

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jonathan Casber S9163

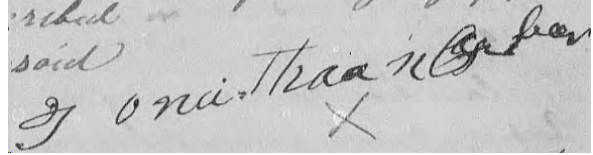
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Pennsylvania }  
County of Allegheny } Ss

on this 30<sup>d</sup> Day of June AD 1838 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common please now siting Johnathen Caseber A resident of the County of Washington in the State of Pa, aged 86 years 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 June the 7, 1832

That he entered the servise of the United States under the following named officers and served as herin stated. Johnathen Casberer saith on the first of Aprile 1776 he was drafted from the County of Sussex in the State of New Jersey for the term of two Months under the command of Capt. Samuel Kirkendall which said company was raised for the purpose of preventing foreging partes and Torys from carying suplys to the British, in which servises this aplicant served to the first of June when his time having expird he left the servise after having served two months as a private without receiving a discharge on the first of October 1776 he was drafted from the same place for the term of Two months under the Command of Capt William Nice which said cumpany remained in servise to the first of December when the time expired and he returned home after having served two months as a private without receiving a discharge this applicant state that on the first of March 1777 he moved to Chambersburgh [sic: Chambersburg] State of Pennsylvane and that on the first of September 1777 he was drafted for the term of of three months the Capt name not recolected but was appart of his time attached to Cols. Chambers Regimint which said Serviss was principaly performed between Chanbersburgh and Philadelphia in which servise he remained to the first of December when his time expired and he left the Servise after having served thre months as a private with receiving any discharge on the first of Aprile 1778 this applicant moved to Coxes Fort Youghiogeny County State of Va [sic: Yohogania County, now in PA] from which place he was drafted for the tirm of four months under the Command of Capt Zedock Wright [sic: Zadock Wright] Lieutenant Writche [probably Richey] this was in the begining of May 1778 from which place we marched to Pittsburgh where we fell under the command of Cols. Beeler from thence we marched to the mouth of Big Beaver Crick [sic: Beaver River] State of Pa, where we fell under the Command of Genl. Mackentosh [sic: Lachlan McIntosh] at which place we built a Fort caled Mackentosh [sic: Fort McIntosh, begun Sep 1778] from thence we marched to the Tuscerawyes [sic: left 4 Nov 1778 for Tuscarawas River near present Bolivar OH] at which place we built a Fort caled Lawrence [sic: Fort Laurens, begun 10 Nov] Genl. Macintosh then marched his troops back to Fort Mackintosh in the begining of October [sic] when this applicant was dismissed and he returned home after having served five months being one month more than he was drafted for as a private without receving any discharge on the first of Aprile 1781 he volunteerd under the commd of Capt. Joseph Ogel [sic: Joseph Ogle] from the County of Youghiogeny Va, for the term of three months from which place we marched to Wheeling at which place we fell under the command of Cols. Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead] from thence we march to the Muskingum Rivver State of Ohio, from thence to Cashocton and from thence [on 7 Apr] to Newcomers' town [Newcomerstown] at which place Cols. Broadhead made a treety with the Indians – from thence we marched back to Wheeling and from thence to devores ferry wher he was dismissed and he returned home after having served three months as a private without receving any discharge this applicant states he servd five towers making in all fifteen months for which said servises he now clames a Pension. [From here to the end is marked "omit."] This applicant further states the reason why he did not make an erlier application was that he did not unto within the last six months understand that Congress had pased an Act embracing him in it provisions and the reason why he did not make the declaretion in

the County where he resides was on account of being more convenient to procure the certificate of the Clergyman who resides in Pittsburgh this applicant saith that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whos deposition he can procure who can testify to all of his He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any state Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive ink. The signature is written on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The name 'Johnathan Caseber' is clearly legible, with a large 'X' mark below the name. The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid.

Interrogatories put by the Court to Johnathan Caseber

1) Where and in what year were you born

Answer. I was born near Philadelphia Pa. on the 12 Day of May AD 1752

2) Have you any record of your age

Answer) I have a record of my age, now in my possession

3) Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live

Answer, I lived in Sussex County State of New Jersey when I entered the service and at the close of the war, I lived in Youghiogeny County Va, and since that time I lived in Washington County State of Pa where I now lived

4) How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute

Answer) the first four tours I was drafted and the last tour I volunteered

5) State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental & militia regiment as you can recollect & the general circumstance of your service

Answer) General Macintosh Broadhead Colo. Beeler Cambell Cox and Gibson who commanded the 13th Regiment and Col. Chambers were officers I served with

6) Did you ever receive a discharge from the service

Answer) I never received a discharge

7) State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

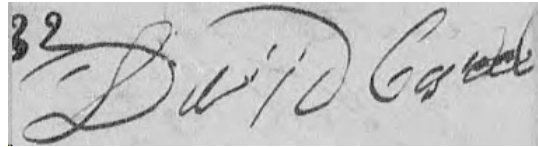
Answer) Daniel Parmer Esqr Alexandr Hamilton Josiah Crofford James McLure James Scott and Leweston Thomas are my neighbours and can testify as to my character for truth & veracity

State of Pa

County of Allegheny [28 Nov 1838]

Personally appeared before me one of the Aldermen of the City of Pittsburgh David Carrel [sic: David Caroll or Carroll, pension application S9144] a respectable Citizen of the County Washington aged seventy seven years past he duly sworn Depose and saith that he is personally and well acquainted with Jonathan Casber of the County of Washington who is now making application for Services rendered in the Revolutionary war Deponent saith that Jonathan Caseber entered the Services of the United States in the beginning of May 1778 under the Command of Capt Zedock Wright Lieutenant Wriche from the County of Youghiogeny to serve for the term of four months from which place they marched to Pittsburgh where they fell under the command of Colo Beeler & from thence marched to Big Beaver Creek where they fell under the Command of General Mackintosh at which place they built a fort called Fort Mackintosh from thence they marched to Tuskeroyears at which place they built a fort called Lawrence & in the beginning of October the troops marched to Fort Mackintosh & leaving Colo Gibson & his Regiment to defend Fort Lawrence and shortly after they arrived at Fort Mackintosh the army was disbanded & Jonathan Casber

left the Servis after having served five months the Deponent further states that he new Jonathen Casber Serving other towers but the lenth of time & presise dates he cannot recolect Deponent further states that he him self is a Revelutioner Pention Plased on the pention Roal under Act of the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832

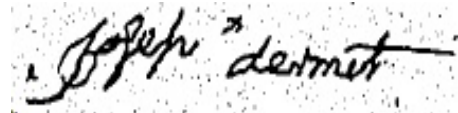
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Casber". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

State of Pennsylvania } Ss  
County of Allegheny }

Personally appear before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the Pease in and for said County Joseph McDermet [sic: Joseph McDermott, pension application S22902; see endnote] a respectable Citazen of the County of Allegheny in the State of Pennsylviny who being duly sworn as law derict doth depose and say that he is personly and well acquainted with Jonathin Casber of the County of Washington who has sworn to and subscribed the foregoing Decleration to obtain a Pension for Servises renderd in the Revolutionary War; Joseph McDermet saith that Johnathen Casebere was Drafted from the County of Youghiogheny State of Va, for the term of Four months under the Command of Capt. Zedock Wright Lieutenant Writche in the begining of May 1778 from which place he marched to Pittsburgh where he fell under the command Cols. Beller from thence he marched to the Mouth fo Big Beaver Crick State of Pennsy'l where he fell under the Command of Genral McIntosh at which place the built a Fort, Caled Fort McIntosh, fromt hence he marched to the Tuscerawyes at which place the built a Fort Caled Fort Lawrence, after remaining a short time after the Fort, was finished Genral McIntosh then marched back his troops to Fort McIntosh some time in the begining of October 1778 when Johnathen Caseber was Desmisid and he returned home after having served five months in this tower being one Months more than his Draft Caled for this Deponant further States that Johnathen Casebur Volunteered under the command of Capt. Joseph Ogel from the County of Youghiogeny State of Va, in the begining of Aprile 1781 for the term of three months, from which place he marched to Wheeling at which place he fell under the Command of Col. Broadhead from thence the marched to the Muskingum Rivver, (now) State of Ohio, from thence to Cashocton and from thence to Newcomers' town at which place Cols. Broadhead mad a treety with the Indians - from thence the marched back to Wheeling and from thence to Devores ferry at which place Johnathen Casebur was dismissed and he left the Servise in the begining of July 1781 after having served three months that tour Deponant further saith that he was a Revolutionary Soldiere and Served with Johnathen Casebur and further this deponant saith not Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28 Day of Decmb'r 1838 Joseph hisXmark McDermott

NOTES:

In his own pension application dated 5 April 1833, Joseph McDermott of Allegheny County PA signed his full name as shown.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joseph McDermott". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

A note on Casber's pension certificate states that his pension was suspended. The pension application of David Caroll (or Carroll; S9144) contains the following correspondence.

Washington Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> 1839

My dear Sir [Mr. D. T. Morgan],/ There is some reason to believe that either the Government or the widow of a pensioner has been imposed on by some unprincipled men in the County and I wish you

to call upon Mr. Tiernan the Pension agent immediately and ascertain whether any money has been drawn within two weeks by George Hayer or any other person for the pension of Jonathan Casebear. He is now dead and it is understood by his executors that, without their knowledge, the widow was brought to town and was induced to sign some instrument of writing which, it is found, is an authority to Hayer or some other person to receive the amount of the pension. If no application has yet been made request Mr. Tiernan not to pay of it should be prevented. If the money has been paid ask the favor of him to send me a copy of the papers presented. That there is some rascality connected with the business there is good reason to believe and we wish to try and ferret it out. There was, probably, some villainy in the manner in which this certificate of pension was originally obtains. Old Mr. Casebear lived in this County and was taken by Hayer to Allegheny County where his papers were made out which is contrary to the instructions of the Pension office and it would be well for Mr. Tiernan, if he has authority, to make some enquiry about the case.

A pension was granted some time since to David Carles of this County and it is believed by his neighbors that the government has been imposed upon by these same men. It is said that this man Carles was in Ireland till after the close of the war and that evidence has been manufactured to make out his case. Mention this also to Mr. Tiernan and request him to write to me about both these cases. I will write to the Department on the subject and will thank you to return me this letter after you have shewn it to Mr. Tiernan.

Yours very resp'y/ Th. M. T. McKennan

Washington Sept'r. 26 1839

My dear Sir [J. L. Edwards Esq'r., Pension Commissioner], The accompanying letter [preceding] I addressed to a friend in Pittsburg in relation to some pensions drawn at that agency and I feel it my duty to bring the subject to your notice. There is strong reason to believe that some gross frauds have been committed upon the government through the agency of George Hayer, who is a pension agent, and as unprincipled a man as lives in the country. In the case of Jonathan Caseber, which is mentioned in that letter and who is now dead, it seems that Hayer took from the old man an agreement or bond stipulating to allow him all his back pension and John Bower, to whom the widow gave a power of attorney to receive what was due at the death of her husband, received from the agent two hundred and seventy six dollars and refuses to pay her anything alleging that Hayer by the agreement with the old man was entitled to all of it.

Hayer, whose character is well known here, took the old man from this County, where he resided to Allegheny County and there had his papers prepared and carried through the Court, probably procuring some witnesses who really knew nothing about the old man or his case to make out the necessary proof. The circumstance of his taking him into another County is a suspicious one and in all probability testimony has been manufactured to support his claim. Hayer also obtained a pension for Daniel or David Carles or Carrell by taking him out of this County to Pittsburg and it is believed by many of his neighbors that Carles or Carrel was never in the revolutionary war – I have heard of other cases under the agency of this man which are very suspicious. I have no doubt the government has been greatly imposed upon through his instrumentality and have felt it my duty to give you this information and to suggest whether it would not be well to instruct the District attorney for the Western District of Penna., who resides in Pittsburg, to have a strict scrutiny made into the cases that have been or may be present by this man and to bring to detection and punishment any persons who may have been engaged in defrauding the government. I have just learned that Carles or Carroll was entitled under his certificate to about \$300 of back pension and that Hayer took of that sum \$280.

If you think proper to institute an inquiry it will afford me pleasure to give the District attorney any information I may have and to aid him in procuring testimony to bring to light the conduct of those who may be concerned in defrauding the government.

If it be not too much trouble I would be glad if you would send me copies of the declaration and

testimony to support the applications of Casebur and Carles or Carrell.

This communication you will consider as strictly confidential and if you think proper to write to the District Attorney I hope you will not mention through whom you have rec'd. the information, altho' you are at liberty to refer him to me, to give him any aid in my power. The suspicious circumstances of the two cases referred to have been communicated to me by persons who have applied to me professionally and I have not felt myself at liberty to withhold them from the Department. I send you also the answer I rec'd from my friend D. T. Morgan to the accompanying communication to these two letters, after you have perused them, you will please return to me. It seems from Mr. Morgans letter that David Carles name is not on the pension list of the Pittsburg agency. It may be David or Daniel Carrell.

Yours very resp'y/ Th. M. T. McKennan

War Dep't/ Pension Office/ Oct 4, 1839

Sir, [T. M. T. McKennan of Washington PA] I have received your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> ult'o. and in consequence of the intimation you have given, I enclose copies of papers in the case of Jonathan Casber and David Carrel. If on an examination of them, you think that there are, or are not, sufficient grounds for a prosecution, be please to favor me with your opinion on the subject and I will immediately give the necessary instructions to the District Attorney. I have directed the payment of their pension to be suspended. An early answer is requested./

I have the &c