

**JOURNAL OF CAPT. JONATHAN
HEART, TO WHICH IS ADDED THE
DICKINSON-HARMAR
CORRESPONDENCE OF 1784-5**

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Journal of Capt. Jonathan Heart, to Which Is Added the Dickinson-Harmar Correspondence of 1784-5 by Jonathan Heart & Willshire Butterfield

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JONATHAN HEART & WILLSHIRE BUTTERFIELD

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JOURNAL
OF
CAPT. JONATHAN HEART

ON THE MARCH WITH HIS COMPANY FROM CONNECTICUT TO
FORT PITT, IN PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, FROM THE
SEVENTH OF SEPTEMBER, TO THE TWELFTH
OF OCTOBER, 1785, INCLUSIVE

TO WHICH IS ADDED THE
DICKINSON-HARMAR CORRESPONDENCE
OF 1784-5

THE WHOLE ILLUSTRATED WITH NOTES AND PRECEDED BY
A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF CAPTAIN HEART

BY

CONSUL WILLSHIRE BUTTERFIELD

*Author of "Crawford's Campaign against Sandusky," "The
Discovery of the Northwest by John Nicolet," "Wash-
ington-Irvine Correspondence" and other works*



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P R E F A C E .

The Journal of Captain Jonathan Heart now given to the public, is a daily record kept by him on the march with his company from Connecticut to Fort Pitt, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from the seventh of September, to the twelfth of October, 1785, inclusive; beginning, however, at New Windsor, Orange county, New York; as the first part is lost. The original of this Journal has been preserved, a copy of which is in the possession of the Western Reserve and Northern Ohio Historical Society; this has been annotated by me at the request of its President—Colonel Charles Whittlesey. Other Journals of Captain Heart (continuations, properly, of the one here printed) have been copied by the Society; and it is to be hoped they may soon be published.

The Dickinson-Harmer Correspondence is made to supplement the Journal of Captain Heart,—throwing light, as it does, upon affairs leading to, and resulting in the organization and marching westward of the “First American Regiment,”—of which Regiment, Captain Heart’s company formed a part. These letters clearly

reveal the aspect of affairs immediately after the close of the Revolution, concerning the relations existing between the General Government and the Indian tribes to the northward and westward. This Correspondence has also been illustrated with notes. A brief Biography of Captain Heart has been placed immediately preceding his Journal, which may possibly awaken an interest in the military career of one who gave his life largely to the service of his country and who died heroically in the defense of the rights of America.

C. W. B.

MADISON, WISCONSIN, *June*, 1885.

CONTENTS.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF JONATHAN HEART, - - - -	vii
JOURNAL OF CAPTAIN JONATHAN HEART, - - - -	1
DICKINSON-HARMAE CORRESPONDENCE OF 1784-5,	27





BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF

JONATHAN HEART.

Jonathan Heart, second son of Ebenezer Hart and his wife, Elizabeth Lawrence Hart, was born in that part of Farmington, Connecticut, called Kensington, in 1748. He received a classical education, graduating at Yale College with high honors, in the year 1768. Soon after this, he left his native State for New Jersey, where he was engaged at several places as district schoolmaster. This manner of occupation continued until about the year 1773, when young Heart, having accumulated a small sum of money, returned to Farmington, and at once engaged in mercantile operations. He was very successful, and was carrying on a flourishing trade, when the Revolutionary war broke out.

He immediately placed his business affairs in his brother's hands, and in 1775 enlisted as a private in Putnam's battalion of Connecticut militia. He marched with that command to the "seat of war," in Massachusetts, and participated in the battle of Bunker's Hill. When the Connecticut line was formed, Heart joined the 1st Regiment, and served in the same until the close of the war. From a private, he became an ensign, and in 1777 was made a lieutenant. This year he married Abigail Riley. In 1780, he was promoted to captain. During the year 1782, Captain Heart was with the army under Washington at Newburgh and Verplanck's Point, New York. On the 11th of November, that year, he was appointed by General Jedediah Huntington, Brigade Quartermaster of the Connecticut Brigade. He was a good penman and draughtsman, and has left a

valuable record of the operations on the Hudson (1782), including the organization of Washington's army, many of his orders, and details of the camp, not hitherto known.

Captain Heart was one of the very few officers retained by Congress in the service until after the ratification of the treaty of peace with Great Britain. He left the army in the fall of 1783, and returned to Connecticut. The misfortunes of war had ruined his business, and his pay, consisting of continental money, was almost worthless in value; as a consequence, Captain Heart found it necessary to begin anew in the struggles of life in the hope of obtaining a competency for advancing years. The shattered condition of trade, with a market flooded with depreciated currency, soon convinced him that merchandising on a small scale was up-hill work, and hardly remunerative. He therefore engaged with a surveyor to learn that art, and was advancing in a knowledge of it, when he received from Congress a commission as captain in the "First American Regiment"—a force just being organized for service on the western frontier. This was in the winter of 1784-5. Heart immediately accepted the appointment, and in obedience to instructions began to recruit in Connecticut. It was with difficulty that a company could be raised. Recruiting was very slow; and it was the last of August, 1785, before Heart was ready to march his command to the West.

Concerning Captain Heart's journey with his company to Fort Pitt, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he arrived the twelfth of October, his Journal immediately following this sketch furnishes the details so far as they are known. Soon after his arrival at that post, he was ordered to Fort McIntosh, where, with his company, he remained until the 25th of October. On that day, in obedience to orders from Lieut. Colonel Harmar, he set out with Major John Doughty, Lieut. James Bradford and Lieut. Ebenezer Frothingham for the mouth of the Muskingum, where they, with their respective commands, built Fort Harmar. Captain Heart was in command there from April 20th to the 6th of August, 1786, when he was ordered to protect the surveyors of the Ohio Company in their