

March 25, 1846.

Sir: In reply to your letter of the 18th inst., requesting a copy of the papers of John Shepherd of Ohio, I have to inform you that the papers were forwarded to the Hon. D. K. Tilden, on the 19th December, 1845 since which time they have not been received at this Office. Mr. Jay's letter is herewith returned.

To Hon. J. K. Giddings, House of Representatives.

December 19, 1845.

Sir: I have the honor to return you Mr. Cviatt's & agreeably to its request enclose you the papers of John Shepherd. The objection to the informality of making his declaration before a Justice of the Peace instead of asserting it before a Court of record is among the least of the obstacles to the adjustment of his claim. He asserts that he served nearly four years in the Pa. Line of the Continental army and was discharged from the service while in the Hospital upon a certificate of Dr. Rush obtained by his mother, who was one of the nurses of the Hospital. This statement (which covers the whole ground of his claim now asserted for the first time) is not only unsupported by any testimony in the papers, but is discredited by the records in this Office and at Harrisburg and by the fact that Dr. Rush resigned in January '78 and could not have given such a certificate in 1780 when he alleges was the ground of his discharge after nearly 4 years service.

To Hon. D. K. Tilden, House of Representatives.