Pension Application of Adam Casner S9141

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia } Ss.
County of Brooke } On this Second day of January, 1835, personally appeared before me

Moses Congleton, a Justice of the peace and of the Court of Record, in

and for the county aforesaid, Adam Casner, resident in the same county and state, aged Eighty five years,
who from age and infirmity, I do certify is unable to attend at the court of said county; and who after
being duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath make the following answers to the several
interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, together with the following Declaration, in order to
obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

Question 1st. Where, and in what year were you born?

Answer. According to the information I received from my parents, I was born in Germany, in the
year 1747; that in the year 1764 I emigrated with my father’s family to America, and am
now Eighty five years of age.

Question 2nd. Have you any record of your age; and if so, where is it?

Answer. I have no record of my age, and know it only as above stated.

Question 3rd. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the
revolutionary war, and where do you now live?

Answer. During the time of the revolutionary war, I lived in Cumberland County, in the State of
Pennsylvania, and remained there for some time, afterwards, when I resided in Franklin
County, in the same state, until the year 1814 I removed to the county of Brooke in the
state of Virginia in which county and state, I continue to live.

Question 4th. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a
substitute? And if a substitute, for whom?

Answer. I was not drafted, nor was I a substitute for any person, nor did I ever employ one; but
when called on, I invariably volunteered my service.

Question 5th. State the names of some of the regular Officers who were with the Troops where you
served; such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the circumstances
of your service.

Answer. I paid but little attention to any persons but our own company. I was acquainted with Major
[Jeremiah] Talbot of the regular army, as he went from our part of the country, and there
were some other officers with whom I had a slight acquaintance; but at my present
advanced age, I cannot recollect their names or Regiments. Gen’l. Patton, and Gen’l. Lacy
[sic: John Lacey] commanded the troops to which Declarant belonged.

Question 6th. Did you ever receive a Discharge from the service; and if so, by whom was it given, and
what has become of it?

Answer. I was at three different times discharged by my Colonels (viz, By Col. John Johnson twice;
by Col. Buchanan once, and once by my Captain, James Poe. These discharges are lost or
mislaid so that I cannot now produce them.

Question 7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, and
who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a
soldier of the revolution.

Answer. I am well known to John Patterson, a Justice of the peace, and of the court of this county;
to Mr. Thomas Grimes, Mr. Talbot Hammond, and Samuel Herdman Esq’r. Sheriff of said
county, to yourself ‘Squire Congleton, and to the Rev’d. Edward Smith, a minister of the
Gospel.

This Declarant further saith that on or about the first day of August in the year 1776, a call was
made for men, when this declarant, together with all the militia company to which he belonged, volunteered their services, under Captain James Poe, The Regiment was commanded by Col. John Johnson, and Major James Johnson commanded the Battalion; that they marched to Woodbridge in New Jersey and thence to Amboy, where they remained until the expiration of their service, which took place on or about the first day of November 1776. The declarant having served Three months, and was discharged by Col. John Johnson.

Declarant further states that on or about the first day of December 1776, an urgent call came for men, when Captain James Poe and the greater part of his company (including the declarant) again volunteered their service, and were joined by other militia men from the adjacent companies; that we marched to Philadelphia, thence to near Newtown, in Bucks county, thence crossed the Delaware river into New Jersey and thence to Trenton where this Declarant was in the Battle on the 26th day of Dec’r. 1776, and was present at the taking the Hessian troops prisoners. That Declarant and Captain Poe’s company to which he belonged, were ordered, and did guard the said Hessian prisoners from Trenton to the town of Lancaster in the state of Pennsylvania, and at which latter place, after serving Three months as a private volunteer militia man, was discharged, on or about the first day of March 1777, by Capt. Poe.

On or about the first day of July 1777, after the British Army landed at the head of Elk [present Elkton MD, 25 Aug 1777], another urgent call came for men, when the patriotic Captain Poe, called on his company, the greater part of whom, including the declarant, again volunteered their service for three months. We were marched to Wilmington in the state of Delaware, and on the 11th day of September, Declarant with the company to which he belonged were in the Battle of Brandywine. Col. John Johnson commanded the Regiment and Major James Johnson the Battalion, and the Declarant was discharged by Col. Johnson, on or about the first day of October 1777, having served, under this engagement Three months.

On or about the first day of January, 1778, another call was made for men, when the Declarant again volunteered his service for Three months under the command of Captain John Culbertson. Col. Buchanan commanded the Detachment. We marched to Shoomong Bridge in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where we were much harassed by being close to the enemies lines, and was thence marched to the Crooked-billet [at present Hatboro] in the county of Philadelphia, where declarant was discharged, on or about the last day of March 1778 & having served under the last mentioned engagement Three months, and was discharged by Col. Buchanan.

The Declarant therefore claims a pension, for having served, as a private soldier, Twelve months in the war of the Revolution.

Declarant further states that he has no documentary evidence, having lost his several discharges, and that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service.

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.

Moses Congleton Justice of Peace

[Certified by Rev. Edward Smith and Samuel Herdman.]

[On 9 May 1833 Casner was issued a certificate for a pension of $30 per year for nine months service. The pension certificate was sent to Isaac Kuhn, Clerk of Burke County Court.]

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applications from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David w. Sleeth S6111.]
Adam Casner.

I the undersigned Adam Casner of Brook Cty. give the following as a re-declaration of my Revolutionary Services to Wit. I shall be 88 years old the 10th day of August next. am a native of Germaney. Came to the US upwards of seventy years ago. lived in Franklin County Pa. during the war of the Revo & continued to live there until within the last 20 years in that time I have lived in Brooke county Va.

it was in the fall of 1776, as well as I can now recollect that I was ordered into service by the county Lt. I was attached to Capt. Poe’s company & Col. James Johnsons Regt. we marched from Franklin county to Aboy. remained there in actual service for two months that being the time for which my company had volunteered – at the expiration of the tour I received a written discharge, but cant say now what became of it. Very shortly after forgoing tour I cant recollect now how long nor in what year. I volunteered for an Indefinite tour. Joined the same Capt Poe in Franklin county & marched with his company to Trenton N. Jersey. was there at the capture of the Hessian army, went as one of the guard to the Prissoners to Lancaster Pa. and remained there in that capacity for some time cant recollect how long. nor can I recollect how long I was in service on this occasion. I think however it could not have been less than three months including the time of going & returning – my memory has failed me very much, and consequently I cannot speak possessively in reference to the time or quantum[?] of service done on this occasion.

My next service was at the Battle of Brandy Wine. I was drafted in this service. Marched from same county (Franklin) under Capt Culbertson to Brandy Wine. was attached to Col. Buckhannons Regt. cant now recollect how long I was in this expedition but suppose two months. that I believe was the usual draft at that time – nor do I now recollect in what months or year, I was at Brandy Wine as before stated.

my next service was whilst Genl. Washington with his army was in Winter quarters at Vally forge [winter 1777-78]. – I was drafted again, marched from same county under Capt Culbertson, brother of the last mentioned Capt of that name, to Chamang bridge which place was our head quarters, our company was scouting about and through the country, guarding the roads &c to prevent provisions &c from being taken to the British then lying in Philadelphia. I cannot now say, how long I was in this tour but suppose not less than 3 months. – nor can I now tell the months or the year in which it was done. – nor Indeed can I now say certainly how long in the whole, I was in actual service as a Soldier during the war of the Revo, but I think not less than one year. My Declaration was made before a Magistrate in the country. I was unable to go to the county seat and I understand it was written by Capt. McLuney, from notes furnished him

In Witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name July 7, 1835
Witness/ Moses Congleton Adam hisXmark Casner
A Copy W. G Singleton/ July 13, 1835

Note. I found this man to be an old Ignorant and I think an Honest Dutchman, his character is good.

W. G Singleton