucks County, Pennsylvania—before his father picked up his North Carolina land grants.

The death of Johann Heinrich Seitz, who became Americanized as John Henry Seitz/Sitzes/Sides, is mentioned in the will of Andreas Felzinger, dated 8 July 1766, proved 7 December 1767, in Lower Saucon Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Peter was sixteen at that time and

may have been even younger at the time of his father's death, for which there is no additional data.

Will Book 1, pg. 31, links Peter back to the Pennsylvania Dutch country. In this will, Felzinger mentions, *"...my daughter Dorothea, the wife of John Henry Seitz, now residing in the province of North Carolina."* In the will he makes the following disclosure, *"if her husband is dead according to a letter from her, then Dorothea shall have an equal part with the rest of my lawful issue...."*



Cumberland County, North Carolina Map

The rest of his issue included a Wagner family.

John Henry Seitz was dead. After he died, his wife moved from Lincoln. From Cumberland County, Dorothea, sons Peter and Henry Sitz/Sitzes/Sides, and sons-in-law, John Kagle, Henry Kagle, and Gaspar Clubb all executed a power of attorney letter which sent Simon Hart to Saucon Township in Bucks County, Pennsylvania to act on Dorothea Elizabeth Felzinger Seitz's behalf in claiming her share of Andreas Felzinger's estate with her Wagner in-laws. There is a record of marriage in the Tohickon Reformed Church of Bedminster Township, Bucks County between the son of Andreas Feltzinger and his Wagner fiancée. Andrew Feltzinger and Margaret Wagner were married 14 July, 1761.

The power of attorney letter, written in July of 1770, began:

Know all men by these presents that we John Kagle, Henry Kagle, Henry Sides, Caspar Clubb, Peter Sides and Dorthia Sides of the County of Cumberland of the province of North Carolina...

Peter evidently didn't need help from Hart to get him to Pennsylvania. During the Revolution, which began in 1776, Peter showed up near his late grandfather's Pennsylvania homeland and there joined other German Americans in the fight against the Redcoats. Interestingly, Wagoner was the family name of at least one of these German Americans. At times, Peter served in German speaking Regiments during eight years of fighting, and one regiment was under the command of a Lieutenant Colonel named Petter Wagoner.

YOUNG PETER IN A COUNTRY AT WAR

The county was formed in 1779 from the eastern part of Tryon County, which had been settled by Europeans in the mid-18th Century. It was named for Benjamin Lincoln, a general in the American Revolutionary War. Wikipedia

Peter Seitz was born in an area that would become Lincoln County, North Carolina. His father, Johann, was thirty-nine and his mother, the former Dorothea Felzinger, was thirty-seven when he was born. They had settled in an area that was a hotbed of protests not unlike what Peter, as a soldier, would one day run into from Pennsylvania to New York.

The Beginning, for the German Warrior: The Battle Of Alamance, 1771

Before the Revolution there were minor incidents of war throughout the colonies which prepared the patriots for their big fight. One of these harbingers of colonist dissatisfaction culminated in the Battle of Alamance in Orange County, North Carolina, 1771. The trouble concerned the neglect of western counties like Lincoln. The core of the problem, as in the other colonies, was unfair taxation and official indifference and corruption.

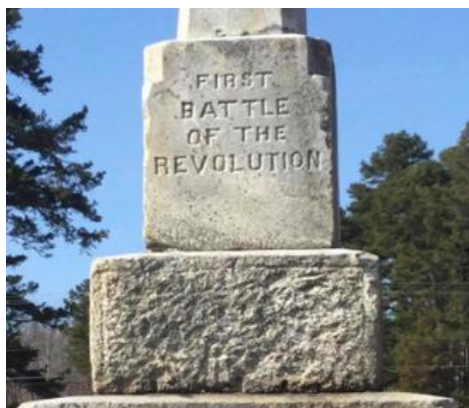
A rebellion in Orange County of colonial North Carolina was called The Battle of Alamance, and when the rebels lost, it was the final battle of the War of the Regulators, but some call it the beginning of the American Revolution. The fighting took place in Orange County, 1771, when Royal Governor William Tyron took 1,000 militia troops into central North Carolina to quell the brewing rebellion.



The Regulators. Prior to the American Revolution, many people in North Carolina were upset by the way the government was handling the colony's affairs. Their complaints were not only about the form of government or the colony's laws but about abuses caused by government officials. Complaints from the colonists included excessive taxes, dishonest sheriffs, and illegal fees.

<https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/regulators>

"Alamance, The First Battle of the Revolution, Burlington, N.C." From the original drawing by J. Steeple Davis, a postcard, circa 1905-1915.



*Alamance Battleground
Monument, 16 May 1771--
Alamance, North Carolina*

The British put out a huge bounty on the militia members and on the men who had signed petitions to politely plead for better government. Several of the Regulators were permitted to go in search of them, "on leaving their Children Hostages." Considering the number of Tories in North Carolina, it's a wonder any of the protestors escaped a hanging. Carolina Tories left young Peter well prepared for war.

North Carolinians were protesting the same British abuse and neglect that was about to start a war in New England. Maps of the low-lying region showed area farms to be in dire need of road and bridge upkeep.

History of families in the area show that competent surveying of county and colonial lines was needed. Some farmers along the two Carolina districts couldn't even tell on which side of a road or river or waterway to pay their taxes.

The unreliable perimeter marking the division of the two Carolina colonies of the British Crown is one clear example of how badly England erred in neglecting her taxpaying colonists. Bishop Alexander Gregg spares no invective in his description of the obvious disdain which the mother country felt toward her colonists,

The tradition has been handed down, that the Commissioners appointed to make the survey, besides being ignorant of or inattentive to the difference between a statute and a geographical mile, were not at all times in a fit condition for the work. ...The truth of the matter, ...in surveying lands appears to be this, that its irregular, zigzag course indicates either gross carelessness in all the parties concerned, or, that the work was begun and ended in a common frolic....

Since taxation in the colonies of both North and South Carolina would become an issue in such chaos, this pitiful border issue was of significance in the coming Revolution. Mishandling the taxpayers of Lincoln and Anson and the surrounding counties became a unifying element that helped decide the outcome of the war when would-be Tories turned into Rebels.

PETER SITZ IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Mohawk Valley Campaign

From the Battle of Germantown in 1777, if that's where Peter got started, he marched or rode his horse to New York. During the Mohawk Valley campaign of the American Revolution Peter enlisted in the Tryon County Militia, Second Regiment in the new STATE of New York. It was under the command of Germans--Colonel Jacob Klock, Lieut. Col. Petter Wagoner, Major Christian William Fox, and Major Christoph R. Fox.

The part of the New York frontier where Peter Sitz fought had been settled earlier by Palatine immigrants, and it became known as the Palatines. The Palatines and the area natives, the Mohawks, got along well together, with many Mohawk families renting out land to be farmed by the hard-working immigrants. The natives, like everyone else, were fond of the beer brewed by their German renters. The area was a multicultural world of Mohawk, German, and English customs at peace with itself.

Their friendliness belied the bitterness in battles to come. Across the New York frontier known as the Mohawk Valley, the former friends began killing each other, riled up by the enraged, vindictive British.



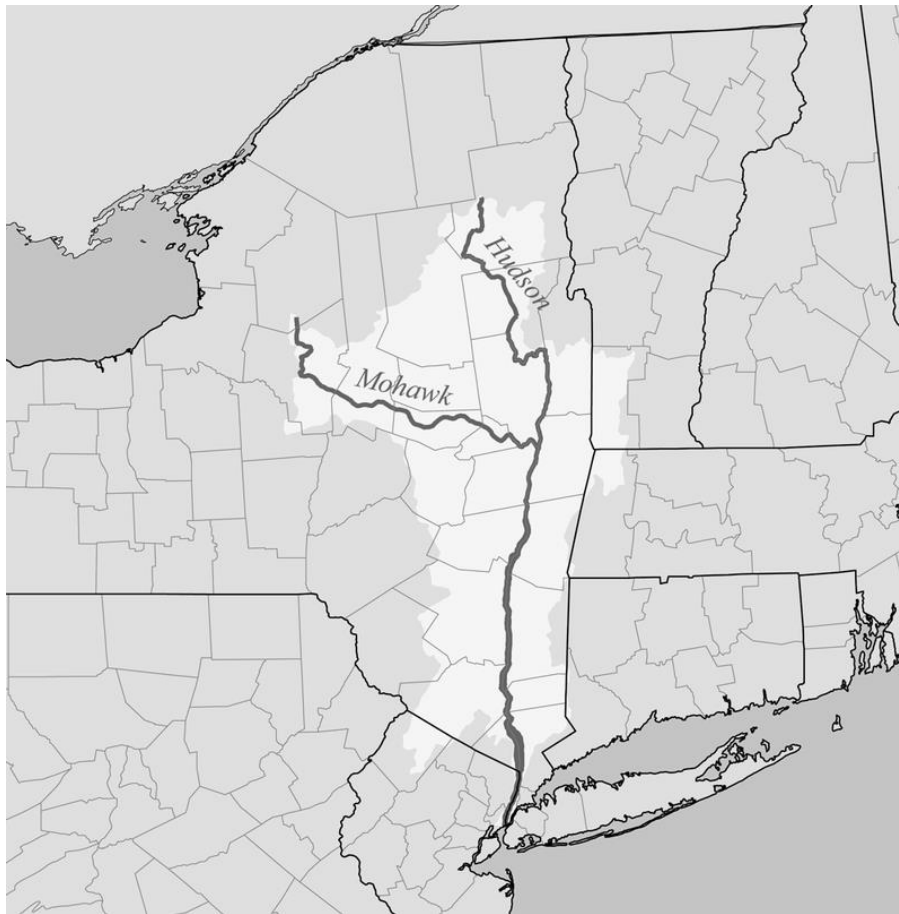
Herkimer at the Battle of Oriskany, oil painting by Frederick Coffay Yohn. *Although wounded, Gen. Nicholas Herkimer rallies the Tryon County militia at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777.*

The Battle of Oriskany was one bitter example, the Cherry Valley Massacre, another. The Cherry Valley Massacre was an attack by British and Iroquois forces on a village in Cherry Valley in central New York that took place on November 11, 1778. There, a mixed force of Loyalists, British soldiers, and Seneca and Mohawks descended on the poorly defended Cherry Valley fort. During the raid thirty civilians were slain.

Joseph Brant was the chief of the Mohawks. Peter Sitz met him face to face.

Joseph Brant, Portrait by Gilbert Stuart





Map of Mohawk Valley of New York

During the 18th Century, the Mohawk Valley was a frontier of great political, military, and economic importance. Colonists— such as Nicholas Herkimer—trading with the Iroquois set the stage for commercial and military competition between European nations, leading to the French and Indian Wars and the American Revolution. Almost 100 battles of the American Revolution were fought in New York State, including the Battle of Oriskany. Wikipedia

During the Mohawk Valley campaigns Joseph Brant had a reputation for brutality he may, or may not, have deserved, but the Cherry Valley Massacre happened, contributing to a Continental Army reprisal, of which General George Washington obliged. He ordered General John Sullivan to clear out the Loyalist colonists and Tory Indians. May 31, 1779, the Sullivan Expedition came in and drove the Iroquois and Loyalists out of Western New York.

Patrolling the Frontier in the Mohawk Valley

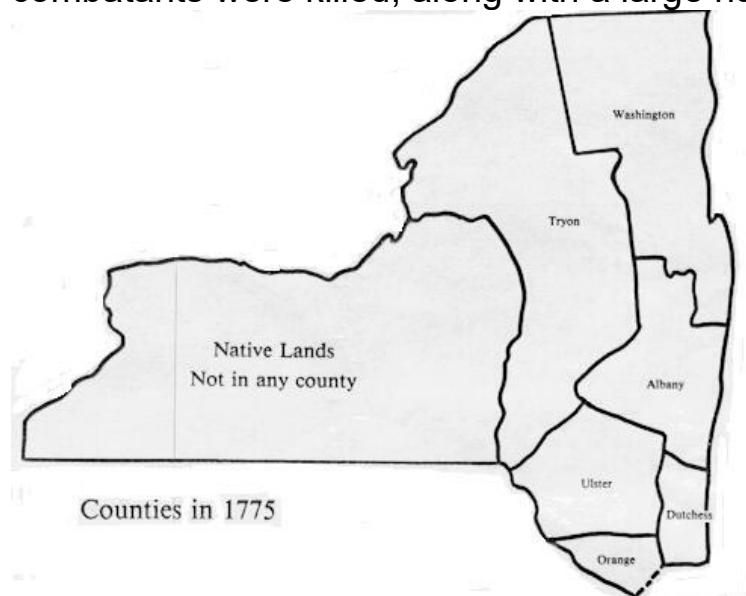
Orders of General George Washington to General John Sullivan May 31, 1779:

The Expedition you are appointed to command is to be directed against the hostile tribes of the Six Nations of Indians, with their associates and adherents. The immediate objects are the total destruction and devastation of their settlements.

Washington believed that the Revolution was a war of posts, that strategy should be defensive, and that they should risk nothing in avoidable combat, "into which we ought never to be drawn." The Iroquois Nation was destroyed, as his post ordered, and it never recovered. Its people went west to Niagara, seeking refuge beyond the great falls.

The Iroquois were fierce warriors, and white soldiers saw them and their tactics, egged on by Europeans, as brutal. Their Mohawk Valley was a verdant Garden of Eden when Washington ordered its devastation. After the war the Tory Indian and Loyalist farmers were gone, and many, many of the Continental soldiers who destroyed its orchards and gardens moved into the vacated valley and claimed it, garden by garden, farm by farm.

Two years into the Revolution, an attack by British and Iroquois forces on Cherry Valley was shocking. It was a gruesome attack by a force of Loyalist whites, British soldiers, and Tory Senecas and Mohawks. They descended upon an ill-prepared Cherry Valley. During the raid thirty non-combatants were killed, along with a large number of armed defenders.



Map of New York counties

Incident in Cherry Valley – Fate of Jane Wells



Jane Wells is pleading for her life, and a man attempts to protect her from an Indian who is about to kill her. House behind them is being burned by Loyalists and Indians led by Major Walter Butler and Mohawk Chief Joseph Brant in Cherry Valley, New York.

Published: N.Y., Martin, Johnson & Co. publishers, c1856.

Engraver: Thomas Phillibrown from the original picture by Alonzo Chappel (1828-1887) - This image is available from the United States Library of Congress.

Lieutenant Peter Sitz/Seitz/Sitzes, etc.

Prior to the massacre, five months prior, a young Ensign Peter Sitz had met up with Chief Joseph Brant. In the summer of 1778 Sitz was with Lieutenant Martinus (Matthew) Warmuth, a promising young officer from Palatine when Warmuth was killed by Brant near the Cherry Valley fort. It was a few months before the massacre which took place that fall. Ensign Peter Sitz was a post rider, carrying dispatches. Both men were from Captain William P. Fox's company, Colonel Klock's regiment—Lieutenant Colonel, Petter Wagoner. Warmuth was from a prominent Wagoner family.

Sitz and Warmuth left the Fort at Cherry Valley on horseback and quickly disappeared in an outcropping of rock. As Sitz survived the attack, the report of what happened behind the rock, must be his:

Here Brant lay in wait behind a large rock near the main road leading to the Mohawk River, about two miles north of Cherry Valley. A short distance from this rock the road wound along near the top of a ledge of rocks, forming a precipice one hundred and fifty feet high. It was shaded by evergreens and dark even in mid day. Its wildness was increased by the dashing of a small stream which fell over this precipice, called by the Indians, the falls of the Tekaharawa. That day, Lieutenant Matthew Wormwood (Warmuth) came up from the Mohawk

River and informed the garrison that Colonel Klock would arrive the next day with a part of his regiment of militia. It was almost night when he started to return, accompanied by Lieutenant Peter Sitz, the bearer of some dispatches.

...The clattering hoofs had scarcely died away when the report of a volley of musketry was heard. Soon after Wormwood's horse returned. The saddle was covered with blood, which excited fears for his fate but too well grounded. A party went out that evening but could make no discoveries. The next morning the body was found behind the rock before mentioned.

The two soldiers had arrived near the rock, when they were hailed, and ordered to stop. Disregarding the order, they put spurs to their horses and endeavored to pass. The Indians immediately fired; Wormwood was wounded and fell from his horse, when Brant, rushing out, tomahawked him with his own hand.

The Wagner Family of the Mohawk Valley, "The Death of Lieutenant Matthew Wormuth, 1778"

Prior to the attack at the fort the pair of well dressed, handsome soldiers had attracted their share of attention, with people standing in their doorways to watch the two horsemen parade out of sight. It was almost night when they left, Lieutenant Peter Sitz, bearing posts. They were just out of sight when they were fired upon, but the attack was heard back at the garrison. When Warmuth's horse returned to the fort, the saddle was covered with blood. A search party that went out that evening found nothing, but the next morning Warmuth's body was found, while Lieutenant Sitz had been captured and taken away, the lone survivor of the attack.

He and Warmuth had arrived near the rock, when they were shouted at and ordered to stop by the Indians. Instead of stopping, they spurred on their horses, and tried to escape. The Indians immediately shot Warmuth who fell from his horse. It was Brant who rushed out and tomahawked him. Lieutenant Warmuth and Brant had been good friends before the war, but Brant didn't recognize his friend dressed as a Continental officer. Brant is said to have grieved for a long time over his friend's death.

Lieutenant Sitz survived, but his horse was killed, and he was taken prisoner. Unruffled by his assailants, and in the presence of the dead and mutilated body of his companion, the courier cleverly protected his posts. As a caution of war, the dispatches he carried had been duplicated, so Sitz destroyed the post with the true account of the garrison and gave Brant the false one to be taken to his captors' British allies.

Sitz was a courier whose duty it was to guard his correspondence, and he did. He was simply a Revolutionary soldier, on duty, holding His Majesty's men at bay. By doing so, he had a war story to tell, to take with him when he returned to his home in North Carolina.

Brant did not harm Sitz, but he took him prisoner, and they headed for Cobleskill, leaving behind the body of Lieutenant Warmuth, the promising thirty-three-year-old officer from Palatine. Lieut. Martinus "Matthew" Warmuth was buried at Fort Plain Cemetery Fort Plain, Montgomery County, New York.

See: Simms' **Border Warfare**, page 281, also, **Annals of Tryon County**.

*...July 30, 1783, General Washington, attended only by a servant, crossed the Mohawk River at Van Alstyne's Ferry below Canajoharie, to proceed to Palatine and become the welcome guest of Peter W. Warmuth, the father of the patriotic young Lieutenant who was killed five months before the massacre of November 10, 1778. Thus was Washington ever seeking to honor by his presence those who had suffered during the war. Beers' **History of Montgomery County**, page 124*

Famous And Not So Famous Revolutionary War Riders



Paul Revere's Ride and Statue of Sybil Ludington at Carmel, New York

Perhaps it was settling his grandfather's estate that would eventually draw him toward Pennsylvania—and the Wagners, but it could have been Brigadier General Francis Nash, of North Carolina who marched him off to war. It was General Nash who had died when his North Carolina brigade covered the retreat of George Washington at Germantown in 1777.

Although there was war enough to go around all the colonies, one incident or another eventually took Peter to war in New York. Early in the Revolution Peter joined other Germans in their fight against England—and the German Hessians they hired--and like others of his nationality, he began his military career serving in a German speaking regiment. In 1776 he was twenty-six years old.

According to Ancestry.com he is listed in, *Pennsylvania, Revolutionary War Battalions and Militia Index, 1775-1783*. Another Ancestry.com record is in *U.S. Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records, 1775-1783*.

War Battalions and Militia Index, 1775-1783. Another Ancestry.com record is in *U.S. Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records, 1775-1783*.



Associators and Militia. Vol. 1 pp. 202

In 1778, at age 26, Peter Seitz served in New York where his military address in the American Revolution was in Cherry Valley, New York. At the time the area was identified as **Tryon County**, New York. Meanwhile, Sitz, Sitzes, Seitz, Sietz, Sides, Sites, etc. kin he left in Pennsylvania were signing an Oath of Foreigners Allegiance.

The last location listed on Ancestry.com for Revolutionary War battles in which Lt. Seitz took part has him still in New York, 1778-1783. After which, the war finally came to an end.



Peter was serving in the military in 1783 in New York when he was thirty-three. His record was in, *Capt Gray's Co. of Bateamen, Continental Troops*.

*National Archives and Records Administration
War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records*

Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army During the Revolutionary War

U.S., Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records, 1775-1783

Name Peter Sitz

Military Place USA

Military Unit Artillery Bateamen

Notes Continental

The Bateaux

The first sounds of the guns of war were made by Minute Men with muskets. There was not yet a United States Army--not even a recruiting station in which to sign one up. In addition, there was no clothier, commissary, or barracks to sustain soldiers once they arrived. There was not even an arsenal to provide weapons and ammunition. Certainly, there was no navy.

As luck would have it, from the beginning there were riders to carry messages--such as Paul Revere. George Washington was not the only one who saw the value in setting up a military postal service. Horses in those days, and signal fires and lights, often provided the mode of long distance communication for these early day radio men.

With mother England no longer tending to her colonies' military needs, the new states began scrambling to find ways to protect and defend their citizens. It was a task made for George Washington. Seeing that what the new country needed most was a united, organized army, as

quickly as he could arrange it, he began working on acquiring these necessities of war.

The difficulties of moving an army and its necessities across the land were noted early on, but Washington understood the value of using water routes as well. He had made note of Indians in canoes and pioneers in small boats who had formed a virtual navy on inland waters for travel and trade. Also, the first settlers on the bays and coastal areas built small boats, schooners, sloops, and bateaux to sail the waters that separated their settlements. Washington quickly recognized that rivers could be used as water highways in war. As early as 1776 he had the Quartermaster's Department start building an inland navy, which included bateaux, to move supplies and troops. But Washington's dreams of an allied campaign by land and sea against the British were often met by too few boats. An obvious example was in his crossing the Delaware.

There were never enough. "The lumber of which they are made," one boat builder fumed, "was standing in the woods when I received my orders." Washington was informed by another that 193 bateaux had been assembled, but boat building had left a shortage of boards for building barracks, repairing wagons, and supplying caissons for the artillery companies.

As a Bateaux Man, Peter Sitz would have used a long pole to maneuver a flat bottomed boat carrying military necessities along colonial waterways, a part of a crew of three to five, depending on the various sizes of the boats.



*Two colonial bateaux in the Buffalo Inner Harbor. These 25-foot replicas were built based on the remains of 1756-era colonial bateaux recovered by the Adirondack Museum from Lake George in 1960. **Wikipedia***

AFTER WAR

When the war finally ended in 1784, Peter was thirty-three. He was just another Revolutionary War soldier who had a war story or two to tell.

NOTE: Peter Sitz had been a young lieutenant when he fought the Iroquois of the Six Nations in the Mohawk Valley of New York. In fighting the Iroquois who are the linguistic ancestors of the Skipper Indians--the Cheroenhaka--he was in a family fight. The Cheroenhaka, in earlier days, perhaps a thousand years ago, had migrated to Virginia and in latter days, on down to Anson, North Carolina, perhaps where the two families—the Skippers and Sitzes--could have met. Peter's father owned land grants in Anson, and there are Ancestry.com reports, undocumented, that his mother died in Anson.

The Western Siouxan Languages Link

*The Western Siouan languages, also called Siouan proper or simply Siouan,[1] are a large language family native to North America. They are closely related to the **Catawban** languages, sometimes called Eastern Siouan, and together with them constitute the Siouan (Siouan–Catawban) language family.*

*Linguistic and historical records indicate a possible southern origin of the Siouan people, with migrations over a thousand years ago from North Carolina and Virginia to Ohio. Some continued down the Ohio River, to the Mississippi and up to the Missouri. Others went down the Mississippi, settling in what is now Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Others traveled across Ohio to what is now Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, home of the Dakota. **Wikipedia***

On returning home to Lincoln County, North Carolina, Peter and his wife had a son right away. They named him John B., who was born on October 9, 1784.

Seven more children followed. By the 1790 census, the first federal census of the United States—mandated by Article I of the new U.S. Constitution, Peter and Elizabeth were in a household of ten citizens of North Carolina.

Their son, John, gave them a grandson named Eli, and Eli kept a record of family events in his Bible.

ELI'S BIBLE

Page 2, 1st Column

John Seitz, son of Peter Seitz and Elizabeth his wife, was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina on the 8th day of October 1784.

The marriage of Peter Seitz and Elizabeth Sietz is also listed in U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900

Peter Seitz

in the U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900

Name Peter Seitz

Gender Male

Birth Year 1755

Spouse Name Elizabeth Seitz

The census taker in 1790 listed three sons and six females:

1790

Name: Peter Sites, Sitz, Sides, Seitz

Home in 1790 (City, County, State): Lincoln, North Carolina

Free White Persons - Males - 16 and over: 1 = Peter born 1750

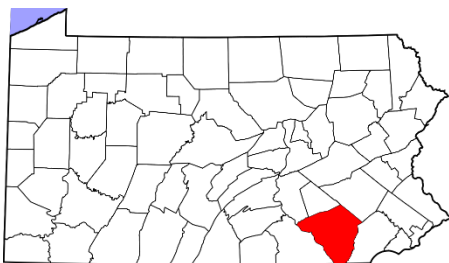
Free White Persons - Males - Under 16: 3 = sons

Free White Persons - Females: 6 = Elizabeth and daughters

Number of Household Members: 10

For the rest of his life Peter found it hard to stay in one place, and future census takers found him moving around North Carolina and Pennsylvania—all the way out to Missouri.

Peter Heinrich Seitz lived in Newbury, York, Pennsylvania, in 1793 and in Manor, Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 1798. Lancaster and York are adjoining counties, not far from his grandfather's Felzinger estate.



Lancaster, Pennsylvania



York, Pennsylvania

By 1800, when Peter was fifty years old, his residence was in Hellam, York County.

1800 United States Federal Census

Name: Peter Seitz

Home in 1800 (City, County, State): Hellam, York, Pennsylvania

Free White Persons - Males - Under 10: 2

Free White Persons - Males - 26 thru 44: 1 1750 Peter

Free White Persons - Females - Under 10: 3

Free White Persons - Females - 26 thru 44: 1 Elizabeth

Number of Household Members Under 16: 5

Number of Household Members Over 25: 2

Number of Household Members: 7

Ten years later the census taker found sixty-year-old Peter Heinrich Seitz with his very large family back in Lincoln, North Carolina.

Name: Peter Sides

Residence Date: 6 Aug 1810

Residence Place: Capt Andrews District, Lincoln, North Carolina

Free White Persons - Males - Under 10: 1

Free White Persons - Males - 10 thru 15: 2

Free White Persons - Males - 16 thru 25: 2

Free White Persons - Males - 45 and over: 1 = 1750 Peter

Free White Persons - Females - Under 10: 2

Free White Persons - Females - 16 thru 25: 2

Free White Persons - Females - 26 thru 44: 1

Free White Persons - Females - 45 and over: 1 = Elizabeth

Number of Household Members Under 16: 5

Number of Household Members Over 25: 3

Number of Household Members: 12

Although he was getting on in years, his next move was half way across the country to Missouri.

Sometime after 1834, Eli, the grandson of Peter Sitzes, was given a Bible. Eli used it to record his family's record. His first entry says that his own father, John Sietz, was the son of Peter and that he was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina in October 1784—almost exactly a year after the American Revolution had ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris in September of 1783.

The British evacuated New York November 25, 1883, marking the end of British rule and General George Washington triumphantly returned to the city with the Continental Army. And, Peter could return home and start a family.



Washington's Entry into New York, by Currier & Ives (1857)

Eli's Bible, Published 1834

Eli, German that he was, methodically recorded the parentage of his father, the births of his father and mother, the marriage of his father and mother, and the births of his father and mother's children in his Bible.

Page 2,
1st Column

John Seitz, son of Peter Seitz and Elizabeth his wife, was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina on the 8th day of October 1784.

Naamah Seitz, born on March the 17th day 1794

As it turned out, Eli's mother's birthday was nearly the same as that of the United States Constitution for which his grandfather had fought.



Scene at the Signing of the Constitution of the United States 1783
by Howard Chandler Christy (1940)

According to Eli, his parents got married about twenty years later, with John Seitz being ten years older than *Naomah*, his wife. Future entries into his Bible provide a map of where John lived, and a calendar of when—and, like unto it—where and when Peter Sitze made his move to Missouri. Eli provided his map and calendar through the births of his brothers and sisters, starting with the marriage of his parents.

1st Column, continued

John Seitz and Naamah Seitz, daughter of John Seitz and Salley his wife, entered the holy state of matrimony on the 7th day of August 1813, and they begat children as follows, viz.

2nd Column

1. *Lawsan Seitz, son of John Seitz and Naomah was born in*

Lincoln County, North Carolina the 15th day January AD, 1814.

2. *Eli Seitz, son of John Seitz and Naomah was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina the 14th day of April 1815.*

3. *Adaline daughter of John Seitz and Naomah was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina the 21st day of November AD, 1816.*

4. *Emaline daughter of John Seitz and Naomah was ...*

Here, “BORN IN LINCOLN” is marked out and replaced by ...”*Madison, Missouri.*” Thus, the family’s move was made sometime before the birth of Emaline in 1819.

4. *Emeline Sitzes 1819*

5. *Artamissa Seitz*

6. *Rufus Easten Sitzes 1822*

7. *Nancy Sitzes 1824*

8. *Caroline*

9. *Emmanual 1826*

10. *John Franklin Sitzes 1828*

11. *Raleigh Sitzes 1829*

12. *Emanuel Alvin Sitzes 1831*

13. *Sarah Catharine Sitzes 1832*

14. *Francis Marion, son*

The last eleven children were born in Madison, Missouri, Naamah giving birth every two years until she was past her child-bearing age.

Madison, Missouri

According to Eli's Bible, his parents, John and Naamah, moved from Lincoln, North Carolina to Madison, Missouri before the 1820 census was taken. Evidently, Peter and Elizabeth moved with their son. So many Germans moved into the same neighborhood that their community was called German, Missouri. In 1820 Peter Seitze was seventy years old, and he still lived in German, Missouri in 1830 at age eighty, as did John.



German Township, Madison, Missouri

Marquand Township is located in the eastern part of Madison County. This township was first organized in 1842 and called German Township due to the many German settlers who were there. German Township remained until . . .1918, May 7, . . . all citizens . . . petition praying that the name of their township be changed from German Township to Marquand Township. The reason given was the feeling which existed during World War I against even the word German.[1][2] Wikipedia

One reason for an old man to pick up and move half way across his whole world might be in order to stay with his son. His son's reason may have been the nation's economic collapse. The Missouri Compromise in 1820 opened up some good land deals for suffering citizens. According to the provisions of an Act of Congress the 24th of April 1820 entitled, "an Act making further provision for the Sale of Public Lands," the General Land Office was dealing in land.

The Missouri Compromise (also known as the Compromise of 1820) was a federal legislation of the United States that balanced desires of northern states to prevent expansion of slavery in the country with those of southern states to expand it. It admitted Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state and declared a policy of prohibiting slavery in the remaining Louisiana Purchase lands north of the 36°30' parallel.[1] The 16th United States Congress passed the legislation on March 3, 1820, and President James Monroe signed it on March 6, 1820.[2] Wikipedia

ELI'S BIBLE

Page 1-4 of the Eli Sitzes - John B & Naamah Seitz - Bible, published in 1834.

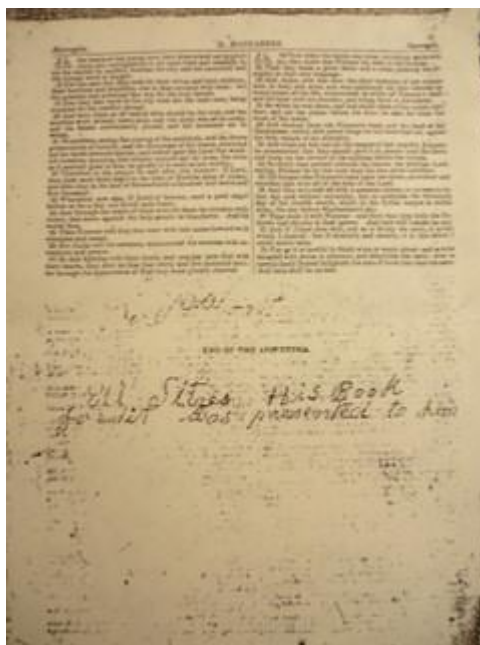
Pp 1 and 2



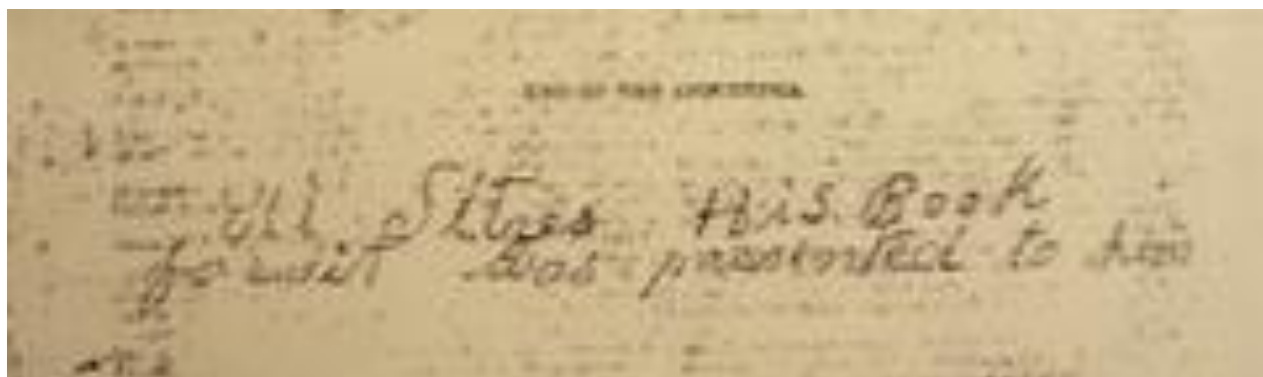
Pp 3 and 4



Eli's Bible, published in 1834 New York, maps out the travels of Peter's son, John Seitz, from Lincoln, North Carolina to Madison, Missouri, recording births and deaths of family members along the way.



Eli Sitzes His Book
 _____ and it was presented to him _____



detail

The Last Entry

Page 4. Eli Sitzes son of John and Naomah his wife departed this life Dec. AD 13, 1891. Born Apr 14, 1815.

Eli endured the deaths of his grandfather and grandmother. In all his years of meticulous record keeping, it is a shame he did not include the dates of their deaths. Like the Sitz/Sietz/Seitz/Sitzes name itself, various dates of their deaths are given.

In a recent retelling of his life—and death—Peter died in 1842, according to the following newspaper article. But the article is not without errors. The writer says that Peter and Elizabeth were married in 1770, and that Elizabeth was born in 1765, making Elizabeth a five-year-old bride. The couple was actually married after the Revolutionary War ended in 1783.

The same article says Peter's wife, Elizabeth, passed away in 1831 in Madison, Missouri, and that they had five children in 13 years. He died sometime between 1839 and 1842, in Madison, and he was buried there.

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current, Edited Version

Name *Captain Peter Seitz*
 Gender *Male*
 Birth Date *5 Dec 1750*
 Birth Place *North Carolina, Colonial America*
 Death Date *28 February 1842*
 Death Place *Germantown, Madison County, Missouri, USA*
 Cemetery *Moore's Chapel Cemetery*
 Burial Place *Germantown, Madison County, Missouri, USA*

AS | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017 LOCAL DEMOCRAT NEWS

History of Revolutionary War Soldier Captain Peter Seitz

PROVIDED BY CHARLENE EGAN, MEMBER OF DAR CAPTAIN HENRY WHITENER CHAPTER

Peter Seitz was born about 1755 in Lincoln County, North Carolina.

The progenitor of the family in America was Peter's father, Johann Heinrich Seitz, who was born in 1712 in either Germany or Switzerland. His mother was Dorothea Elizabeth Felsinger who was born in 1714 in Germany. Peter's parents were married in 1731 in Germany. Some of their children were born in Germany and some in Lincoln County, North Carolina. Peter's parents arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1738. After a few years they moved to Old Tryon County, North Carolina and later on to Lincoln County, North Carolina.

Peter married Elizabeth about 1770 in Lincoln County, North Carolina. Elizabeth was born about 1765, probably in North Carolina. Peter's name appears on the bronze tablet at the site of the old court house as one of heroic signers protesting the British customs in Boston. In 1776 he is listed as an Ensign with the 2nd Battalion of the Continental Troops and in September 1770 under Revolutionary War Accounts, Captain Peter Seitz received currency for his company. Peter resided in Tyron County, North Carolina during the Revolutionary War. Peter and Elizabeth came to Missouri Territory in the early eighteen hundreds with most of their married children.

Their children were: Henry married Susannah Bradshaw; John B. born 9 Oct 1784 Lincoln county, North Carolina died 5 Jan 1861 Madison County, Hannah married John Dellinger; Dolly's marriage unknown; Andrew Monroe married Nancy Bess; Phillip's marriage unknown; David married Drucilla Clubb; EB Washington married Luvica S. Seitz and Sina marriage unknown.

Peter Seitz Sr. and his son John B. Seitz served on the grand jury in 1819 in what is now Madison County, Missouri. There has always been confusion about the spelling of the family name; rightly so, for instance, John B. Seitz spells the name Seitz in his family Bible, he in turn spells it Sites on a land deed, his brother David's tombstone spells the name Sides and his brother, Henry and his descendants spell it Sitz.

Peter Seitz died on 28 February 1842 in Madison County, Missouri and is buried on his farm. Land deeds prove that the old Seitz family burial ground is now Moore's Chapel Cemetery and has been in use for over 180 years. There are 47 unmarked graves. One large rock is thought to be the burial site for Captain Peter Seitz. Many of Peter's descendants are buried in the Moore's Chapel Cemetery located on County Road 320 in Madison County.

The Capt. Henry Whitener Chapter of NSDAR plans to recognize a Revolutionary War veteran with local ties in the Democrat News each month.

A8 | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017

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LOCAL

Revolutionary War Soldier Captain

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DEMOCRAT NEWS

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The End

Flossie Marie Sitzes 1918
 Herbert Franklin Sitzes 1884
 Lawson Cantley Sitzes 1854
 Lawson Morrison Sitzes 1814
 John B. Seitz 1784
 Peter Sitz 1750

THE FAMILY TREE OF PETER SITZ/ SEITZ/ SITZES



GX4 Grandson Art, Don Paul Vaughan, 1948-2011