

Pension Application for Finch (or Fitch) Gildersleeve

W.23109 (Widow: Polly Seymour) Married November 1785, Finch died March 24, 1812.
B.L.Wt.831-200 Lieut Issued Sept 13, 1791.

At a Court of Common Pleas held at the Court House in Rochester in and for the County of Monroe in the State of New York on the third day of April one thousand eight hundred and thirtynine. [sic]

Present: Roswell Wickwine, Alfred Jones, and Philander Kane, Judges of the said Court.

Polly Gilderslieve [sic] being duly sworn in open court deposes and says; that she is aged eighty two years and now resides in the City of Rochester in the family of James Williams whose wife is her granddaughter. That she was married to Lieutenant Finch Gilderslieve in the month of November one thousand seven hundred and eighty five by the Reverend Matthias Burnett at Norwalk in the State of Connecticut. That her maiden name was Polly Seymour; that after their marriage she lived with him without interruption to the time of his decease which happened at South East in the State of New York on the twenty fourth day of March one thousand eight hundred and twelve.

That she has never been married since the death of her said husband. That she always understood from her said husband and from others who knew him, that he served as a Lieutenant in the American Army of the Revolution in the New York State Line of Troops, in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Wising Phelps and in a company commanded by Captain Jonathan Titus during the war, and she has no doubt that such information is true.

That she does not remember the number of the Regiment in which her said husband served. That she has seen the commission which her said husband Lieutenant Finch Gilderslieve had as such Lieutenant. That she supposes the commission is lost unless it is preserved among some papers in the hands of her son Benjamin Gilderslieve who resides in Charleston in the State of South Carolina.

That she has never made any previous application for a pension and did not know till lately that she was entitled to a pension as the widow of the said Lieutenant Finch Gilderslieve. (Signed) Polly Gildersleeve

Subscribed and sworn this 3d day of April 1839 before me in open court.
Ephraim Goss, Clerk of Monroe County