

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Frederick Dener W8667 Christiana fn107SC
Transcribed by Will Graves 2/2/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of South Carolina District of Charleston

On this 14th day of August 1838 personally appeared before the undersigned Mrs. Christianna Dener aged 72 years, and a resident of the City of Charleston who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to be entitled to the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7th, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows." That, she was married to George Frederick Dener who was during the War of the Revolution first enrolled as she has frequently heard her said husband relate, and as Deponent believes in a Corps called the light Infantry of Charleston commanded by Captain Proleau [sic, Hext Prioleau] in the year 1776, and served in same up to the surrender of Charleston in May 1780, Deponent saith, that during this period, he served for more than 12 months under arms with the rank of Lieutenant in said Corps, and in actual service; Deponent, saith that, while he was a Lieutenant in said Company he served at the Battles of Beaufort, Stono and Savannah in 1779 and that the Siege of Charleston in May 1780, and that, at the surrender of said City he was while so a Lieutenant and under arms taken prisoner and retained as a prisoner on parole for more than 12 months. Deponent saith, that, after being so a prisoner in said City to the British 12 months he escaped to the Camp of Marion some miles from the City, and after being there some time it was proposed and so carried into effect, to re-organize the German Fusilier Company and said G F Dener was commissioned a Lieutenant in same, and Deponent saith that, he held the said rank of Lieutenant in said Corps of "German Fusiliers," (Daniel Strobel being then Captain) from the first of September 1782 the period of the reorganization of the Corps as aforesaid until September 1783, and for many years afterwards, and in this way Deponent saith her husband the aforesaid George Frederick Dener served under arms more than 2 years during the war of the Revolution as aforesaid,

Deponent further saith that she was married to the said George Frederick Dener on the 15 day of March 1787 the same being regularly registered in his Bible, and that her husband the aforesaid GF Dener died the 27th of July 1797 [last digit written over with a 5], that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the 1 January 1794 viz. at the time above stated, and that she is now a widow in limited circumstances having never since intermarried.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written, and I also certify the credibility of the affiant. The word "Daniel" in the first line duly authenticated.

S/ Thos. Lee, Dist Judge SC

S/ Christiana Dener

[fn p. 8: on May 29, 1855 in Charleston District South Carolina Christiana Dener filed for her

bounty land entitlement; in this application she adds that she was married to her husband in Charleston by the Reverend Nicholas Martin; that her name prior to her marriage was Christiana Williman;¹ that her husband died in 1799 and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 12: on October 22, 1857, Edmund Cranston gave testimony in Charleston that he is the grandson of Christiana Dener, widow of George F. Dener; that he was born 37 years ago in the house of his grandmother on Mayzck Street; and that "... That from his earliest recollection she distinctly remembers an old oil painting that has hung up in the house and still remains there, which he has always understood to be the portrait of his grandfather George F. Dener; said Portrait is an old oil painting about 3 feet square set in a gilt frame and represents a person in military uniform with an Epaulette on the left shoulder, with a Scarlet Sash, and a Gorget on the breast, the Hilt of the Sword apparent, the Coat of Blue-color with red facing, being as this Deponent is informed the Uniform of the German The fusilier Company of that day."]

[fn p. 13]

Charleston South Carolina August 27, 1838

Luther in Church of German Protestants

The following extracts all furnished from the Records of this Church, viz.,

"Married on the 15th of March 1787, by the Reverend Mr J. N. Martin, George F. Dener to Christina Speidel."

"George Dener was interred in the Cemetery of the German Church on the 27th of July 1795." The Reverend John C. Faber was then the Pastor of the Church.

I certify the above to be correct

Sworn to before me this 14th day of September 1838 and I also certify the credibility of the affiant

S/ P. Cantrell, NP

S/ Jacob F. Mintzing, President

[fn p. 23]

State of South Carolina District of Charleston: On this 30th of October 1838 personally appeared before the undersigned Mr. William Purse² aged 76 a resident of Charleston & a Revolutionary pensioner, who being duly sworn deposed, that, he was acquainted with George F. Dener during the War of the Revolution, that, he remembers him as wearing the uniform of "the German Fusiliers," as a Lieutenant, and has every reason to believe he served in this company during the war, at least 12 months, and with the rank of Lieutenant. Deponent saith he has always heard Mrs. Dener said GF Dener's widow (now an applicant for a pension) spoken of as a respectable married lady of excellent character.

S/ Wm Purse

[fn p. 24: on August 14, 1838 in Charleston district South Carolina Captain John Strobel, 64 gave testimony as to his understanding of the services rendered by George Frederick Dener during the revolution; Strobel states that he is the son of Daniel Strobel who was the Captain of the German Fusiliers; that he himself joined the corps in 1791 and served therein as a Lieutenant or Captain

¹ Her maiden name is given as "Christiana Spidell" in a number of other sources, including contemporary newspaper listing of her marriage to G F Dener.

² [William Purse S18171](#)

for 14 years and consequently is very aware of the history of the company.]

[fn p 30]

State of South Carolina District of Charleston: On this first day of November 1838 personally appeared before the undersigned, Mr. Joseph Righton³ age 76 and a resident of Charleston who being duly sworn according to law deposeseth, that, he remembers to have seen George Frederick Dener during the War of the Revolution under arms serving in the "German Fusiliers," and Deponent saith he has reason to believe he served during said war 12 months, previous to the fall of Charleston in May 1780, and that, when the city surrendered Deponent has reason to believe he was made a prisoner while under arms and detained by the enemy 12 months, Deponent remembers well that, he wore the uniform of an officer in said "German Fusilier Company," but Deponent cannot now bring to his recollection, whether he was so an officer before the surrender of the City, as he has no doubt he was shortly after that event, Deponent saith that he has every reason to believe that G F Dener was married to said Christiana Dener in the year 1787, and that said G F Dener died in the year 1795, and that said Christiana I is his widow and that her statements are entitled to credit.

S/ Jos. Righton

[fn p. 32]

State of South Carolina District of Charleston: On this 13th day of September 1838 personally appeared before the undersigned Mr. John Cart⁴ aged 76 years a resident of Charleston and a revolutionary pensioner who being duly sworn deposeseth, that he was personally acquainted with George Frederick Dener during the War of the Revolution, and subsequently for the families of said Dener and of deponent were on terms of intimacy. Deponent saith that said G F Dener was a commissioned officer and as he believes a Lieutenant during said war, and served with this rank for 2 years and more, to wit from the year 1779 to the end of the War in April 1783. Deponent saith he said Dener served in the German Fusiliers during this period, and that if he served in another company previously he does not now recollect. Deponent saith that, he was so a Lieutenant at the surrender of Charleston, and was made a prisoner while under arms, and continued so a prisoner on parole for 12 months. Deponent saith that after the evacuation of the city in December 1782 by the British said corps was revived and said Dener was commissioned in it, and remained an officer of it to the time of his death, and 1795, Deponent saith, he was a prisoner to the British also upon the Surrender of Charleston in May 1780, and speaks of Dener's service and imprisonment from his personal knowledge. Deponent saith he has reason to believe said G F Dener married Christiana Dener in 1787. That she is now his widow, and that her statements are entitled to full credit.

S/ John Cart

[fn p. 34: another affidavit given by John Strobel, this one dated October 22, 1851 and given in Edgefield district South Carolina to which he had recently removed from Charleston.]

[fn p. 45]

State of South Carolina District of Charleston: On this 19th day of 1839 personally appeared before the undersigned Mr. John Cart aged 78 a resident of Charleston and a revolutionary

³ [Joseph Righton W22074](#)

⁴ FPA S8139

pensioner, who being duly sworn deposeth that in reference to the questions put to him as to the treatment of prisoners belonging to the militia who fell into the hands of the British upon the surrender of Charleston in May 1780, saith that for the first 2 or 3 months, they were treated with some indulgence, but limited to remain with him this City. That after the lapse of the above time, the Loyalists remonstrated against the policy of permitting the "rebels" to be employed to the detriment of themselves. -- whereupon orders were issued for the purpose of obstructing them in the pursuit of their business, avocation or mode of making out a living, and a series of persecutions instituted with a view of inducing the prisoners aforesaid to quit the American Congress and join the enemy. Deponent saith that he has every reason to believe that said George F. Dener of the German Fusiliers endured this description of trial, and remained faithful to the cause of the Revolution, to the end of the War, as set forth in his declaration previously made in this case.

S/ John Cart