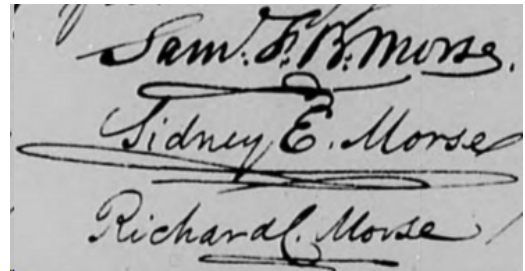


Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Bounty Land Claim of Ebenezer Finley BLWt2287-200
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

MD [VA]

Know all men by these Presents that Samuel F B Morse [the noted artist and inventor] Sidney E Morse & Richard C Morse of the City of New York do hereby constitute and appoint Henry Northrup of Washington City our true and lawfull attorney with powers of substitution for us and in our names to ask demand and receive from the Secretary of war of the United States a Land warrant for the bounty land Due in right of the services of Ebinezer Finley as a Lieutenant and Captain by brevit [sic: brevet; i.e. he was a Lieutenant acting as Captain] of the Maryland line of the Army of the Revolution [the rest boilerplate not transcribed] [1 April 1842]

A photograph of three handwritten signatures in cursive ink. The top signature is 'Sam. F. B. Morse', the middle is 'Sidney E. Morse', and the bottom is 'Richard C. Morse'. Each signature is underlined.

In Henrico County [VA] Court October 3^d 1842

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court it is ordered to be certified that Ebenezer Finley said to have been an officer in the Revolution died Testate in 1784 and without issue. That Samuel Finley his eldest Brother was his heir at law, that said Samuel died single intestate and without issue about the year 1800 leaving his Brothers John and James Edwards Burr Finley and his niece Elizabeth Ann Morse his heirs at law, that said John died soon after intestate leaving three children Viz Samuel R. George and Eve (now the wife of John Vanhorne) his heirs at law. That said Samuel R. died intestate since that time leaving eight children his heirs at law Viz John H. Sarah (wife of Samuel Shick) James, Samuel, Daniel, Andrew, George and Catharine, that James Edwards Burr the brother of Ebenezer Finley died intestate since 1800 leaving two children his sole heirs at law Viz. William P. and James Edwards Burr, and that Elizabeth Ann Morse died intestate leaving Samuel F. B. Morse, Sidney E. Morse and Richard C. Morse her only heirs at law.

[The following are from [bounty-land papers in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Richmond

I do certify that I was very intimately acquainted with Capt Ebenezer Finley of Maryland Line who was transfered in 1778 to Harrison's Artillery, and served to the end of the war – he was a fine officer and an elegant and intelligent gentleman

In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name this 4 Sept 1822.

J. Pryor [John Pryor, pension application W12064]
formerly an officer of the Revol'y Army

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read 'J. Pryor'.

Burbon [sic: Bourbon] County Kentuckey [sic]

I Certify that I was first Lieut. in Harrison's Reg't. of artillery in the Virginia Continentle line in the Revolutionary war and knew Ebenezer Finley who belonged to the same Reg't. he joined it as a Capt. Lieut. at the Valley Forge while the army lay there [winter 1777-78] & marched to the Southward & was in Gates's defeat [defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates, Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] & he Continued in sirvis according to my best Recollection to the Close of the war in 1783 Given under my hand this 26

day of Sept'r 1822
[Robert Wilmott, BLWt2415-200] 1st Lieut. of
Harrisons Reg't of Artillery V.A. Continental line
Test/ John F Wilmott



Culpep. County [Culpeper County VA]

I do certify that I knew Capt Ebenezer Finley of Va. Cont. Line. I do not know how long he served but have no reason to doubt not that he served to the end of the war. Given under my hand this 27 Sept 1822. [Gabriel Long VAS970]



Richmond 15th Feb. 1823

I do certify that I well knew Capt Ebenezer Findley of the Va. Cont. line – he was a gallant officer. I did not become acquainted with him till towards the close of the war. He was certainly in the Virginia Continental line. John Jordan
Teste/ Thos. Green



State of Kentucky } Personally appeared before Tho Q Roberts one of the Justices of the Peace in
Anderson County } and for the County aforesaid William B Wallace [S42612] who saith he was a
Lieutenant in the 1st Regiment of Artillery of the Virg'a. line on Continental establishment in the war of the
Revolution, and served as such to the end of that war, and that Ebenezer Finley was a Capt Lieutenant and
(he believes) was promoted to a full Captain in said Regiment, he was sometime Aid de Camp to Gen
[Henry] Knox, he was late in service & was honourably mentioned by his superior officers & in writing,
for His brave & efficient service in some of the last battles in the South, and said Wallace is confident that
Capt Finley continued in service to the end of that war – and further saith not



Signed & sworn to before me a Justice of the Peace as aforesaid this 22nd day of October 1829

State of Kentucky } Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for
Bourbon County } said County Col Robert Wilmot who being duly sworn saith that he was a
Lieutenant of Harrisons Regiment of Artillery of the Virginia line on Continental establishment in the war
of the Revolution and served as such to the close of the said war and he says that Ebenezer Findley was a
Lieutenant of said Regiment and served as such to the close of the said Revolution to the best of his
knowledge and belief him the said deponent not being present on the day of the disbanding of the army
and further he saith not.

Sworn to before me this 27th day of November 1829

Wm A Menzies J.P.B.C.

Heirs of Capt Ebenezer Finley of the artillery

Capt Finley was an officer of the Maryland line. There is no satisfactory evidence that Va had credit for him as an officer of her line altho he was attached to Harrisons Reg't

Claim rejected
1838 Jan'y 7 Rejected

[signed] D Campbell [Gov. David Campbell]

Capt. Ebenezer Findley

The evidence in this case is full and unquestionable. It shows that he was a most gallant & chivalrous Officer during nearly the whole war. He fired the first gun at 96 the Fort where Pulaski was killed [sic: see endnote].

He was a captain in Col. Charles Harrison's Regiment of Artillery in the Va. Continental line.

He was transferred to that Regt. in 1779 and was always accredited to Va.

The Resolution of Congress of 3 Oct 1780 directed substantially that Cap. F. be considered as belonging to Va. as he had, before [one or two undeciphered words] been transferred [see endnote]. See the evidence of Wm. B. Wallace & others

The following officers (situated precisely as Capt Finley was) rec'd their Land Bounty from Va. [originally in two columns]

Captain Richard Dorsey [BLWt584-300]

“ Peter Jakuet [Peter Jaquett S46500]

“ Robt. Kirkwood [Robert Kirkwood BLWt1102-300]

“ N. Mitchell [Nathaniel Mitchell BLWt1868-400]

“ John McFadon [sic: James McFadon BLWt1079-200]

Lieuts Y. Wilkinson [Young Wilkinson S35136]

“ N. Ricketts [Nicholas Ricketts BLWt1124-200]

“ Clem Skarrett [sic: Clement Skerrett BLWt2047-200]

“ Caleb P. Bennet [sic: Caleb P. Bennett S35779]

and many others; Indeed every officer originally from other states & transferred to Harrison's Regt. has rec'd the Land bounty from Va. Except three. Viz: Major Wm. Brown [William Brown Wt230-400] Capt. E. Finley and Lieut. Isaac Rawlings

The right appears to me, to be perfectly clear & these were among the best officers of the Army.

Respectfully submitted by Thomas Green

[Marginal note: Major Brown was allowed 1 Jan'y 1840]

Allowed for a service of three years as a Captain in the Continental line

March 24, 1840 DC [Gov. David Campbell]

NOTES:

Gen. Kazimierz Pulaski was mortally wounded at the siege of Savannah GA on 9 Oct 1779.

Ebenezer Finley was probably not there but at the siege of Ninety Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781.

For the relevant section of the resolution of Congress of 3 Oct 1780 see James McFadon BLWt1079-200.