

Pension Application for Moses Younglove

W.4410 (Widow: Polly) Married July 10, 1781. Moses died January 31, 1829.

Moses Younglove Surgeon of Genl Herkimer's Brigade of Militia deposes and saith that being in the battle of said Militia above Oriskie on the 6th of August last, towards the close of said betel he surrendered himself prisoner to a savage who immediately gave him up to a sergeant of Sir John Johnson's Regt., soon after which a Lieutenant in the Indians department came up in company with several other Tories when said Lieut. Mr. Ginnes, by name drew his Tomhawk [Tomahawk] at the deponent and with deal of persuasion was hardly prevailed on to spare his life, he then plundered him of his watch buckles spurs &c, and other Tories following this example stripped him almost naked with a great many threats while they were stripping and massacring [massacring] prisoners on every side.

That the deponent on being brought before Mr. Butler Senior who demanded of him what he was fighting for to which the deponent answered he fought for the liberty that God and nature gave him and to defend himself and dearest connections from the Massacre of Savages to which Butler replied you are a damn'd impudent rebel and so saying immediately turned to the savages encouraging them to kill him and if they did not, the deponent and the other prisoners should be hanged on the gallows then preparing.

That several prisoners were then taken forward, toward the enemies head quarters with frequent scenes of horror and massacre in which Tories were active as well as savages and in particular one Davis formerly known in Tryon County on the Mohawk river.

That Lieut Singleton of Sir John Johnsons Regt being wounded entreated the Savages to kill the prisoners which they according did as near as the deponent can judge about 6 or 7.

That Isaac Paris Esqr. was also taken the same road without receiving from them any remarkable insult except stripping until some Tories came up who kicked and abused him after which the savages thinking him a notable offender murdered him barbarously.

That those of the prisoners who were delivered up to the provoost [provost] Guard were kept without victuals for many days & had neither clothes, blankets, shelter or fire while the guards were ordered not to use any violence in protecting the prisoners from the savages who came every day in large companies with knives feeling of the prisoners to know who was fattest, that they dragged one of the prisoners out of the guard with the most lamentable cries, tortured him for a long time and the deponent was informed by both Tories and Indians that they eat him, as appeared they did another on an Island in Lake Ontario by bones found there newly picked just after they had crossed the Lake with prisoners that the prisoners who were not delivered up were murdered in considerable numbers from day to day round the camp, some of them so nigh that their shrieks were heard, that Capt. Martin of the Batteau men was delivered to the Indians at Oswego, on pretence [pretense] of his having kept back some useful intelligence, that the deponent during his imprisonment and his fellows

were kept almost starved for provisions, and what they drew as of the worst kind such as spoiled flour biscuit full of maggots, and mouldy [moldy] and not soap allowed, or other method of keeping clean and were insulted, struck and caned [caned] without mercy by the guards without any provocation given.

That a Hessian corporal in New York harbour [harbor] on being reprov'd for so doing by a prisoner in the German language answered that it was nothing in comparison of the flogging the prisoners were continually exposed to in that city, that the deponent was informed by several Sergeants [sergeants] orderly on Genl St. Ledger, that twenty dollars were offered in general orders for every American scalp. (Signed) Moses Younglove.

Sworn before me in Committee Albany 29 Decr 1777. John Barclay Chairman.

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, of the 7th July 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows."

State of New York, SS:

On this twenty second day of November in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty eight personally appeared before me, William Gaul one of the Justices of the Justices Court of the city of Hudson, the same being a court of record, Polly Younglove, a resident of the city of Hudson in the County of Columbia and State of New York, who, being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed July 7th 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows":

That she is the widow of Moses Younglove who served first as a Surgeon's Mate and afterwards as a Surgeon in the Revolutionary War: that the said Moses Younglove, was appointed a Surgeon's Mate in the regiment of Continental troops commanded by Col. Samuel Elmore, as appears by the original commission, dated the 29th of August 1776, which is hereunto appended, and joined the army, as she has always understood, at Albany; that, in the month of July 1777, he was appointed by Genl Herkimer, a Surgeon of his Brigade, as appears by an original letter, dated at Canajoharie, on the 12th of July 1777, from John Eisenlord, one of the committee of Tryon County, to Col. William Seeber, requesting his aid in procuring medicines for Doct Younglove, and also by the original certificate of Peter S. Dygert Chairman of the Committee of Tryon County both of which are hereunto appended; that he marched, with Gen Herkimer's Brigade, for the relief of Fort Stanwix; and, on the 6th of August 1777, in the battle near Oriskany in which Genl Herkimer was defeated and mortally wounded, was taken prisoner and carried to Canada, that he returned, on parole, by way of Quebec, New York, and Albany, to his Father's house in Cambridge, now in the County of Washington, about the first of January 1778, as appears by a affidavit, in regard to the cruelties to which he and his companions in captivity were subjected, made by him when at Albany, on his way home, and dated on the 29th of December 1777, which is now on file in the office of the Secretary of this State, and as certified copy of which is hereunto appended; that she has often heard him express the

satisfaction he felt in finding on his return to Albany that he had been exchanged for a British Surgeon, that he might at once re-enter the service of his country (notwithstanding his constitution was much shattered by exposure and suffering during his imprisonment), which he immediately did, as he has frequently remarked, "with a hearty good will to do the enemy all the harm in his power": that she always understood from him that after his return he was engaged as a Surgeon in the border warfare on the Mohawk river, at Cherry Valley, &c; that she has often heard him speak of his services at those places, and say, that his brother, David Younglove, who was wounded in the battle of Bennington, was his mate; that from frequent conversations between him and herself and between him and his brother and others who had served with him, she has always understood, and she verily believes, that he was actively engaged in these services during the greater part of the years 1778 and 1779; that, in the Summer of 1780, he removed to New Lebanon remarking that he thought his country could now spare his services and that he had come to seek repose and to repair his broken constitution; its restoration, however, he never accomplished, for, altho' he was able to be active a considerable part of the time, he never attained health or vigor.

She further declares that she was married to the said Moses Younglove on the 11th day of July one thousand seven hundred and eighty one; and that the aforesaid Moses Younglove died on the thirty first day of January one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine; that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the 1st January one thousand seven hundred and ninety four, viz: at the time above stated, and that she was seventy six years of age the 14th day of October last. (Signed) Polly Younglove.

Sworn and subscribed on the day and year above written before me.

Wm Gaul Justice of the Justices Court of the City of Hudson