

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Caesar Duvall SC14

Provided by Edward D. Sloan, Jr.

SC Archives

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The State of South Carolina Newberry District

On the 23rd day of April A.D. 1833, personally appeared in open Court before Josiah L. Evans Esq. Judge of the Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas, now sitting at Newberry Courthouse for the District aforesaid, Caesar Duval, a resident in Newberry District in the said State, aged 74 years, who, being first duly sworn according to law, doth of 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 names of Officers and served here in the States during the war of the revolution; he was born in Picardy in France on 25 August A.D. 1758, and sailed from Brest under the command of Count Rochambeau with Mons. Turney, Count de Custine, commander of the Regiment to which the declarant belonged, as Col. Mons. Fleurny was the Major of the Battalion and Mons. De Brean was the captain of the company in which the declarant was a private. They sailed from Brest in the spring season of 1780 and landed at Newport Rhode Island in July following and remained there were several weeks. While at Newport we placed our side in an attitude of defense against the British fleet and forces from where we expected an attack; from Newport, the declarant was marched and moved to Providence, Rhode Island with the French troops; and from thence to a place called Phillipsburg near the North River and at that time, a few miles from New York, where the declarant remained about one month; from thence he marched towards the south and arrived sometime in the summer of 1781, at Williamsburg, Virginia. In a short time he was marched towards Yorktown, Virginia; but the forces had only slight skirmishes until they arrived after at that place. This declarant as a private in the said company, which was under the American Officers, was employed and engaged in the attack on the British forces at Yorktown. During the siege this declarant among others, was ordered to and did attack one of the redoubts of the enemy and took it, but with the loss of several men. The company to which the declarant belonged lost five or six men who were killed in the attack. The Americans, this declarant understood, also carried the other redoubt – at the same time. These attacks were made in the first part of the month of October 1781. After, it became evident that our combined forces would be able to take the town; and did in a few days. Afterwards Lord Cornwallis surrendered. After, this declarant marched to Boston and embarked on the fleet to sail from that place to Jamaica for the purpose of attacking the British but was unfortunately taken prisoner with many others by the British frigate and conveyed to Jamaica and confined in prison for three months and a half. On the making of peace, this declarant was released from confinement and he sailed to Port au Prince, San Diego, then to France and then to America. He landed in Charleston and from there removed to Newberry District South Carolina about the year 1789, where he has resided ever since. This declarant has no record of his age. He has lived as before stated in France, America, Jamaica, Port-au-Prince, Charleston, and Newberry District. He went into the service as a private soldier and volunteered to come to America; was in the United States service upwards of 18 months and was a private soldier. All the time he served during the Revolutionary war. The declarant states that in addition to the Officers already named. He knew Savallete, who was the Lt. Col. in the Regiment to which he belongs, and served; also Captain Lafarrelle, Count de Losme, two brothers called Counts DuPonts, Duc Laval, Col Simane, also Gen. Lafayette and General

Washington; also two brothers called Veomine and William Belvilh.

This declarant received a regular discharge from the Col. of his regiment which has long since been lost or destroyed.

The declarant refers to Mr. William Calmes, Dr. James Kilgore (in whose immediate neighborhood he has resided several years), and the Rev. William Harmon.

He hereby relinquishes any claim 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.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 23rd of April 1833

S/ Cesar Duval

S/ Y. J. Harrington, clerk of Newberry District

Mr. William Harmon, a clergy man living in Newberry District and Mr. William Calmes and Dr. James Kilgore, residing in the same hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Caesar Duval, who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration and that we believe him to be 74 years of age; that he is reported a soldier in the neighborhood where he resides; to have been a soldier of the Revolution, and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ William Harmon

Y. J. Harrington, clerk. Newberry District

S/ William Calmes

S/ James Kilgore

I, William Calmes,<sup>1</sup> do hereby certify that I was a lieutenant of Col. Dart's Regiment at the siege of Yorktown and from particular circumstances related to me, doth verify and believe that this declarant, Caesar Duvall, belonged to the French army and was at the siege of Yorktown in Virginia - for that no person could have precisely related those minute circumstances without being an eyewitness to those facts.

Sworn the day and year above in open Court

S/ William Calmes

S/ Y. J. Harrington, clerk

And the said Court hereby declares their opinion after the investigation of the matter, and after putting the interrogations described by the War Department that the above-named applicant was a Revolutionary soldier and served as he states; and the Court further certifies that it appears to them that William Harmon, who has signed the preceding certificate is a clergyman resident in Newberry District and that William Calmes and Dr. James Kilgore, who have signed the same, are credible persons and residence in the said District of Newberry and that their Statement is entitled to credit.

23rd of April 1833

S/ Josiah J. Evans, presiding Judge

I, Y. J. Harrington, clerk of the Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas of Newberry District, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said Court, in the matter of the application of Caesar Duvall for a pension in testimony whereof, I have taken unto; set my hand and seal of the clerk's Office this 23rd day of April A.D. 1833

[Note: The above application was filed in the box of Newberry District Citizenship Petitions 1807-1890 located in the South Carolina Department of Archives and History in Columbia, South Carolina. There is no evidence that his petition was ever sent to the War Department in Washington as it is not included among the pension applications filed there.]

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<sup>1</sup> [William Calmes S9303](#)