

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jeremiah Searcy S25811

fn22SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/26/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

To the Honorable Langdon Cheves¹, Speaker and the other members of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States.

The Petition of Jeremiah Searcy formerly a Citizen of South Carolina, now a Citizen of Madison County in the State of Kentucky,

Sheweth –

That your petitioner was a soldier in the Second Regiment of the South Carolina line of Continental troops, commanded by Colonel, afterwards General, William Moultrie, during the Revolutionary War; and was present at, & assisted in the defense of Fort Moultrie, on Sullivan's Island, in the year of our Lord 1776. That he received an injury in his left leg, in the removal of some heavy pieces of timber, for the use of the Fort, which lamed him so much, that he was crippled by it; and he was discharged about the month of September in the year while Lord 1778 as incurable.

This discharge he afterwards lost, during the confusion of the Civil War which enraged in the interior parts of South Carolina. –

¹ CHEVES, Langdon, a Representative from South Carolina; born September 17, 1776, in Bulltown Fort, near Rocky River, Ninety-sixth District (now Abbeville County), S.C., where the settlers had taken refuge from the onslaught of the Cherokee Indians; received his early education at his home and Andrew Weed's School near Abbeville, S.C.; joined his father in Charleston, S.C., in 1786 and continued his schooling in that city; studied law; was admitted to the bar October 14, 1797, and commenced practice in Charleston; city alderman in 1802; member of the State house of representatives 1802-1804 and 1806-1808; elected attorney general of the State in 1808; elected as a Republican to the Eleventh Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Robert Marion, having previously been elected to the Twelfth Congress; reelected to the Thirteenth Congress, and served from December 31, 1810, to March 3, 1815; succeeded Henry Clay as Speaker of the House of Representatives during the second session of the Thirteenth Congress; chairman, Committee on Ways and Means (Twelfth Congress), Committee on the Naval Establishment (Twelfth Congress); declined to be a candidate for reelection in 1814 to the Fourteenth Congress and also the position of Secretary of the Treasury tendered by President Madison; resumed the practice of law; elected associate justice of law and appeal in December 1816; resigned in 1819; declined to accept an appointment as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; elected president of the Bank of the United States March 6, 1819, and held this office until 1822, when he resigned; chief commissioner of claims under the treaty of Ghent; resided in Philadelphia and Washington 1819-1826 and in Lancaster, Pa., 1826-1829; returned to South Carolina in 1829; engaged extensively in the cultivation of rice in South Carolina and Georgia; tendered an appointment by the Governor of South Carolina to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John C. Calhoun, but declined; delegate to the Southern convention at Nashville, Tenn., in 1850 and to the State convention at Columbia, S.C., in 1852; died in Columbia, S.C., June 26, 1857; interment in Magnolia Cemetery, Charleston, S.C. Bibliography: Huff, Archie Vernon. *Langdon Cheves of South Carolina*. Tricentennial Studies, No. 11. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1977.

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=C000350>

That your petitioner returned to the upper Country and has remained very much crippled ever since, so that he has not been able to get his bread by his Labor. The Ulcer formed on his leg by the wound, continued to increase in malignity, & being incurable, it became necessary to amputate the leg in order to save the life of your petitioner; in the operation was performed successfully by Doctor James Davis, then of Union District, now residing in Columbia. –

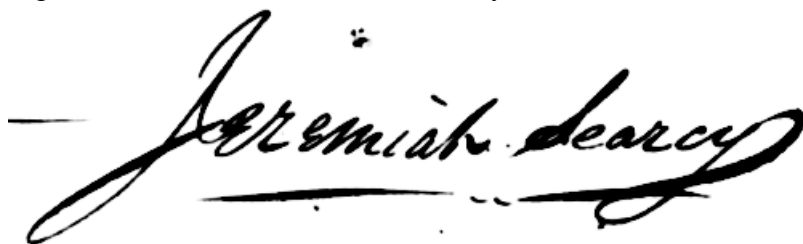
Your petitioner begs leave to state, that he was, and still is, and ignorant man, & very poor and in great misery, which prevented his making any regular or successful attempts to establish his claims for land or for a pension – that he has been lately advised, that it is in his power to obtain relief from your Honorable body, ever mindful of the Old Soldiers of the Revolution, by a simple and just statement of his case, accompanied by such proof as he could Collect. –

He solemnly declares that he served his Country, faithfully, & received the injury and her service, which has crippled him ever since, and rendered him incapable of procuring his subsistence by his labor, and he also avers, that he has never received any Bounty Land, or pension for his services. –

Your petitioner has come from Kentucky to South Carolina (whence he removed some time since) in order to collect proof to support his Claim. But he is informed that all the officers of the Regiment in which he served, are dead, except Captain Duboise [sic, Isaac Dubose] of Camden, whose testimony he accompanies this petition & Captain R B Baker who lives on the sea coast of South Carolina, whither your petitioner cannot go on account of its sickliness at this season, & for want of money, his whole funds being exhausted. –

Your petitioner therefore prays your Honorable body to take his case into Consideration, & to give him such relief in the premises as he may be justly entitled to – annual petitioner will ever pray for your Honors, and for his Country. –

Signed Jeremiah Searcy

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeremiah Searcy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name. It features a long, sweeping underline that extends across the width of the signature.

The facts stated in the foregoing petition were sworn to before me this 19th of September 1814
S/ Henry Wm Desaussure, Judge of Equity

[fn p. 6: is a deposition taken of Isaac Debose, 60, regarding what he knows of the services of Jeremiah Searcy and the circumstances of his injury. He testified as follows:

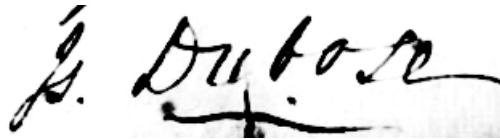
"After this lapse of time he does not recollect the person of the said Jeremiah Searcy as having been one of the Privates in Captain Isaac Harleton Company but from the minute and particular Circumstances related to this deponent by the said Jeremiah Searcy this deponent says he must have been at the Building of Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's Island and a Soldier in the Service of the State of South Carolina at that time, and that about a fortnight after Clinton & Parker's defeat the second South Carolina Regiment to which said Jeremiah Searcy belonged was placed upon the Continental establishment. –

"This deponent further saith that he does not of his own knowledge know anything of the injury there received by the said Jeremiah Searcy by which he lost his leg; But as the fatigue duty of Building Fort Moultrie and clearing particular parts of the island which was then a thicket was

performed by the said second Regiment: this deponent well recollects that numbers were laid up and reported unfit for duty by reason of their legs being injured by stumps many times this deponent believes thirty or forty per day received injuries of this kind that unfitted them for duty for a time.

"This deponent further states that he believes all his Brother Officers of the above named Regiment are now dead: and that he is perfectly Satisfied from conversations had with the said Jeremiah Searcy, that the said Jeremiah received the wound at Sullivans island by which he lost his leg & whilst in service, and that he is justly entitled to a Pension.

Is. Dubose

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Is. Dubose', written in a cursive style.

[fn p. 4]

State of Kentucky Anderson County

On this 19th day of May 1853 personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace of Anderson County and State of Kentucky James Searcy who being duly sworn made oath according to law to the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the acts of Congress of July the 7th 1838 -- 3rd March 1843 -- 7th of June 1844 and 2nd February 1848 -- that he and Jeremiah Searcy & Rheuben Searcy & John Searcy & Richard Searcy all the children and heirs of Jeremiah and Sarah Searcy that his father was a Revolutionary Soldier under Captain Harleston and Colonel Moultry and while in service he was wounded and in consequence of said wound he received an invalid pension of \$60 which was afterwards increased to \$96 per annum which he received until his death which occurred in September 1730 in his father was married to Sarah Martin his mother as appears by the family Bible on July the 11th 1790, that his mother lived the widow of his father until her death which occurred September the 11th 1752 his mother never drew a pension in her lifetime he makes this declaration in order to obtain the pension due his mother and the land due his father and does hereby appoint the Secretary of the Interior to attend to this for him and heirs to prosecute the claims herein

[the document ends here without any evidence it was signed or attested or actually formally filed.]

[Veteran was inscribed on the pension list by the act of 3rd March 1815 at \$5 per month to commence on the 3rd March 1815; transferred to the role of Kentucky on December 21, 1815 and pension increased by the act of 24 April 18 \$16-\$8 per month.]