Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Henry Funk W23075 Elizabeth Funk VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

The State of Indiana }
Crawford County } Sct

On this 8 day of May 1848 personally appeared before the Probate Court of said County John Funk, a resident of said County aged sixty two years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by acts of Congress for the children and heirs of persons, who served in the army of the United States in the War of the Revolution, and of the widows of those who performed such service; That he is the son of Henry Funk who was a soldier in the Regiment commanded by Col. George Rogers Clark in his Campaign in the West against the Posts of Kaskaskia and Vincennes [captured July 4 and 20, 1778]; That his said Father was married to Elizabeth Miller in the State of Virginia about the year 1774; That after the marriage of his said Father and Mother they lived near Bairdstown Kentucky, whence they moved to Indiana Territory about the year 1804 and settled on Indian Creek; That his said Father died on the first day of November 1815; That after his Fathers death his mother moved to Crawford County Indiana and thence to Russelville [sic: Russellville] Lawrence County Illinois where she died in the fall of the year 1845; having never married after her said husbands death; That she never drew or applied for pension to which she was entitled under the acts of Congress; That the said Henry and Elizabeth during the term of their wedlock had Eleven children, several of whom died in infancy, and he the said John Funk is the fifth child of said marriage and is the oldest child of said family now living and as before stated is now about sixty two years of age. That besides himself Elizabeth Potter (widow of William Potter) Joseph Funk, Peter Funk and Isaac Funk, are the only children of said parents who are now living.

This declarant further states that he has no documentary evidence in his possession of the service of his said Father; That his Father besides other lands was entitled to land in the Illinois Grant, and the evidence of his right was put into the hands of an agent or assignee who never returned the papers to his Father as the declarant believes.

Sworn to and subscribed before the Judge of Probate of said County of Crawford, the day and year before written.

John his Xmark Funk

Harrison County Indiana Sct

Isaack Funck of said County aged 66 years past being sworn says he was well acquainted with his uncle Henry Funk who died in this county about the year 1810. I lived neighbor to him for a few years previous to his death and was very intimate with him. I often heard said Henry Funk say that he served three years (as well as I now remember) under Colonel Clarke (I think he also mentioned one Lewis as a commander) in the expedition against Vincennes and Kaskaskia and that he was at the taking of both those places. I do not remember the name of his Captain. I heard him speak oftener of Captain Isaac Bowman [possibly Joseph Bowman] than any other. He told me of many hardships and trials they had on the expedition. He also told me of the treachery of one of the guides who had undertaken to conduct the Army from Vincennes to Kaskaskia and for which (if I remember right) he was shot down by another guide who came to meet them and who conducted them safely to the town of Kaskaskia where they arrived just before daylight.

He always said that he was entitled to a land in Clarke's Grant opposite Louisville Kentucky on account of the above named services.

The statements of the above named Henry Funk in relation to these matters were always believed by me to be true and by those generally who heard them, at least I never heard their truth called in question by any one. He had a neighbor here named Jesse Juloe now d'c [deceased] who had been his neighbor over in Kentucky; I heard said Juloe say that my uncle Henry was entitled to a lot of land in the

above named grant which he was neglecting My father Jacob Funck now de'd who was older than my uncle Henry above named spoke frequently of the said Henry enlisting in the Army under Colonel Clarke and that he was a married man at the time.

My grandfather Funck moved from Pennsylvania to Shanandoah [sic: Shenandoah] County Virginia as I believe from what I have always heard, and my father and uncle Henry were raised there; though they might have been born in Pennsylvania.

They were living in Shanandoah County Virginia when uncle Henry enlisted and his wife's name was Elizabeth Funk but her maiden name I have forgotten if I ever heard it.

The above named Henry Funk and the above named Elizabeth Funk during the lifetime and up to the death of said Henry lived together as husband and wife and were reputed so to be among their neighbors and acquaintances; and after the death of said Henry she never married again (at least if she did I never heard of it) but remained the widow of my uncle the above named Henry Funk dec I have heard and believed for several years past that she is dead: but whether she died in Illinois where she moved once as I heard or in this state I do not now remember hearing.

The following named persons are the only ones of the children of the above named Henry Funk and Elizabeth his wife that I ever knew Viz

- 1 Daniel Funk died in this county some years after his father as well as I now remember
- 2 John Funk lives now as I believe in Crawford County of this state
- 3 Henry Funk who died in this county as well I now remember more than thirty years ago
- 4 Betsy who married William Potter but I do not know where she now lives
- 5 Peter Funk the last I heard of him he had moved to Illinois
- 6 Joseph Funk the last I heard of him he moved to Illinois I think
- 7 Isaac Funk Crawford County Indiana

I have heard there was a sister married to a man named Kurtz but cannot now say whether I ever heard that she was dead or alive as I never saw her.

Daniel Funk above named was an older man than myself

And I am disinterested

Witness my hand in Harrison County Indian on this Fifth (5) day of May A.D. 1854 [signed] Isaac Funck

Harrison County	}	
State of Indiana	}	SS

Isaac Funck of Said County makes the following Supplement to his affidavit in regard to Henry Funk made before Dudley Dawson a justice of the peace for said County on the 5th day of May AD 1854 Viz

I stated in said affidavit that my uncle Henry Funk died about the year 1810. In this I may be mistaken a few years

The said Henry Funk told me that when Clarke's Army arrived at Vincennes and were about to go on to Kaskaskia there was at that place a French lad of about 14 years old whose father and all the family except himself had been massacred by the Indians. This lad volunteered and joined Clarke's Army and went on with them to Kaskaskia; at which place he recognized among the Indians the main one that had killed his father's family and asked liberty to take vengeance which as I remember was granted him or at least that he did it whether by permission or not, and that he the said Henry Funk was present when the lad killed him. and my recollection is that he was one of the guard then present

The above named Henry Funk was the only Henry Funk that lived in Virginia at that day except his father as I believe; and is the only one that I ever heard of that was in Clarke's Expedition to Vincennes and Kaskaskia Viz

I have never known or heard of any people of the name in the United States except our own relatives either close or remote – My grandfather's family were the only ones that lived in Virginia and there were two other branches one in Pennsylvania and one in Maryland. I have now no recollection of

ever hearing of a Heny [sic] Funk in either the Pennsylvania or Maryland branch.

I remember that there was a neighbor of my uncle Henry's here named Linkhorn [Lincoln] who used to try to buy his right to Land up in Clarke's Grant which was coming to him for his services in Clarke's Expedition as above described

My uncle Heny moved from Hardin County Kentucky to this County as I always understood and believed – And that he had lived in Hardin County a number of years – Harrison County Indiana this 31st day of May 1854 [signed] Isaac Funck

NOTES:

The file includes a copy of a document by which on 10 June 1797 Henry Funk transferred his right to 100 acres in the Illinois Grant to Abram Lucas. Several witnesses stated that Henry Funk had later complained about his treatment by Lucas.

A letter in the file states that a record of the marriage of Henry Funk and Elizabeth Miller was searched for unsuccessfully in Shenandoah County VA.

On 20 Dec 1854 Peter Funk, 57 or 58, of Lawrence County IL, stated that his parents, Henry and Elizabeth Funk were married near Stovertown VA (Stover in Augusta County?), and that their first three children were Catherine, Rebecca, and Henry, the last born shortly after his father entered the army. He stated that Rebecca and Henry died in infancy, and that Catherine married George Kurtz and died before he (Peter) was born. He also stated that the fourth child was Daniel Funk, who was the first one born after his father returned from service, and the first husband of Rachel Reaugh. Peter Funk also stated that his father "used to make marks in his German Almanacs for the births of their children, but they were destroyed." He also stated that his father died on 22 Sep 1815 or possibly 1814, and his mother died at his house on 13 Sep 1844. He gave the following list of surviving children: John Funk of Crawford County IN; Betsy Potter, widow, also of Crawford County; Peter Funk of Lawrence County IL; Joseph Funk of Iowa; Isaac Funk of Crawford County.

The 168-page file includes many statements certifying Henry Funk's reputation as a soldier and his marriage, including the following:

- On 6 May 1854 John Purkhiser, 72, of Harrison County, stated that his father-in-law, Jacob Funk, was the brother of Henry Funk, the soldier
- On 25 Nov 1854 Rachel Reaugh, 71, of Harrison County IN, stated that as Rachel Denboe she married Daniel Funk when he was 21, in Hardin County KY in Jan 1803 or 1804. She also stated that Catherine Funk died shortly after marrying George Kurtz.
- On 4 Dec 1854 John Ament, 66, of Hardin County KY, stated that Henry Funk was the brother of his mother.
- On 20 Dec 1854 Anthony D. Funk, 33, of Lawrence County IL certified that Elizabeth Funk had died at the house of his father, Peter Funk, in the fall after the birth of one of his own children in July 1844.
- On 3 March 1855 Henry Funk, 45, of Harrison County IN, stated that he was the son of Daniel Funk and Rachel Reaugh.
- On 22 June 1855 Reuben Funk, 42, of Crawford County, referred to his father, John Funk, and his grandfather, Henry Funk, the soldier.
- On 26 June 1855 Elizabeth Shoptaw, 83, of Bullitt County KY, stated that she was present at the marriage of her brother, George Kurtz, to Catherine Funk, in Nelson County KY in 1788 or 1789. She also stated that when she married Andrew Shoptaw in the fall of 1793 Catherine Kurtz was present with two children, the oldest about two, and that she died about a year afterward.