



The Family Stump

The branches, leaves and stumps of our family tree

Port Arthur Tasmania 9th May 1876

To the Royal Ministry of War in Copenhagen.

According to the proclamation made on the 14th Feb. 1876 by the Ministry of War, on their decision to introduce a memorial medal, I shall allow myself to notify you that I am eligible to receive it. My name is Peter Ole Carlsen, I served in the army in the year 1864 in the 2nd Regiment, 3rd Company, Private No. 634, and later as a Lance-Corporal.

I was discharged in the year 1867 because of a case of rupture (hernia injury), which was inflicted on me during tough entrenchment and which ruined my future prospects completely, as I worked as a turner, and I had to give up that line of work completely. I was discharged without a pension and was not able to provide for my wife and children in Denmark, which is why I left Denmark in the year 1871 to go to Tasmania, where my good recommendations from home helped me get employment as a warder in a prison here at Port Arthur, where I have been ever since, and where I have now become an officer. Thus, I am now an English subject, with a sworn allegiance to Queen Victoria of England, but I still have a son in Denmark. I have never been convicted nor prosecuted. At home I was a member of the Danish Brothers-In-Arms, from which I received a xxx farewell greeting and a considerable gift of money, and I was the founder of Grenaa Rifle Club as well, where I received a beautiful silver cup with inscription as a parting gift.

Considering my conduct, I see myself as eligible to receive the medal, which may be of great use to me in my current position. I therefore, in the most humble and respectful manner, ask of the officers of the Royal Ministry of War who may read this, to realize that I have right to the medal. If it is difficult to send it to me in Australia, my sister will gladly send it to me. Her address is: Mrs. F. Brandt, Tordenskjoldsgade No. 29, Copenhagen.

With the hope of receiving the medal, signing off, respectfully yours

P. O. Carlsen
Officer at Port Arthur
Tasmania

Delivered to Mr. Brandt 1st April '78.