

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Jacob Spong (Sponk) W3313
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Elizabeth Spong MD

State of Pennsylvania
County of Cumberland Ss

On this 15th day of November 1850 personally appeared in open Court John Spong resident of the town of East Pensboro in the County of Cumberland in said State aged sixty nine years who being first duly sworn according to law doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the amount that may be due to the heirs of Jacob & Elizabeth Spong or Sponk deceased under the Act of 4th July 1836.

That declarant states that he is the son of Jacob Spong or Sponk dec'd. – that is father was of German descent and this declarant states his belief that the name Spong is in the German language called Sponk – that this declarants father was a resident of the town of Sharpsburg in the State of Maryland at & before the time of the revolutionary war – that he was as this declarant has often heard him say a Soldier in the war of the revolution – that he entered the service from the said town of Sharpsburg at or about the time of the commencement of hostilities – that he belonged to the Maryland Line & that he enlisted for during the war & that he continued in service during the greater part if not the whole of said war – that he was in several battles among them were the battles of Paoli [21 Sep 1777] Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] & Yorktown [siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] – that he received as this declarant has heard him say a bounty of \$70. for his enlistment.

This declarant further states that his said father was married, as near as he can ascertain in the month of May in the year 1775 to this declarant's mother whose maiden name was Elizabeth Miller in the said County of Cumberland – that in a very short time after the marriage took place his said father was marched off to join the army & that he continued in service under different periods of enlistment during most of the war & that his last period of enlistment was for during the war

This declarant further states that his parents had two children at least, born while his said father was in service – one of whom was named Polly Spong who was several years older than this declarant, and another, this declarant who was born as he believes on the 15th of October 1781.

This declarant further states that his said father died in the month of April in the year 1830 – that his said mother did not again marry, and that she died on the nineteenth (19th) day of March in the year eighteen hundred & forty eight (1848) and that his said parents left one child only now surviving them who is this declarant.

John hisXmark Spong

Annapolis, 15th May, 1849.

Dear Sir [L. M. Drury, Esqr], In reply to your letter of the 7th Inst, I have to state, That it appears by the Muster rolls of the Revolution, that Jacob Sponk, enlisted as a private, in Capt'n. Nathan Williams Company, of the 6th Maryland Regiment, for during the War, on the 4th day of May, 1778, and was present on the 1st of January, 1780. this is all the evidence the records afford of his services, except that his name appears upon a pay roll of Capt'n. Williams's Company to have received a few months pay. I presume, he could not write his name, as he makes his mark to the receipt on the record. The records do not show the town or County he resided in at the time of entering the service. No Bounty land was awarded him for his Revolutionary services, and I of course, am unable to furnish any further information respecting him.

Very respectfully ys/ G. G. Brewer

NOTE: On 10 Sep 1850 Thomas Williams stated that Jacob Spong had talked of being in the battles of Bunker Hill [17 Jun 1775], Paoli, Brandywine, and others, and that he lived near the Conodoquinet Creek. He and others listed his children as Polly, John, David, Peter, Simon, Rachel, Elizabeth, and Jacob. On the same day Samuel Miller said he had also heard Spong speak of being in the battles of Bunker Hill and Paoli, and that he had heard the neighbors say “that they had to furnish many articles for the support of the

family of the said Jacob Spong or Sponk while he was engaged in the service.” Rev. Augustus Babb stated that he had preached the funeral sermon of Elizabeth Spong on 21 March 1848, and that her son, John Spong, was then living with Jacob Eichelberger.