

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jeremiah Dupree R3155

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Punctuation edited.]

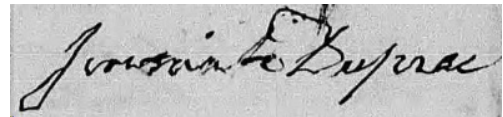
State of Georgia }

County of Houston }

On this twenty second day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty three, personally appeared, in open Court before the Honorable Christopher B. Strong Judge of the Superior Courts in and for the County aforesaid, now sitting, Jeremiah Dupree a resident & citizen of the said state and County, aged Seventy eight years, five months and six days 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 7 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated, towit, In Greenville County Virginia [sic: Greensville County, formed in 1780 from Brunswick County], in the latter part of the Summer or first of the fall of the year Seventeen hundred and seventy seven, the deponent entered the service as a Volunteer & was Ensign of the Company commanded by Captain William Peterson, and proceeded with said Company to the Town of Portsmouth in said state of Virginia, and there joined the Regiment commanded by Colo. Charles Harrison. The deponent served six weeks, in this expedition as well as he remembers. – In the year Seventeen hundred and eighty (the day and month not recollected) the deponent again volunteered from the same County as before (being the place of his then residence) in the company commanded by Captain Turner Bynum, was ensign of the said last mentioned company & was thence marched to Stoner’s Mills and Chucatuck [sic: Chuckatuck in present City of Suffolk] and there joined a Regiment Commanded by Colo. Edmund Wilkins – This service was for six months but the deponent did not remain the whole time, not more than five months he thinks, but he can not now remember the precise length of time he served in this expedition; he was furloughed home, & his brother Cordell Dupree was received in his place & served during the remainder of the Tour. About three days after the deponent returned to Greenville County the place of his residence aforesaid, a company to which his brother Cordell Dupree before named, had been attached, was ordered to march for Guilford Court House North Carolina, and the deponent volunteered in said company in place of his said brother Cordell, and was appointed Ensign of the said last mentioned Company. [See endnote.] William Watson was the Captain, and Peter Butts Lieutenant. This company was made out of the Militia Regiment of Greenville County Va. of which, the deponent thinks one Colo. Montford or Mumford [possibly William Green Munford] was the commanding Colonel. The said last mentioned company with the deponent proceeded to Guilford Court House, in the State of North Carolina and joined the Army commanded by General [Nathanael] Greene & was afterwards engaged in the Battle at Guilford Court House [15 Mar 1781], in which said Battle the deponent was wounded. The deponent does not remember how long he was engaged in the said last mentioned service – though he does not think it was exceeding two months – He was disabled from his wound for about threee months afterward. – In the year seventeen hundred and eight one the Deponent again volunteered as an Ensign in a company commanded by Captain Turner Bynum & was marched to York Town Virginia and joined the American Army stationed at that place. Genls. Washington, [Anthony] Wayne, [Benjamin] Lincoln &c were there. The deponent does not remember how long he was engaged or served in the last Tour, but he was discharged from the Army about the 10th or 11th of October 1781 on account of sickness as well he now remembers. The deponent states that he served as an Ensign from first to last, in the before mentioned Tour at least Twelve months – The deponent was born in Brunswick County in the State of Virginia on the sixteenth day of November Seventeen hundred and fifty four, according to the statements of his family, & the Record of his age kept by them. Where that Record is now is unknown to the deponent. When called into service, the deponent lived in Greensville County Virginia, and remained a Citizen of that state from that time ‘till the 29th day of November

Seventeen hundred and ninety, when he set out for the State of Georgia, where he arrived and settled sometime in January 1791, & has resided in Georgia ever since. The deponent did serve as herein before stated, but he has no documentary evidence at this time of his services, and he knows of but one person now living in Georgia towit Sugars Bynum who was acquainted with him or with any of his services in the Revolutionary War. Said Sugars Bynum was with the deponent at York Town & knows of his having performed that service. – The Deponent recollects General Greene, General Wayne – Genl. Greene was a portly well looking man of pleasant Countenance, and Genl. Wayne was a large man of very stern Countenance – The deponent cannot find any of his commissions – he was under the impression that he had taken care of them, but upon examination he cannot find them. One of the deponent’s commissions, if not more of them, was sign by Colo. Daniel Fisher [see endnote] – The deponent has an extensive acquaintance in the neighbourhood & county of Houston in which he now lives, among whom are Howell Cobb, Arthur A. Morgan, Edward Engram and Osburn Wiggins member of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia from the said County of Houston, – and Jacob W. Pearce, Carlton Wellborn, Abner Wimberly, and James Dean & John Rushing & Elijah E. Crocker all of whom can testify as to the deponent’s character for veracity & their belief of his services as before stated – The deponent 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, or (if any) only on that of the agency of the State of Georgia.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year first aforesaid

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jeremiah Dupree". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with a prominent loop at the end of the name.

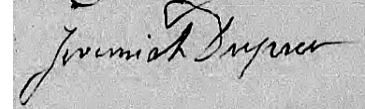
State of Georgia } Ss.

Houston County } [9 April 1834]

Personally appeared before me Alexander Smith a Justice of the Peace in and for said county Jeremiah Dupree the applicant named in the accompanying Declaration for a Pension, and by way of Amendment to his said Declaration, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services mentioned and described in his said Declaration; but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades; – For six weeks this deponent served in Captain William Petersons Company as an Ensign: – For five months this deponent served in Captain Turner Bynum’s Company as an Ensign, For two months this deponent served in Captain William Watson’s Company as an Ensign, up to the time of the Battle at Guilford Court House North Carolina in which this deponent was wounded and thereby disabled and confined for three months, which he conceives equivalent to three months additional service; For two months this Deponent served in Captain Turner Bynum’s Company (In the expedition to York Town mentioned in said Declaration) as an Ensign – making in all together, including the three months confinement from the wound aforesaid, thirteen months and twelve days that this deponent served, (and was confined) And for such service this Deponent claims a Pension – this deponent further states that the second Tour which he served was for six months and that he served five months as aforesaid of that tour when his place was taken by his brother Cordel Dupree who served out the balance of said second tour – This deponent distinctly remembers that the colo. issuing orders for drafts subsequent to the said second Tour encouraged volunteering by the promise, that volunteers should be discharged at the end of three months service. And this deponent thinks that the third and fourth tours served by him, were three months Tours, though as stated he was wounded and disabled after having actually served two months of the third Tour, and was parolled on account of sickness after having served two months of the fourth and last Tour

This Deponent having lost his Commissions, and not being able to find them, is unable to present the highest & best evidence to the War Department of the fact of his having served as Ensign in the

Revolutionary War as before named but he did serve as Ensign as aforesaid – This Deponent when he removed from the State of Virginia to the State of Georgia he stopped in Burk [sic: Burke] County one year, and the next year he removed to and settled in Washington County in the said state of Georgia. From Washington County he removed to Wilkinson & settled in that part of Wilkinson afterwards Twiggs, and from Twiggs County in said state of Georgia this deponent removed to the County of Houston first aforesaid where he now resides.



Georgia }
Putnam Co } Personally appeared before me Isham B. Wright an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County, Hardy Gregory of said County and State who being duly sworn, deposed and saith that, he knew Jeremiah Dupree of Greenville County Virginia in seventeen hundred and eighty – he resided in said county and state, married Eleanor Huff of Brunswick County Virginia, and moved to Washington County Georgia, in seventeen hundred and ninety. He was at his residence in the County of Washington Georgia in eighteen hundred and one – also was at his residence in 1818 or 1819 in Twiggs County Georgia where he had moved from the County of Washington; never saw him, nor was at his residence after he moved to the County of Houston Georgia. He says he knew Jeremiah Dupree from his earliest recollection to his death. Jeremiah Dupree was his God-father. Jeremiah Dupree served in the Militia in the Revolutionary War. He was not in service with him – does not know whether he was drafted or whether he volunteered or enlisted, but knows he left home on the service of two towers of three months lack or more. Jeremiah Dupree resided in the County of Greenville Virginia when he entered the army. He entered the army in 1780 and continued in the service until after the battle of Guilford in 1781. Soon after the battle of Guilford he was brought home wounded in the front of the thigh. He says he saw the wound many times. His thigh was as black as flesh could be. He saw him at Gregory's father's house on crutches when his wound was healing. He served as Ensign. He was called Ensign and he well remembers hearing those who served with him say that, after the colors which he bore, had been shot from the staff and he fallen wounded on the field of battle, he could not be prevailed upon to give up the staff.

He joined the army after his wound had healed in a second tower and came home from York after the Surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] sick with camp fever. Gregory says he was born the thirteenth day of August 1771. He says when Jeremiah went unto the service on his first tower he does not now recollect any of the officers under whom he served, and the reason why he remembers more of Jeremiah Dupree than of others, was the circumstance of his wound and seeing him brought home. He remembers in his second tower 1781 that Turner Bynum was Captain – he has forgotten the other officers.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th of Sept. 1852. [signed] Hardy Gregory

Georgia } [23 Nov 1852]
Washington County } I, Gincy Riddle of the County of Washington and State aforesaid do depose and say on oath that I do not precisely recollect my age: from the best testimony I have, I believe I am between eighty and eighty five years of age. I was born in the County of Greenville State of Virginia and resided in that County during the Revolutionary War, and I will remember the events of that war, especially its close. I knew Jeremiah Dupree of Greenville County Virginia and well and distinctly know when he was in the army. I remember seeing the father of Jeremiah Dupree, when he heard Jeremiah Dupree was wounded at the battle of Guilford, walk the floor in distress on account of his son's situation and absence in the service. I lived in two miles of Jeremiah Dupree's residence while he was from home in the Revolutionary service. I knew when he came home wounded in the thigh at the battle of Guilford. I saw him after while confined at home and saw the wound. I do not now remember whether he was

drafted, inlisted, or volunteered. I do not remember any of the officers under whom he went. General Greene commanded at the Battle of Guilford. I do not know where he went in the army, or how long he staid. I know after he recovered of his wound, he went in the army again, but how long he staid I cannot tell. I believe he did not return home until after the surrender of Cornwallace at York. He came back sick with Camp fever.

I know that Jeremiah Dupree married Eleanor Huff of Brunswick County, Virginia and that he was married before he went into the army. I was at his house often while he was in the army and when he was at home wounded, and know he had then two children. Jeremiah Dupree held some office in the army, but, do not know what office. I remember it was said he bore the colors at the battle of Guilford. Jeremiah Dupree with his wife Eleanor moved from Virginia to the State of Georgia about 1790. In two or three years afterwards I moved to Georgia and lived close neighbor to them in this County near twenty years. They then moved to Twigg County Georgia. I was at their house in Twigg County once. They moved to Houston County Georgia, and there they both died. I further depose and say the Jeremiah Dupree who lived in Greenville Co. Virginia, and served in the Revolutionary War as aforesaid is the same individual who lived and died as aforesaid in Georgia Gincy hisXmark Riddle

NOTE:

On 14 March 1836 Sugars Bynum, 74, of Henry County AL, certified that he had been a neighbor of Jeremiah Dupree at the time he served several tours as a commissioned officer, including as a Lieutenant in the company of Turner Bynum at the Siege of Yorktown.

Jeremiah Dupree's claim was denied for lack of proof. A 22 Oct 1835 letter from the Department of War states (incorrectly) that "there were no tours of 6 months in Va during the revolutionary war." Although tours were usually for three months, they were often extended. There were better-founded objections to the claim that Dupree was a legally commissioned officer. Commissions had to be signed by the Governor. It often happened in the militia, however, that positions had to be filled by appointment. In Dupree's case, it appears that the commanding officer of the County Militia, Lt. Col. Daniel Fisher, made the appointment.

On 12 Oct 1853 and 12 May 1855 Ira E. Dupree of Twiggs County, son and executor of the estate of Jeremiah Dupree, assigned power of attorney to obtain any benefits for the service of his father. The file includes a sheet from a Testament with a family record that is partly illegible. It is transcribed below with data from a typewritten summary by the Pension Office added in brackets. A note dated 12 Oct 1912 states that the rest of the Testament was still in the Bureau "but contains no other than the 'Johnson' data recorded below.

Henry Johnson was born June 6, 1779.

Polly Johnson was born March 20, 1783.

Wesley Johnson was born July 10, 1806.

Berry Johnson was born March 23, 1808."

[Jesse (?)] Born December [?] Day 1782

Sally Dupree [?] August the [?] day 17[??]

David Daniel Dupree was born October [?] day 18[02]

Elizabeth [rest illegible]

[Patsey] born April the 4th 1813

Patsey died the 18th of October 1815

Elijah died the 19th of october 1815