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Caesar Duval Naturalization

This document is from March 27, 1811. This is the document petitioning for U. S. citizenship for Caesar. It gives information of his birth and when he came to the US. This is a good document in itself. It lists Caesar as Legar Duval. His signature is of one who can barely write and may not have spoken good English. He probably had the same thing happen to him as to thousands of other European immigrants. The American pronunciation of his name probably resulted in his name being "Americanized" to Caesar. I know that this is Caesar Duval because the signature matches his revolutionary pension application that is clearly labeled "Caesar."

This naturalization document was largely unknown to researchers of the Taylor line. It had been originally a Newberry County record, but it had been moved to the South Carolina State Archives in Columbia. I discovered it quite by accident. One day in a Knoxville, TN genealogy library, I ran across a book titled South Carolina County Records that were moved to the State Archives. This document was in the listing for Newberry. On a visit to the archives, I was able to view and "fondle" the original document, along with his revolutionary war pension application, and William Taylor's naturalization petition.

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Pages are Legal Size

State of South Carolina }
Newberry District } J. S.

To the honorable the associate judges of
the said state.

The petition of Leges Duval. Sheweth
that he is a native of Boulogne in France
that he has resided within the limits of this
state ever since some time in the year of
our Lord one thousand seven hundred &
ninety six and that he is well attached
to the principles of the Constitution of the
United States and of this state and well disposed
towards the good order and happiness of the same.

And further that your petitioner is desirous
and that it is bona fide his intention to become
a citizen of the United States and of this state.

Be it so
Be therefore prays your honors to take his
petition into consideration and to admit him a
citizen of the United States and of this state agree-
ably to the acts of Congress in such case made &
provided. Made 27th 1811

GARUICAL
Crenshaw City

we certify that we have known Legal Duval
who signs the foregoing petition since about the year
one thousand seven hundred and ninety six and that
during that time we believe he has resided within
the limits of this state and supported a good
moral character that we believe him to be
attached to the principles of the Constitution
of the United States and of this state and well
disposed towards the good order and happiness
of the same and that it is bona fide his in-
tention to become a citizen thereof

Newberry Court house
29th March 1811

Wm. Sharpwood
Henry Gray
Robt. K. H. Ford
Wm. S. S. S.
Geo. E. G. S.
J. S. S.
1811

State Of South Carolina
Newberry District

To the honorable the associate judges of the said State. The petition of Legar Duval Showeth That he is a native of Boulogne in France that he has resided within the limits of this state ever since some time in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred & Ninety Six and that he is well attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States and of this State and well disposed towards the good order and the happiness of the same And further that your petitioner is desirous and that it is bon a fide his intention to become citizen of the United States and of this State. He therefore prays your honors to take his petition into consideration and to admit him a citizen of the United States and of this state agreeably to the acts of the Congress in such case made and provided March 27th 1811.

LEGAR DUVAL

Crenshaw Atty

We certify that we have known Legar Duval who signs the foregoing petition since about the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety six and that during that time we believe he has resided within the limits of this state and supported a good moral character that we believe him to be attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States and of this State and well disposed towards the good order and happiness of the same and that it is bonafide his intention to become a citizen there of .

Newberry Courthouse

27, March 1811

Wm Shephard

Henry Gray

Robert Rutherford

W Livingston

George Egleberger

Rob Eckels