

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Chesley (Chesly) Barnes W4877 Mary Barnes f41NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/24/14 rev'd 8/23/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 2]

State of North Carolina Rockingham County: August Sessions 1832

On this 29th day of August personally appeared in open court before Ebenezer P. [surname name illegible], Philip Rove & Const. D. Ladd the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting Chesley Barnes a resident of said County aged seventy-two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He states that he was living in Guilford County North Carolina, was drafted about the first of June just before Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16 1780] in South Carolina – entered service under Captain Peter O'Neal, Lieutenant Jas. Delay [James DeLay, also spelled James Lay] and Ensign William Donnaho [perhaps William Donoho], was attached to the Light Infantry, North Carolina Militia, our Captain marched us to Colonel Paisley's [John Paisley] where we drew our guns, Bayonets & other equipment from thence we marched to [text too faint to discern in both the Fold3.com. and HeritageQuest.com versions], thence to Salisbury where we joined the [text again too faint to discern] command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], from Salisbury we marched to the mouth of Rocky River, where we attacked a Body of Tories near that place, whom we defeated and drove off. After the engagement Rutherford with the Army lay near that place three or four days waiting further orders, we took up our line of March directly back across the Yadkin River, then turning down the same towards Cheraw Hill in order to attack a Body of British under Lord Rawdon who was said to be laying at that place. But when they heard of our approach they moved off in the direction for Camden, our Army crossed Pee Dee [Pee Dee River] at Cheraw & pursued the enemy as far as Lynches Creek to a Bridge, the British after passing the Bridge tore up all the planks & threw them in the Creek to prevent our crossing at this time our troops were put under the command of Colonel Porterfield [presumably Lieutenant Colonel Charles Porterfield of the Virginia line], the Colonel deemed it impracticable to continue the pursuit of the Enemy any further. We then marched back & joined General Gates Army who was then on its march to attack Lord Cornwallis at Camden, we continued our march for Camden, a day or two before the Battle took place at the Gum Swamp but I was taken sick and left on the road at a house some few miles on this side of Gum Swamp where I remained sick for upwards of three weeks after I got well enough to travel I met my Captain's Company at Guilford Court House my time of service (a three months tour) having expired, we were there duly discharged & returned home.

The next time I entered the service was just before the Guilford Battle [March 15,

1781], I understood that General Green [Nathanael Greene] was coming on to engage Lord Cornwallis; at this time I held a commission in my Company at home as an Ensign, I immediately set out from home & joined Greens Army under General Butler [John Butler]. I was asked if I would serve as a Sergeant I replied that I had come for the purpose of defending my country and was willing to serve in any way. I was then enrolled in a Captain Furguson's [perhaps Thomas Ferguson's] Company, when the battle commencing Butler & Eaton [Thomas Eaton] Commanded our Regiment – Captain Ferguson was killed in a short time after the Battle commenced. I escaped unhurt, on the next day myself with a party of men were ordered to assist in killing & quartering up some pork that was brought in for General Green's Army & on the next day I took my leave of the Army & returned home, & in a very short time thereafter, another call was made in our State for the Militia to be ready at a minute's warning. I then entered the service for a tour of three months as an Ensign, Smith Moore was my Captain & James Paisley Lieutenant, we marched immediately to the Battle Ground at Guilford Court House, where our Regiment was organized [under] Colonel Isaacks [Elijah Isaacs] & took up our line of march direct for Little York in the State of Virginia. But before we reached there, we received intelligence that General Washington had captured Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] & his Army – Colonel Isaacks was directed to march his troops down in the lower parts of North Carolina, against some Tories, who were committing some depredations upon the inhabitants commanded by a Tory Colonel by the name of Fannen [David Fanning], at our approach Fanning & his party dispersed & order & tranquility being restored to the citizens & our term of service having expired we were marched back to Guilford Court House & discharged the service, I took certificate of my service from my officers at the time I received my discharge which papers are lost or disposed of in some way I know not how. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state whatever.

Int. 1st . Where and in what year were you born

Answer. I was born in the year 1760 on Slate River in the State of Virginia

Int. 2nd . Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the revolutionary war & where do you now live

answer. I was living in Guilford County North Carolina at the time I entered service & have continued to live in the same neighborhood ever since the revolutionary war, which is now Rockingham County North Carolina.

Int. 3rd How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a Substitute

Answer Sometimes I was drafted & sometimes I volunteered

Int. 4th did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

Answer. I received several discharges which were given by my Captains which I have lost.

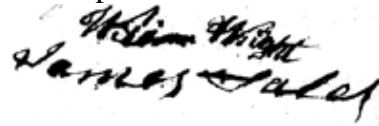
Int. 5th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer. James Scales Sr., William Wright Sr. & John Whitworth, James & Nathaniel Scales Esquires, testify to my character.

S/ Chesly Barns [sic], X his mark

We James Scales, Sr. & William Wright Sr. do certify that we lived in the immediate neighborhood of the present applicant Chesley Barnes & that we do know he served in the

war of the revolution as one of the state troops in the militia of North Carolina.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James G. Gunnel".

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State of North Carolina Rockingham County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the Court of Pleas & Quarter Session of said County Chesley Barnes Sr. who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that the first engagement in which he served in the war of the revolution was in the summer of 1780, that he served a tour of three months as a private soldier.

The second tour was in the spring of the year 1781 I served only three months as a private soldier.

And the third engagement was in the latter part of the year 1781, he entered the service as an Ensign & served a tour of three months in the Militia of North Carolina, he further saith that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods and grades above mentioned.

Sworn & Subscribed to this 22nd of January 1833

S/ Richard Wall, JP

S/ Chesley Barnes, X his mark

[John L Wilson, a clergyman, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 9: On May 25, 1844 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Mary Barnes, 82, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act as the widow of Chesley Barnes deceased; she states that she married him in 1783; that her husband died September 8, 1840; in support of her statement she sends the original of the family record in the hand writing of James G Gunnel a schoolmaster. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

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State of North Carolina Guilford County: SS

To any Orthodox Minister of the Gospel or for want of such to any Lawful Magistrate within the said County by Virtue of the Authority to me Given as Clerk of Guilford County, and as Bond hath been taken and filed in my office agreeable to an act of General Assembly, You either of you are hereby Authorized, Empowered, and Required to Celebrate the Rights of Matrimony between Chesley Barns and Mary Means of the County aforesaid and to join them together as man and Wife in holy Matrimony. Given under my Hand this 10th day of February 1783

S/ Thos. Henderson, Clk.

State of North Carolina. To my Colleague Minister of the Gospel or
 Justice County. To my Colleague Minister of the Gospel or
 Justice County. Within the said County By virtue
 of the following to me given as such of Justice County and as Bond
 hath been taken and filed in any of the aforesaid County of General
 Assembly; you or either of you are hereby authorized empowered and
 Required to Collect the Rights of Matrimony between Chesley
 Barnes and Mary Barnes of the County aforesaid and to give the same to
 the man and wife or to his Matrimony Given under my Hand this 18th Day
 of February 1783

Tho Henderson Clk

[p 14: Power of attorney dated May 4, 1852 executed in Rockingham County North Carolina by Martha Gann in which she states she is one of the children and legal representatives of Chesley Barnes a revolutionary soldier and Mary Barnes his widow. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 18: family record:

Robert Barnes was born April 26th, 1784
 John Barnes was born January 12th, 1786
 Nathaniel Barnes was born February 11th, 1788
 Pleasant Barnes was born February 19th, 1791
 Ann Barnes was born September 12th, 1793
 Martha Barnes was born March 31st, 1796
 Nancy Barnes was born August 6th, 1798
 Mary Barnes was born March 4th, 1800
 Susannah Barnes was born December 20th, 1806

Robert Barnes was born April 26th 1784
John Barnes was born January 12th 1786
Nathaniel Barnes was born February 1st 1788
Pleasant Barnes was born February 19th 1791
John Barnes was born September 12th 1793
Martha Barnes was born March 31st 1796
Nancy Barnes was born August 6th 1799
Mary Barnes was born March 4th 1800
Susannah Barnes was born December 20th 1800

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Raleigh North Carolina Comptroller Office

William F Collins Comptroller of Public Accounts in and for the State of North Carolina do hereby Certify that the name of Chesley Barnes appears of Record in this Office as having had the following Specie Certificates issued in his favor for Military Services (viz.), one for Three Pounds Fourteen Shillings (£3.14) See Book A. M. page 47 No. 6 also one other certificate for Thirteen Pounds Twelve Shillings (£13.12) See Book No. 1 page 43 and another for Nine Pounds Four Shillings (£9.4) See Book No 5 page 43

Given under my hand and seal this 12th day of May 1845

S/ Wm F. Collins, Comptroller

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]