

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Daniel Fink S31027

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris and David Armstrong. Revised 7 April 2013.

Commonwealth of Kentucky } Sgt.

Lewis County }

On this 26th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before William P. Roper the judge of the Lewis Circuit which is now sitting, Daniel Fink a resident of Lewis County in the State of Kentucky aged seventy six years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. He states that in May 1777 he resided on the west fork of the Monongahela [West Fork River] in Harrison County in the State of Virginia [formed from Monongalia County in 1784; now in Marion County WV], and the indians being very troublesome he Volunteered his services as a ranger against the indians and in May 1777 he was sworn in as a Spy and served as a spy until the first day of December following. During this time he served as a Spy and ranged on the West fork of the Monongahela, Tigerts Vally [sic: Tygart Valley] and on the little Canhaway [sic: Little Kanawha River], around West falls fort [Westfall Fort] in Tigerts Vally and West fork. During the time he was a spy he served under Colonel Benjamin Wilson and a Captain John Skidmore. He first spied with Charles West who was accidentally killed by John Crouch, and he afterwards spied with Elijah Staunts [sic: Elijah Staats] who served with him during the balance of his time, and after he ceased to be a Spy he continued in the service as a garrison keeper and ranger until the end of the War not as a regular, but as one of the neighbourhood Militia. He had one brother killed during the war by the indians near Buckhannans fort [sic: Buckhannon Fort ¾ mi N of present Buckhannon in Upshur County WV] but he was in no engagement himself. He has no documentary evidence of his service, and knows of no person by whom he can prove his service. He was born near Frederick town in Maryland the 15th day of December 1756, but he has no record of his age. His age was recorded in his fathers Bible which his brother Henry got. and he died in deerfield Ohio. He remained in the west part of Virginia until about the year 1787 or 8 or 9 when he removed to the State of Kentucky and settled in Mason County and he has continued to reside in Mason Henry and Lewis Countys ever since. He had a written discharge as a Spy but has long since lost it. He is well known by William B. Parker. Joseph Robb Esqr. Aaron Shaller[?] Esqr. Willen Davis of his neighborhood, who can testify as to his character for Veracity and good behavior and that he is reputed to have been a Spy and soldier of the revolution. And he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not in the pension roll of the agency of any state. He is in poverty and a cripple

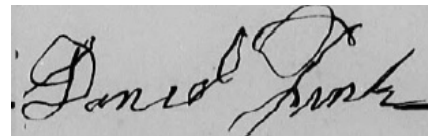
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Fink". The signature is written in a cursive style with some flourishes.

Daniel Fink on the 26th day of September 1832 made his declaration in the lewis Circuit Court in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 which has been returned to him as objectionable in two points; and he now upon his Oath in open Court states that about the first of May 1777 he was sworn in as a Spy and served as a Spy until the first day of December following as stated in his former declaration making a period of seven months he served as a Spy.

After he ceased to be a Spy he continued in the service as a garrison keeper and ranger from the first of December 1777 until the fall of 1783 a period of nearly six years as stated in his former declaration, making a service of nearly six years and six months in all.

He further states that there is no clergyman living in his section of the county that he is acquainted with, or that can be presumed to know him or his reputation as a Spy and Soldier of the revolution, and this he assigns as a reason for not having the affidavit of a clergyman to his declaration. He is poor and in distress and he is hopes that this a amendment will make his declaration sufficiently certain and specific to authorise the allowance of his claim

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Daniel Fink".

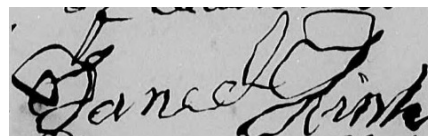
[The Pension Office made the following reply to the amended declaration.]

The applicants claim as a garrison keeper cannot be allowed. If he performed any tours as a volunteer or under a draft they should be stated. His first tour as a spy for seven months will be allowed. Nov 5, 1833

Daniel Fink for amendment to his declaration heretofore made to obtain the benefit of an act of congress passed June 7th 1832 comes into court and states that after he ceased to be a Spy about the first of December 1777 he again entered the service as a Volunteer under Captain George Jackson and Lieutenant Timothy Dorman

On his entering the service as a Volunteer he was stationed at Buckhannon's fort where he was continued until about the year 1780 or 1781 when the fort was burnt by the indians and the balance of the time he was stationed at Clarksburg Virginia and the other forts. On the expiration of one term of service he would again Volunteer his services; and during the time he was on frequent scouts against the indians and would be absent three or four days or a week at a time and would return back to the fort. Being on the frontier these garrisons were weak and the troops had to be continued at the fort to prevent their being taken by surprise by the indians. During this time he was employed in no civil pursuit but continued in the service to protect the frontiers.

He was frequently and almost constantly reconnoitering the country in search of indians and indian sign to see whether any were in that section of the country, and if any what number that they might not be taken by surprise. He does not recollect to have performed any turn of service on which he was absent more than one week at a time from the fort. Subscribed and sworn to this 16th day of December 1833.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Daniel Fink".

NOTE: Fink was pensioned for seven months service.