Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Cheshire (Chesire) R26 VA Sea Service
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia.

At a Court held for Norfolk County the 18th day of April 1848.

From satisfactory evidence this day produced before the County Court of Norfolk it does hereby certify that William H. C. Chesire, Sarah T. B. Oliver, Margaret R Chesire, Thomas I Chesire and George W Chesire are the lawful children and heirs of William H Chesire and Sarah his wife both deceased and are the only surviving heirs of John Chesire a Lieutenant in the Navy at the time of the Revolutionary War and that the said John Chesire left only one child and heir, to wit: the aforesaid William H Chesire.

[The following are from the bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia:]

Wednesday the 2nd day of September 1778.
This Board doth reccommend to his Excellency the Governor and the Honble the Council Mr. John Cheshire as a proper person to be appointed a Lieutenant of the Navy of this Commonwealth.

The above entry is hereby extracted from the Journal of the Navy. page 461.
[Certified 30 Mar 1838 at the Auditor's Office, Richmond.]

To the Governor of Virginia [6 Mar 1838]

Your petitioners, residents of the County of Prince William are the only children of John Cheshire who died in this County during the war of the Revolution & when we were infants; We have always understood that the said John Cheshire (our father) served in the Navy of this State as a Lieutenant during the War of the Revolution, & that he was entitled to bounty in land for his services, but that he died before he could, or did, receive his grants in land for his said Services, leaving his family in poverty. He died with or [out?] leaving a will, & we are the only surviving kin and respectfully ask your Excellency to take our case into your consideration, & if you find, our father, or his services in the S'd. Navy, entitled himself to the bounty in land due to Lieutenants of the navy, we only ask to be allowed the quantity of land due to him. We are our Excellencys obedient servants

Jane Haynes/ Cloe Cheshire

Virginia }
Fauquier County To wit. }

This day James Green [pension application W7563] of this County personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in said County and made oath that he was very well acquainted with a John Cheshire in the Virginia State navy from the fall of 1777 untill the Spring of the year 1780 that the said Cheshire was a Master in the service when he (Green) first knew him (Cheshire) and that said Cheshire was commissioned a Lieutenant in the winter of 1778 - 9; and in that capacity rendered service untill the Spring of the year 1780. He Green further states on oath that he thinks said Cheshire entered the service as a master in the fall of the year 1775 and that he lived in Prince William County Virginia. That he settled there previous to the war of the said Revolution and after leaving the Navy lived there untill his death. He further states that he was himself a Midshipman in the Navy aforesaid and witnessed what he states above.

Given under my hand and seal this 7th day March 1838. I consider the said Greens evidence entitled to full confidence.