

Pension Application for Elnathan Finch

W.7267 (Widow: Elizabeth)

B.L.Wt.3996-160-55

Family Record

Marriages: Elizabeth Champion and Elnathan Finch was married 21 April 1828.

Elnathan Finch died the 19 day of January 1845.

State of New York

Saratoga County.

On this sixth day of September 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Saratoga now sitting Elnathan Finch a resident of the town of Wilton in the County of Saratoga and State of New York aged seventy—years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

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

That in the year 1777 about the 11th of June this deponent enlisted in a company under the command of Captain Richard Sackett of which company – Miller was lieutenant that said company in which he enlisted belonged to a regiment of New York State troops under the command of Colonel Lundenton that he together with the remainder of the regiment was stationed at White Plains they performed there tour of duty for which they was enlisted and was dismissed at that place.

That in the year 1778 about the month of April he this deponent again enlisted in the New York State troops in a company commanded by Captain John Drake the Lieutenant I do not recollect. Colonel Graham commanded the Regiment to which he this deponent belonged he was stationed at White Plains and was dismissed there after he had served the term of time for which he enlisted which was nine months.

That in the month of March , the day he does not recollect, in the year 1779 he this deponent again enlisted in a company commanded by Richard Sackett in a Regiment of New York State troops commanded by the afore named Colonel Graham that they were stationed at White Plains where he this deponent remained until he was detached together with others from said Colonel Grahams regiment by order and joined a company of Infantry of the State of New York that this detachment in which he belonged and in which he served was marched at a post called Tuckehoe near Kings Bridge where we joined the Militia under the command of Captain Williams, General Clinton commanded the Infantry at that post that at the time this deponent was stationed there an engagement took place between the British troops and an Infantry and Friendly Indians this action took place between the above mentioned Tuckehoe and Kings Bridge our Infantry was obliged to retreat and also the Indians but the retreat of the Indians was cut off by the British.

They lost there [their] commander Nemham [?] was taken prisoner taken to New York where he this deponent understood said young Indian was exhibited as a show

he this deponent then understood that the force of the Indians at the time the action commenced was about one hundred and that they only made their escape with about 13 or 14—that he this deponent continued to serve in the Infantry as afore mentioned until he was dismissed at the expiration of one year the term for which he enlisted.

That in the year 1780 in the month of April near as this deponent can now recollect he again enlisted in the State Troop of the New York in a company commanded by Captain ___Williams which company belonged to a Regiment commanded by Colonel ___Harper that he enlisted for nine months which enlistment took place in the County of Dutchess at a place called Nine Partners State of New York that he this deponent together with the remainder of the Regiment was amediatly [immediately] marched to Albany and from there up the Mohawk River under the command of Governor Clinton to cut off the retreat of the Indians who had burned Johnstown Montgomery County.

We continued our march to Crown Point we then returned to Johnstown where we remained a short time from there we marched to a place called German Flatts at this place during our stay Captain Norton came as a recruiting officer from Colonel Weisenvelt's regiment Continental troops by Special order from the Governor of the State to Enlist soldiers for the Continental Army.

That he this deponent again enlisted under the said ___Norton together with about one hundred others on or about the middle of May 1780 after having served about two month under his last enlistment that the regiment under the command of Colonel Weisenvelt marched to the place called Orange town New Jersey, where we remained a term of time from there we marched to Fort Stanwicks where he this deponent remained until the term of seven months for which he enlisted had expired and received an honorable discharge from Colonel Weisenvelt, the term of service at this time was nine months and fifteen days.

That in the year 1781 in the month of June the 11th day, as near as this deponent can now recollect—he was taken prisoner at the town of Bedford in the County of West Chester by a part of British Light Horse carried to the City of New York confined in a Shugar [Sugar] House kept for a prisoner by the British where he remained three months a prisoner and was then exchanged at the time I was taken prisoner as above stated I was [end of page]

[start of next page] That in the year 1781 in the month of October soon after my return from prison at New York as afore stated he again enlisted in a company of Light Horse which company was commanded by Captain Jacob Familiar, Major Honeywell—was stationed at different post at the lines at West Chester County.

In this company he served during the remainder of the revolution was in many skirmishes during the term he served in said Company and was dismissed with the remainder of his company at Bedford at the close of the revolution.

To the interrogatories propounded by the court I answer as follows.

1. I was born in the town of Horse Neck in the State of Connecticut on the eighth day of January AD 1762—
2. I have no record of my age but [?] the same from my parents.

3. I lived in the town of Bedford in the County of WestChester in the State of New York at the time I entered the service by Enlistment the four different periods set forth in my statment [statement] as hereunto annexed also at the same town county and state when I was taken Prisoner as afore stated that I lived at Nine Partners Dutchess County N. York when I enlisted on my fourth tour of duty in April of that year that I enlisted at German Flatts at the time I entered my fifth term of enlistment in May 1780 that I lived in Bedford afore stated stated [sic] at the close of the revolution since which time I have lived at several different places that is in the town of DuanesBurgh Schenectady Co. about Seven Years that I now live in the town of Wilton Saratoga County Saratoga N,. York that my se [appears the scribe was distracted and didn't finish this sentence].
4. I enlisted on all tours of duty as set forth in my claim.
5. I would here propose the names of Governor Clinton Commander in Chief, Colonels Ludington, Graham, Harper, Weisenvelt, and Major Honeywell— Captains Sackett, Drake, William Norton & Familiar. Lieutenants Miller and as to the nature of my service I refer to the afore mentioned statement.
6. At the several times that I served as afore stated I never received a written discharge but one time and that I think was signed by Colonel Weisenvelt this discharge was left in the possession of my Brother and I understand is lost and I know of no person living except those whose depositions are hereunto annexed one of which has died since he made his deposition named Jonathan Finch, who can testify to my service and I have no documentary evidence of my service as a Soldier in the Revolution.
7. I here present the names of Lebbeus Armstrong and John Wood who know me in my present neighborhood who can testify as to my character for veracity and their General belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

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[sic] (Signed) Elenathan Finch

I Thomas Palmer clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Saratoga do certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said court in the matter of the application of Elnathan Finch for a pension. In testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand and seal of office this 7th Sept 1832. Thomas Palmer, Clerk