

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Chiles S9175

f43VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/25/07 rev'd 11/2/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia, Madison [County]: SS

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Madison, Henry Chiles, a resident of the Town of Madison, in the County of Madison, in the State of Virginia, aged Seventy years the 18<sup>th</sup> of December next, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declarations in order to obtain the benefits of the Acts of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. In the months of August or September 1778, I joined a volunteer company in the County of Caroline Virginia for a tour of three months. The Company was commanded by Captain Philip Buckner. I faithfully served the three months, and was discharged at Petersburg on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1778. The Company was marched to the Town of Richmond and attached to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia State Regiment then under the command of Major Diclamon [probably [Major Christian Charles De Klauman], shortly after the Regiment was under the command of Colonel John Taylor of Caroline and the Regiment attached to the Brigade commanded by General Stotswood [William Spotswood?]-from the Town of Richmond I marched to Williamsburg, and from thence to Old James Town where we had an engagement with the enemy which resulted in our loosing [sic, losing] twelve or fourteen men (killed and wounded) and from talking from the enemy about the same number of prisoners. The British troops made their escape on board of their vessels except the few killed and taken. From James Town, I marched to Ruffin's Ferry twelve or fourteen miles below the City of Richmond and crossed to the South side of James River, and from thence to a Plantation belonging to a man by the name of MacKey—he was said to be a Tory, and the field officer took up quarters there in his house and remained there near two months—from thence I marched to Cabbin Point [sic, Cabin Point], and from thence to Petersburg where I was honorably discharged, the discharge long since lost.

In the year 1779 in the month of May, I was drafted in the County of Caroline Virginia where I was born and resided until 1800. This my second tour was for two months. I was attached to the Company commanded by Captain Anthony New and marched to the City of Richmond and attached to the Regiment of Militia commanded by Colonel Mathews [perhaps George Mathews, possibly Sampson Matthews], The Regiment attached to the Brigade commanded by General Nelson [Thomas Nelson] from Richmond. I marched to the neighborhood of Norfolk and Hampton where I was discharged.

In the latter part of the year 1779, I was again drafted from the County of Caroline Virginia for a Tour of two months and attached to the Company commanded by Captain John Tyler and again marched to the Town of Richmond and attached to the Brigade commanded by General Muhlenberg [Peter Muhlenberg]. I was marched and countermarched during this tour to various points in the lower part of Virginia and finally discharged near Norfolk.

In the year 1781, I was again drafted in the month of April or May in the County of Caroline

Virginia for a Tour of two months and attached to the Company commanded by Captain George Madison. I was again marched to Richmond and attached to the Regiment in the command of Colonel Carey, and again marched and countermarched to various points on the Rivers and Bays keeping a lookout for the movements of the enemy—never remaining many days at the same place and finally discharged near Hampton in Virginia.

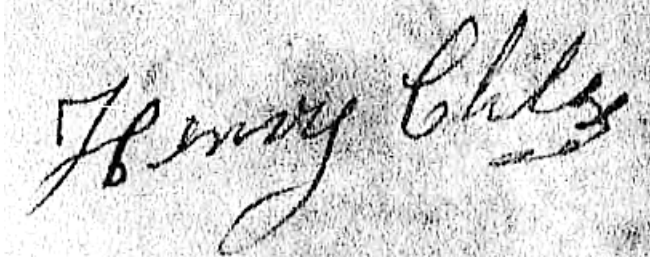
In the month of August or September 1781, I was again drafted from the County and State I had heretofore been drafted from. This time for a Tour of three months and attached to the Company under command of Captain Thomas Ellis. I was marched to Richmond in great haste and the day after sent with others to a place called Malbin Hills [Malvern Hills] in Charles City County and attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Dick.

After remaining at Malvern Hill a few days attached to the Company commanded by Captain George Waugh, I was appointed by him a sergeant and with a Sergeant's guard, I was ordered to a place on the banks of James River called Turkey Island for the purpose of keeping a lookout on the movements of the enemy then on James River. I remained with the men attached to the guard for some time, and from there was ordered to join that portion of the army stationed at the Malvern Hill. From the Malvern Hill I was again ordered with my sergeant's guard to join a detachment under the command of a subaltern officer to take a stand on James River near the Malvern Hill and lay in ambush to watch the motions of some enemy vessels whose men were plundering the farms on the River. It was our good fortune to meet with sixteen of the enemy well loaded with sheep and other articles taken from the adjoining farms; just at the moment that they had reached their Boats, The vessels to which they belonged then lying in sight at anchor. It was at this junction we gave them a fire from every musket and killed out of the sixteen, fourteen of them and the other two were severely wounded. We did not take time even to bury the killed but threw them into the River—burnt the Boats and retreated with the two wounded prisoners to the station at the Malvern Hill. From after reaching the station at the Malvern Hill, the commander at the time, Colonel Dick, retreated with the view of joining that fraction of the American Army under the command of General Wayne, and at the same time ordered me with my sergeant's guard to proceed in all haste to the County of Henrico to a long string of Bridges called the New Bridges and from thence to another string of Bridges called the Meadow Bridges, both of them crossing what is called the Chickahominy Swamps with orders to burn them both. This order I faithfully executed and rendered them useless to a pursuing enemy. This service was performed without a cent of money in our pockets or a single Ration in our knapsacks—when it was finished we made our way to the nearest farm house which was a Mr. Trueheart's and met with what we greatly needed, meat, and drink in abundance, and no charge for it. From there we made our way to Captain Doswell's on the Pamunkey River, and was by him furnished with what we wanted to eat and drink. The American Army was then on the retreat to Raccoon Fords in Culpeper [County] and we making every effort to overtake them and not meet with them until we reached the Raccoon Ford. The Army then commenced a movement towards the country occupied by the Enemy, which was effected by creating a new Road, which I assisted in making. In a few days we had the Enemy before as making their way toward Yorktown. I was at Yorktown on the Gloucester side, a few days after the regular Siege commenced, and remained until the surrender of the British Army to the combined American & French forces. After the surrender, I assisted in guarding the prisoners to Winchester in Virginia where I was honourably discharged, and the discharge for this and other Tour, long since lost. The amount of my different tours for which I was drafted and volunteered is twelve months, but in addition to that I substituted myself in a Tour under Captain New in the year 1778 or 1779. I remained in service this Tour only twenty six days. I was a substitute for Sackfield Thacker of the County of Caroline Virginia. The only testimony I can procure from those in service with me is the certificate from Patrick Carnal, William Coats, and Robert Wright, all of the County of Caroline Virginia. I refer to my neighbors William Finks, Churchill Gibbs, and Charles R. Gibbs of Madison as to my character and standing as a man of truth and veracity. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension of annuity except the present and declaring

that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Henry Chiles

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Henry Chiles". The signature is written on a light-colored, textured paper.

[Abraham Tinsley, a clergyman and William Finks gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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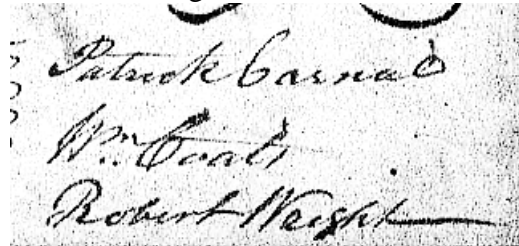
We William Coats, Patrick Carnell & Robert Wright all of the County of Caroline in the State of Virginia – do hereby Certify that all three of us were Soldiers in the War of the Revolution and often called upon and Drafted to perform Tours in the Militia from the County of Caroline. We take pleasure in saying that we have known Henry Chiles now of the County of Madison in the State of Virginia from our earliest recollection and particularly during the War of the Revolution. We were at different times in service with him some of us as many as three different tours and we have a distinct recollection that he was in service as a Volunteer under Captain P. Buckner at the same time one of us Say Coats was. We take much pleasure in saying that Henry Chiles is a man of truth and veracity.

Given under our hands this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832

S/ Patrick Carnal<sup>1</sup>

S/ Wm Coats<sup>2</sup>

S/ Robert Wright<sup>3</sup>

A black and white photograph showing three handwritten signatures in cursive script, stacked vertically. The top signature is "Patrick Carnal", the middle is "Wm Coats", and the bottom is "Robert Wright". The signatures are written on a light-colored, textured paper.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$45 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private & Sgt. for 12 months in the Virginia service.]

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<sup>1</sup> [Patrick Carnall S8156](#)

<sup>2</sup> [William Coates S8232](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Robert Wright S6450](#)