

# Sgt. William Sleek of Frederick County, Maryland



Pencil sketch of William Sleek - artist unknown

Sgt. William Sleek (aka Slick). Sgt. Sleek was born to Philip and Margaret Adams Sleek on November 10, 1754 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Sgt. Sleek's first wife was Barbara Winhuls, and after her death, he later married in 1778 Rebecca Mettler in Frederick County, Maryland.

## **Sergeant Slick's Military Career**

Enlisting in 1776, Sgt. Sleek was First Sergeant of the Maryland Flying Camp for seven months. At Fort Washington, he suffered a leg wound from a British musket ball and was taken prisoner. He had been imprisoned for only three days when he was exchanged. Re-enlisting in 1777, he served for three years in Valentine Creager's Company, Col. Joseph Wood's regiment, Maryland Continental Line, also formed in Frederick County, Maryland. Sgt. Sleek was with General George Washington when he crossed the Delaware and fought in the battles of Trenton and Brandywine. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant when the Revolution ended.

After retiring from military service, Sgt. Sleek lived in Frederick County, Maryland until 1797, then moved to St. Clair Township in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, where his August 1832 application for a pension was approved for \$20.00 per annum.

(# S22992, NARA and online at [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com) )

William and Rebecca raised their family in St. Clair Township and Rebecca died there in 1842, followed by William on April 7, 1844. The *Bedford Gazette* noted that Sgt. Sleek left 13 children from his two marriages. The family stayed in St. Clair Township for several generations.

Records of the location of Sgt. Sleek's site of burial have been difficult to find, but our member has been inspired to enlist her father, who grew up in the area, and DAR cousins to scour the local records and graveyards in hopes of finding documentation that will lead them to the gravesite.