The Declaration of Daniel Bell of the County of Mason and State of Kentucky – Made before the Honorable the County Court of Mason – Thomas Mountjoy presiding. The said Daniel Bell makes this declaration to enable him to avail himself of the Benefit of Acts of the Congress granting pensions to the officers and soldiers that served in the Revolution –

He states that he was born in the County of Stafford in the state of Virginia in the year 1765 on 14th April in that year. He states that in the year 1779 in September of that year I volunteered in the company of Beverly Stubblefield – the major of the regiment was Peter Stubblefield and the Colo. was George Stubblefield. And in that company and regiment I commenced the performance of duty as a militiaman at the time stated above at Spottsylvania Court House, and was marched from thence to Richmond where we remained discharging our duty for some time, we were then marched to Cabel Point [possibly Cabin Point in Surry County] where we remained in the discharge of our duty for some time.

we were then marched to Petersburg where we remained in the discharge of our duty untill our time expired for which we were called out which was three months, and we were then discharged. The discharge I received from my Colonel George Stubblefield & was an honorable & full discharge for the whole tower of duty of three months. But I have long since lost or mislaid the same, and cannot now produce the same. The services I performed were those of a common soldier, and were great and laborious.

In the year 1781 in the month of September I resided in the County of Stafford in the state of Virginia and the company to which I belonged commanded by James Prim was ordered into service. I joined my company at the Bowling green in Caroline County, and we were marched to Williamsburg where we were encamped until we were ordered down to assist at the Siege of York, we marched in the month of October to assist General Washington at the siege of York where I remained in actual service untill I was taken down sick and a few days before the capture of York [19 Oct 1781] I was sent to the Hospital from which place I returned Home not able to walk, upon the order of the physicians. after the surrender of York I was hauled home in a wagon from the Hospital and never received any discharge for the tower of duty I served in this tower of Duty about three months. the duties were very great and laborious and dangerous – and up to the time of my being taken down sick I continued to perform them at the siege of Yorktown. James Prim was the captain of the company I belonged to and the majors name I think was Grigg. The Colonels name was Colo. William Dark whom I well recollect –

In the month of December 1781 upon my partial recovery from my sickness contracted at Yorktown I joined as volunteer to a company commanded by Captain Isaac Eaton at Winchester Barracks near Winchester Virginia and continued in the service as a soldier in his company and was employed in guarding the prisoners until the prisoners were marched over to Shepherdstown and from thence into Maryland – when the Virginia militia were ordered to return to Winchester to receive their discharge. But upon my return I was again taken sick & was unable to attend but sent my gun, and I never did receive my discharge. I was employed in this service from the time I entered it at Winchester Barracks untill we marched to Shepherdstown about three months. The colonel that commanded the regiment that my Company belonged to when I served my last tower was Niceswanger – a duchman [i.e. German]. The other officers I do not recollect their names.

The three towers that I thus served was as a militia man under the state of Virginia.

I do not know of any person who can prove the services I have performed within my reach or knowledge, or any one who served with me in any one of the towers except Major George M Bedinger
[George Michael Bedinger, pension application W2992] who was the Adjutant to the detachment that I belonged to at Williamsburg and at the siege of Yorktown – and by whom I was musterd at Williamsburg every morning and night. I am well known to the Honerable Walker Reid the Circuit Judge of this Circuit and to John Chambers and Nicholas D Coleman, & Thomas Metcalf to whom I would refer for my character.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. Sworn to and subscribed this 13th day of July 1835.  

[signed] Daniel Bell

NOTE: A letter in the file states that Bell never collected his pension, intending to save it as a legacy for his daughter, and that he died about 1840.