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Entry Nr. 380 Odiemi

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Aaron Spencer Fogleman and Robert Hanserd (eds.), *Five Hundred African Voices: A Catalog of Published Accounts by Africans Enslaved in the Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1586-1936* (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 2022).

<i>Catalog number:</i>	380
<i>Name(s) of African providing account:</i>	Odiēmi = James Wilhelm
<i>Date account recorded:</i>	1854
<i>Date account first published:</i>	1854
<i>Date of entry creation:</i>	22 September 2021

Source: Account printed on p. 6 of S. W. Koelle, *Polyglotta Africana*. London: Church Missionary House, Salisbury Square, Fleet Street, 1854.

Comments:

Koelle's remarks (p. 6) –

“Dsumu is west of 'Igara or 'Irala, different from the well-known 'Igala, and whose language is the same as that of Dsumu; east of Agba and Ki, north of Yagba, south of Uwe.-- Another Dsumu-man's home was six full days' journey from Ilori, four days from 'Igo, i.e. Egga, on the right banks of the 'Oya, i.e. the Niger; two full days from 'Egbira 'Odo, which is on the left banks of the 'Qya; scarcely one day from 'Egbira Hima, which is on the right banks of the 'Qya, between two or three days from 'Ida, a town of 'Ata, i.e. Gala or 'Igala.”

Text of Account:

p. 6

“Dsumu, or Idsumu, called ‘Abinu’ by the Anupes, and ‘ 'Akuya’ by the Basas.*-- From Odiemi, or James Wilhelm, of Freetown, born in the town Gori, whence he removed to Okuro, another Idsumu town, distant about one day's journey, in about his eighteenth year. There he resided for ten years, when the Nupes and Agoi, i.e. Phula. invaded and conquered Dsumu. destroying all its towns. In this war he was taken captive, sold to Yoruba, and carried to the sea. The same language is spoken in 'Uwe.”

* Referring to Odiemi's language.

(See facsimiles below.)

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