

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Casey (Kersey) W29906.5

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of No. Carolina }
Warren County}

On this 3rd day of September 1832 personally appeared before me W. N. Edwards, one of the presiding Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions of the County of Warren aforesaid - it being a Court of Record. William Casey (sometimes written Kersey) aged seventy one years - resident of said County, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832. towit;

That he was born in the year 1761, as he always understood, in the County of Southampton Virginia. That he was enlisted by Lt. William Rogers for four years in the army of the United States in the year 1777, he thinks in the month of September - and met other troops at Sussex Court House Virginia. There Lt. Jack Stith afterwards Capt. Stith took the command and marched us by Richmond - Fredericksburg and to George Town [Georgetown], where we remained sometime to be inoculated for the Small Pox. From thence we were marched to Head Quarters at Valley Forge, where we were attached to the 4th Virginia Regiment under Col. John Nevill [sic: John Neville] and Brig. Gen'l. Charles Scott. At this place he recollects Gen'l. [William] Woodford & Gen'l. Mughlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] of the Virginia Troops. Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] - Col. [Daniel] Morgan - Gen'l. [Anthony] Wayne - Gen'l. [Charles] Lee - and Gen'l. Hagan[?] were also there - all under the command of Gen'l. Washington. Here the Troops remained during the winter and built a Bridge across the Schuylkill. In the Spring of 1778 they were marched to Monmouth Court House, in which direction the British marched after they evacuated Philadelphia [18 Jun 1778]. At Monmouth Court House the two armies met and a severe engagement took place - commencing early in the day [28 Jun] and lasted till the Evening when the British gave way and fled to their vessels. We pursued them till night and went up to a little Town called Brunswick. After this Battle Gen'l. Lee who commanded on the left was superseded & marched no farther with us. On the march to Monmouth we met several soldiers who told us they had been in the Battles of Trenton & Brandywine. From thence we were marched northwardly, passing many places - untill we reached a place called White Plains [NY] where we were stationed for some time - while here he recollects that one Col. Bayley with a large troop of Horse passed and went, as he understood, down towards where Col. Morgan and the troops under his command were stationed some distance below. After being some months in the north, we were marched back to the South - and passed all the streams on the ice - untill we reached James River at Richmond, where after waiting a few days for a thaw, we crossed in Boats. We were then by a hurried march carried through Petersburg and Hix's ford in Virginia to Halifax N.C. where we crossed the Roanoke - thence by the most direct Rout to cross Creek, now the site of Fayetteville N.C. - thence through Camden and Geo. Town [Georgetown] So. Carolina to Charleston, which place we entered the 11th April as well as I recollect in 1780 - and were there besieged by the British under the command of Gen'l. [Henry] Clinton - Lord Cornwallis & Col. [Banastre] Tarleton - which was continued untill, I think, 12th May - when the American forces surrendered. I recollect at this place Gen'l. [Lachlan] McIntosh & Col. Wm. Henderson [of SC] - also Gen'ls. Scott [possibly Col. William Scott of SC] and Woodford & Col. Nevill. The officers taken Prisoners were paroled and the men sent on Board of Prison Ships - myself among them - we were detained on Board I think more than a year - when we were carried Round by water to the James River, and up the River to James Town in the latter part of the summer 1781, where they were released - having been exchanged as he understood for Burgoyne's men [captured at Saratoga, 17 Oct 1777 and held near Charlottesville VA] - we were then march'd to Williamsburg where, having performed my full term of four years, I was discharged - my discharge was signed by Col. John Nevill - but is lost or mislaid so that I cannot produce it. At the time I was discharged I understood Cornwallis & his troops were surrounded at little York in Virginia [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. After my discharge I came home to Southampton & remained

but a short time, when I moved and settled in No. Carolina in the County of Bute [sic] in that part of it which now [since 1779] constitutes the County of Warren. I was again enlisted by Capt. Dixon Marshall of the Reg't. commanded by Gen'l. Jethro Sumner and was shortly after taken by Gen'l. Sumner to wait upon him - in which capacity I served thirteen months and eight days when I was discharged by Gen'l. Sumner. This discharge is also lost or mislaid. For this latter service I received from No. Carolina a Land warrant for 640 acres - number 159.

This affiant has resided in the County of Warren ever since the War of the Revolution. He has no Register of his age. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any state.

He further declares he has been confined to a sick bed for the last four weeks and was unable to attend court for the purpose of making this declaration.

William hisXmark Casey

The affidavit of William Chavens of lawfull age taken before me James C Gregory a Justice of the peace in and for county of Mecklenburg and State of Virginia to be used as evidence at the pension office in the city of Washington by the heirs at Law of William Casey who was a pensioner of the united states under an act of congress — this affiant being sworn upon the holy evangelist of almighty god deposes and says that he was at William Casey's Weding, when he intermarried with Mary Evans in Seventeen hundred and Eighty Six in the month of December, at the house of Thomas Evans in the County of Mecklenburg, Virginia, & he thinks that the Parson that Married them was John Marshall, the reason that he recollects all about the wedding, because they had a great frolick on the day with Fiddling & dancing &c. he also says that he is in such a state of bodily infirmities that he is not able to travel to Warren Court North Carolina to appear before the Judge.

William hisXmark Chavis

[12 Apr 1845]

NOTE:

The 1820 and 1830 federal censuses for Warren County NC lists "William Kearsy" and "William Casey," respectively, as head of a "Free Colored" household.

On 15 Apr 1845 Edmund Casey, about 42, applied for a pension as the son and administrator of Mary Casey, who died 14 Sep 1840 without ever receiving a pension for the services of William Casey, who died 26 Jun 1836. He stated that the other surviving children were Thomas Casey, Elizabeth, Peggy, Sally, Nancy, and William. With the application is a copy of the marriage bond signed 23 Dec 1786 in Mecklenburg County with Kinchen Chavens as surety.