AFRICAN AMERICAN
AND
AMERICAN INDIAN PATRIOTS
IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

NATIONAL SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
Forgotten Patriots

AFRICAN AMERICAN AND AMERICAN INDIAN PATRIOTS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

A Guide to Service, Sources and Studies

Eric G. Grundset
Editor and Project Manager

with Briana L. Diaz, Hollis L. Gentry, and Jean D. Strahan
Researchers
Dedicated to the memory of the
known and unknown
African American and Native American
Patriots, Soldiers and Seaman
of the American Revolution.
Acknowledgements

By offering a documented listing of names of African Americans and Native Americans who supported the cause of the American Revolution, we hope to inspire the interest of descendants in the efforts of their ancestors and in the work of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Expanding the historical record with such a publication enriches the history of the American struggle for independence and illustrates the individual efforts of thousands who helped achieve that goal.

Several retired NSDAR employees were involved in the production of the original booklets that led to the 2001 publication African American and American Indian Patriots in the Revolutionary War. Those principally involved were Elisabeth Whitman Schmidt, Hazel Fuller Kreinheder, James Dent Walker, and Rita Elaine Souther. Others, including the editor and Jean Davids Strahan, took their work and expanded it into the 2001 publication. That book has served as the basis for this present one, which has been a combined effort by Briana L. Diaz, Hollis L. Gentry, Jean D. Strahan, and the editor, with assistance from other employees, including, Darcie Hind Posz, and Elizabeth Erb Bode.


Eric G. Grundset
Editor and Project Manager
February 29, 2008
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction</th>
<th>i</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part One: The Northern States</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 1: New England</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter One: Maine</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Two: New Hampshire and Vermont</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Three: Massachusetts</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Four: Rhode Island</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Five: Connecticut</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2: Middle Atlantic States</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Six: New York</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Seven: New Jersey</td>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Eight: Pennsylvania</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Nine: Delaware</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Two: The South</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Ten: Maryland</td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Eleven: Virginia</td>
<td>481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Twelve: North Carolina</td>
<td>549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Thirteen: South Carolina</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Fourteen: Georgia</td>
<td>609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Fifteen: The Old Northwest</td>
<td>625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Sixteen: Miscellaneous Naval and Military Records</td>
<td>651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Seventeen: Foreign Allies</td>
<td>657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Eighteen: West Indies</td>
<td>677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A: Map of the Enslaved Population, 1790 Census</td>
<td>683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B: Documenting the Color of Participants in the American Revolution</td>
<td>687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix C: Names as Clues to Finding Forgotten Patriots</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix D: The Numbers of Minority Participants in the Revolution</td>
<td>701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix E: Glossary of Terms Used</td>
<td>709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix F: Master List of Source Abbreviations Used in This Book</td>
<td>723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix G: Contacting the DAR</td>
<td>757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Bibliography</td>
<td>761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Name Index</td>
<td>813</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION

Since its founding in 1890, the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution has collected and published information about the American Revolution. Included in this tradition have been articles, grave markings, or placement of historical plaques that note the involvement of African Americans and American Indians in the struggle. It is in that vein that this second edition of Forgotten Patriot has been developed and published. Expanding by almost five-fold the number of names included in the 2001 edition, the hope is that this current body of work will not only be of interest to students and scholars interested in the important contributions of African Americans and American Indians in the America’s fight for independence, but that it will also encourage the female descendents of these patriots to join the important volunteer and educational work of the NSDAR.

Many chapters of the history of the Revolution remain to be written, and the service of those of African, American Indian, and mixed descent deserves continuing attention from scholars. Forgotten Patriots provides a solid and extensive base for use by others in their own studies of individuals or of the broader subject. During the course of nearly a quarter century of research, several NSDAR employees have delved into the DAR Library and numerous other research centers in the United States and elsewhere for documents that reveal the names of minority participants in the War for Independence or supplement information on those already identified.

At first glance, the topic of this volume may appear to some readers as very narrow. This is true to a point, for focus on the activities of specific groups of people during the Revolutionary period is only a small part of the history of that era. Concentration on the identification and documentation of the (mostly military) involvement of American individuals of African, American Indian, or mixed descent in the Revolutionary War is indeed very specific. The gathering of accurate historical records needs to be so. As a result, while the listings of individual names are as comprehensive as possible, the text that accompanies each state’s section is meant to be a general overview.

When, however, one looks at the expansive nature of the record sources needed to conduct the research behind the stories of these thousands of men (and some women), the scope of this study is much broader and encompasses private, local, state, and federal materials over many decades of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. In addition, the extensive bibliography – presented in both state and national perspectives – is quite comprehensive. The literature relating to the broad areas of interest fortunately continues to grow at a healthy pace.

The subtitle of this book – A Guide to Service, Sources, and Studies – also reveals the several purposes of the publication. No other similar guide exists for the history of the participation of African Americans and American Indians in the Revolutionary War.

The research that has led to this expanded volume is an integral part of DAR’s ongoing operations that does not end with this publication. The subject of this book is essential to the work of the DAR to document the history of the role of all individuals in the Revolutionary War and to preserve it for future generations. It is hoped that the information contained herein will spur even further research and discovery that will result in many more names being added to the next edition.
WHY DID MINORITY INDIVIDUALS FIGHT
FOR THE AMERICAN CAUSE IN THE REVOLUTION?

During the Public Broadcasting System’s series “Slavery and the Making of America,” historian James O. Horton makes the statement:

Whether fighting for the British cause or for the American cause, African Americans were fighting for freedom. It was a freedom struggle. ¹

This was indeed the case, and this observation summarizes the entire situation not only for African Americans but for American Indians as well. There were many varying sides in the conflict, which for all intents and purposes was a civil war that pitted relatives, neighbors and communities against one another. All in their own way were fighting for freedom and their own well being.

While the exact numbers remain in dispute, a very large number of African Americans fled to the British lines to escape slavery. ² Running away from slavery, or “stealing oneself” as slave owners called it at the time, was the ultimate act of a person seeking freedom. The general story and specific stories of many individuals have been told in the many publications that are included in this book’s bibliography. The people who fled to the British lines during the Revolutionary War left widely varying histories behind them and created innumerable futures.

Many went to Canada, and some eventually settled in West Africa to found the colony of Sierra Leone. Their efforts and stories, however, did not contribute to the independence of the United States, and so they are not a part of this body of work.

For many American Indians, such as the Cherokee, Shawnee, and Creeks, as well as most of the Iroquois, fighting on the British side was the lesser of two evils. Their motivation was to stem the flow of coastal settlers any further into the interior of the continent, and they felt that allegiance to the British crown was the mostly likely way to achieve this goal. Other groups did their best to remain neutral. It was a freedom struggle for all of them as well, albeit an unsuccessful one in most cases.

Of course, not all African Americans and American Indians held the Loyalist sympathies. Thousands participated in the Revolutionary War on the American side. But why? This is a question that goes back to the “freedom struggle” mentioned by Professor Horton. Every individual judged their own circumstances and made decisions based on those and on what they hoped for in life. Their reasons for participating are probably as varied as the individuals themselves, but we can draw some general conclusions from reading the records of their actions and activities. These individuals are, then, the subjects of this study.

At the beginning of the war, most states expressly prohibited the enlistment of free blacks and slaves. The idea of giving weapons to men who might well be tempted to use them against their oppressors was frightening to the establishment. As time progressed, however, and the need for soldiers became more desperate, state after state set in place systems by which slaves could earn their freedom by serving in the military and whereby free men could enlist themselves. Some could serve as substitutes in place of their owner, or someone else, with the promise of emancipation at the end of the war. Many took advantage of this when the opportunity finally arose in their state of residence or in another state nearby. Crossing state lines was particularly common and not all that difficult in terms of distances in the Northeast. The majority of actions resulting in the manumission of an

enslaved man as a result of his military service occurred in the northern states. This is not to say that the practice did not happen in the middle and southern states, but the documentary evidence is much slighter south of New England. Some individuals who did indeed fight in the American forces were denied their freedom after the war, and several law suits resulted from this. Many others probably disappeared back into slavery with no legal or financial means to protest such actions. So, while the hope or dream of personal freedom happened for many who fought for the American cause, not everyone was so fortunate.

Naturally, most hoped for better lives in some way and felt that identifying with the American cause might bring them greater success, freedom from slavery, contacts with others, income, and bounty land. Many, too, were inspired by the rhetoric of the period and held hope that the concept of “all men are created equal” would extend to them when the conflict was over. Their patriotic efforts during the conflict were a step in that direction, but most were, however, terribly disappointed by reality after the war.

American Indians were all born on the North American continent, of course, and the same sentiments and situations were part of their experience as well. This is illustrated by the following statement made (perhaps with American assistance) in 1778 by the leaders of the St. John’s Indians in Maine:

The Chiefs, Sachems and young men belonging to the River St. Johns have duly considered the nature of this Great War between American and Old England. They are unanimous that America is right and Old England is wrong. The River on which you are with your Soldiers belongs from the most ancient times to our Ancestors, consequently is ours now, and which we are bound to keep for our posterity. You know we are Americans; that is our native country; you know the King of England with his evil councilors has been trying to take away the Lands and Libertys of our Country, but God the King of the Heaven, our King, fights for us and says America shall be free. It is so now in spite of all Old England and his Comrades can do.”

Those American Indians who did fight for the Americans were mostly from either surviving groups in the east or from areas near the frontier. Some were individuals probably who hoped for better lives for their families and communities based on the messages delivered by the American cause and their own personal beliefs and objectives.

For many native-born African Americans or enslaved men born in Africa, the sea was often a logical way to escape their role in life on the American seacoast or areas just into the interior. Maritime traditions are ancient in African coastal areas, of course, and they remained strong on the other side of the Atlantic as well. The fact that a ship is dependent on its entire crew doing their part was an appeal that brought many men to serve on privateers, merchant ships, and naval vessels. There were also many American Indian men from coastal areas, particularly in New England, who were involved in these same activities. Naval or maritime participation was a significant contribution to the war effort as well as a search for freedom within the broader context of supporting the American struggle for independence.

Adventure plus the desire to see new places and have new experiences was doubtlessly another factor in the decision of many men to fight on the American side. These surely would combine with the other reasons

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3 “To the British Commanding Officer at the mouth of the River St. Johns: --- The Chiefs, Sachems, and Young Men of the River St. Johns have duly considered the nature of this Great War between America and Old England.” [August 1778]. The entire quote appears in: W. O. Raymond. “At Portland Point.” The New Brunswick Magazine, 2:3 (March 1899), 142, along with an discussion that the statement was the work of John Allan, and American emissary, who designed it to create trouble between the British and the Indians.

mentioned above. They are far more intangible, however, and are only revealed on occasion in pension records and a few other sources. These men, many of whom were young, were simply caught up in the idea of change, war, and adventure.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THIS PUBLICATION?

This study concentrates on groups defined as African American, American Indian, or identified persons of “mixed descent” with descriptors such as “mulatto” or “mustee.” There are also some individuals included in these listings who may have been of African, Iberian (Spanish or Portuguese), Azorean, Latin American or mixed ancestry. They are noted with this comment because research in additional records has not revealed further information about their origins, although their names are strong indicators of a possible African ancestry.

The listings in this book include generic group names, such as “African American” or only “Indian” to describe individuals based on the historical sources. Whenever possible, we have also placed additional descriptive information with the listings, especially to illustrate how an individual was described in an eighteenth-century record. In the same way, if it were clear which American Indian nation an individual belonged to, we included that detail as well since far too many times this additional descriptive material was lacking in the original records.

DOCUMENTING THE COLOR OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE REVOLUTION

In an era when historians, anthropologists, sociologists, and psychologists challenge the very concept of separate races, it is difficult for modern readers to grapple with the wide variety of terminology used in past centuries to identify persons of varying colors, shades, and complexions. They are often different from terms used today, and they do not always have the same meaning today as they did in the eighteenth century.

It is important to note that for research purposes for the content of this book, any reference that remotely suggested a possible minority patriot was examined at length. The goal of this ongoing effort is to be as inclusive as possible, but this must occur within the constraints of documentation. One of the major challenges is that while there are copious examples where a written description suggests a possible minority patriot when in fact subsequent research proves otherwise, it is much more difficult to identify a minority patriot whose description is devoid of any mention of color and whose name suggests European decadency. Further to this point, just because a person’s lineage traced back to a European country did not immediately dismiss them from further research as being minority. It is well documented that by 1700, individuals of African descent had a presence in virtually every European country, often with names reflective of the local populace. Again, this is one more hurdle that researchers faced in attempting accurate documentation for inclusion in this book. Examples of these challenges appear in Appendix B.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Service in the Revolution, both military and non-military, has long been the focus of research for minority individuals. Many interesting and varied activities are represented in the lists of these chapters. Because of the

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Introduction

scarcity of records for many men and the infrequency in which they appear in the records that do exist, efforts to collect information have sought to include documentation for some service. Rarely is there much further supporting information to go beyond the one or two references which have come to light. Other researchers may locate this information to confirm or deny the involvement of a given individual in the war. There is always the possibility that a person may have become a Loyalist, and in a few instances potential candidates for inclusion were removed because of such later developments found by further research.

NUMBERS OF MINORITY PARTICIPANTS
IN THE REVOLUTION

How many individual Americans of African, Native American, or mixed descent participated in the American Revolution in support of the Patriot cause? That is an extremely good question, and one for which there is no firm answer. Forgotten Patriots includes the names of over 6,600 individuals. A fuller discussion on this subject appears in Appendix D.

THE TIME PERIOD COVERED

The time period covered also warrants mention. A century ago, the NSDAR set the following dates for its own use as the beginning and end of the American Revolution for determining whether or not the activities of an individual were to be considered for military or patriotic service: April 19, 1775 (the Battles of Lexington and Concord) through November 26, 1783 (the final evacuation of the British from New York City, Evacuation Day). Based on this practice, this book does not include individuals who may have been involved in activity against the British Crown prior to or after the stated dates. These dates were intended only to establish parameters for determining military participation in the war for membership in the NSDAR, and are not meant to dismiss other interpretations of the time frame of the American Revolution for other purposes.

FINAL THOUGHTS

This second edition of Forgotten Patriots documents over 6,600 African American and American Indian patriots of the Revolutionary War. It is an exciting step forward in helping to document a segment of the effort that resulted in the creation of the United States of America. But the work is not done. Undoubtedly there are many other minority patriots who remain undiscovered or for whom documentation does not yet exist. Hopefully the information contained herein will serve as a base for even more individuals being identified for inclusion in subsequent editions. To that end, the NSDAR welcomes additional information concerning any of the individuals identified in this publication or on others that have not been included. Naturally, documentation from original eighteenth-century sources is essential to verify the role of any individual in the Revolutionary War, and we would appreciate receiving copies of such material as well.

The NSDAR has maintained all of its records, compilations, and collections for the use of the American public at the DAR Library in Washington, D.C. since 1896. Recently, a special collection has been started that encompasses much of the documentation related to the subject of minority service in the American Revolution, although much of the information is contained in materials located throughout the Library. Individuals and scholarly researchers alike are encouraged to take advantage of this information that will undoubtedly continue to grow over time.

Untold hours of research for over twenty-four years have gone into the preparation of this book and its predecessor publications. Many individuals beyond those included in the acknowledgments have contributed time and energies as well as personal insights and discoveries in an effort to expand the number of patriots documented in this edition. Long discussions have examined many of the criteria used throughout the book,

and sources have always been studied with an eye to the careful historical documentation of individuals and their roles in the American Revolution.

This is a fascinating and important subject for anyone interested in the period of the American Revolution. Everyone involved in this project at DAR headquarters has found it to be rewarding, informative, and captivating. And while the research to identify and document forgotten patriots will continue as a part of the daily activities of DAR, it is hoped that this work will spur others to undertake an examination of their ancestry and the rich heritage that has come to make up our great nation.

Eric G. Grundset
Forgotten Patriots Editor and Project Manager
Library Director, DAR Library
February 29, 2008
Part One: The Northern States
Part One: The Northern States
The role of Americans of African, Indian, and mixed descent in the American Revolution is best documented in the records of the Northern States, where the record-keeping of the period reveals much information on these individuals. In addition, some nineteenth-century historians incorporated stories about the Revolutionary War and its participants in local histories across the northern part of the country thereby giving modern researchers anecdotes and historical information that would have otherwise been lost. In recent decades, historians and other writers have gleaned much from these earlier sources and produced various regional studies on the subject, many of which are listed below.

THE NORTHERN STATES (GENERALLY)

(See also the individual state, “Mid-Atlantic States,” and “New England.”)

Horton, James Oliver. “Shades of Color: The Mulatto in Three Antebellum Northern Communities.” Afro-Americans in New York Life and History, 8:2 (July 1984), 37-59. [Cincinnati, Buffalo, and Boston] [Includes a section, “Test of Color Accuracy,” that examines the various color descriptors found in the federal censuses in 1850 and 1860.]
Nash, Gary B. Urban Crucible: Social Change, Political


Vivian, James F., and Jean H. Vivian. “Congressional Indian Policy during the War for Independence: The Northern Department” Maryland Historical Magazine, 63:3 (September 1968), 241-274.


Documenting the Revolutionary War service of men of African, Indian, and mixed descent is by far the easiest in the New England states. Of the present six states, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut offer the best information on their soldiers and provide the most records with color descriptors. The New England states are also the best studied of the original states in terms of historians’ and genealogists’ attention to the subject. The following bibliography lists regional studies.

**New England Bibliography**
(See also the individual state chapters.)


“The Catholic Indians and the American Revolution.”
The American Catholic Historical Researches, 4 (1908), 193-230.


Lenz, Peter A. Colonial New England Slavery: (African, African-American, Indian) in Massachusetts, New
Morse, Sidney G. “[Notes and Suggestions:] State or Continental Privateers?” American Historical Review, 52:1 (October 1946), 68-73.
Platt, Orville H. “Negro Governors.” New Haven Colony Historical Society Papers, no. 6 (1900), 316-335.
Seeman, Erik R. “Justise Must Take Plase’: Three African American Speak of Religion in Eighteenth-


Wyss, Hilary E. Writing Indians: Literacy, Christianity, and Native Community in Early America. (Native Americans in the Northeast series). Amherst:
Any discussion of the minority participation in Maine during the American Revolution must be subject to several considerations. Maine was attached to Massachusetts until statehood was achieved in 1820. Massachusetts governing bodies promulgated all laws and resolutions pertaining to African Americans and Indians. The area between the St. Croix River and the St. John River remained in British control but a large segment of the population; white and Indian, felt a political affinity with the people of Maine. As a result, for the purposes of this study, the land between the Piscataqua River and the St. John River has been included.

During the American Revolution, minority military participation within the area then considered the District of Maine, was defined by the rules and regulations of both the Massachusetts Provincial Congress and the Federal Continental Congress. Indian Tribes had been courted with such overtures as a letter from the Provincial Congress sent in May 1775 to the Penobscots declaring: “...our Liberty and your Liberty are the same, we are brothers and what is for our good is for your good.”\(^1\) At just about the same time the Massachusetts Committee of Safety resolved that: “... no slaves be admitted into this army upon any consideration whatever.”\(^2\)

In July of 1775, instructions from the Headquarters of General Washington at Cambridge prohibited enlistment of any African American. It may also be noted that recruiting officers of the Massachusetts Bay Forces were forbidden to enlist: “... any person who is not an American born, unless such a person has a wife and family and is a settled resident in this country.”\(^3\)

While Revolutionary oratory was flourishing in the Boston area, the residents along the Maine Coast were faced with very difficult decisions. Many merchants and ship owners were not eager to cut ties with Great Britain. Loggers and trappers already operated on a narrow margin of profit and they needed a ready market for their products. Dealing with the English offered a steady economy while that of the American colonies as an independent nation was an unknown quantity. The power of the British fleet headquartered in Halifax, Nova Scotia, was a constant reminder of the vulnerable position of the Maine coastal region, but those in favor of independence set about to prepare for war.

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The town of York raised a company of militia under Captain Johnson Moulton, and Ceasar, a Negro, was included on the rolls. At this time color was not an issue in the recruitment of able-bodied men at the local level in Maine.

To the north, the people of Machias had agreed to observe the non-intercourse pledge and would not conduct business to benefit the enemy. In early June of 1775, however, Captain Ichabod Jones, a well-known coastal trader, came to Machias with his sloop *Unity* loaded with articles sorely needed by local residents. His intention was to sell his cargo and purchase lumber to take to the British vessels in the Port of Boston. Another sloop, *Peggy*, accompanied *Unity* and both were escorted by the British armed cutter *Margaretta*. The British had felt that an escort might ensure the satisfactory completion of the mission for the two Maine ships. After an initial interest in the cargo of Captain Jones, the residents became irritated at the presence of the armed cutter and in rather short order, the three vessels were captured by a group of Machias Whigs. Richard Earle, body servant to expedition leader Captain Jeremiah O'Brien, took part in this first naval engagement of the Revolution. London Atis, slave of the Reverend William Lyons, joined the activity in town as his master gave aid and support to the Americans. Retaliation for the *Margaretta* attack was swift when British Captain Henry Mowat brought destruction to the village of Falmouth the following October hoping to dampen the ardor of rebellion. Maine harbors continued, however, to offer a safe haven to American privateers as they harassed British shipping. London Atis left Machias to sign aboard the sloop *Winthrop* and used his share of the prize money from captured shipping to purchase his freedom.

African Americans were very active in the crews of privateers. Pompey Sweat of York served aboard *Raleigh* and the ship on which Peter Tobey served was captured by the British. He was sent to Mill Prison in England, exchanged to France, and returned to Kittery where he died in 1840. Prince McLellan of Gorham served as a seaman in the frigate *Deane* taking prizes in the waters of the West Indies. He was serving at Martinique when peace was declared, and he returned to Gorham where he applied for a pension in 1821.

On land, African American soldiers served with dedication. At Valley Forge, Colonel Benjamin Tupper led his regiment, the 11th Massachusetts, into winter quarters in December 1777. Four of the eight companies in the regiment were almost entirely made up of Maine soldiers including Cato Shaddock of Falmouth, and Lewis Shepherd and Junior Boston of Scarborough. London Rhode of Falmouth died just before Colonel Tupper's Regiment reached Valley Forge and Junior Boston did not survive the tragic winter. In further military activity, Joseph Clark, an African American man, served 354 days under Lieutenant Andrew Gilman in a company of white and Indian soldiers on the Penobscot River in 1777. Primus Stafford, a marine aboard the privateer *General Putnam* participated in the Penobscot expedition witnessing the defeat and disgrace of Commodore Dudley Saltonstall and Lieutenant Colonel Paul Revere in July of 1779.

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7 Revolutionary War Pension File, W23468. Record Group 15. National Archives and Records Administration. (Hereafter cited as RWPF).

8 Oliver P. Remick, Lt., *A Record of the Services of the Commissioned Officers and Enlisted Men of Kittery and Eliot, Maine*. (Boston: Alfred Mudge & Son, 1901), 220.


10 RWPF, S37228.


13 *Ibid*.


Enslaved persons and African American freemen were a small segment of the population of Maine during the era of the Revolution. In the 1771 Tax Evaluation for Massachusetts, not all town lists for Maine were returned, but some general assumptions are apparent. Any one master, as they were titled in the tax list, did not hold the enslaved or servants for life in great numbers. In singles or pairs, they seemed to belong to the households of merchants and members of the clergy. Joseph Weare of York held five servants for life, an unusually high number for Maine.\textsuperscript{16}

Clustered in the port communities, African Americans often looked to the sea for release from servitude. Crew lists of privateers, and ships of the Continental Navy and of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts did not always qualify the men by color. Even the magnificent research project, \textit{Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War} does not offer clues to the color of each and every man listed in its seventeen volumes. After the Massachusetts legislature permitted the unrestricted enlistment of African Americans in 1778, various towns, unable to fill their assigned quota of soldiers locally, resorted to bounty payments to men from other areas. York paid Boston Black, a resident of Marblehead, Massachusetts, in 1781, illustrating a good deal of crossing of geographic lines.\textsuperscript{17}

Following the Revolution, many African Americans came to Maine to settle and their pension application records give an interesting history of the role they played in the struggle for independence. Cuff Chambers, also known as Cuff Blanchard, had been a servant in the Blanchard household in Andover, Massachusetts. He married there in 1762 to Betty and served in the Revolution. He assumed his mother’s surname of Chambers when he received his freedom. With his family, he settled in Leeds, Maine, but by 1814 was unable to support himself. The town of Leeds charged the town of Andover for his maintenance until his death in 1818.\textsuperscript{18} The grave of Cuff Chambers is one of the many graves of Revolutionary soldiers noted in the printed collection of the Maine Old Cemetery Association.

In any consideration of the African Americans of Maine and their part in the American Revolution, one must always remember that the British offered constant blandishments for African Americans to join their cause. Nova Scotia, offering freedom, was close at hand. Those who remained to serve with the Americans in any capacity faced all the uncertainties of an unknown future.

When the Massachusetts Provincial Congress addressed the Penobscot Tribe in May of 1775, the goal had been to balance British influence and keep the Indians neutral.\textsuperscript{19} The Truck house or supply house system, established under the Royal Government, had dissolved with the first battles of the Revolution. The Indians needed reassurance that the new American Government would continue to meet their needs. Orono, an impressive Chief of the Penobscot Tribe, brought three other Indians with him to present greetings and grievances to the Provincial Congress on 21 June 1775. Trespassing upon Tribal timber lands by whites and the desire to have a Truck house on the Penobscot River were vital issues that needed to be resolved. The Provincial Congress rose to the occasion by appointing trustworthy Captain John Lane of Buxton as Truck master on the Penobscot River. The interpreter, Andrew Gilman, received an honorary commission as Lieutenant, giving him an official position in conducting military affairs. Massachusetts also recognized the claim of the Penobscot Tribe to land at the head of the tide on the Penobscot River extending six miles on each shore.\textsuperscript{20}

The St. John’s and Micmac Tribes were represented in a letter to the Honorable Council of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay. Ambroise and Pierre Toma joined their brethren, the Penobscot Indians and declared to the Americans: “We are Brothers of One Father, and God made us all, and we will stand by you, as long as the Almighty will give us strength, and we hope you will do the same for us.”\textsuperscript{21}

\begin{thebibliography}{9}
\bibitem{18} RWPF, W23810.
\bibitem{19} Sprague’s Journal, 6:106.
\bibitem{20} Sprague’s Journal, 5:13; 6:106, 107, 110.
\bibitem{21} \textit{Journals of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts}, 1775-1776 (Boston: Massachusetts Historical Society, 1983) 51:pt.: 1, 148. (Hereafter cited as \textit{Journals of the House}).
\end{thebibliography}
The Penobschts continued to be concerned with the American independence efforts. Benedict Arnold’s march up the Kennebec River to Quebec gave the tribe their first opportunity to participate in a military expedition. Sewanochett and four tribal members left Fort Halifax on 27 September 1775 serving as guides to the eleven hundred men following Arnold. Despite heavy desertion by the American soldiers, the five Penobschts finished the grueling march arriving opposite Quebec on 9 November. Almost a year later, James Bowdoin pointed out that those five were at the siege of Quebec with two wounded and three taken prisoner. Despite promises of compensation for their endeavors, no payment had been received. When Congress proposed to call up the St. Francis, Penobscht, and St. John’s tribes in case of real necessity, stiff opposition came from the delegates. A resolution was passed prohibiting employment of Indians except with the consent of Congress and of a General Council of the Tribes involved. A few months later General Washington was given authority to employ Indians whenever he deemed it necessary.

The inhabitants of Lincoln County did not share any apprehension felt by delegates in Congress on the subject of arming Indians. In a petition to the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, they stressed that the St. John’s Tribe was in great want of clothing and ammunition. The Government of Nova Scotia had offered the Indians everything they needed, causing the Lincoln County residents to fear a British takeover of the friendly tribe. A request was made for a Truck master and a full complement of supplies for the St. John’s tribe.

The summer of 1776 brought some interesting developments in the relationship between the Government of Massachusetts and the Indians of the area of Maine. A treaty promising cooperation was signed at Watertown by nine Indians representing the St. John’s Tribe and the Micmac Tribe. Four of the signers offered to join Washington’s army at New York. These men were Peter Andre of La He’vé, Sabattis Netoscobut of Gaspee, Francis of St. John’s and Joseph Denaquara of Winsor who spoke both English and French. When word of this Treaty reached the tribal villages, a great fear came over the older men that they would all be required to take up arms. They wished to honor the spirit of the letter the tribe had received from General Washington, written from Cambridge in February of 1776, and they agreed to keep the chain bright forever. The elders, however, felt that a youthful faction had assumed the character of chiefs and had made a treaty to go to war. John Baptist and Mantua presented the elders’ feelings in the statement: “We do not comprehend what all this Quareling is about. How comes it that Old England and new should Quarrel and come to blows? The Father and Son to fight is terrible -- Old France and Canada did not do so, we cannot think of fighting ourselves till we know who is right and who is wrong.” The reference to France brought in a clue to the true allegiance of the tribes of northern Maine. Until the end of the French era in 1763, the tribes had been given spiritual guidance by the French Catholic priests and economic support by the French trappers and merchants. The British decade in the history of the tribes was not one of a happy relationship. When the Indians showed a preference for the American’s cause, the British retaliation was to prohibit the priests from offering any Catholic sacraments until an oath of support for the King was taken.

In the fall of 1776, an increasing interest developed among the Americans of the New England coastal region to drive the British from the St. John’s River Valley. Colonel Johnathan Eddy led a force of about 80 men against Fort Cumberland, a British stronghold in western Nova Scotia. Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Gorham held out until he was reinforced by troops from Halifax who arrived aboard a British man-of-war. Participating in the attack upon Fort Cumberland were “Governor” Ambroise and 16 Indians who behaved gallantly despite the failure of the campaign. Captain Sir George Collier reported to Lord Germain that, while

22 Sprague’s Journal, 6:108.
he considered “the small numbers of the hastily armed banditti in the environs of Fort Cumberland are not...of any consequence, yet I am sorry to find a party of Indians with them...” Collier felt that the British failure to pay attention to the local Chiefs had caused this defection of the Indians to the American cause. 

The appointment of John Allan, a recent refugee from western Nova Scotia, as superintendent of the Eastern Indians and Colonel of Infantry in early 1777 brought the backing of the Continental Congress to the Revolutionary effort in Maine. The diary of his journey to Aukpaque on the St. John’s River in behalf of the American cause gives a fascinating glimpse of Indian life on the northeast frontier. With a price on his head, Allan was at the mercy of the Indians for safety and he noted that: “Ambroise and his connections deserves the greatest applause. He is convinced of the nature of the dispute and I assuredly believe he is as Genuine a friend as any in America.”

Allan’s return to his headquarters in Machias was just as the British attacked the village from the sea. In a report of the Battle sent to the Honourable Jeremiah Powell, Allan stated: “...the Indians in this time appeared very eager for fighting; set up the Indian yell which was follow’d by many in different places which no doubt occasioned the enemy to suppose there were some Hundreds.” In settling the accounts of the Battle, much credit was given to the Commissioned Indian Leaders. One of the Tribal Captains insisted that no distinction should be made in the pay. The Officers’ “over plus” should be distributed among the soldiers as the honor of being commissioned was enough. Among the pension application papers for Nicholas Hawwawas is his certificate of commission from the Council of Massachusetts Bay. Another item of interest in this file is an 1833 deposition as to Hawwawas’ service, by his friend, London Atis, the African American pensioner from Machias.

The British were tireless in their efforts to influence the Northern Tribes. Michael Franckin, British Agent in Western Nova Scotia wrote to Lord Halifax that the Passamaquoddy, St. John’s and Micmac Tribes were strongly swayed by the letters from Mr. Washington and by considerable presents from the Massachusetts government. He cautioned that provision of a proper fund for the essential service of courting the Indians was necessary. This plea was not answered soon enough to prevent a letter from the Indians of the St. John’s River being sent to the British authorities. It was written from both Machias and Aukpaque in August of 1778. The Indians admonished the British saying: “...now as the King of England has no business nor ever had any on this river, we desire you to go away with your men in peace and take all those men that has been fighting and talking against America.” The letter closed with: “Adieu for ever.”

Still, in the far reaches of Maine, the British continued to lure the Indians. They established a French merchant named Lunier at a Truck house at the head of the Penobsco River. Wampum was constantly delivered to the villages with admonitions against the Americans. John Neptune and Orono brought three small strings of wampum to Colonel Allan at Machias. These had been delivered to the Tribe by British agents with the message that the first string was to open their eyes, the second string to help them see a long way and the third string would open their ears and fix their hearts. If gifts didn’t influence the Penobscots, a threat was also enclosed: “The Indians (British) are coming across the woods as soon as the Leaves are as big as our nails, and we are determined to Destroy the White People.”

The final great military and naval actions of the Revolution in the far north took place in July of 1779. The Americans Expedition to Penobscot had involved Lieutenant Andrew Gilman and his Penobscot Indian unit who were paid fourteen shillings a day. The pay roll for this service lists the names of the men. A monument on Indian Island, Old Town, Maine, erected by the Bangor Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, in 1910, commemorates the support of this tribe. With the failure of the Americans to drive the British from the

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32 Ibid., 127.
33 Ibid., 241.
34 RWPF, S17997.
35 Davies, *Documents*, 15:133.
36 Ibid., 185.
38 Ibid., 263.
39 Sprague’s Journals, 6:111.
Majabagaduce Peninsula on the Penobscot River, the northern coast of Maine became isolated and contacts between the tribes became more difficult. Colonel John Allan remained at Machias relying on an occasional privateer to supply the area Truck houses. At last, in desperation, he determined to try to seek the attention of both the Massachusetts and the American governments. The Indians became apprehensive that Colonel Allan was deserting them. In an attempt to allay their fears, Allan left his two oldest sons, William and Mark, as pledges for his return.\(^{40}\) For two years the boys remained with their tribal companions. Although the Colonel did return, he was not able to bring any hope of relief for the impoverished residents of Maine. The Revolution had brought the normal Indian economy to a standstill, as there were no markets for their pelts. Hunting seasons were disrupted and supplies of necessities were meager.

In the final days of the Revolution, attention of the governing bodies was far from Maine. When the peace negotiations took place, the hopes of a St. John’s River border were dashed as all of the land north of the St. Croix River went to Canada. Maine remained the home of only remnants of two of the tribes who supported the American cause. The Penobscots have a reservation at Indian Island, Old Town, Maine and the Passamaquoddy Tribe Reservation is near Perry, Maine. Few Indians received Federal pensions or any proper compensation for their sacrifices.

DAR Memorial Placed in 1916

On June 14, 1916, the Maine Daughters of the American Revolution dedicated a memorial to commemorate the role of Passamaquoddy and other Maine Indians who participated in the Revolutionary War. The following pictures are from the event, and include various American Indians including the elderly man on the left, who may have been 103-year-old Socis Joseph of the Passamaquoddy Nation.¹

Thoughts relating to Research in Maine Records

Since Maine was a district of Massachusetts until statehood in 1820, many records of importance to research on the Revolution are those of the mother state. Many of these have been published. The small black population in coastal towns and the fluid situation along the frontiers with the Native Americans made for limited numbers of participants of any ethnic background in Maine. As one might expect, the number of American Indian patriots and soldiers from Maine is higher than in some other areas owing to the larger percentage of Indian residents in the district’s population in comparison to whites and blacks. Many who did serve did so in New Hampshire and Massachusetts regiments. A goodly number of veterans moved to Maine after the war, and for the most part, record of their service in this book appears under their original state of service.

Conclusion

The American Revolution left Maine with all of the difficulties of a border area. The British remained a constant threat on the Canadian border by land and at sea. While slavery passed from the scene, economic independence for African Americans was not an easy status to achieve. Hunting and tribal lands of the Indians gave way to the encroachment of settlers to whom farming, logging, and fishing were primary pursuits.

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot's surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.

ARPP Massachusetts. General Court. The Acts and Resolves, Public and Private, of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay. 21 volumes. Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., 1869-1922. [Vol. 19, Resolves, etc., 1775-1776; vol. 20, Resolves, etc., 1777-1778; vol. 21, Resolves, etc. 1779-1780.]

BLWt Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


WT76 “Treaty with Massachusetts by Delegates of St. John and Micmac Tribes at the Council Chamber in Watertown, July 19, 1776.” *Massachusetts Archives* collection, 25 (Indian Conferences, 1713-1776), 502-529. Massachusetts State Archives, Boston. [The treaty shows the names of the Indian signatories. Massachusetts agreed to provide the Indians with supplies at the Machias Truckhouse, District of Maine, and the Indians agreed to provide support to the Commonwealth against the British.]
The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

**Revolutionary War Service in Maine**

ABRAHAM, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
ADERTON/ADDITION, BADGER, **, MSS, Harpswell
AGMABESH, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
AGMABESH, JEAN BAPTIST, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
AGMABESH, NICHOLA, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ALCOMING, PIERRE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ALCOMING, 1st SON, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ALCOMING, 2nd SON, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ALLOLEWAYES, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
AMBROICE/AMBROISE, St. John’s Indian, SSME, St. John’s
AMBROISE, FRANK JOSEPH, Passamoquoddy Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ANDRE, CHARLES PETER, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ANDRE, PETER, Micmac Indian, SSME, DHME 14, WT76, La He’ve
ANDREW, Micmac Indian/St. Johns Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ANSOUNG, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
AREXES, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ARGONTIEN, LOUI, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ASSADEMOUIT, LUIS, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ASSADEMOUIT, NOEL, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ASSONSER/ASSONSES, Penobscot Indian, DHME 15, no residence given
ASSUEGANSESH, PIERRE, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ATHANES, Passamaquoddy Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ATIENESH, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ATIS/ATUS, LONDON, African American, MSS, SSME, W23468 [married Eunice in the summer of 1791; died July 7,1843], MVBH:13 & 179, also listed as LYON, LONDON, res Machias
ATLEAN, Penobscot Indian, SJ6, no residence given
ATLIANIS, JR, Penobscot Indian, SJ6, no residence given
ATTEANIS, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, no residence given
AUSERY, LEARD, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, DHME 15, no residence given
AUSONG, SCARD, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, DHME 16, no residence given
BAILEY, PRINCE, African American, MVBH:371, Monmouth
BAPTIST, JOHN, St. Johns Indian, MSS, MOEM, St. John’s
BAPTIST, MICHAEL, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
Bastien, John, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Batis/Battis, John, Micmac Indian, MOEM, WT76, no residence given
Battiret, Jean, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Battis, John, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Bear, Ambrose, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
Bear, Charles, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
Beanon, Saco/Sock, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, DHME 16, no residence given
Bennowoit, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Benoit, Pierre, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Benoit, Benedict, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Bernard, Joseph, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Bernard, Joseph, Jr., Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Berthiaume, Jupiter, Indian, Penobscot, SSME, no residence given
Black, Boston, African American, MSS, res York
Black, Caesar, African American, MSS, York
Black, Cato, African American, SSME, KEME, res Kittery
Black, Cicero, African American, SBF, Kittery
Black, Dublin, African American, MSS, Berwick, York Co.
Black, Joseph, African American ("tawny complexion"), SSME, KEME, res Kittery
Black, Kittery, African American, MSS, York
Black, Pharaoh, African American, MSS, York
Black, Prince, African American, MSS, York
Black, Richard, African American, SBF, MSS ("dark complexion"), res Kittery, Maine
Black, Scipio, African American, MSS, Wells
Blackducks, Francis, Indian, SSME, res Machias
Boston, Gershom, “complexion: dark.” MSS, Wells
Boston, Junior, African American, MSS, SSME, res Scarborough
Bowes/Boaz, James, African American, MVBH:371, Falmouth (Portland)
Bowditch, Nepton, Penobscot Indian, MSS ("Priv. Lt. Andrew Gilman’s Co. of Indians"), SSME, SJ6, no residence given
Bradbury, Winthrop, “complexion: dark.” MSS, Buxton
Caiepn, Joseph, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Cawquis, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
Ceasar, African American, MSS, York
Ceasar, Ceasor, African American, res Machias, MSS, SSME, no residence given
Cezar, African American, MSS, MVBH:372, York
Chambers, Cuff – see listing in Massachusetts chapter
Charles, African American, MSS, SSME, res Kittery
Charles/Capt. Charles, Micmac Indian/St. Johns Indian, SSME, MOEM, WT76, no residence given
Clark/Clerk, Joseph, African American, SSME, MSS, Boston
Cicero, African American, SSME, KEME, res Kittery
Colean, Pierre, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
Coleans/Coleau, John, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Cook, Joseph, Maliseet Indian, MOEM, no residence given
Cook, Joseph, Mohawk Indian, SSME, MOEM, Penobscot, SJ6, no residence given
Demour, Etienne, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Denaquane/Denaquara, Joseph, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, DHME 14, WT76, Winsor
Denney, Johnat, Passamquoddy Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Denney, Joseph, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Denney, Michel, Penobscot Indian, SSME MOEM, no residence given
Dick, Black, **, MSS, Kittery
D’onset, Prince, African American, SSME, res Leeds
Dublin, African American, MSS, SSME, res Berwick
EARLE, RICHARD, African American, SSME, MVBH:179, res Machias
ELDEN, FRANCIS HAVIERE, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM 15, St. John’s
ENCAS/ENEAS, JOSEPH, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
ENCOLIER, PIEL, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, DHME 16; also listed as NOCHOTA, PIEL, no residence given
ENEAS/ENEOS, JOSEPH, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
ESPERNOT, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ETTIE, JEAQUE, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
ETTINNE, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ETZAN, FRANCIS, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
FACUNDAS/FACUNDUS/FAEENDUS, ABRAHAM, “dark complexion”; “ruddy complexion,” MSS, York. This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, or African descent.
FALMOUTH, JOSEPH, African American, MSS, SSME, res Falmouth
FARROW/FOROW [PHAROAH?], African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, York
FLANDERS, African American, SSME, MVBH:371, Windham
FORELYS, JEAN BAPTIST, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
FORELYS, MICKEL, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
FOROW, ___, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, York
FORTUE, PIERRE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
FORTUNE, AMOS, African American, QUIN, Jaffrey
FRANCIS, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
FRANCIS, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, DHME 14, no residence given
FRANCIS, St. John’s Indian (Occawa), WT76, St. John’s
FRANCIS, JOHN, St. John’s Indian, SSME, St. John’s
FRANSWAY, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
FREDERICK/FREDRICK, PRINCE, African American, MSS, res, Kittery
FREEMAN, JOHN – see listing in Massachusetts chapter
FREEMAN, SAMPSON – see listing in Massachusetts chapter. May have lived later in Peru and Waterville, Maine.
FROST, CATO, “Other Free”, Private, 1790MA, MSS, Cumberland Co.
FROST, JOHN, Passamaquoddy Indian, Pilot, MOEM, no residence given
GONDAU, ANTOINE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
GOODALE, PRIMUS/PRINCE, African American, MSS, res Wells
GREET, MANY, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
GULL, JOE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
GUN, JOE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
HALT, JOHN, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
HATCH/HOLET, JOSEPH JAMES, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, DHME 15, no residence given
HAVINE, FRANCIS, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
HAWATWESH, FRANCIS JOSEPH, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
HAWATWESH, JAMES LOUI, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
HAWATWESH, JOSEPH MARIE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
HAWATWAS, JOSEPH, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
HAWATWAS, NICHOLAS, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, S17997, St. John’s
HAWATWAS, TOMMA, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
HAWATWAS, ZACH PAVIER, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
HETOSCOBUIT, SABATTIS, Micmac Indian, DHME 14, no residence given
HEUSTON, FRANCIS, African American, MVBH:370, Brunswick
HOLET, JAM, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SJ6, no residence given
HORRAL, JAMES, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
HURON, PIERRE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
IGNACE, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
IGNACE, JOSEPH, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JACK, JOHN, **, MSS, Falmouth, Cumberland Co.
JACKSON, CAESAR, African American, MSS, SSME, res N. Yarmouth
JACKSON, ROBERT, “Other Free”, 1790MA, MSS, SSME, Scarborough, Cumberland Co.
JACOB, FRANCIS XAVIER, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JEACK, PIERRE, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JEAXE, PIERRE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JEAXIE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JESIAC, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JOE, African American, MSS, SSME, res Machias
JOE STUTTERER, PIERRE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JOHASHINE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JOHN, GRAND, St. John’s Indian, SSME, St. John’s
JONG, A., Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JOSEPH, Mohawk Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JOSEPH, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
JOSEPH, FRANCIS, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
JOSEPH, PIERRE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
JOTHAM, CALVIN, African American, MVBH:370, China
JUENNAS, ATT, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
KEHORAT, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
LAPORT/LAPORT, JEAN BAPTIST, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
LAPORT/LEPORT, SABABBIT, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
LAURENT, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
LEEVE, Penobscot Indian, SJ6, no residence given
LEIVEY, COLO, Penobscot Indian, DHME 16, no residence given
LEWE, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, no residence given
LEWEY, OR, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, no residence given
LEWEY, VENISON, Penobscot Indian, SJ6, no residence given
LITTLEBREECHES, AUGUSTIN, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
LONNON, African American, SSME, res Windham
LONSOR, Penobscot Indian, SJ6, no residence given
LUCCADUCK, LUIS, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
LYON, LONDON, see ATIS, LONDON
MAETTEN, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
MAJOR, ANDU, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
MANY/MAREY, SOVISS, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
MARIE, JOSEPH, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
MARRIE, JOSEPH, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
MARTEN, ISAAC, African American, MSS, SSME, res Berwick
MATAGONSHO, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
MATAGOSO/ MATIGNOIS/ MATIGUOSO, Penobscot Indian, SSME 18, MSS, no residence given
MATIGNOIS/MATIQUOISO, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SJ6, no residence given
McLELLAN, PLATO, African American, MVBH:371, Falmouth (Portland)
McLELLAN, PRINCE, African American, Seaman, SSME, S37228 [wife Chloe], MVBH:370, Gorham
MEESOR, WINE, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
MESOR/MESSER, FRENCH, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
MICHAEL/MITCHELL, FRENCH, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
MINK, PAUL, African American, MVBH:370, no residence given
MITCHELL, LONDON, **, MSS, Wells
MIXET, WALLY, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
MOHAWK/MOWHAWK, PIEL, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, DHME 16, no residence given
MOHAWK, PIERRE, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
MOLLEY, LOVISS/SOVISS, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
MONGUMERY/MONTGOMERY/MONGOMNRY, CATO, African American (“reported a negro”), MSS, Danvers
MONTAGUESCO/ MONTAGUESO/ MATIGUOSO, JOSEPH, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, DHME 16
MOORE, CAMBRIDGE, African American (“reported a negro”), MSS, no residence given
MOXES/MOXS, FRANCIS, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, MO, SJ6, no residence given
MOXES, JOSEPH, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NATLANIS/NATTANIS, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
NEPTON, FRANS JOST, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
NEPTON/NEPTUNE, JOHN, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, SJ6, [DAR established patriot.], Indian Island
NEPTUNE, ASSONG, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NEPTUNE, AUSSONSES, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NEPTUNE, J. BAPTISTE, Passamaquoddy Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NEPTUNE, JEQUEVESOM, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NEPTUNE, JOSEPH, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NEPTUNE, JOSEPH, Maliseet Indian, MOEM, no residence given
NEPTUNE, LOUI, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NEPTUNE, PAUL SCHESH, Indian, Madawaska, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NEPTUNE, PIERRE/PAUL, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM 19, no residence given
NETOBCOBROIT/NETOBESTWIT, SABBITS/SABATIS, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, WT76, Gaspee
NEWCOOK, CHARLES, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NEWELL, LEWIS, St. John’s Indian, SSME, St. John’s
NEWELL, NEWELIS, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
NEWELL, PIERRE, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NICHOLA, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NICHOLA, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NICHOLA, JEAN, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NICHOLA, PIERRE, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, MOEM, no residence given
NICHOLA, PIERRE, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
NICHOLAS, PIEL/PEAL/PEARL, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NICHOLAS, Micmac Indian, WT76, no resident given
NICHOLS, PETER, African American, MSS, res Taunton
NICKELSON/NICKERSON, LUKE, African American (“a man of colour”), SSME, S37270, MSS, NALTY, MVBH:177-178, res Harpswell
NICKTOWABOIT, ATTIEREN, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NOCHOTA, PIEL, see ENCUOULER, PIEL
NOCKTEL MUCH, JOHN BAPTIST, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NOELLIS, LOUI, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NOELLIS, NOEL, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
NUMCOOT, ETTIENNE, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
OBOGAN/OHOGAN, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, no residence given
OHOOGAN, Penobscot Indian, MSS, no residence given
ONTRANANCE/ONTRANI, MATTHEW/MATTAUH, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, WT76, no residence given
ORONO/ORINO, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
OSIORO, LEARD, see AUSERY, LEARD
OSSON, CHE/ESQ’R/ELQR, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
OSORO, SCARD, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, no residence given
PAMONET, JOSEPH, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PANNIS, BAZIEL, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PASLET, JOSEPH, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PAUL, PIERRE, Micmac Indian/St. Johns Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
PAZEL/PAZIL, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
PEACE, JOSEPH, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PEASE, MICHAEL., African American, MSS, res Nantucket
PHEMEAWOF, JOSEPH, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PENNEWETT/PERNEWETT, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
PERGNES, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PERO/PEROWOOD, SIMEON/SIMON, African American, MVBH:371, Monmouth
PETERS, AMOS, African American, MVBH:370, no residence given
PHAROAH, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, York
PHAROAH, WILLIAM, African American (“reported a negro”), SSME, MSS, SBF, res York
PHILIP, CAPTAIN PHILIP, Penobscot Indian, HBSC:423, FME:9
PIERRE, GRAND, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PISTOLET, Passamoquoddy Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PLANISAY, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PORIUS, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
PORTIUS, RENE, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PRIEST, NOEL, Passamaquoddy Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
PRINCE, AMESBURY/AMMY, African American, S17027, Pvt. in Capt. Coomb’s Co., MSS, res. Cumberland
PRUGWAY/PRUYNAY, PIERRE, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
QUARET, ANDRE, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
QUASINE, JO, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
QUYM, JEAQUE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
RALWATE, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
RHODE, LONDON, African American, MSS, SSME, SJ6, MVBH:371-372, Windham
ROGERS, CATO, African American, MSS, SSME, KEME, res Kittery
ROMEO, African American, SSME, MVBH:372 (may have been Peter Smith below), Windham
ROOT, PETER, African American, MSS, res Billerica
RUBY, African American, MVBH:371, Gray
SABATIS, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, DHME 16, SJ6, no residence given
SABATIS, JR., Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
SABATIS/SEBATIS/SEBATIS, LITTLE, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, DHME 16, SJ6, no residence given
SACOMICK/SACOMIEK, Penobscot Indian, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
SACOTIAR/SACOTIAR, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
SALEM/SALOM, African American, SSME, MOEM, MMP:28, res Wells
SALOMES, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
SAMS, EDWARD, African American, SSME, KEME, res Kittery
SANGSANG, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
SAYWARD, PRINCE, African American, MSS, SSME, W27467 [married Dinah June 1, 1780], res York
SCHESCH, PAUL, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
SCIPIO, African American, MVBH:371, Wells
SEASER/SEASOR/CESAR, African American, MSS, SSME, res York
SENCILIER, Penobscot Indian, SSME, no residence given
SESH, TOMMA, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
SEWANOCHETT, Penobscot Indian, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
SHADOCK/SHATTECK, CATO, African American, MSS, SSME, res Falmouth
SHANNOT, Penobscot Indian, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
SHATTUCK, CATO – see listing in Massachusetts chapter
SHE-GEE-HAS-WA, ASANG, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
SHEPHERD, LEWIS, African American, SSME, MOEM, res Scarborough
SHEPSAWOIT, JOSEPH, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
SHESH, JOSEPH, Passamoquoddy Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
SMITH, PETER, African American, MSS, MVBH:371, SSME, Windham/N. Yarmouth (may have been
Romeo above)
SNELLING, ASA, African American, MSS, SSME, res Penobscot
SOCK, PIEL/PEARL, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
SOCKNER/SOCTONER, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, no residence given
SOCTOMAH, SELMORE, Passamoquoddy Indian, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
SOLOMSES, Penobscot Indian, SJ6, no residence given
SONEIR/SONSOR, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, no residence given
SOWARD, PRINCE, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, res York
SOWNOCKEG/SOWANOCKEG, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
SQUATPAN, TOMO, Maliseet Indian/St. Johns Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
ST. AUBIN, AMBROISE, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
ST. AUBIN, NOEL, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
ST. AUBIN, TOMA, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
STAFFORD, PRIMUS, African American, MSS, MVBH:371, Penobscot Bay area
STEVENS, RICHARD, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, SSME, Falmouth
SWARSON/SWASHAM/CAPTAIN SWASSON, Penobscot Indian, HBSC:423, SSME, FME:9, buried in Fryeburg
SWEAT, POMPEY, African American, MSS, SSME, res Falmouth
TATAARANCO, LEWIS, Canawago Indian, ARPP:19:25 [“Chapter 48: Resolved Allowing £16.5 to Col Jacob
Bailey. Resolved that Sixteen pounds five Shillings be paid Oout of the Publick Treasury of this Colony
to Co Jacob Bailey, in full for his Service 7 the Service of an Indian Chief one Lewis Tataaranco of the
Canawago Tribe, which Indian as Imploied by Sd Baley [sic] 39 days on a Voya to Canada in the Service
of this Colony, &c. [Passed August 4, 1775]”]
TOBEY, PETER, African American, SSME, KEME, res Kittery
TOCWASCO/TOCWASO, PEAL/PIAL, Penobscot Indian, MSS “pay roll of a number of Indians under
Lt. Andrew Gilman,” SSME, SJ6, no residence given
TOGONSHO, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
TOLBOT/TALBOT, ABRAHAM – see listing in Massachusetts chapter.
TOMAS/TOMASES, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
TOMMA, JACK, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
TOMMA/TOMO, JOSEPH, St. John’s Indian, MSS “Capt. Ambrose Bear’s detachment of Indians,” SSME, MOEM,
St. John’s
TOMMA/TOMO, JOSEPH JR., St. John’s Indian, MSS “Capt. Ambrose Bear’s detachment of Indians,” SSME,
MOEM, St. John’s
TOMMA, PIERRE, St. John’s Indian, MSS, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
TOMMA, PIERRE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
TOMMASH, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
TOMOS, JEAQUE, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
TRASY, JURY, **, MSS, Lincoln Co.
TRANTAN, JEAN BAPTIST, Maliseet Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
TRASON/TRAFTON, GEORGE, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, res Kent & Pownal
TUENNIS, ATT, St. John’s Indian, SSME, MOEM, St. John’s
TUMICK/TUMENICK, Indian, M881, no residence given
TURNER, THOMAS, African American, MSS, SSME, res Falmouth
UNY, ANTOINE, Micmac Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
VAR, AMBRIUS, St. John’s Indian (Occawa), WT76, no resident given.
VINSON/VENISON/VINCENT, LEEWEY/LEWIS, Penobscot Indian, MSS, SSME, SJ6, no residence given
WALDO, LONDON, African American (“reported a free negro”), MSS, SSME, res Falmouth
WALLIS/WALLACE, NOEL/NEWELL, St. John’s Indian (Occawa), SSME, MOEM, WT76, no residence given
WAMTET, JOSEPH MARIE, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
WASHINGTON, ORGAMETT, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
WHITE, FRANCIS, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
WILLIAMS, PETER, “Other Free”, 1790MA, SSME, Deer Isle, Hancock Co.
WILLIAMS, URIAH, African American, SSME, res Berwick [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name.]
WINCHEBOO, PETER, **, MSS, no residence given
WONGONET, Penobscot Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
WRIGHT, BOSSON, African American, CPAR, Boston/Portland, ME
XAVIERE, ANDREW, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
XAVIERE, FRANCOISE, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
XAVIERE, FRANS, Mohawk Indian, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
XAVIERE, HEROD FRANS, Maliseet Indian/Passamaquoddy, SSME, MOEM, no residence given
Selected Revolutionary War Documents Relating to Maine Soldiers

Affidavit from the pension file of Ammy Prince of Maine.
Deposition from the pension file of Prince Sayward of Maine.
Pension W27467, page 4, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 2129)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
State of Maine

In the County of York

On the 1st day of August, 1782, nineteen

Ages, and thirty years and twenty six weeks of

Age, before Mathew Theplough, Judge of

Peace for the County of York, in and for the

State of Maine, within the County of York and State of

Maine.

Dias, Binnie, a woman of colour, a married

of young men, in the County of York, and

State of Maine, aged thirty years, who be-

came first duty severally according to law,

both for the same, make the following declara-

tion in order to obtain the benefit of the preven-

tion made by the act passed July 4, 1835. That she

is the widow of Prince Sayward, aged thirty

years, who was formerly the servant of Jonathan

Dias, late of said York, deceased. That her

said husband was commonly known by

the name of Prince Sayward.

That in the month of January 1782, ac-

cording to the best of her recollection, know-

ledge, and belief, the said Prince Sayward,

entered into the service of the United States as

a private in the Massachusetts Line, for

the term of three years, and served in

the Regiment on said Massachusetts

Line, in which Samuel Dearby was the

Captain, from the time of his enlistment

at the close of the war in 1783 and that

he served in the capacity of Captain to

the said Captain Samuel Dearby. That

she has not done nothing or done to sup-

port her claims, but would beg leave to

refer to the Office of the Army and the

Pension Office for proof of services.

She further declares that she

Delegation from the pension file of Prince Sayward of Maine.
Pension W27467, page 6, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary
War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 2129)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
was married to the said Prince on the first day of June in the year seventeen hundred and eighty, that her husband, the said Prince died in the common of the year seventeen hundred and eighty nine, and that she has remained a widow ever since that time, as well as fully of head by reason to the poor health annoyed.

Witnes. Mr. Hay's. Dennis. Mr. Prince.

August George. Prince.

Deceased to 1 judge in the day and year before me this Deemere Mr. A. Hay's judge of Probate in the County of Penobscot and County of Maine and County in the State of Maine, where the said Prince and George Prince by reason of Causes and bodily infirmity is unable to travel

Mr. A. Hay's judge of Probate.
I Nathaniel Donnell of York in the county of York and state of Maine, aged twenty-five years, deponent and say that I was born and have ever lived in said York. In the immediate neighborhood of said town I first saw the said Prince Sayward of York, Esq., who was well acquainted with him a man of colour, who was servant of the said Sayward, who was born in the dominion of the British State as a scot, he and his son saw and heard of the revolution and were officers in the said army during part of the latter part of the war of the Revolution and that he came home with Major Derby at the close of that war. I employed him about my house and he was a tidy, active negro and excellent for a man. He said Prince married a woman of colour named Deitch, a servant of Mr. Robert Cole, late of York, deceased — she the said Deitch is still living in York, and is the widow of said Prince; has never been married since the death of said Prince — Prince died with Deitch. He died in 1778 and was about thirty years of age. Prince was born in 1774.

Dee Deitch.

August 15, 1829.

Nath. Donnell.
Deposition from the pension file of Prince Sayward of Maine.
Pension W27467, page 9, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 2129)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Deposition from the pension file of Prince Sayward of Maine.
Pension W27467, page 10, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 2129)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
State of Maine, York county 9 56.

On the fifteenth day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, personally appeared Obadiah Harmon and Wm. Harmon, in whose presence this deponent, who hereby certify sustains a good moral character and is a person of truth and veracity, and made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing deposition, by me subscribed. Before me, Wm. Justice of the Peace.
Bibliography of Maine African Americans and American Indians in the Revolutionary Era

(See also “New England” in the main bibliography section.)


Bennett, Randall H. “New England’s Last Indian Raid.” *New England Galaxy*, 20 (Summer 1978), 45-54. [1781 in Maine and New Hampshire]


Maine. Secretary of State. Indian Treaties of the State of Maine. Augusta: Secretary of State, 1843; reprinted: 1938?


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Maine Black Revolutionary War Veterans.” 370-372.
New Hampshire and Vermont shared many similarities, but also presented contrasts in economic and social approaches to minority participation in the American Revolution. Vermont formed a Constitution in 1777 that prohibited slavery, while New Hampshire did not define anti-slavery legislation until 1854. Both did share an aversion to bondage and an independent spirit was predominant among the residents.

By the era of the American Revolution, Indians of these northern colonies had been reduced to small groups connected with the Abenaki Tribe. Known by various geographic names, they occupied the vast forests of the Canadian border, disregarding any man-made political limitations. New Hampshire and Vermont accepted these Indians as friends or foe, but neither colony offered them much accommodation.

At the time of the American Revolution, New Hampshire was a well-established colony, whereas the area that is now Vermont was claimed by both New York and New Hampshire and was an evolving frontier entity. They shared many similarities, but they had quite separate approaches to reach the common destinies of being part of the United States.

Often the political emotions in the area were just as heated towards neighboring colonies as towards Great Britain. The residents of New Hampshire felt opposing conflicts of loyalty to the older colonies of Connecticut and Massachusetts. Vermont’s ties to both Massachusetts and New York led to constant ferment. Some yearnings for a wholly independent colony carved from the land west of the Connecticut River, caused both New Hampshire and Vermont to be wary of each other’s intentions. They did, however, share a common concern as they reviewed the vast unsettled areas of these colonies that bordered Canada. Because of their shared location New Hampshire and Vermont share this discussion of minority service during the American Revolution.

Neither colony offered an attractive economic basis for African Americans. Free Blacks could only find a market for their artisan skills in the few heavily populated areas. The fiercely independent farmer of small land holdings had no need for slaves. Land was easily available and a constant source of temporary labor was found among young white men willing to work towards purchase of their own land.

From a once flourishing Indian tribe of great geographic scope, the Abenakis had split into small groups such as those known as the St. Francis and the Missisquoi. Both the colonies and the British constantly courted these groups, but they had become pawns in the larger scheme of political events. From their refuge in the great forests of the Canadian border they were often a threat to isolated settlements. Their role as friends or foe largely depended on availability of life supporting supplies. By the time of the American Revolution the tribal structure had been so reduced that it was extremely difficult for them to maintain a simple existence in the northern reaches of New England.
New Hampshire was divided into four diverse areas and each area coped with the rigors of the American Revolution in different ways. On the northern frontier anticipated British invasions from Canada did not materialize, so the borderlands saw no organized military action. Only sporadic Indian raids, inspired by the British, kept the local militia active. In an economy that barely gave subsistence to a farmer’s family, African American servants or slaves had no place. The frontiersmen were more concerned with mere survival, and participation in the American Revolution was not a high priority. Along the reaches of the Connecticut River, there was constant difficulty concerning the geographic border between New Hampshire and Vermont. In 1781, 35 towns in Grafton and Cheshire counties turned their backs on New Hampshire and joined the self-styled state of Vermont. Among these individualists of Connecticut origin, however, there was little interest in the emerging New Hampshire government. They maintained their ties to Connecticut by the river route, through trade and travel. To the people of this area Indians were prospects for religious conversion and African American workers, free or slave, were not necessary to the life style of the small farmer.

The Merrimac Valley was originally claimed by the Massachusetts Bay Colony and had been settled by descendants of the Pilgrims and Puritans. Travel by boat from this area to Newburyport, Massachusetts was far easier than the overland routes to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Thus, politically, economically and socially, the Merrimac Valley settlers were aligned with the Bay Colony. Indians and African Americans felt no encouragement to live among the people whose chief occupations centered around farming and the forests.

In the very limited area of coastal waters allowed to New Hampshire, known as the Old Colony, there thrived two distinct cultural entities. Portsmouth was on the water and through this port the local economy enjoyed closer ties to England than to Boston. Great merchant and shipping fortunes were established by the commerce of this town. The grand manner of living that developed in Portsmouth readily included the services of Free Blacks and slaves.1 By the time of the American Revolution, residents of the town of Exeter were eroding the political strength of Portsmouth. These farm-oriented Congregationalists had roots deep in Massachusetts and easily were swept along on the tide of independence from Great Britain.

AFRICAN AMERICAN RESIDENTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

It was against this background of cultural and political diversities that the American Revolution entered the lives of the residents of New Hampshire. In 1775, the census of the cosmopolitan city of Portsmouth listed about 140 African Americans or “slaves for life” among the population. Clues to the actual number of Free Blacks cannot be found in the Census taken that year, as there seemed to be no separate enumeration provision. From the estimated total population of nearly 5,000, Portsmouth had only seen 50 men enter the American Army. There were, of course, many more men active in seafaring capacities. As the enthusiasm for independence sprang from the councils of Exeter, the comfortable life style of Portsmouth began to diminish, and everyone felt the effects. Perhaps most noticeably, the spectacular social gatherings of earlier years, where the slave, Prince Whipple, would act as chief steward, or the cotillions where Cuffee Whipple played the violin for the pleasure of the guests, came to an end.2 William Whipple, master of Prince and Cuffee, was commissioned a Brigadier General in Washington’s Army and went off to war to ensure freedom for some of the population of New Hampshire.

The time for choices had come and a few families chose to go to England or seek refuge in Loyalist settlements, while others supported the colonial cause. By September of 1776 a new militia system became necessary, and the legislature passed an act to form and regulate the militia and other military units in New Hampshire. All able bodied male persons aged 16 to 50, except certain persons specified, and “Negroes, Indians and Mulattoes”, were expected to register for the Training Band. The Alarm List would include all males aged 16 to 65 not included in the Training Band. They were subject to call in the limits of their residence, and their arms and equipment would be inspected every six months. The militia included those on the


2 Ibid., 198.
New Hampshire and Vermont

Alarm List. These men could be called out to serve when needed and would muster eight times a year fully equipped at their own expense.3

New Hampshire followed the lead of other colonies in excluding minorities, despite the fact that the British were offering freedom and bounties to African Americans who would join their forces. In Anthony Gilman’s pension application is proof that neither the American determination to keep African Americans out of the army nor the British promise of freedom to Blacks who joined their cause, were firm policies. Anthony enlisted as a fifer in a Massachusetts company in December 1775. He was captured in New York, and “as a man of color,” the British sold him to John Falkenham. After about a year of servitude, Anthony was sent to Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, from where he made a successful escape. He then joined Captain Nathaniel Hutchin’s Company in Colonel Joseph Cilley’s Regiment and finished his military service with New Hampshire troops.4

In early 1777, Massachusetts led the way in abolishing race restrictions for military service. African Americans were openly enlisted and were offered freedom and bounties in all of the northern colonies.

The shipyard of John Langdon in Portsmouth was awarded a contract to build the Frigate Raleigh. Sixty days from the date construction began; the ship was launched, on the 21st of May 1777. Helping to bring about this extraordinary feat was Caesar Gerrish, an African American laborer of Portsmouth who worked with master builders, James Hackett, James Hill and Stephen Paul.5 Under the watchful eye of Captain Thomas W. Thompson, the crew was carefully selected to ensure the greatest possible strength for the new ship. Several African American men were included in the crew. Pomp Sweat, an ordinary seaman, was one of the first men selected, entering on the crew list January 13, 1777.

William Follett must have been especially well qualified as his wages were higher than other African American crew members, Pomp Sweat, Caesar Lear and Peter Adams.6 Due to the delay in obtaining guns and other equipment, this proud ship did not reach the high seas as soon as scheduled and only supported the American cause for a year. After a coastal skirmish, she was taken by the British with some of her crew still aboard in September 1778. The memory of Raleigh is perpetuated by her likeness on the current New Hampshire State Flag.7

By the tenth of January 1778, New Hampshire’s Colonel Joseph Cilley had marched his regiment to Valley Forge where they endured a multitude of privations. Records show that some of the African American soldiers assigned to this regiment had not been able to participate in the march. Titus Wilson of Peterborough was a British prisoner while Derrick Oxford of Lebanon and Scipio Brown of Kingstown were left in Albany due to illness.8 Gloster Watson of Barrington and Jude Hall of Kensington were members of Colonel Nathan Hale’s regiment and remained at Poughkeepsie, listed as sick.9 Jude Hall recovered and later applied for a pension based on his military service as a New Hampshire soldier. By 1818, he lived in Exeter, Rockingham County, New Hampshire, with his wife, Rhoda and their children. Hall died a pensioner and in 1839 Rhoda made her home with a daughter, Rhoda Cook, in Belfast, Waldo County, Maine.10

Other African American pensioners with New Hampshire service tell of their military experiences and give us a glimpse of their later lives. Cato Fiske

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4 Revolutionary War Pension File, S32729. Record Group 15. National Archives and Records Administration. (Hereafter cited as RWPF).
9 NHSF 15:44.
10 RWPF, W23238.
was a drummer in the army and was known as a fiddler in his hometown. His standing in the community of Exeter, New Hampshire was indicated at a church service following his death. The preacher eulogized Cato Fiske and the recently deceased hero of Bunker Hill, the late General Michael McClary. The remarks concerning Cato Fiske were presented first and this was a significant enough event to be mentioned in a deposition in his pension file. Pomp Sherburne served with Captain George Reed in the 2nd New Hampshire Regiment. He died soon after the war in the house of Deacon James Pinkerton in Londonderry, New Hampshire. He used his bounty money to buy the freedom of his bride, Flora Taggart, in 1780.

Caesar Wallace enlisted in Newbury, Massachusetts and later served in New Hampshire with Captain Caleb Robinson. He was African born and in 1818 lived in Meredith, Stafford County, New Hampshire with his family. Archelaus White had been a servant of James White, Esquire, of Plaistow, Rockingham County, New Hampshire. He was with Captain Jeremiah Gilman and later was present at the capture of Burgoyne. White was discharged at Bethlehem, New Jersey, according to papers in his pension file, and his widow, Phyllis, died in Hampton, New Hampshire. Daniel Woodman was in Colonel George Reed’s regiment and was discharged at West Point, in June 1780. Mr. James Coe handled his pension payments, an arrangement that did not produce mutual satisfaction. Woodman died in Durham, New Hampshire, 2 December 1838.

New Hampshire African American residents gave their measure of support for the American Revolution, but they had a difficult time convincing the governing powers to award them full equality. A petition to grant freedom to slaves was presented to the House of Representatives, signed on November 12, 1779 by nineteen “natives of Africa, now forcibly detained in slavery.” Among the signers were Caesar Gerrish, who had helped build Raleigh, and Prince Whipple who had served at Saratoga. The petition was read April 25, 1780 and considered again on June 9, 1780. At that time it was stated that: “The House is not ripe for a determination in this matter.” It took the legislature until June 26, 1857 to approve an act prohibiting restrictions on citizenship because of race or previous condition of slavery. Also, all slaves brought into New Hampshire, voluntarily, or involuntarily, would be free. The prayers of the nineteen slaves who asked consideration “for the sake of injured liberty, for the sake of justice, humanity and the rights of mankind, for the honor of religion and by all that is dear,” finally had a firm commitment from the people of New Hampshire.

**AFRICAN AMERICAN RESIDENTS OF VERMONT**

The area known as Vermont had an unsteady entry into the American state system and it was only at the time of the Revolution that a political entity was formed. Disputes between New York and New Hampshire over the future state made for a very complicated political situation. Slavery was never attractive to the independent settlers. During the historic convention at Windsor in July of 1777 the newly established Vermont Constitution expressly forbade slavery or bondage in any form. At this time no other state or colony had such restrictions written into law, so Vermont was the first of the United States to prohibit slavery even before statehood.

The black population of Vermont was certainly low in numbers. The 1771 Census of Cumberland County, New York (which covered a portion of modern Vermont) innumerate only seven African American males and eight African American females. The labor market enjoyed a constant source of white able-bodied men among those seeking funds to purchase their own freehold. An English publication of 1775 described Vermont men in less than glowing terms declaring: “nothing but a

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11 RWPF, W14719.
12 RWPF, W17297.
13 RWPF, S43250.
14 RWPF, S43299.
15 RWPF, S44103.
high price will induce men to labor at all with the result that they very soon become farmers, however low they set out in life.”

Instances of slavery were exposed in Vermont, and finally in 1786 the legislature enacted another law stating: “the idea of slavery is expressly and totally exploded from our free government.” This closed the loophole allowing slaves to be brought in by newly arriving families and held until they reached the age of twenty-one for males or eighteen for females.

During the American Revolution, Vermont African Americans did serve in military units, but they are difficult to detect because of the fluid and unsettled situation in this frontier area. Mingo Black served in Captain Joseph Safford’s militia for eighteen days and marched sixty miles during this period. Primas Black was with Colonel Ethan Allen and the famous Green Mountain Boys at Quebec in 1776, but he may also have been credited to Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Cato Negor and Otto Negor were soldiers in Captain Seth Hodges’ company in 1777. They marched 180 miles and served fifty days. Umph Negro is listed as a Vermont soldier with Captain Enoch Noble in Bennington in 1780. He was paid for sixteen days and sixty miles. Men who responded to the October 1780 Alarm included the names of Zadock Sipeo and Solomon Scipeo. There are no clues in published records to the race of these men.

Cato Boston came to Woodstock, Vermont, with Dr. Stephen Powers and was possibly the same Cato Boston who served from Massachusetts. By the 1790 Census he is listed as head of household of free “all others” in Woodstock. George Knox also appears in the 1790 Census in the same category and his grave in Thetford is marked as a Revolutionary Soldier. He died in 1825 at 92.

By 1790, the Federal Census indicates that 25 households belonged in the category of all other free persons. A good number of households headed by a white man or woman included people counted as all other free persons. By the turn of the century the African American population of Vermont was, however, growing at a steady pace.

Vermont African Americans can point with pride, however, to several who served in the Revolution from other states, but chose Vermont as their residence. Lemuel Haynes the brilliant mixed descent (“mulatto”) clergyman was a Massachusetts soldier and a pastor in Rutland’s west parish for thirty years. The family of Abijah Prince and his wife Lucy Terry are featured in many histories of Vermont. They came to Guilford, Vermont in the 1760’s, but the family is easily located in the vital records of Deerfield, Massachusetts. Lucy’s determination to provide her sons with an education is an often repeated story. She wanted her son, Festus, to attend Williams College but his application was rejected because of his color. Quoting scripture and delving into legal technicalities, Lucy’s three-hour presentation before the College Trustees was to no avail. Festus Prince enlisted from Stockbridge, Massachusetts, in 1779, at the age of 16 but was still in military service in 1781. He was reputed to have settled in Sunderland, Vermont. Any list of African Americans who served from Vermont would have to be taken from the published volumes of Vermont Revolutionary Rolls, supplemented by additional unpublished records and supported by documentation from individual town records.

AMERICAN INDIANS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE AND VERMONT IN THE REVOLUTION

The Abenaki Tribe of Indians had been pushed into far northern New England before the onset of the American Revolution thereby abandoning large areas of their ancestral territory. The demands of an ever expanding Anglo-American frontier had taken over the hunting grounds and sugaring areas forcing the remnants of the tribe into fringe areas. While some bands barely moved deeper into the forests, others gathered around the French mission village of Odanak, Quebec. These Indians became known as the St. Francis Tribe and were the most active in relationship to the New Hampshire and Vermont Revolutionary effort.

In the spring of 1775, the New Hampshire Provincial Congress had commissioned Haverhill resident, Timothy Bedel, to form ranger companies. Their first action was seen at the siege of St. John’s. The three companies, including a number of Canadians and Indians, left Cohos on September 10 and marched across New Hampshire and Vermont, arriving at St. John’s Quebec, eight days later. They captured the town without losing a man. In October, Bedel started to request supplies for his men in the face of a winter campaign. By the second of November, the Colonel wrote a desperate letter, at 8 o’clock at night, asking: “For God’s sake let me know how I must supply my men.”26 The relationship between Bedel and the legislators at Exeter, New Hampshire, did not improve throughout the war.

Many members of the St. Francis Tribe and a number of border-resident Canadians were predisposed towards supporting the Colonial effort for independence. They carried vivid memories of the savage destruction of the village of Odanak by the English-directed Rogers Rangers in 1759. The loss of the mission church and all of the carefully kept records obliterated much of the written history of the French and Indians of the areas.27 The successful campaign by the English to rest control of Canada from the French had devastated the Abenaki homelands and subjugated the ethnic-French to British rule. To the benefit of the Colonial cause, many of these people were willing to risk the vengeance of the well-entrenched British army to assist their southern neighbors.

In June of 1775, New Hampshire scouts met Black Lewa, a Caugnawago Mohawk, at Lake Umpquamog. He claimed that the Indians and French awaited anxiously for an invitation to join the colonists.28 In opposition, of course, were the multitude of Canadians and Indians who followed the dictates of the British. The actions of Burgoyne’s Indians at the Battle of Bennington in August 1777 attest to a diversity of loyalties among the tribal members.29

Another source of Colonial sympathy was developed from former students at Joshua Moore’s Indian Charity School in Lebanon, Connecticut. As the Indians retreated further into the northern forests, Moore’s successor, Eleazar Wheelock, moved the school in 1769 to Hanover, New Hampshire in the Coos Country of the frontier. There, in connection with Dartmouth College, an effort was continued to teach Indian boys the art of husbandry, the mystery of religion and the essentials of reading and writing.30 In Lebanon, one of the students had been Joseph Brant, brother of Molly Brant, the common-law wife of Sir William Johnson. Joseph Brant was of the Mohawk Tribe, and he retained a great fondness for his schoolmates and for Dr. Wheelock. In his role as a British officer, Joseph Brant has been credited with keeping the Hanover area relatively free of the intense Indian depredations experienced elsewhere on the frontier.31 Among students who attended the

26 DRNH, 7:637.
28 DRNH, 7:525.
29 Brian Burns, “Massacre or Muster? Burgoyne’s Indians and the Militia at Bennington.” Vermont History, 45:3 (Summer 1977), 134.
Hanover establishment, several were extremely helpful to the Americans. Lewis Vincent of the Huron nation had a number of talents that had been used by British Generals Carlton and Woster. Yet, Timothy Bedel wrote to General Gates on March 31, 1779 stating that Lewis “had been a faithful subject to the United States as an interpreter and scout.” Sons of Joseph-Louis Gill, the white chief of the St. Francis Abenakis, attended Wheelock’s school and were strong influence for the Americans when they returned home during the Revolution.33

The difficulties for the Indians whose villages were under British domination were almost insurmountable. The Americans could hardly counter the British offer of $8.00 per scalp.34 Countless rumors abounded claiming that the Americans had no money to pay for supplies. The New Hampshire House of Representatives was urged by Jacob Bayley, in 1776-1777, to deflect this influence when he stated: “for if the Indian trade with us, we need no soldiers.”35

A similar request to the Committee of Safety from Timothy Bedel brought forth the opinion that: “Any particular colony’s making any considerable present to them, we think needless as the Continental Congress have appointed Commissioners to transact those affairs.”36 It is interesting to observe that Bedel sought necessary supplies for the Indians while the Committee of Safety thought more in terms of trinkets.

After the defeat of Burgoyne, the theater of the Revolution moved south leaving a much quieter northern frontier. In the winter of 1777, Colonel Bedel was ordered to raise 500 of “the best woodsmen, hunters and Indians” from the northern areas. An invasion of Canada and a recapture of St. John’s were planned. Confusion abounded as Bedel was ordered by Moses Hazen to meet him on the Onion River while General Thomas Conway told the rangers to remain in Haverhill. Next came a message from General Lafayette to march to a rendezvous in Albany. This confusion of directions led to the abandonment of the expedition. The Indians, however, were ready to march and had been given provisions at Bedel’s expense. They dared not return to Canada and had to live in the woods near Haverhill.37 The party of St. Francis Indians remained in the area and the Colonel submitted a list of these men dated June 5, 1778, requesting payment for their services.38

During the next year the military forces of New Hampshire and Vermont waited for orders to invade Canada, but in early 1780, Bedel’s Regiment was disbanded. Conflicting reports about British activity had filtered from the enemy dominated village of St. Francis (Odanak) leading to charges of Tory sympathies against Bedel and many of his Indians. The same men who had always blocked the efforts of the rangers were now able to use their power to abolish the troop’s role in the American Revolution.

That there was still a need for protection on the frontier is proven by several records which contain names of Indian soldiers. In 1780, Caughnawago Captain, John Vincent reenlisted seventeen St. Francis Indians for another year’s service.39 From Berkshire County, Massachusetts, Captain Enoch Noble marched a company of militia to Bennington. The payroll dated October 23, 1780 declared the troops served 16 days. A sizeable number of this company were Indians and all were paid by Vermont.40

When the Revolution ended, most of the American participants looked forward to a better life. For the African Americans, there was the hope of freedom sparked by the Constitution of the State of Vermont, but for the Indian, the future was bleak.

36 Ibid., 278.
37 DRNH, 8:89-90.
38 Ibid., 284.
The Peace of Paris that concluded the American Revolution in 1783 ignored the Indians, just as the previous Peace of Paris in 1763 had. Much attention was given to the protection of fishing rights, but there was no provision for land for the Native Americans. Captain John Vincent was reduced to petitioning the Vermont Assembly for relief, while others built fortunes from land that should have become tribal homes.

Fortunately, today, there is an awareness of the role played by African Americans and Indians in establishing the independence of the United States. New Hampshire and Vermont research studies have resulted in a number of well documented publications, notably those of Robert B. Dishman and Colin G. Calloway.

**Thoughts relating to Research in New Hampshire and Vermont Records**

New Hampshire has fairly good records to document the participation of its soldiers in the Revolutionary War. Many of these sources have been published. Recent publications have also added considerably to the printed record of African Americans and American Indians from New Hampshire in the conflict, particularly Glenn A. Knoblock's *Strong and Brave Fellow: New Hampshire's Black Soldiers and Sailors of the American Revolution, 1775-1784*. In this study, Knoblock investigated many sources for information on these men and gathered a large quantity of information into one place.

Many New Hampshire men saw service in Massachusetts units, so research in the records of the Commonwealth are essential. Many men were involved in maritime activities before the war and during the conflict served on ships. This is clearly reflected in the service of many of the men listed below.

As a fluid border area, Vermont is a more difficult place in which to document African American and American Indian participants in the war. The former were few in number, while the latter were caught between the warring sides. Documentation of individuals is always difficult in frontier areas, and this was certainly the case for Vermont during the Revolution. Individuals will appear in surviving Vermont records, but those active in this future state may well only be found in sources for the neighboring states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, or New York.
Abbreviations & Sources

USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


BLWt Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


DRNH Nathaniel Bouton, et. al., eds. Documents and Records Relating to the Province of New Hampshire. Concord, 1873-1849. [Volumes 14-17 include Rolls of Soldiers in the Revolutionary War.]


FPPV Manuscript Final Pension Payment Vouchers are located at the National Archives (Record Group 217: Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Records of the Office of the Third Auditor 1775-1923, Entry 722 Selected Final Pension Payment Vouchers, National Archives, Washington, D.C.). The vouchers consist of pension agent files selected by National Archives staff for their genealogical value. The files contain details relating to the final payment to heirs of a pensioner after his death. Details in these accounts may include the name of the spouse, children, and other heirs; the date and place of death; and the date, place and amount of the final pension payment. The vouchers are filed by the state where the pensioner received payment and thereafter alphabetically by surname of the pensioner.


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<td>SCPR</td>
<td>Stephen Clarkson. <em>Patriot’s Reward</em>. Portsmouth: Peter E. Randall Publisher, LLC., 2007. [This is a fictional account of the life of Will Clarkson, enslaved man of James Clarkson of Portsmouth. Will Clarkson fought in the Revolution. This title is included because it is one of the few historical novels based on the life of a specific African American Revolutionary War soldier and because it is based on considerable historical research and sources. While not proof of Revolutionary War service itself, Clarkson’s participation in the war is documented by actual records from the period.]</td>
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REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE 1775-1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation is the responsibilities of the applicant.

ABBOTT, PETER, African American, SBF, no residence given
ABRAHAM, DAVID, Indian, DRNH:14:325, 463, 578; M860, JAAGHS:5:50-51, no residence given
ADAMS, PETER, African American, SBF, NHGR 3, Durham
ADAMS, PETER, African American, DRNH:15, Sunry
ANTHONY, African American (“a Negro”), M246, 7th Regiment of Militia, Plaistow
ARCHELAUS, African American, DRNH:15, Plaistow
BAKER, CATO, African American, SBF, WAL, M246, Dover
BALDWIN, JOHN, African American, DRNH:15, SBF, Hanover
BARNARD, SECO/SEEKO, African American, SBF, Hopkinton
BARNES/BURNS, CAESAR, African American, SBF, WAL, M246, Merrimack
BARTLETT, PETER/FREEMAN, PETER, African American, SBF, Kingston
BATCHELDER, PRINCE, African American, SBF, East Kingston
BATTIS, SAMSON, see MOORE, SAMPSON
BEARD, PRINCE, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Dartmouth
BLACK, CAESER, African American, SBF, M881, Kingston/Concord
BLACK, GEORGE, African American, DRNH:15, SBF, Dover
BLACK, PRIMUS/PRIMAS, African American, SBF, M881, no residence given
BLACKMAN, JOHN, African American, SBF, no residence given
BLANCHARD, GEORGE, African American, SBF, Wilton
BLANCHARD, PETER, African American, SBF, Canterbury
BOSTON, ANTHONY, African American, DRNH 15:754, Boscawen
BOSTON, CATO, African American, SBF, no residence given
BOSTON, TONE, African American, M881, no residence given
BREWER, PETER, African American, HNHR, SBF, no residence given
BREWSTER, NERO, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
BROWN, JESSE, African American, SBF, Portsmouth
BROWN, SCIPIO, African American, NHGR 4, Navy, no residence given
BROWN, SCIPIO, African American, DRNH:15, WAL, M246, M881, SBF, Kingstown
BURNS, CEASOR, African American, WAL, no residence given
BUTLER, NEGRO, African American, SBF, Nottingham?
CARLISLE, CATO, African American, Seaman, SBF, MOR:114, RUS:43, 63, 83, 105; JPP, ACB:1:51, Portsmouth
CARTER, JOHN, African American, SBF, Barrington
CASAR, African American, M881, no residence given
CATO, African American, DRNH:14, Barrington
CATO, African American, DRNH:15, Dover
CATO, African American, SBF, Hampton
CHANDLER, PRIMUS, African American, SBF, Amherst
CHARP, TRIAS, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
CHESLEY, CORYDON, African American, SBF, Newington/Dover
CHESWELL, WENTWORTH, African American, NHSP 7:328, SBF, Newmarket [DAR established patriot]
CHRISTO, Indian, NHSP 16:906, Capt. Bell’s Company, no residence given
CICERO, African American (“a Negro, srv. in Capt. Follett’s Artillerymen in N.H. Troops”), IRWSR 1:497, M246, no residence given
CLARKSON, WILL, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, SCPR, Portsmouth
CLEMMONS/CLEMENTS, PRINCE, African American, DRNH:16, SBF, Dover
CLOUGH/CLUFF, CAESAR, African American, SBF, WAL, M246, Hampton
COFFIN, PRIMAS, African American, SBF, Durham/East Kingston
COFFIN, PRIMUS see PRIMUS LAIN/LANE
COLBY, SALEM, African American, SBF, RFBS, Rumford
COLEMAN, PLATO, African American, SBF, Newington
COLLINS, DODGE, African American, NHGR:3, SBF, Worcester
COLTON, GARRETT, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
COOK, JOHN, African American, SBF, Pembroke
CORRIDON, African American, DRNH 14, WAR, Sol
COTTON, JOSEPH, African American, NHGR:2, SBF, Rindge
COTTON, JOSEPH, JR., African American, SBF, Portsmouth
CUSH, THOMAS, **, M881, no residence given
CUTLER/CUTTLER, TOBIAS, African American, S457810, FPPV [died September 12, 1831]. DRNH:16, SBF, DTD, Rindge
DAILEY/DAILY/DAYLE, LONDON, African American, HGNH, W5260, BLWt 140-60-55, DRNH:15, SBF, WAL, M881, 1790, FPPV [died intestate on Saturday June 8, 1822 in Epsom], Gilmantown
DAN, African American, DRNH:15, WAL, Durham
DAVIDSON, DAVID, African American, sailor, Navy, SBF, NHGR 3, no residence given
DEARING, CATO, African American, SBF, Portsmouth
DIAMOND, JOHN-JACK, African American, SBF, Epping
DICKINSON, CASTOR/CAESAR, African American, SBF, Dunstable
DOW, LONDON, African American, SBF, Hanover
DOWNING, SIMON, **, SBF, Newington
DUCE, CATO, African American, SBF, Exeter
DUNKIN, THOMAS, African American, SBF, New Grantham
EVANS, GEORGE, African American, SBF, Dover
FISKE/FISH, CATO, African American, W14719, BLWt 3104; DRNH:16, SBF, WAL, M881, M246, Epping
FOGG, JOCKEY, African American, SBF, Epsom
FOLLETT, WILLIAM, African American, Seaman, Navy, SBF, NHGR 2, no residence given
FORTUNE/FORTUNATUS, African American (“Negro” ; “mulatto”), Soldier, IRWSR, Bedel’s N. H. Regt., M881, DRNH:14, SBF, no residence given
FOX, BENJAMIN, African American, SBF, no residence given
FREEMAN, JOHN, African American, SBF, no residence given
FREEMAN, TITUS, African American, M881, NHSP, no residence given
FRENCH, OLIVER, African American, SBF, Epping
FROST, PETER, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
FULLER, EZRA, African American, MSS, SBF, QUIN, New Ipswich
GARDNER, ZEBULON, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
GEORGE, African American, DRNH:14, WAL, Barrington
GERRISH, CAESAR, African American, FIS, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, Portsmouth
GILMAN, ANTHONY, African American, S32729, Plaistow
GLINES, ROBERT, **, R4069 1/2, M881, SBF, Moultonborough/Campton
GLOSTER, African American, DRNH:14, Barrington
GRAY, SCIPIO, African American, SBF, Portsmouth
GRIFFITH, WILLIAM, African American, SBF, New Castle
HALE, CATO, African American, DRNH:16, M881, Atkinson
HALL, JUDE, African American, W23238, BLWt 3189-100, SBF, QUIN, WAL, CPAR, Kensington/Exeter
HALL, SENECAL, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
HANSON, ROBIN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), DRNH:16, Dover
HAYES, GEORGE, African American, SBF, Rochester. [Note: DAR established patriot.]
HAZE, JAMES, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Exeter
HILL, DAVID, African American, SBF, Easton
HONORY, JOCK/JACK, **, M246, no residence given
HUBBARD, CIPIO, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
HUBBARD, ELISHA, African American, SBF, MSS, New Ipswich
HUNKING, RICHARD, African American, SBF, Barrington
JACK, JOHN, African American, SBF, res Greenland/Hampton, N. H.
JAMES, Indian, DRNH 15, Dover
JENNESS, PAUL/LONG, see LONG, PAUL
JENNESS, PRINCE, African American, SBF, Rye
KELSEY, ZACH, African American, SBF, Exeter/Gilford; also listed as ROBINSON, ZACH
KENT, PETER, African American, SBF, North Hampton
KIMBALL, THOMAS, African American (“Negro”), SBF, DRNH:16, Amherst/Hillsboro
KINDELL, REUBEN, African American, MSS, Chocsett
KNIGHT, BONE, African American, SBF, Rochester
KNOTT, JESSE, **, SBF, Newport?
KNOX, GEORGE, African American, S40904, SBF, MJQ, SSVT:311, JHN, Hanover
LAIGHTON/LADEN, JOHN, African American, SBF, Deerfield
LAIN/LANE, PRIME/PRIMUS, aka PRIMUS/PRINCE COFFIN, African American, S4499, M246, M881, DRNH 16, WAL, Epping/Exeter
LANE, PRIMUS, African American, DRNH:16, East Kingston
LANE, PRINCE, African American, WAL, no residence given
LEAR, CAESAR, African American, NHGR 3, SBF, Portsmouth
LEWA, BLACK, Indian, DRNH 7, Caughnawago
LEWIS, Indian, Ranger, DRNH:14, M881, no residence given
LIBERTY, PRINCE, African American, SBF, M881, Somersworth?
LIGHT, PRINCE, African American, S4511, SBF, Exeter/Kingston
LITTLE, LOT, African American, RFBS, Sutton
LOCK, NIMSHI, African American, SBF, Rye
LONG/LONEY, CAESAR, African American, SBF, M881, Hollis/Hampton/Chester
LONG, PAUL/PETER/JENNES, PAUL, African American, SBF, Rye
LOUGEE, MOSES, **, fifer, M246, no residence given
LOVEWELL/LOWELL, STEPHEN, African American, SBF, Dunstable/Litchfield
MALLY, JOSEPH, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
MARCY/MERCY, CATO, African American, SBF, M881, Walpole
MARK, African American, MSS 10, Andover
MARTAIN, SIDOR/MARTIN, SIDON, African American, DRNH:15, SBF, Lee and Durham
MARTIN, JUBIL, African American, SBF, Epping
MARTIN, SCIPIO/SIP/SIPPO, African American, SBF, Durham
MARTIN/WOODMAN/FREEMAN, DAN, African American, SBF (see Dan Woodman), Durham
MCDANIELS, ANDRES, African American, SBF – deserted, Derry
MCINTYER, PRIMUS, African American, SBF, Portsmouth/York, Maine
MCINTYRE, PRIMUS, African American, NHGR 3, Old York
MCLAINE/MACLING, CAESAR, African American, SBF, Hampton

New Hampshire and Vermont
MERCY, CATO, **, M246, CSP, no residence given
MILLER, JONATHAN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), SBF, Hampton Falls
MILLER, ROBERT, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), SBF, Hampton Falls
MOFFATT, WINDSOR, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
MOHAWK, SUSUPH, St. Francis Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
MOORE, FORTUNE/FORTUNATUS/FORTAIN, African American, SBF, M881, Stratham
MOOR/MOORE, SAMPSON, African American, S13961, 1800, SBF, M881, Canterbury/Dunbarton/Loudon [Note: DAR established patriot.]
MOULTON, CATO, **, M881, fifer, no residence given
NEPTUNE, CHIEF, Quoddy Indian, NTM:56, Machias
NEWMARCH, CATO, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
ODIORNE, JACK, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
OLIVER, African American, DRNH:14, Epping
OLIVER, AARON, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), SBF, QUIN, Temple/New Ipswich
ONASTOSE/ONASTEAS, VINCENT, **, M246, no residence given
OTTO, see CATO
OXFORD, African American, DRNH:14, Newmarket
OXFORD, DERRICK, African American, DRNH 15, SBF, WAL, Lebanon
PAGE, SCIPIO, African American, RFBS, Dunbarton
PERHAM/PURHAM, ASA, African American, SBF, DRNH:15, New Ipswich
PETER, African American, DRNH:15, Epping
PICKERING, BOSTON, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), SBF, Newington
PICKERING, TUMBREL, African American, DRNH 16, SBF, Greenland
POMP, PETER, African American, SBF, IRWSR:3:2154 “in McClary’s Regt of NH Mil.,” M881, M246, CPS, Epsom
POOR/POWER, PETER, African American, SBF, Hollis
PRIMAS, African American, M881, no residence given
PRINCE, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR, 1st N.H. Regt., M881, no residence given
PRINCE, African American, DRNH:15, Albany
PRINCE, African American, DRNH:15, Portsmouth
PRINCE, African American, servant of General Whipple, MHNH:325, 344, M881, no residence given
QUICK, PRIEST, **, M881, no residence given
REED, JOHN, African American, DRNH:15, SBF, RFBS, Croydon and Canterbury
RICHARD, African American, DRNH:15, Barrington
RINDGE, ROMEO, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
ROBERT, REUBEN, African American ("a Negro"), M881, no residence given
ROBIN, African American, DRNH:15, Sandown
ROBINSON, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given
ROBINSON, ZACH, see KELSEY, ZACH
ROGERS, CATO, **, M881, no residence given
ROGERS, PHAROAH, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
RUSSEL/RUSSELL, POMP, African American, SBF, M881, Wilton
RYMES, THOMAS, African American, SBF, Portsmouth
SAMPSON, JOHN, African American, SBF, Portsmouth
SANKEE/SANKEY/SANKOR, CAESAR, African American, S41124, SBF, Dover
SANNO, PETER, African American, NHGR 3, Navy, SBF
SEEKHEEK, HENDY, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
SEPEO/SIPPEO, African American, MSS, SBF, Plaistow
SHARPE/SHARPEN/SHARPER, WILLIAM, African American ("Black"), deserted, DRNH:15, NHSP 15:437, SBF, WAL, Rochester
SHEPARD, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, York Co.
SHEPARD, JOHN, African American, SBF, Rumney
SHERBURN/E/SHERBORN, POMP/POMPEY, African American, W17297, SBF, Londonderry
SHERBURN/E, QUAM, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
SHORE, PHAROAH, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
SIPIPIO, African American (“Negro”), M881, no residence given
SMALL, CAESAR, African American, DRNH:16, SBF, M881, Hampton
SMITH, CATO, African American, SBF, M881, Brentwood
SQUANT, JOSEPH, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
STEARNS, PETER, African American, SBF, Epping
STEPHENSON, CATO, African American, NHGR:3, SBF, Casco
STEVENS, EPHRAIM, African American, SBF, New Ipswich
STEWART/STEWARD, PRIMUS, African American, SBF, M881, no residence given
STOCKBRIDGE, JOHN, “other free”, SBF, 1790NH, Cheshire Co.
SUDRECK/SUDRICK, MICKEL, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), DRNH:16, SBF, Dover
SUDRICK, JOSEPH, **, SBF, Dover
SULLIVAN, NOBLE, African American, SBF, Durham
SWEAT/SWEATT, POMP, African American, NHGR, SBF, Navy
TAMENICK, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
TATTEN, ISAAC, JR., African American, SBF, Lempster
TAYLOR, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given
THOMPSON/THOMSON, PRINCE, African American, SBF, WAL, M246, M881, Canterbury
TOMPSON, CAESAR, African American, SBF, Concord
TUCKERMAN, KITTINDGE, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
TWILIGHT, ICHABOD, African American, RFGS, Warner
UNDERWOOD, BOSTON, African American, SBF, Kittery
VARRELL, WILLIAM, African American, SBF, Rye
VENTROM, NICHOLAS, African American, SBF, Windham
WALLACE/WALLAS/WALLIS, CAESAR/SEASER, African American, S43250, SBF, WAL, M881, Meredith
WALLEY/WAILES, PRINCE, African American, SBF, M881, Acworth
WALLINGFORD, CATO, African American, SBF, Somersworth
WARNER, CATO, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
WATSON, GLOSTER, African American, DRNH:15, SBF, WAL, M881, Barrington
WEAB, JOHN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), DRNH 16, Londonderry, N. H.
WEIR, SAMUEL, African American, DRNH:16, Jaffrey
WENTWORTH, SAMUEL, African American, 1779 Petitioner, PET79, no residence given
WESTON, NATHAN, African American, SBF, QUIN, New Ipswich [Note: DAR established patriot.]
WHEELER/WHEELO, PLOMER/PLUMMER, **, M881, no residence given
WHEELER/WHEL, PRIMUS/PRIME, African American, SBF, M881, New Ipswich?
WHipple, CUFFEE, African American, SBF, no residence given
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WHITE, ARCHELAUS, African American, S43299, Brentwood
WHITE, POMP, African American, SBF, M881, no residence given
WHITE, SAMUEL, African American, SBF, Portsmouth
WIER, SAMUEL, African American, SBF, Peterborough
WIGGINS, COOKER, **, M881, no residence given
WILLSON/WILSON, TITUS, African American, DRNH:15, SBF, WAL, Peterborough, N. H.
WINGATE, CESAR/CAESAR, African American, DRNH:15, SBF, M881, Rochester
WISCO, WISSO/WISSOW, LEWIS, **, M881, no residence given
WOOD, CAESAR/CESAR, African American, DRNH:16, SBF, M881, Stratham
WOODMAN, DAN/DANIEL, African American, S44103, SBF, Durham (see Dan Martin)
XERES, MOSES, **, M881, no residence given
ZACH, African American, DRNH:14, Barrington
Deposition from the pension file of Cato Fiske of New Hampshire.  
Pension W14719, page 19, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 982) National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
right about; eight o’clock, as the fully
instant. He was buried the following
that into the cemetery, and
never to be seen again. The
famine until the day of the funeral
was buried, to the best of my recollection.

New Hampshire

Cato Fiske

Pension W14719, page 20, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 982)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Muster Roll of “Captain Nathaniel Hutchins Co. in First New Hampshire Regiment in the Service of the United States Commanded by Col’ Joseph Cilley for the Month of April 1778.”
RG 93, Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783 (M246, roll 44)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Deposition from the pension file of Anthony Gilman of New Hampshire.
Pension S32729, page 5, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension & Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 1076)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
I Jude Hall of Voters in the County of Rockingham in State of New Hampshire, do truly and declare that I served in the Army in 1776, and that on the 22nd of December, 1776 I enlisted into a Company commanded by Capt. Sands in a Regiment commanded by Capt. James Reed, that in the month of December, 1776 I enlisted for three years into a Company commanded by Capt. Clapp in the second New Hampshire Regiment, that in the month of December, 1779 again enlisted for and during the War into a Company commanded by Capt. William Bowell second New Hampshire Regiment commanded by Lt. Col. Commandant George Reid of the New Hampshire line of the Revolutionary Army and continued in the New Hampshire Line until the Peace and then was discharged. But by some accident have lost my discharge, and do further say that by reason of my reduced circumstances in life stand in need of support from my County.

April 11, 1808

Jude Hall

Rockingham S.S. Probate Court at Peter's in said bound

April 11, 1808 Jude Hall, being duly examined and cautioned made solemn Oaths that the above declaration by him signed contained the truth of the whole truth and nothing but the truth. And it now appearing that the said Jude Hall did serve in the United States Army in the Continental establishment in the Revolutionary War until the close of the War, I have heretofore set my name and caused the seal of office to be affixed.

John W. Parker, Judge of Probate.

[Seal]

The Applicant requests that his pension may be fixed in New Hampshire.
Affidavit from the pension file of Jude Hall of New Hampshire.
Pension W23238, page 7, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension & Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 1163)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.
Deposition from the pension file of Jude Hall of New Hampshire.
New Hampshire and Vermont

Deposition from the pension file of Robert Glines of New Hampshire.
Pension R4069 1/2, page 7, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension &Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 1082)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
BIBLIOGRAPHY
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE AFRICAN AMERICANS
AND AMERICAN INDIANS
IN THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA

(See also “New England” in the main bibliography section)


Draper, Mrs. Amos G. [Bell Merrill]. New Hampshire
Pension Records. 101 typescript vols. [Washington, D. C.: B. M. Draper], 1918-1933. [The entire set is located at the DAR Library, Washington, D. C., and a card index provides access to all names mentioned in the pension abstracts.]


Sanborn, Edwin David. “New Hampshire Men at Bunker Hill and Bennington.” Granite Monthly, 1 (September 1877), 209-211; (October 1877), 241-244.


Abbreviations & Sources
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

VERMONT

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these.


JHN Joann Hesseltine Nichols. “‘Other Free Persons’ Listed in the 1791 Vermont Census.” Unpublished manuscript provided to the editor of this book by Mrs. Nichols of Brattleboro, Vermont, May 2007. Mrs. Nichols is continuing her research for publication at a later date.


REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE IN VERMONT 1775-1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation is the responsibility of the applicant.

ATTOSKIN, JONA, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
BATTIST, JOHN, Indian, HNVT, SBF, St. Francis
BLACK, MINGO, African American, M881, no residence given
CATO, African American, SSVT:371
CHARLES, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis, Vt.
CONCOPATTS, JOHN, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
DOLBE, EXETER, African American, WHC:18, JHN, SSVT:161 [Military service for this man has not been documented.], Braintree
FREEMAN/FREMAN, PRINCE, African American, SSVT:196-197, M881 (also Connecticut service)
HUKMUK, CORNELIUS, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
INDIAN, JOE, Indian, HNVT, SSVT, Coosuck
INDIAN, ZUMERICK, Indian, VTRR, Sol, no residence given
JOHN, St. Francis? Indian, Capt., SSVT:293, no residence given
JOSEPH, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
LOUIS, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis

NAunauneeK, DAVID, Indian, VTRR, SSVT, Berkshire, Mass.
NAUNAUPETONKY, JACOB, Indian, VTRR, SSVT, Berkshire, Mass.
NESANANKKUK, DAVID, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
SABATTIS, BAZIEL, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
SABATTIS, JOHN, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
SABATTIST, APOH, Indian, HNVT:409, no residence given
SABATTIST, JOSEPH, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
SCIPEO, SOLOMON, **, SSVT:461, no residence given
SIPEO, ZADOCK, **, SSVT:473, no residence given
SUSAP, PEAL, Indian, HNVT, Ranger
SUSAP, PEAL, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
SWASHAN, Indian, HNVT, St. Francis
TAMERECK, Indian, HNVT, N. Newbury
TAWPANPUT, PETER, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
THANGOKEEHEK, MOSES, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
TUMALEK/TOOMALEK/TAMELEK/TUMERICK, BENJAMIN, Indian, VTRR, Ranger; Indian scout, SSVT:523, M881, no residence given

New Hampshire and Vermont
UMPH, African American (“Negro”), VTRR, SSVT:371, no residence given
USESULO, JOSEPH, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
VINCENT, JOHN, St. Francis Indian, HNVT, Caughnawaga
WHENNUPPANSUK, CORNELIUS, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
WNAUPEH, ISAAC, Indian, VTRR, Berkshire, Mass.
ZUMERICK/ZUMENICK, Indian, VTRR, SSVT:588, no residence given
Selected Revolutionary War Documents Relating to Vermont Soldiers

“A Pay Roll of Capt Frye Bayle’s Company of Militia under the Command of
Colonel Peter Olcott in the Service of the State of Vermont:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td>Captain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathaniel Merrill</td>
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<td>1873-10-31</td>
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<td>Robert Huntington</td>
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<td>Moses Chamberlain</td>
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<td>Robert Plimpton</td>
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<td>Thomas Heath</td>
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<td>Stephen Bunk</td>
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<td>$126.00</td>
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<td>Thomas Brookes</td>
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<td>Ewen Cargue</td>
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<td>Randal McElenie</td>
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<td>William Jenkins</td>
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<td>Uriah Chambers</td>
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RG 93, Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, (M246, Roll 91) “Payroll of Captain Frye Bayle’s Company, Colonel Peter Olcott’s Regiment, February 21, 1783: Tumerick, an Indian”
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
New Hampshire and Vermont

RG 93, Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, (M246, Roll 91) “Payroll of Captain Joseph Safford’s Company of Militia in Colonel Ebenezer Walbridge’s Regiment in an Alarm to Caselton Commencing the 14th Oct 1781 and Ending 31st Both Days Included: Mingo Black” National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

<table>
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<th>Men's Names and Rank</th>
<th>Wages Earned</th>
<th>Rations Obtained</th>
<th>Total Amount of Money Paid</th>
<th>Both Days</th>
<th>Mingo Black</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Sam Whiteob</td>
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<td>Martain Pollet</td>
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<td>Ebenezer Spencer</td>
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<td>Jacob Safford</td>
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<td>Nathan Billing</td>
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</table>
BIBLIOGRAPHY
OF VERMONT AFRICAN AMERICANS
AND AMERICAN INDIANS
IN THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA
(See also “New England” in the main bibliography section.)

Burns, Brian. “Massacre or Muster? Burgoyne’s Indians and the Militia at Bennington.” Vermont History, 45:3 (Summer 1977), 133-144.


About 1,700 African American and American Indian men have been identified in this study as being among the nearly 68,000 soldiers Massachusetts supplied to the army during the Revolution. General Artemus Ward, George Washington’s predecessor as Commander-in-Chief, issued the first general order of the Continental Army in the spring of 1775. That order required that a descriptive return, including “complexion,” be made of all men in the army. Although it was not always followed to the letter, the order has made the task of identifying minority participants in the Revolution less difficult. This chapter includes only the Revolutionary War service of African Americans and Indians who resided within the present day State of Massachusetts. Minority participation from the part of Massachusetts that is now Maine is covered in Chapter One. Since Massachusetts had considerably different positions toward the military enlistment of African Americans and Indians, the two groups are addressed separately.

**African Americans of Massachusetts in the Revolution**

The first Provincial Congress of Massachusetts meeting in October 1774 reacted to the closing of Boston harbor and other coercive acts of Great Britain by choosing a Committee of Safety which was authorized to muster, arm, and supply a Militia for the defense and safety of the inhabitants of the province. The Massachusetts Minutemen who were organized as a result of the Committee of Safety’s October action responded quickly to the Lexington Alarm on April 19, 1775. Among them was Prince Eslabook, an African American from Lexington, who was wounded in that first battle of the Revolution.

Although Massachusetts had considered enlisting Indians in the State’s militia prior to the Lexington Alarm, the question of African American participation had not been specifically addressed. Nearly 4,800 African Americans were enumerated in the 1776 Massachusetts census. Over 1,000 were living in Essex County while fewer than 1,000 resided in the three western counties of Worcester, Hampshire and Berkshire. The balance lived in counties on or near the coast.

After the Alarm at Lexington, the Massachusetts Committee of Safety realized the impending danger of further conflict with Great Britain and passed a resolution on May 20, 1775 regarding enlistments into the army. It stated that only freemen were to be enlisted and “that no Slave be admitted into this

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Army upon any consideration whatever.\textsuperscript{6} Although that resolution was set aside for further consideration by the third Provincial Congress to whom it had been referred, it was made effective by an order of the Continental Army issued on July 10.\textsuperscript{7} The order issued at Cambridge by George Washington’s Adjutant, General Horatio Gates, read,

You are not to enlist any deserter from the Ministerial Army, nor any stroller, negro, or vagabond, or person suspected of being an enemy to the liberty of America, nor any under eighteen years of age.\textsuperscript{8}

The same order forbade the enlistment of anyone who was not American born.\textsuperscript{9}

Gates’ order was reinforced by a conference on October 23 between General Washington and a committee of the Continental Congress at which they decided that the service of African Americans should be rejected altogether.\textsuperscript{10} However, African Americans had already been serving in the army as shown in a letter addressed to John Adams dated October 25, 1775 from General John Thomas, commander of the Massachusetts troops at Roxbury. General Thomas deplored the prejudices of some of the Southern colonies and wrote, “We have some negroes, but I look on them, in general, as equally serviceable with other men for fatigue; and in action many of them have proved themselves brave.”\textsuperscript{11}

As a result of the October conference, Washington issued a general order on November 12, which read: “Neither negroes, boys unable to bear arms, nor old men unfit to endure the fatigues of the campaign are to be enlisted.”\textsuperscript{12} Washington partially rescinded that order in General Orders of December 30 when he said,

“As the General is informed that numbers of free negroes are desirous of enlisting, he gives leave to the recruiting officers to entertain them, and promises to lay the matter before the Congress, who, he doubts not, will approve of it.”\textsuperscript{13}

Congress did approve of Washington’s action, and on January 15, 1776 decided, “That the free negroes who have served faithfully in the army at Cambridge may be reenlisted therein, but no Others.”\textsuperscript{14}

In the meantime, Massachusetts set its own criteria for the enlistment of African Americans by passing two acts in 1776, the first on January 26 and the second of November 14 which specifically exempted “Negroes, Indians and mulattoes” from military service.\textsuperscript{15} However, faced with difficulty in meeting the State’s quota for the army set by Congress, the legislature passed an act on January 27, 1777, which exempted only Quakers.\textsuperscript{16}

It is evident that in spite of the resolutions passed in 1776, Massachusetts African Americans were already serving in the army. A June 1, 1777 muster roll of Captain Charles Colton’s 2nd Company in Colonel John Greaton’s 3rd Massachusetts

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\textsuperscript{10} Peter Force, ed., \textit{American Archives}, Ser. 4, 3:1161.

\textsuperscript{11} Livermore, \textit{op. cit.}, 186; published as “Colored Citizen Soldiers of the Revolution.” \textit{The Liberator}, issue 38 (September 18, 1857), p. 152, col. C.

\textsuperscript{12} Moore, \textit{op. cit.}, 7.

\textsuperscript{13} \textit{Idem}.

\textsuperscript{14} \textit{Ibid.}, 8.


\textsuperscript{16} \textit{Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors}, 1:xxiv.
Regiment included the names of eleven African American men, most of who had enlisted prior to the January 27 act. The Baroness von Riedesel, who was among a group of American-held prisoners being escorted through western Massachusetts in the fall of 1777, wrote in a letter, 

"...you do not see a regiment in which there is not a large number of blacks. ..."18

Although a proposal by Thomas Kench to establish a separate company of 200-300 Massachusetts African Americans was tabled in April 1778, it appears that some African Americans did serve in a primarily African American company toward the end of the war. Cicero Sweet, a native of the West Indies, stated in his pension application that he was assigned to “the black company” commanded by Captain Matthew Chambers in Colonel Calvin Smith’s 6th Regiment.20

The Massachusetts legislature finally passed a law on April 28, 1778 that permitted the enlistment of African Americans.21 In August 1778, 162 were serving in the Massachusetts regiments commanded by Colonels Nixon, Learned and Paterson, which were encamped at White Plains, New York.22

Two of the best-known African American heroes of the Revolution, Salem Poor and Peter Salem, were from Massachusetts and fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775. Salem Poor was a servant of John Poor 3rd of Andover.23 Six of his commanding officers at the battle sent a “recommendation” concerning his bravery to the General Courts of Massachusetts. The recommendation read in part, “We declare that a Negro man called Salem Poor ... in the late battle of Charlestown behaved like an experienced officer as well as an excellent soldier. ...We would only beg leave to say in the person of the said Negro centres a brave and gallant soldier...”24

Peter Salem of Framingham, a slave, is credited with having shot and killed a British officer, Major John Pitcairn, near the end of the same battle.25 Salem, who was a waiter to Colonel Thomas Nixon of Framingham, served throughout the war and by its conclusion had earned his freedom.26

Among the free Blacks who fought in the Revolution were Pomp Jackson and Cato Prince of Essex County. His master, Jonathan Jackson, manumitted Jackson, who enlisted from Newburyport in 1776 and remained in the army until 1782, in July 1776. Jonathan Jackson manumitted his slave because he “felt, in beholding any person

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20 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 15:285; Revolutionary War Pension File, S43189. Record Group 15. National Archives and Records Administration. (Hereafter cited as RWPF).
22 Moore, op. cit., 17.
26 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 13:743-744; William Barry, History of Framingham, Massachusetts (Boston: James Munroe & Co., 1847), 64, 94; Emory Washburn, Historical Sketches of the Town of Leicester Massachusetts (Boston: John Wilson & Son, Printers, 1860), 266-269.
In this famous painting of the Battle of Bunker Hill, the African American on the far right is presumed to be Salem Poor.
in constant bondage, ...more especially at a time when my country is so warmly contending/or liberty every man ought to enjoy, ...and having sometime since promised my negro man, Pomp, that I would give him his freedom, and in further consideration of five shillings paid me by said Pomp, I do hereby liberate, manumit, and set him free.”

Cato Prince, from Marblehead, was a Revolutionary War pensioner. When Prince applied for a pension in 1818, Richard and John Prince attested to his service stating that their father had purchased Cato Prince over fifty years previously, shortly after Cato’s arrival from Africa. They also stated that he had lived for many years with their father and had enlisted as a freeman in the service of the United States about 1780 or 1781. Another freeman who enlisted was Lemuel Haynes, a native of West Hartford, Connecticut. Haynes, an indentured servant, finished his term of indenture in 1774 and became a free man. He was a resident of Granville when he marched as a minuteman to the Lexington Alarm in April 1775 with Captain Lebbeus Ball’s company. Ordained in 1795, Lemuel Haynes was the first Blackman to become a Congregational minister.

In some instances, the masters of servants who enlisted in the army received payment for the service of those men. Elisha Allis of Hatfield petitioned the legislature in January 1776 for the wages of two slaves who had enlisted the preceding April. Dr. John Sprague was paid 66 pounds for the services of his servant, Cuff Sprague, who enlisted for three years in September 1777. In a somewhat different case, G. Johomnot of Marblehead received an “order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money” on behalf of his servant Romeo who enlisted in 1775 as a private in Colonel John Glover’s Marine Company.

As the war progressed, Massachusetts’s towns found it increasingly difficult to meet their military obligations and turned to African American slaves to fill their quotas. “Felix Cuff, an enslaved African American man, was enlisted by the Waltham town committee in 1780.” After the war, Massachusetts paid Cuff “1,500 pounds in currency and 60 bushels of corn” for his service.

The town of Palmer enlisted two Negro slaves, Primus Jackall and Pelatiah McGoldsmith, in July 1781 in order to meet its quota of three-year men. Primus Jackall received 100 pounds 14 shillings as a bounty for enlisting, and Pelatiah McGoldsmith was paid 92 pounds 10 shillings. The latter, who was medically discharged at West Point in 1783, received a federal pension for his service. McGoldsmith and Jackall were among the more than 40 African American men who served from that part of Hampshire County which is now Hampden County.

The Massachusetts Navy appears to have placed fewer restrictions on African Americans who wished to serve as seamen. Five African Americans were given permission in January 1776 to serve on

31 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 14:751.
35 J. H. Temple, History of the Town of Palmer, Massachusetts (Palmer, Mass.: Published by the Town of Palmer, 1889), 196; Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 8:654-655.
36 RWPF, S36114.
37 Carvalho, Black Families, 14.
armed vessels. In July of the same year, two Negro slaves were among the crew of the Privateer Yankey. 

Captain John Clouston of the Massachusetts Navy brigantine Freedom expressed his appreciation for the naval service of African Americans in a letter dated May 8, 1777. He wrote to Robert Treat Paine regarding two African Americans under his command, “...they ship’d on board the Armed Brigantine Freedom to light agt the enemies of America & in that respect have rendered themselves worthy of the Notice of America they were volenteers in the business & ought to be considered in the same light as any other Sailors, by no means liable to be sold meerly because they are black & their masters have a property in their servlce.” Among the African Americans who served in the Navy were “Scotipede” Prince of Wellfleet who was on the crew of the ship America in 1780 and John Jack who shared in prizes taken by the U.S. brig General Gates. 

Many African Americans, freemen, servants and slaves served with distinction throughout the Revolution. Some lost their lives. Primus Emanuel of Middleton and Julius Caesar, one of fourteen African Americans to enlist from Lancaster, both died in the cause of freedom. 

The “Massachusetts Slave Case,” Winchendon vs. Hatfield, demonstrates the Revolution’s effect on Massachusetts African Americans. A slave, Edom London, of Winchendon, had run away from his master and enlisted in the army in 1775 for a period of eight months. In July 1776, the same slave was sold to Daniel Goodridge, also of Winchendon. Shortly thereafter, London enlisted in the army for three years and Goodridge received “the whole of his bounty, and part of his wages.” After the war, Edom London lived in both Winchendon and Hatfield. The question considered by the court was, which town was liable for London’s support? The Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts finally decreed that neither town was liable because London was a freeman, stating, “slavery was abolished in Massachusetts by the Declaration of Rights on the adoption of the Constitution of the Commonwealth in 1780.” 

Although the court did not render its final decision in Winchendon vs. Hatfield until 1808, it appears that most Massachusetts slaves were freed during or immediately after the Revolution. Massachusetts was the only state that did not enumerate any slaves in the first Federal census taken in 1790. 

American Indians of Massachusetts during the Revolution 

At the outbreak of the Revolution, there were approximately 1,700 Indians living in Massachusetts. While most Indians resided in the counties on or around Cape Cod, over 200 lived near Stockbridge in western Massachusetts. The Bay State had been seeking Indian support for the American cause even before the Lexington  

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41 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 12:793

42 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 8:654.

43 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 5:339.

44 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 3:10; Henry S. Nourse, The Military Annals of Lancaster, Massachusetts, 1740-1865 (Lancaster, 1889), 237.

45 Idem.

46 Rev. A. P. Marvin, History of the Town of Winchendon (Winchendon: Published by the Author, 1868), 278.


49 Idem.


Alarm on April 19, 1775. On April 1, a committee of the Provincial Congress was instructed “to pay the sum of twenty-three pounds, lawful money, into the hands of Colonel John Paterson and Captain William Goodridge, to be employed in purchasing a number of blankets and some ribbons which they are to present to the Indians enlisted.”52 A few days later, Captain Solomon Uhhaunauwanumt, chief sachem of the Stockbridge Indians, expressed a position favorable to the Americans in a lengthy address to the Provincial Congress.53

The Indian company, which had been formed under the commands of Colonel Paterson, Captain Goodridge and an Indian 2nd Lieutenant, Jehoakim Mtohksin, marched to the army’s headquarters at Cambridge after learning of the Alarm at Lexington.54 Their arrival was reported back to England by the British Commander-in-Chief, General Thomas Gage, who wrote on April 30, “A company of Indians are come down from Stockbridge and more are to be provided if they are wanted.”55

After the events at Lexington and Concord, the second Provincial Congress continued to discuss the question of Indian participation and in May 1775 established a committee comprised of Captain Stone, Colonel Warren and Mr. Sullivan “to take into consideration the expediency of taking measures for raising a company or two of Indians.”56

Even while those discussions were going on, Indians were fighting on the side of the Americans. One of the first to become involved in battle was Henries Vomhavi who was allowed to keep a little horse which he had taken during skirmishes at Noddes Island, near Boston, in late May and early June. Vomhavi was awarded the horse for the risks which he had taken and as an incentive to encourage other Indians to join the Americans.57

Shortly thereafter, several of the Stockbridge Indians who were encamped at Cambridge addressed a petition, dated June 21, to Joseph Warren, President of the Provincial Congress, setting forth certain terms under which they wished to be paid. On the same day, two men from the company, which numbered about fifty, killed four British regulars. Others from the Stockbridge Company were involved in an incident on July 8, during which the British soldiers who were taking soundings in the river near Cambridge were forced to withdraw.59

The Continental Congress considered the employment of Indians in December 1775 and decided that it would call upon the Stockbridge Indians and those of other northeastern tribes “in case of real necessity.”60 Even though the Stockbridge Indians had seen action during the previous year, President John Hancock, acting on instructions from the Continental Congress, issued an order June 25, 1776 “forbidding the raising the companies of Mohekan and Stockbridge Indians.”61 Hancock rescinded that order in a letter to George Washington dated August 2, 1776 in which he stated, “The Congress approve of you employing in the Service of the States the Stockbridge Indians, if you think proper.”62

Washington’s correspondence between the years 1776 and 1779 indicates that he did continue to employ Stockbridge Indians.63 However, in

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54 Gardner, op. cit., 34: Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 11:182.
September 1781, he rejected an offer of support from them and stated in a letter to General William Heath that “their services never compensated the expense.”

64 James F. Vivian and Jean H. Vivian, “Congressional Indian Policy during the War for Independence,” Maryland Historical Magazine, 63:3 (September 1968), 273.

65 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 15:938-939.

66 Wroth, Province in Rebellion (text-fiche), 2537.


68 Idem.


70 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 3:237-238.

71 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 7:64; (1901), 8:477; Pension W760, RG 15, NARA; Emilie S. Piper, Dunkins, two African Americans from Stockbridge in Berkshire County. Both Hull and Dunkins were pensioned after the war. Serving in the same company was a group of Indians from Mashpee in Barnstable County, which is located at the opposite end of the State. Two of the Mashpee Indians, Joseph Keeter and Job Rimmon, both died during the war. Daniel Pocknit, from Mashpee, who also served in Chadwick’s company, received bounty land from both the State and the Federal Government after the war.

The Mashpee and Stockbridge Indians suffered heavy losses during the war. Reverend Gideon Hawley, minister to the Mashpee plantation, stated in 1783 “At that time, there were no less than seventy widows on the plantation.” These widows had lost their husbands during the war.

Reuben Baldwin, a lawyer from Sandwich, Massachusetts, and Greene County, New York, assisted Revolutionary War veterans of all colors in receiving their pensions and bounty land warrants. Several of the men were from the Mashpee Plantation/Tribe. The file for Job Hathaway (BLWT-1931-100) contains a letter from Reuben Baldwin, regarding “an application for Bounty Land by the Heirs of ‘Six Coloured Men’,” in which the application of Simon Penny is mentioned. Determining who these six men were was an interesting research project. Simon Penny’s (BLWT-1941-100) application also has pages with Reuben Baldwin’s forwarding address attached, and Obed Coffin’s (W14569) application is identified. The Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors entry for John Hull.


72 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 5:36, 52-53; Pension S74773, RG 15, NARA.


74 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 13:337.

75 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, 14:487.


77 Idem.


Frances (S34887) lists three other men, who all happened to be assisted by Reuben Baldwin: Jacob Keeter (BLWT-1928-100), Francis Keeter (no known pension), James Keeter (S32942), and widow of John Frances, Patience, who at that time was also the widow of Scipio Allen (no known pension) Reuben Baldwin’s initials and notes are also on Primus Jacobs’ (W21446) widows claim. There are three other men who Reuben Baldwin lists as assisting: Peter Sears, Peleg Stevens and Jabez Jolley.

By the close of the war, nearly half the Stockbridge Indian men had died or been killed. In 1785, their survivors migrated to the Oneida reservation at New Stockbridge, New York. On December 2, 1794, those survivors were parties to a treaty with the United States, which was made as payment for the services of the Indians during the Revolution. The treaty granted the Stockbridge, Oneida and Tuscarora Indians 5,000 dollars, to be divided among the three groups. It also provided that a sawmill, a gristmill, and a church be built in the country of the Oneidas.

The impact of the Revolution on Massachusetts’s minorities was tremendous. The Indian population was nearly obliterated due to deaths during the war and later removals to the west. The African American population fared better, however. The end of the Revolution brought African Americans the freedom for which those patriots had fought.

**Thoughts relating to Research in the Records of Massachusetts**

Massachusetts records are the best of any state for investigations into the participation of African American and American Indians in the Revolutionary War. The massive set, *Massachusetts...* has served as the basis for all research for this publication. Every page in all seventeen volumes has been studied for all possible clues to a man’s ethnicity. In addition, in the Bay State, as well as throughout New England in particular, the use of classical and literary names for enslaved people was very common and *usually* distinct from the traditional English and Biblical names of most men of European backgrounds. This, along with the interesting name combinations that many former slaves employed as self-identification, often serves as a pointer to a person’s ethnicity.

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Abbreviations & Sources
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


RuEllen “Rudi” Serina Hjella Ottery. “Brotherton Indian Collection.” Manuscript collection 395, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston. [This collection contains extensive files of genealogical information on the families from New England and from New York associated with the Brotherton Indians. Ottery was the genealogist for the Brotherton Tribe, and she collected a large amount of material now contained in sixty manuscript boxes.] Contents include:
  Series A. Tribal Rolls and Lists, 1833-1986
  Series B. Descents from Brotherton Progenitors
  Series C. Brotherton Enrollment Records
  Series D. Numbered Individual Data Files
  Series E. Historical Records, 1801-1980
Subgroup II. Source Materials for Brotherton Genealogy, 1839-1893
Subgroup III. Correspondence on Brotherton Genealogy, 1977-1991
Subgroup IV. Source Materials for New England Indian History, 1622-1941
Subgroup V. Graphics

Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


Transcripts, Military Records, 1774-1786, 2 manuscript volumes. Rhode Island State Archives. Record Group C00482. Entries refer to a volume and page number, i. e. C00482:2:455 = volume 2, page 455. Then, the page number takes you to the portion of the below abstracts in which the citation to an individual appears. The names of many of the men in the service list appear many more times within the set of abstracts, so further reading to obtain every reference for every individual would be needed to find every instance for an individual’s service.
Pages 501a, part 31, “Providence Town Papers”
Pages 517-528, part 32, “Providence Town Papers”
Pages 529-544, part 33, “Providence Town Papers”
Pages 545-568, part 34, “Providence Town Papers”

Carter G. Woodson. “An Important Revolutionary Record of a Negro Soldier.” Journal of Negro History, 17:4 (October 1932), 379-381. [Jacob Francis]


Charles L. Hill. “Slavery and Its Aftermath in Beverly, Massachusetts: Juno Larcom and Her Family.” Essex Institute Historical Collections, 116:2 (April 1980), 111-130, specifically 118-119, with a reference to this source: Beverly Carlman. “Soldiers and Sailors of Beverly,


DARM54 “Red Cherry, A Naval Hero.” *Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine,* 54:2 (February 1920), 96.


GH1776  Gideon Hawley. “Letter to Thos. Cushing, Mashpee, 24th June 1776.” [Attached to the letter is a census of the Mashpee Indians providing considerable detail about them: “Number of the Indians mulatoes [sic] and Negroes belonging to the Mashpee June 24th 1776.”] In “Gideon Hawley Letters, 1754-1807.” Mss. N-1379, Box 1 (“Gideon Hawley Typescripts”), Massachusetts Historical Society.

GH1793  Gideon Hawley. “An Account of the Number of Indian Houses in Mashpee Taken This 1st July 1793 at the Desire of the Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians and Others by the Missionary to Those Indians, Which Is Humbly Addressed to the Society.” The original document is in the “Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts “collection, Autograph File (Gideon Hawley), Houghton Library, Manuscript Collection, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts. A handwritten transcription of this document is available in the R. Andrew Peirce Collection, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts.


HTSM  William A. Benedict and Hiram A. Tracy, comp. *History of the Town of Sutton, Massachusetts, from 1704 to 1876; including Grafton until 1735, Millbury until 1813; ad Parts of Northridge, Upton and Auburn.* Worcester, Mass.: Sanford & Company, 1878.

ILB  *Independent Ledger* (Boston), September 9, 1782, vol. 5, issue 226, p. 3


JHN  Joann Hesseltine Nichols. “‘Other Free Persons’ Listed in the 1791 Vermont Census.” Unpublished manuscript provided to the editor of this book by Mrs. Nichols of Brattleboro, Vermont, May 2007. Mrs. Nichols is continuing her research for publication at a later date.

JRAHA  

JVB  

KINGM  

KMG  

KWP  

LEAV  
Sarah Leavitt. “She Hath Left My Bed and Board’ Runaway Wives in Rhode Island, 1790-1810.” Rhode Island History, 58:3 (August 2000), 91-104.

LLM  

LM  

M246  

M881  

MA188  
“Petition to the General Court of Massachusetts by Stephen Webb, Salem, for pay for services of himself and man Primus & supplies at the Fort with a letter, an account & certificate, Sept. 25, 1782.” Massachusetts Archives collection, 188 (Revolution – Petitions to the General Court, 1782-1783), 134-136; Massachusetts Archives, Boston. [Stephen Webb served as a sergeant at the forts at Salem and his “man” Primus served as a soldier from 22nd November 1781 to the 22nd May 1782. Webb was petitioning the General Court for payment for their services.]

MBNP  

MGC Margaret G. Campbell Papers, Mss 388, Sub-group 1; Series J “Historical Collections”; Sub-group 2; Box 7, folder 46: “Persons of Color” R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts.

MHS625 “Miscellaneous Massachusetts Militia Records.” Ms. S-625, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston. The item in this file is an undated scrap of paper containing a partial pay list to soldiers that includes the following names: Pomp Magus and Isaac Munro, fifer. There is no identifying information on the piece of paper in terms of a date, location, etc.


MSS+ *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors: Appendix to the Published 17 Volumes from the Massachusetts State Archives*. Microfilm (7 rolls)


NMS  The Negro in the Military Service of the United States, 1639-1886. National Archives and Records Administration, Microfilm publication M858, Roll 1 [includes the American Revolution]


NYRB  David Brion Davis. “It Wasn’t Peter Salem.” New York Review of Books, 36:8 (May 18, 1989). [Discusses the tradition held belief that Peter Salem is the African American man in John Trumbull’s famous painting of the Battle of Bunker Hill. This does not, however, attempt to dispute Salem’s service in the Revolution, only his appearance in the painting.]


PFM77  “A Petition for Freedom in Massachusetts.” In Roy E. Finkenbine, ed., Sources of the African-American Past: Primary Sources in American History (New York: Longman, 1997), 23-24. An earlier version of this petition without the names of the petitioners appeared in “Negro Petitions for Freedom.” Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, 5th Series, 3 (Boston: Massachusetts Historical Society), 432-437. [The DAR does not generally consider petitions to state legislatures as patriotic service unless the petition “acknowledged the new government’s right to represent the people. The content and wording of the petition must demonstrate loyalty to the cause of American independence.” [See: Is That Service Right? (Washington, D. C.: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 2005), 16.] This petition, and others like it sought freedom from slavery for large groups of people, acknowledges the authority of the state legislature, and espouses some of the leading principles endorsed by the Founding Fathers and extends them to the enslaved population.


SCSM  “Lt. Col. Silas Cobb’s account with Silas Morey, 1774-1780, includes entries for salt, pine boards, surveying, deed writing, legal actions, and travel to Taunton to hire and muster Morey’s slave for service in the Continental Army during the Revolution.” *Massachusetts Historical Society, Miscellaneous Manuscripts* (Misc. 1774).


VRSTO  *Vital Records of Stoneham, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849.* Salem: The Essex Institute, 1918.


The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

AARON, JOSEPH, Nipmuc Indian (Hassanamisco), MSS, Grafton, 1790MA, HMF:170, TWHA, FCP:114, 121; DRM:172; Grafton/Stockbridge
ABBOT, CATO, African American, MSS, MSS+:1-12, IRWSR, Chelmsford
ABBOT, PHILIP, African American, MSS, QUIN, Andover
ABEL, ABEL, Indian, RAP2 (prisoner on the prison ship Jersey in New York harbor), no residence given
ABEL, BENJAMIN, Indian, MSS:1:22, DRM:174, Dartmouth
ABEL/ABLE/ABELL, CAIN, African American, MSS, DRM:174, Dartmouth
ABEL, GEORGE, Indian, RAP2 (prisoner on the prison ship Jersey in New York harbor), no residence given
ABIJAH, African American, (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Springfield
ABRO, JABEZ, African American, MSS, Pittsfield
ABRAHAM, DAVID, African American, DVS, Grafton
ACCRO/ACROW, ISRAEL/ISRAEL, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Springfield
ACCROW/ACKRO, SILAS, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, PHM, Plymouth
ADAM/ADOMS, PETER, African American, MSS, WFH, Taunton/Raynham
ADAMS, BOSTON JACK/ADAM, JACK, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Roxbury
ADAMS, CHARLES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Concord
ADAMS, JOHN, African American, MSS, MJE-1, White Creek/Great Barrington
ADAMS/ADOMS, SCIPIO/SIPPO, African American, MSS, IRWSR, MPRWR, Shrewsbury
ADDAMSON, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
ADDERTHORN, SAMUEL, African American, MSS, MJE-1, Sheffield
ALBERTSON, PLATO, “dark complexion,” Seaman, MSS, no residence given
ALLEN, BOSTON, African American, Shrewsbury, MSS, no residence given
ALLEN, JACK, African American, Boston, MSS, no residence given
ALLEN, POMP, African American, MSS
ALLEN, PRINCE, African American, MSS, Middleborough
ALLEN, RICHARD, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Mariner, no residence given
ALLISON, PLATO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Mariner
ALMEY/ALMY, PRINCE, African American, (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Dartmouth
ALVORD, DANIEL, African American, MSS, Northampton [Note: Pension S45183 is for another man with the same name.]
AMERRY, JACK, **, MSS, no residence given
AMES, PRIME, **, MSS, Dartmouth
AMES, PRINCE, aka PRIMUS AMES & PRINCE ALEXANDER AMES, African American, W23439 [married Eunice Russ in Andover on November 24, 1784]. CPAR, TJFBH, MSS, 1790MA Andover, AAR:163, Andover [Note: DAR established patriot.]

AMOS, African American, MSS, servant of Lebree Simmons, Middleborough

AMOS/AMES, ISAAC, Indian, MSS, GH1793, Middleborough/Mashpee

AMOS, JACK/JACOB, African American, MSS, Freetown

AMOS, JOSEPH, Mashpee Indian, MSS, GH1793, Bridgewater/Mashpee

AMOS, THOMAS, African American, MSS (also listed as serving with the 1st Rhode Island Regiment – see Chapter Four), Freetown

ANDRES, POMP, **, MSS, Marshfield

ANDREW, Indian, MSS:+1-606, Capt. Ambrose Bears Company of Indians, no residence given

ANDREWS, ENEAS/NEOS/NEOT, African American ("black complexion"), MSS, Dighton

ANDREWS, TONY, **, MSS, QUIN, Billerica

ANDROSOGS/ANDROSOGUS, JULIUS, **, MSS, no residence given

ANGER, DANISH, **, MSS, Pepperell

ANNUM, CUFF, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Worcester

ANTHONY, African American, MSS, drummer, Swanzey

ANTHONY, JAMES, "complexion: dark," MSS, QUIN, Natick

ANTHONY, JAMES, African American ("black man"), S38494, res Smithfield, R.I.

ANTHONY/ANTONY/ANTURNY, JOHN, ("complexion: dark," MSS, Seaman, Boston; also listed as drummer on the Brigantine Freedom and on the Brigantine Massachusetts

ANTHONY, JONATHAN, JR., African American, MSS, VRMED, 1790MA, QUIN, Medford

ANTHONY, JOSEPH, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), QUIN, FCP:113,114 &120, Grafton

ANTHONY, MARK, **, "reported a servant," MSS, QUIN, Newbury

ANTHONY, WILLIAM, African American, MSS, VRMED deserted, Medford

ARCHELUS, African American, MSS, Plaistow

ARCHER, JACK, **, Seaman, MSS, no residence given

ARCULES/ARCHELAUS, JAMES, African American, S32658, MSS, QUIN, Medfield

ARMSBY, SHEM, **, MSS, Medfield

ARMSBY, TITUS, **, MSS, Taunton

ASHLEY, GILLAM, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Westfield

ASHPORT, CUFF, see MITCHELL, CUFF

ASKING, SAM, **, MSS+, Suffolk Co.

ASHUR, CHURCH, Mashpee Indian, MSS, CPAR, APESS, no residence given

ASHUR, JOSEPH, Mashpee Indian, MSS, CPAR, APESS, no residence given

ATKINS, PRIMUS, **, MSS, Seaman, Lincoln

ATKINSON, ANTHONY, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given

ATWOOD, FREEMAN, **, MSS, Seaman, Eastham

ATWOOD, PRINCE, **, MSS, Seaman, no residence given

AUGUSTUS, ___, African American ("Negro"), MSS, no residence given

AUGUSTUS, CAESAR, **, MSS, Newbury

AUGUSTUS, CAESAR, African American, MSS, Plymouth Co

AUGUSTUS, CAESAR, African American, DMR, Dorchester

AUGUSTUS, JOHN, **, MSS, Salem

AUPAUMUT, HENDRICK, Indian, MSS, WYSS, SARBW:7-8, Stockbridge

AUSONG, SCARD, Penobscot Indian, MSS, MMP, Boston

AUSTIN, CATO/CODY, **, MSS, CRS, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:85, no residence given

AUSTIN, JACK, (Woburn), see RAND, JACK

AUSTIN, PASCO, **, MSS, seaman on the Brigantine Massachusetts, no residence given

AVANS, MAYBERY, **, MSS, Sharon

AYRES, PETER, African American, QUIN, NOU, PEACH, Lancaster

BABBITT/BABTIST, JOHN, African American, MSS, "residence: France," seaman on the brig Adventure,

BABCOCK/BADCOCK, ABRAHAM, African American, MSS, Granville
BABCOCK/BADCOCK, AMOS, Mashpee Indian, MSS, CPAR, APESS, GH1793, GH1800, Mashpee/Sandwich
BABOSON, LONDON, MSS, see ROBINSON, LONDON
BABSON, SAM, **, MSS, seaman on the ship Vengeance, no residence given
BACCHUS, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Grafton
BACCHUS, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Reading
BACHELOR, PRINCE, **, MSS, Amesbury
BACON, PRINCE, “complexion: “dark,” MSS, Nantucket/Sandwich/Barnstable
BAILEY, ISAIAH, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), QUIN, Stoneham
BAILEY/BALEYS/BALIS, LONDON, African American (“black complexion”), MSS, “servant to an officer,” Dighton
BAILEY, PRINCE, African American, MSS, W17230 [wife Hannah Woods; died February 9, 1838], Hanover
BAKER, SIM, **, MSS, Watertown?
BALDWIN, POMP, **, MSS, no residence given
BALEY, CAESAR, see DICKINSON
BALS/BALLIS/BAYLES/BAYLIES/BAYLOS, LONDON, African American, MSS, WFH, Taunton/Easton/Dighton
BALL, BOSTON, **, MSS, Concord
BALLARD, BOSTON, **, MSS, Boston
BALLARD, BRISTOL, African American (“complexion: Negro, black”), MSS, Boston
BAMBO, THOMAS, **, MSS, no residence given
BANCROFT, ESAU, African American, MSS, Lynn, seaman on the ship “Pilgrim,” no residence given
BAND/RAND/ROND, WARF/WHIFF, **, MSS, Lunenburg
BANNISTER, PETER, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Rehoboth
BAPTISE, JOHN, ** (“brown complexion;” 25 years old in 1780), MSS, Boston
BAPTIST, JOHN, Indian, “Capt. Ambrose Bear’s Co. of Indians,” MSS, no residence given
BAPTIST, MICHAEL, Indian, “Capt. Ambrose Bear’s Co. of Indians,” MSS, no residence given
BARBADOES, ISAAC, African American (“colored”), MSS, died in service, CSP, VRLEX, FAD-2, Lexington/Woburn/Shrewsbury
BARBER, JOHN, African American, sailor, SBF, MSS, res Portsmouth/Lyman, N. H.
BARD, PRINCE, African American, MSS, Dartmouth
BARDECK, FREEDOM, **, MSS, Richmond
BARJONAH, ISSACHAR/ISAIAH/ISAIAH, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, QUIN, Stoneham
BARKER, CAESAR, African American, MSS, AAR, VRAND:357, no residence given
BARKER, JOHN, Indian, (reported a servant to Amos Nelson), MSS, PHM, Middleborough
BARKER, JOHN, Indian, PHM, Rochester
BARNABAS, JACK, **, MSS, Freetown
BARNABAS, ISAAC, Indian, MSS, died in service, RAP2 (deserted), SS (court-martialed), Natick/Nantucket
BARNARD, RICHARD, African American, MSS, Worcester
BARNES, CROMWELL, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Boston
BARNET, CASTEL/CASTELO, Mashpee Indian, MSS, VRLEX, FAD-2, CPAR, APESS, no residence given
BARNEY, PAUL, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Rehoboth
BARNEY, PRINCE, **, MSS, 1790MA, Swanzey
BARNEY, WHEATON, **, MSS, Swanzey
BARNES, CROMWELL, African American, MSS, Boston
BARRETT, JOSHUA, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Boston
BARRETT, PHILIP, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, DMR, Concord
BARSE, PRINCE, **, MSS, no residence given
BARTLET/BARTLETT, SCIPIO/SIP, “other free,” R4010 [married Cate Green February 6, 1787], MSS, Beverly
BASON, CESAR, African American, APBBH, QUIN, TJBH, DMR, Westford/Concord
BASSET, ZEBULON, African American, MSS, Harwich
BASSETT, ZEBULON, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Hardwick
BATCHELOR, PRINCE, **, MSS, Amesbury
BATTLE, CAESAR, **, MSS, no residence given
BAXTER, PRINCE, **, MSS, Barnstable Co./Yarmouth
BEACHMAN/BEACKMAN, POMP, **, MSS, Woburn
BEALS, CATO, **, MSS, Watertown?
BEAR/BEARS, CHARLES, Indian, “Capt. Ambrose Bears’s Co. of Indians,” MSS, no residence given
BEARD, PRINCE, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Dartmouth
BEAVER, MEVUS, **, MSS, no residence given
BEAVER, POMP, African American, MMP:28, Rehoboth
BEBE, SOLOMON, “brown complexion,” MMP:28, Ludlow
BECKY’S BOSTON, African American, NOU, PEECH, Lancaster
BELL, BOSTON, **, MSS, Ipswich
BELL, BOSTON, African American, SBF, MSS, Bedford, N. H./Methuen, Mass.
BEMBO, JACK, **, MSS, Bellingham
BENGARUS, POMP, **, MSS, “reported killed,” Worcester [Also listed as Glaris, P’n to Ben.]
BENNET, BRISTER/BRISTOL, African American, SBF, MSS, VHG:3:417, Cheshire/Berkshire Co./New Providence
BENSON, ABEL, African American (“complexion: yellow; reported a Negro”), MSS, 1790MA Framingham
BENSON, AQUILLA, **, MSS, Middleborough
BENTON, BEZAR, **, MSS, Ashfield
BENWAY, JOSEPH, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, France/Warren
BERDICK, FREEDOM, “dark complexion,” MSS, Richmond
BERRY, ___, Punkapoag Indian, DRM:177, Grafton
BERRY, SHEARS, **, MSS, 1790MA, Oakham [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name who died in Salem, N. Y.]
BESS, PETER, African American, petitioner to the General Court, patriotic service, PFM77, no residence given
BETTIS, JOHN, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Waltham/Roxbury
BICK, LANCASTER, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Newbury
BILL, BOSTON, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Concord
BILSTON, PRINCE, **, MSS, Dorchester?
BIMBO, JACK, **, MSS, Bellingham
BIRDEN, CODIO, **, MSS, no residence given
BLACK, BOSTON, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Marblehead
BLACK, CAESAR, **, MSS, M881, Hingham
BLACK, CATO, African American (“Free Black”), W17313 [married Rebecca Wallace], res Granby, Hartford Co.
BLACK, CUFF, **, MSS, Gloucester
BLACK, EBENEZER, African American, SBF, MSS, Sandwich
BLACK, FORTUNE, African American, MSS, WAL, M881, Braintree/Uxbridge, 1790MA, Braintree
BLACK, JOEL, “dark complexion,” MSS, Attleborough
BLACK, PHARARH, African American, M881, no residence given
BLACKAMORE, HOLTON, **, MSS, Ware
BLACKE, CAESAR, **, MSS, no residence given
BLACKING, CATO, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, volunteer on the ship “Deane;”
BLACKMAN, KEMER/KEMOR/KAMER, **, MSS, 1790MA, Woburn
BLACKMAN, POMP, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, WAL, M881, Concord & Lexington
BLACKMAN, POMPEY, (aka FORTUNE, POMPEY; FREEMAN, POMP), African American, MSS, SBF, QUIN, DMR, Woburn
BLACKMAN, SAMUEL, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Northampton
BLACKMOR, HOLLAND, **, MSS, no residence given
BLACKMORE, JOHN, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Dartmouth
BLACKNEY, CATO, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, volunteer on the ship “Deane” and landsman on the brig Prospect, Boston
BLAK, CAESAR, **, MSS, no residence given
BLAKE, CAESAR, African American, MSS, Hingham
BLAKEY, PERO, African American, MSS, PHM, Plymouth
BLANCHARD, CUFF, see CHAMBERS, CUFF
BLANCHARD, LYSIAS, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Harvard/Littleton
BLANCHARD, NERO, **, MSS, Braintree
BLANCHARD, ROBBIN, **, MSS, no residence given
BLANCHARD, SIMEON, African American? (“complexion: black”), MSS, Belchertown
BLANCHARD, WILLIAM, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Wrentham
BLANDING, ORESTO, **, MSS, Rehoboth
BLEW, CUFF, African American, MSS, seaman on the ship Franklin, Marblehead
BLOOD, PRINCE, **, MSS, no residence given
BLY, LOT, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Rochester
BLY/BLYE, WILLIAM, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, PHM, Plymouth Co./Rochester
BOB, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, seaman on the sloop Safety, no residence given
BOOMER/BOMER, SHARP, African American, MSS, 1790MA Freetown
BOOTH, PETER, African American, PHM, Plymouth Co./Marshfield
BORDMAN/BOARDMAN, CATO, African American, MSS, QUIN, Cambridge
BORSES, JAMES, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Plymouth
BOSTON, African American (“Negros”), MSS, Charlton
BOSTON, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR, M881, MPRWR, no residence given
BOSTON, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, no residence given
BOSTON, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Seaman, no residence given
BOSTON, ANTHONY, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, SBF, WAL, M881, Boscawen
BOSTON, ANTHONY, African American, MSS, WAL, Newburyport
BOSTON, BACCHUS, African American, MSS, M881, MPRWR, Lancaster
BOSTON, BACCHUS, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Springfield
BOSTON, BOSTON, **, MSS, Seaman, Boston
BOSTON, CAESAR, African American, MSS, WAL, M881, Framingham
BOSTON, CATO, African American, MSS, SBF, Hardwick
BOSTON, DANIEL, **, MSS, Sanford, Maine
BOSTON, EDWARD, **, MSS, Ipswich
BOSTON, JACOB, **, MSS, no residence given
BOSTON, JOHN, **, MSS, Seaman, no residence given
BOSTON, JOSHUA, African American, MSS, 1790MA, Hadley
BOSTON, JUNIOR/JUNIAR, African American, MSS, WAL, M881, CSP, Scarborough
BOSTON, NEIL/NELL, **, MSS, M881, CSP, Scituate
BOSTON, PETER, African American, MSS, W3650 [wife Rhoda], seaman on the Hazard, the Confederacy, and the Aurora, Nantucket
BOSTON, PHILIP, African American, MSS, Carlisle
BOSTON, PHILLIP, African American, SBF, Holden
BOSTON, SILAS, African American, MSS, FAD-2, VRNAN 3, seaman on the Hazard, Nantucket
BOSTWAIN, WINTER, **, MSS, Roxbury
BOURN/BOURNEX, FORTUNE, **, MSS, Berkshire Co.
BOWERS, JAMES, African American, MSS, Cambridge
BOWERS/BOWES, JAMES, African American, MSS, PHM, Plymouth
BOWLES, CATO, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Wrentham
BOWLES, CHARLES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), S44640, SBF, MSS, CPAR, BOW, Salem & Warren, N. H.
BOWRS, PRIMUS, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Swanzey?
BOYLSTON, PRINCE, African American, HGC (“Esquire Boylston’s Prince”), Brookline
BRADLEY, THOMAS, African American, SBF, Portsmouth, N. H.?
BRAPAUANET, HENDRICKS, Indian, Selectman, MCO, Stockbridge
BRAY, ZACHARIAH, African American, MSS, 1790MA, AAR, Danvers
BREWER, CATO, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, JRAHA, Newton
BREWSTER, PRINCE, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Medway
BRICK, JOHN, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
BRIENT/BRIANT, J\(\text{ACK}, \) aka J\(\text{ACK} \) THARE, African American, MSS, QUIN, Stoneham
BRIF\(\text{F}\)IN, ANTHONY, African American/Portuguese, MSS, Dartmouth
BRILL, aka CYPHA, African American, (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Barre
BRISTER, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, MJE-1, Cheshire/New Providence
BRIT\(\text{ON}, \) CAESAR, **, MSS, Framingham
BRIT\(\text{ON}, \) CAPE, **, MSS, Seaman in 1776, no residence given
BROOK, SIMON, African American, MSS Grafton, 1790MA Worcester
BROOKS, BOSTON, **, MSS, Salem
BROWN, ANDREW, Nipmuc Indian (Hassanamisco), MSS, FCP:11, HMF:171, DRM:172, Grafton
BROWN, CALLA, African American, PHM, Scituate
BROWN, CYRUS, **, MSS, volunteer on the ship Deane “complexion: dark,” res R. I.
BROWN, DAN, African American, MSS, 1790MA Swanzey
BROWN, JOHN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Upton/Hopkinton
BROWN, JOHN, **, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Seaman, Freetown
BROWN, JOHN, **, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Seaman, Salem
BROWN, PRINCE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Falmouth
BROWN, PRINCE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Grafton
BROWN, PRINCE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Newbury
BROWN, SAMBO, **, MSS, Leicester
BROWN, SAMPSON, **, MSS, Wenham
BROWN, THOMAS, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, no residence given
BROWNELL, PRINCE, **, MSS, Dartmouth
BRUNE, ANTONY, **, MSS, Seaman, no residence given
BRUSTER, PRINCE, **, MSS, Medway
BUCKLAND/BUCKLEN, LONDON, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Attleborough & Northampton
BUKER/BAKER, WINSOR/WINDSOR, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Hanover & Scituate
BUMPO/BUMPAS, MICAH/MIKE, “man of color,” QUIN, Waltham, 1790MA, Waltham
BUNN, alias SAMUEL BROWN, **, “complexion: brown,” MSS, Brookfield
BURD, PRINCE, **, MSS, no residence given
BURDEN, CUDJO, **, MSS, Dartmouth
BURDUN, CATO, **, MSS, Newport? Falmouth?
BURDOO, ELI, “man of color,” QUIN, Lexington
BURDOO, SILAS, African American (“Free Black”), S21099, SBF, MSS, SSVT:84, JHN, DMR, Medford/Lexington/Reading
BURN\(\text{E}E, \) FORTUNE, JR., Nipmuc Indian (Hassanamisco), MSS, FCP:11, HMF:171, QUIN, DRM:172, Grafton
BURNIX/BURNOX/BUNROCK, FORTUNE, African American, MSS, BLWt 3796, Haverhill
BURR, SEYMOUR, African American, W23726, MSS, CBS, CPAR, BHAM, Norton
BURZIE, BELA, **, MSS, deserted, George/Georgetown
BUTLER, J\(\text{ACK}, \) African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Mariner, no residence given
BUXTON, PETER, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Danvers
BUXTON, PRINCE, African American, MSS, QUIN, Danvers/Andover
CAESAR, JONATHAN, **, CSP
CAESAR, JULIUS/JULY/JULIAN, African American, (“reported a Negro”), MSS, MMP:29, Lancaster
CAESAR/CEASOR, THOMAS/TOM, Indian, MSS, GH1793 (“mixt blood”), GH1800, Barnstable/Sandwich/Mashpee
CAESOR, African American, NMS, Mass. Arch.:203, no residence given
C\(\text{A}L\)\(\text{D}W\)E\(\text{L}L, \) ADAM, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Woburn
C\(\text{A}L\)\(\text{D}W\)E\(\text{L}L, \) MEDFORD, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Billerica, Charlestown, & Williamsburg
CALVIN, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Middleborough/Plymouth Co.
CHEESEBROUGH, CHEESELONG, CHENEQUIN/CHENEQUUN, CHOWEN, CHEENEQUAN, CHASE, CHAMPLIN, CHAMPLIN, CHAMPLIN, CHAMPLIN, CHAMPLAIN, CHAMBERS, CEASOR/CEASAR, CEASAR, CEASAR, CATO, CATO, CATO, CATO, CATO, CATO, CATO, CASWELL, CARTWRIGHT, CARTRITE/CARTRIGHT, CARTER, CAREY, CANADY, CAIN, CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts

CAMBRIDGE, CAESAR, **, MSS, South Hadley
CAIN, ABLE, **, CSP
CANADY, JACK, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Roxbury and Canada
CAPY, JOHNN, Indian, PHM, Rochester
CARREY, WILLIAM, African American, MSS, Fitchburg
CARTER, JOHN, African American, NOU, PEACH, LM (Providence, v. 5:340) Lancaster
CARTRITE/CARTRIGHT, TONEY D., African American, MSS, BLWt 3906, Charlestown
CARTWRIGHT, African American, MMP:29, Middlesex Co.
CARY /CAREY, WINDHAM/WENHAM, African American, MSS, Boston
CASWELL, PRINCE, African American, MSS, 1790MA Taunton
CATO, African American, IRWSR, 3rd Regt. Mass. Militia, M881, no residence given
CATO, African American (“Negro”), MMP:29, Springfield
CATO, African American, MSS, no residence given
CATO, African American, MSS, no residence given
CATO, African American, MSS, Andover
CATO, African American, MSS, Falmouth
CATO, African American, MSS, Lanesborough
CATO, African American, MSS, Marblehead
CATO, African American, MSS, Mariner
CATO, African American, MSS, Salem
CATO, African American, MSS, Springfield
CATO, African American. MSS, Mariner
CATO, African American (“Negro”), MSS, Mariner, no residence given
CATO, JAMES, African American, MSS, no residence given
CATO, PRINCE, African American, BFN, Plymouth
CEASAR, African American, MSS, no residence given
CEASAR, African American, MSS, no residence given
CEASAR, African American, MSS, Braintree
CEASAR, African American, MSS, Pembroke
CEASAR/CESAR, JESSE, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, M881, Edgartown
CEASAR, JULIUS, Negro, MMP, MSS, NOU, PEACH, Lancaster
CEASOR/CAESAR, TOM, Mashpee Indian, CL, HBCM, MSS, CPAR, APESS
CEASOR, SCIPIO, African American, MSS, Littleton
CHAMBERS, CUFF, aka BLANCHARD, CUFF, African American, MSS, W23810, AAR, SBF, MVBH:371 (later lived in Leeds, Maine), QUIN, Andover
CHAMPLAIN, CUDJO, **, MSS, no residence given
CHAMPLIN, JACK, **, MSS, no residence given
CHAMPLIN, JULY, **, MSS, no residence given
CHAMPLIN, SHARPER, **, MSS, no residence given
CHAMPLIN, YORKE, **, MSS, no residence given
CHARLES, JOSEPH, African American (“complexion, Negro”), MSS (on ship Protector), no residence given
CHARLES, MOSES, Indian, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
CHASE, JOSEPH, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, no residence given
CHASE, SIPIO, African American, MSS, MMP:29, Littleton
CHEENEQUAN, JOSEPH, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
CHEESE, JERRY, Indian, MSS, Rehoboth
CHEESEBROUGH, CUFF, **, MSS, no residence given
CHEESLON, JOSEPH, African American, MSS, Salem
CHENEQUIN/CHENEQUUN, JOSEPH, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
CHOWEN, JOHN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), QUIN, Lancaster
CHURCH, CAESAR, African American, MSS, Dighton
CHURCH, JOB, African American, SBF, Newbury, Mass.
CIPIO, African American, MSS, Berkshire Co.
CIRCUM, CEASAR, **, IRSWR 1:497, NAT, Natick
CITIZEN, LONDON, **, QUIN, Andover
CLAP, CUFF, African American, MSS, Scituate
CLAP, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Easton
CLAP, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Mansfield
CLARK, ANTHONY, African American, RFBS, Dracut
CLARK, PRINCE/PRIME, African American, MSS, M881
CLARK, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Northampton
CLARK, TONY/ANTHONY, African American, MSS, SBF, Dracut
CLEVER, ANTHONY, African American, MSS, Ashford & Pittsfield
CLOAS, ENOCH, Indian, deserted (New-England Chronicle, July 11, 1776, v. 8, issue 412, p. 4), Nantucket
COBAS/COBUS/CABUSS/COBURN, PRIMUS, African American (“free man of colour”), MSS, S34703, PHM, Bridgewater/Abington, res Baltimore, Md. in 1818
COBIN, TITUS, African American, MSS, TJFBH, Wilmington
COBURN, SAMPSON, “colored,” QUIN, Cape Ann
COBURN, SMITH, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, Dracut
COBURN/COLBURN, TITUS, African American, SBF, MSS, QUIN, CPAR, Andover/Shirley
COFF, THOMAS, **, MSS, Harwich
COFFE/COFFEE/CUFFEE, ISHMAEL, African American, MSS, 1790MA, Medway
COFFEE, MICHAEL, **, MSS, seaman on the ship Protector, no residence given
COFFEEY, JOHN, **, MSS, Berkshire Co./Worcester
COFFIN, OBED, African American (“Negro” or Mashpee Indian), W14569, MSS, FIA, Mashpee
COGNEHEW/COGNEE/COCKNEHU, JOHN, Mashpee Indian, MSS:3:718, Sandwich
COGNEHEW, THOMAS, Mashpee Indian, MSS:3:718, DRM:171, Sandwich
COGSWELL, CAESAR, African American, MSS, M881, Andover
COLE, THOMAS, African American, SBF, MSS, res Somersworth, N. H.
COLLINS, DODGE, African American, SBF, Worcester
COMECHO, ISAAC, Indian, QUIN, NAT, Dedham/Natick
COMECHO/COMMECHEW, SAMUEL, Indian, QUIN, NAT, MPRWR, Sherborn/Natick
COMPSITT/COMITT, JOSHUA, Matakeesett Indian, PHM, DRM:174, Scituate
CONANT, JOSEPH, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Sandwich
CONDO, WILLIAM, African American, MSS, Pelham
CONGO, JACK, African American?, CSP, no residence given
COOK, HENRY, African American, PHM, Bridgewater
COOKE, HENRY, African American (“a Negro man”), PTRC1:82-83 (Born in Barbados), Boston
COOK, POMP, **, MS, M881, CSP, no residence given
CORCK, SAMUEL, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
CORDNER, AMOS, African American, MSS, 1790MA Bridgewater
CORNWALLIS/CORNELIUS, African American, MSS, Braintree
CORTER, JOHN, African American, MSS, Lancaster
COUNT, JESSE ABNER, African American/Indian, MSS, Edgartown & Nantucket
COURT, TOM, **, MSS, Suffolk Co.
COSINS/COUSAND, CUFF, see TINDY, CUFF
COWEN/COWIN, TABOR, **, MSS, seaman on the ship Proctor, Boston
COWIT, EBENEZER, African American? MSS, Eastham
COWITT, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Mariner, Eastham
COZZENS, COFFE, **, MSS, Suffolk Co.
CRAFT, SAMUEL, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Lexington
CRANK/CRANKS, PELEG, African American, MSS, Freetown
CROCKER, JEREMIAH, African American, MSS, Medway
CROCKER, KENelm, **, MSS, no residence given
CROCKER/CROKER, JEREMIAH, African American, SBF, Bellingham
CROOK, JAMES, Indian, MSS, Harwich
CROSBY, LONDON, African American (“Negro”), barber, ILB (deserted from the Continental Frigate Deane), no residence given
CROSBY, SPARROW, **, MSS, Harwich
CROSBY, TULLY, **, MSS, Harwich
CROSBEY/CROSBY, LONDON, **, MSS
CRUFT, MONDAY, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
CUDDY, PORTER, African American (“Negro”), MSS, QUIN, Sudbury
CUDGE, JUBE, **, MSS, Mansfield
CUDGE, REUBEN, **, M881, no residence given
CUJO, JOHN, **, M881, Plymouth
CUFF, WILLIAM, **, MSS, M881, Worcester
CUFFE, WILL, **, MSS, Boston
CUFFEE/CUFFIE, PAUL, African American, MSS, CPAR, M881, Falmouth
CUFFERRIN/CUFFREER, POMP, **, MSS, WAL, Leominster
CUFFREY/CUFFWER, POMP, African American, M881, CSP, no residence given
CUFFS, WILLIAM, **, MSS, Boston/Wellfleet
CUMING/CUMMINGS/CUMENS/COMMINGS, BRISTOL/BRISTER (aka Brister Freeman), African American, MSS, M881, DMR, GDR, Concord/Groton
CUMMINGS/CUMMINS/CUMMIS, NOBLE, “complexion: dark,” Dighton
CURRIER, ROBIN/ROBERT, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, Amesbury
CURTIS, ELISHA, African American, MSS, BLWT 3869-100, Bridgewater
CURTIS, PRINCE, **, MSS, Hanover
CURTIS, ROBIN, **, MSS, Seaman, Marblehead?
CUSHING, PERO, **, MSS, CSP, Hanover
CUSHMAN, PRIMUS, African American, MSS, Lynn
CUSSKUS, JOHN, Indian, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
CUTLAR/CUTLER, PRINCE, African American, MSS, Cambridge
CUTLER, ISHMAEL, African American, MSS, Cambridge
CUTLER, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given
CUTT/COAT, JOSEPH, African American, MSS, Wilbraham
CUZENS/CUZZEN, CUFF/CLOUGH, **, MSS, Middlesex Co./Holliston
CYRUS, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, MJE-1, Cheshire/New Providence
DAGO/DAGOR/DAGS/DAYGO/DEGO/DIDDO/DIGGO, PETER, African American (“Negro”), MSS, NAT, Natick & Mendon
DAGO, PETER, African American (“Negro”), MSS, Pittsfield
DAGO/DIGO, PETER, Indian? MSS, Stockbridge
DAN, African American, MSS, Plymouth
DANE, PRINCE, **, MSS, Seaman, no residence given
DANFORTH, DICK, **, MSS, no residence given
DANFORTH, JACOB, African American, SBF, res Hollis & Portsmouth, N. H.
DANIEL, ANTHONY, **, MSS, Seaman, Suffolk Co.
DANIELS, TABER, Indian, MSS, Dartmouth
DARBY, PRINCE, African American (“Negro”), MSS, M881, Dorchester
DAVID, African American, MSS, Rehoboth
DAVID, SAMPSON/SAMUEL, **, MSS, Middleborough
DAVIDS, BRISTOL, Indian, PHM, Bridgewater
DAVISON, WILLIAM, African American, SBF, MSS, res Rye, N. H.?
DAVIS, FRANCIS, African American, MSS, PEACh, 1790MA Lancaster
DAVIS, NEWPORT, **, MSS, seaman on the brigantine Rising Empire, Bristol Co., 1790MA, Boston
DAVIS, PHIL, **, MSS, no residence given
DAVIS, RUFUS, **, MSS, no residence given
DAVIS, SAMUEL, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Stockbridge/Barrington
DAWES/DAWS, CATO, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, BLWt 99-100, Worcester
DAY, CAESAR, **, MSS, Boston
DEAN, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Berkley
DEAN, THOMAS, African American, waggoner, MSS, Dighton
DEBARROW/DEBARROWS, ANDREW, African American, MSS, Mariner, Plympton,
DEBLOIS, NEWPORT, African American (“Negro”), MSS, Freetown/Boston
DECOST/DECOSTER, TEMPLE, “light complexion,” MSS, Boston
DECOSTER, JACOB, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Bridgewater
DECOSTER, JOSEPH, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Boston
DEGO, PETER, African American (“Negro”), M881, Cambridge
DELEMOS, CHOVIER CARDOZO, “complexion: brown,” MSS, Boston
DEMAH, PRINCE, **, MSS, no residence given
DEMARIANVILLA/DEMARONVILLA/DEMENRANVEL/DEMORANVILLA/DEMorAN-VILLE, LUES/LUIS/LEWIS, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Dartmouth/Freetown. This name may have been Azorean or Portuguese, no residence given
DEMSON, RICHARD, African American, MSS, Sandwich
DEMUS, ABRAHAM, Indian, MSS, Sandwich
DEMUS/DEMUS, JOSEPH, African American, MSS, QUIN, Amesbury/Salisbury
DENNA/DENNIE, BARN/BArNE, “complexion: dark,” MSS, seaman on the sloop Morning Star, mariner on the brigantine Cutter privateer, Salem
DENNIS, CATO, African American (“Negro”), MSS, no residence given
DENNY, DICK, **, MSS, Leicester
DEO, CHARLESTOWN, African American, MMP:29, Groton
DERBY, PRINCE, African American, MSS, Dorchester
DERRY/DEREY, LONDON, African American, MSS, Bridgewater, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:89; CRS, also listed as TERRY, LONDON
DEVERUX, CATO, **, MSS, from Scarsdale, N. Y.
DEWEY, ELIAS, African American, MSS, Conway
DIBBILL/DIBBLE, CATO, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Worcester
DICK, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Colrain
DICK, African American, MSS, Dartmouth
DICK, African American, MSS, Hampshire Co.
DICK, African American (“also reported a Negro”), MSS, West Springfield
DICK, African American, MSS, Worcester/Leicester
DICK, African American, MSS, Worcester
DICK, EXETER, **, MSS, Bristol Co. 1790MA Westport
DICK, JACOB, **, MSS, Sandwich
DICK, JACOB, **, MSS, seaman on the sloop Republic, no residence given
DICK, SAMUEL, JR., “complexion: dark,” MSS, Western
DICK, SOLOMON, African American (“complexion Negro”), MSS, Dartmouth, PHM, Middleborough
DICK/DIK, WARWICK, African American (“a Negro”), MSS, Sturbridge
DICKE, EZEKIEL, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Hallowell
DICKENSON/DICKERSON, CAESAR/CAESAR BAILEY, African American, MSS, R371, QUIN, Deerfield/
Amherst
DICKINSON, NATHANIEL, African American, MSS, Whately
DIKE, HERCULES, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Tewksbury
DIMMIS/DIMUCK, PRINCE, **, MSS, no residence given
DINNIS, CATO, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, seaman on the ship “Pilgrim,” Salem/Cambridge
DINNIS, JAMES, **, MSS, seaman on the brig “Freedom,” no residence given
DINNIS, JOHN, “complexion: dark,” MSS, seaman on the schooner “Resolution,” Boston/Marblehead
DIPPO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, West Springfield
DISIO/DISKO, PROVIDENCE, **, MSS, Barnstable Co./Falmouth
DODGE, HAMPshire, **, SBF, CRS, seaman on the Continental frigate Boston, no residence given
DODGE/LEE, SCIPIO, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, Wenham
DOLE, CUFF, African American (“Negro”), MSS, Rowley, 1790MA, Andover
DONE, CATO, African American (“Negro”), MSS, seaman on the ship “Franklin,” Boston
DONE, FREEMAN, **, MSS, Chatham
DONSETT, CATO, “Free Person of Color,” MSS, Pelham
DOP, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Hampshire Co.
DORITY/DOROTHY/DORITHE, THOMAS, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, Natick, 1790MA, Natick
DOUGLAS, PRINCE, **, MSS, Hancock
DOWNEZE/DOWNS/DONE, PRINCE, **, MSS, Barnstable
DOWREY, CUFF, African American, MSS, Newbury
DOWRY, CUFF, African American, MSS, Oxford
DRAKE, BRISTOL, **, MSS, Bridgewater
DREWERY, MICHAH, African American, MSS, 1790MA, Framingham
DRIVER, JOHN/JACK, African American, SBF, MSS, Salem?
DUBLIN, African American, MSS, Berwick
DUCKENFIELD, THOMAS, Mixed descent (“Molatto”), MSS, VRSAL2, Salem
DUGLAS/DUGLASS, PRINCE, **, MSS, Hancock, Berkshire Co.
DUNBAR, JOSHAU, African American, MSS, W19188, Bridgewater & Hingham
DUNBAR, Sampson, Mixed descent (“Molatto”), MSS, EAS, no residence given
DUNBAR, SAMUEL, Mixed descent (“Molatto”), MSS, S15106, Braintree
DUNCAN/DUNKINS, FRANK, African American, MSS, S34773, MJE-1, West Stockbridge
DUNHAM, MANASSEH, African American, MJE-1, Sandisfield
DUNSETT, CATO aka CATO GRAY, African American, W14659, MSS, M881, Pelham
DURFEE/DURPHY, BOSTON, **, MSS, Bristol Co.
DURFEE, JACK, African American (“Negro”), MSS, Taunton
DYER, JACK, African American, MSS, Mariner, Boston
DYKE, ARCHelaus, African American, MSS, Tewsbury
EADS/EDES, POMP, **, MSS, Medford/Boston
EAGER, FREEMAN, **, MSS, no residence given
EAGER, ZERUDBABEL, African American, WAL, no residence given
EASTERBROOKE/ESTABROOKE, PRINCE, African American, MSS, MMP:29, HIN, QUIN, DRM, Lexington
EASTON, JAMES, African American, see Joshua Dunbar pension: W19198, CPAR, EAS, KINGM, Bridgewater
EATON, CATO, **, MSS, Reading
EATON, ISRAEL, **, MSS, Reading
EATON, PRINCE, **, MSS, Woburn
EAVLATH, ZIMRI, **, MSS, drummer, no residence given
EBET, WILLIAM, African American, MSS, Holden
EDDY, ROBIN, African American, WFH, Taunton
EDES, CHARLESTON, African American, MSS, GDR, Groton
EIGHTEN, PRENS/PRINCE, **, MSS, Woburn
ELIOT, JOHN, African American, MSS, Northampton
ELLEG, FLORIA, **, MSS, seaman on the ship “Alfred,” no residence given
ELLERY, FORTUNE, African American, MSS, Ipswich
ELLES/ELLIS, FLORAS/FLOPER, **, MSS, deserted, no residence given
ELLIS, JACK, African American (“Negro”), MSS, Mariner, Beverly
ELSBERY, CAESAR, African American, MSS, Freetown
ELY/ELLES, JUBE, “complexion: dark,” MSS, W. Springfield
EMANUEL, PRIMUS/PRINCE, African American, MSS, Middleton
EMERSON, FRANK, **, Slave, PIR, no residence given
ENTHARO/FRETHARO/INTHARO, MANWIL/MANWELL/MANUEL, **, MSS [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, or African descent.] Marblehead
EPHRAIM, ABEL, Indian, QUIN, Hopkinton
EPHRAIM, EBENEZER, Indian, QUIN, NAT, Worcester/Natick
EPHRAIM, SAMUEL, Indian, MSS, East Sudbury
EPHRAIM, SIMON, Indian, NAT, Natick
ERVING, WILLIAM, African American, MSS, Stockbridge
ESOP, ISAAC, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
ESPAIOLE, JOSEPH, **, MSS, landsman on the frigate “Boston.” [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, or African descent.] No residence given
ESTAYACHO, JOHN, **, MSS, seaman on the frigate “Boston.” [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, or African descent.] No residence given
EVERALL, BISTER, African American, MSS, Middleton
EVER/EVERAT/EVERETT, CATO, African American, MSS, Wrentham
EVERS/EWER/EWERS, PRINCE, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Barnstable
EWING, WILLIAM, African American, MMP:29, Amherst
EZRA, African American (“Negro/Negrow”), IRWSR, M881, MSS, Yarmouth
FACHEL, WASSALL, **, MSS, marine on the ship “Protector,” no town given
FACSON, PRINCE, **, MSS, Middlesex Co.
FAGINS, ROBERT, Indian, MSS, Mariner, Conn.
FAGINS, WILLIAM, Indian, MSS, Mariner, Conn.
FAHANDO, CHAVAT, **, MSS, seaman on the frigate “Boston.” [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, African or French descent.] No residence given
FAIR/FARE, CATO, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, Natick
FAIRSERVICE, CAESAR, African American, MSS, Watertown
FAIRWEATHER, CAESAR, African American, Seaman, SBF, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:86
FALES, LONDON, African American, MSS, WFH, Taunton
FALL, ADAM, African American, MSS, Chatham
FALMOUTH, JOSEPH, African American, MSS, Hingham & Falmouth
FARIS, JACK, African American? CRS (seaman on the Ranger)
FARNANDO/FERANDO, ANDREW, **, MSS, seaman on the sloop “Providence,” Boston. [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, or African descent.] No residence given
FEEN, CASE, African American, MSS, Concord
FELTON, FORTUNE, African American. MSS, Danvers
FERDINAND, ANTHONY, **, MSS, Marblehead. [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, African or French descent.] No residence given
FERNANDO, FRANCIS/FRANCISCO, **, MSS, Stoughtonham
FERREN/FEARING, PRINCE, African American, MSS, Franklin
FERRIT/FARETE, CAESAR/ELEAZAR, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, VRNAT, HNM, QUIN, DRM:171, NAT, Natick
FERRIT, JOHN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, VRNAT, HNM, QUIN, NAT, DRM:171, Natick
FERRIT, THOMAS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, QUIN, NAT, Dedham
FESTUS, African American, MSS, Berkshire Co.
FINCH, PERO, **, MSS, Bristol Co.
FISHER, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Dighton
FISK, POMPEY/POMP, “Colored,” QUIN, GDR, Charlestown/Lexington/Groton
FISKE, POMP, “Colored,” HTLM, Lexington
FITCH, BENJAMIN, Indian, M881, RDNV:1:112 (deserted), (East Greenwich, R. I., served in the 12th MA Regt.)
FLAGG, ANTHONY, African American (“complexion: dark”), MSS, Swanzey/Bristol Co.
FLEMING, WILLIAM, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
FLETCHER, ARCHELAUS, African American, MSS, S44822, 1790MA, res Ontario Co., N.Y.
FLETCHER, OZIAS, African American, MSS, West Springfield
FLETUS, African American, MSS, Granville
FOGG, FORTUNE, African American, SBF, Great Barrington
FORD, PRINCE, **, MSS, M881, Bridgewater
FOROW, JACK, **, MSS, Chatham
FORTIN/FORTUM/FORTUNE, CATO, **, MSS, M881, MJE-1, CSP, Tyringham
FORTIN/FORTUNE/FORTUM, ENOCH, **, MSS, M881, Stockbridge
FORTONATUS/FORTUNATAS, CATO, **, MSS, M881, Upton
FORTUNE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, WAL, Lynn
FORTUNE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, seaman or marine on the brigand “Hazard,” no residence given
FORWARD, DAN, **, MSS, Western
FOSTER, BOSTON, African American, MSS, Boston
FOSTER, CATO, African American (“black complexion”), MSS, BLWt 365, drummer, M881, Andover & Salem
FOWLER, JOSEPH, African American, PHM, Pembroke
FOY/FOYE, BOSTON, **, MSS, Bridgewater
FOY, CATO, **, MSS, Bridgewater
FOY, JOHN, African American, MSS, Bridgewater
FOY, LOVIS, **, MSS, no residence given
FOY, SYLVANUS, **, MSS, no residence given
FOY, WILLIAM, **, MSS, Seaman, no residence given
FRANCES, JAMES, Indian, MSS, Taunton
FRANCIS, CHARLES, African American, MSS, Marblehead
FRANCIS, JOHN, African American (“Mulatto” or Mashpee Indian?), MSS, FIA, Mashpee & Sandwich
FRANCIS, JONATHAN, Indian, MSS, Brookfield
FRANCOIS, (“a French Negro”), deserted (New-England Chronicle (Boston), May 15, 1777, v. 9, issue 456, p. 3; deserted from the Alfred ship of war).
FRANK, African American, MSS, Westfield
FRANKLIN, CATO, **, MSS, “landsman on the frigate ‘Boston’,” no residence given
FRANKLIN?, PETER, African American, NOU, PEACH, Lancaster
FRANKSON, ENOS, African American, MSS, Worcester
FREE, JUPITER, **, MSS, WAL, M881, Attleborough
FREEMAN, ADAM, African American?, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:86, no residence given
FREEMAN, ANTONY, **, M881, no residence given
FREEMAN, ARTILLO, African American, MSS, S44853, WAL, GREE, Roxbury
FREEMAN, ASHER, African American, MSS, S34890, PHM, Scituate
FREEMAN, BRISTER/BRISTOL/BRISTO – see CUMING, BRISTER
FREEMAN, CAESAR, African American, MSS, Hadley
FREEMAN, CAESAR, **, MSS, Reading
FREEMAN, CAESAR, **, MSS, Hampshire Co.
FREEMAN, CAESAR AUGUSTUS, **, MSS, Dorchester
FREEMAN, CATO [NOTE: Three men with this name appear in M881. They are likely one of the men listed below. The name also appears as Cato Freeman/Freeman.]
FREEMAN, CATO, African American, LLM, Cambridge
FREEMAN, CATO, African American, MMP:29, Concord
FREEMAN/LIBERTY, CATO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, QUIN, Andover
FREEMAN, CATO, African American, MSS, Northborough
FREEMAN, CATO, African American, MSS, Rowley
FREEMAN, CATO, **, MSS, served in New York, no town shown
FREEMAN, CATO, **, MSS, Stoneham
FREEMAN, CATO, **, MSS, Watertown
FREEMAN, CATO, **, MSS, Westborough
FREEMAN, CATO, **, MSS, Middlesex Co./Newton
FREEMAN, CORNWALLIS, **, MSS, Braintree
FREEMAN, CUFF, African American, Seaman, SBF, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:86
FREEMAN, CUFF, **, MSS, M881, Dedham
FREEMAN, CUFF, **, MSS, Norton/Bristol Co.
FREEMAN, DOSS, African American (“complexion: black; hair: wool”), MSS, W14760, BLWt 1981-100, WAL
Reading
FREEMAN, FORTUNE/FORTAIN/FORTIN [NOTE: Three men appear in M881 with this name. They are likely
one of the men listed below.]
FREEMAN, FORTUNE, **, MSS, Grafton/Haverhill
FREEMAN, FORTUNE, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Hingham
FREEMAN, FORTUNE, African American (“complexion: Negro”), MSS, Topsfield/Salem
FREEMAN, FORTUNE, **, MSS, Tyringham
FREEMAN, FORTUNE, **, MSS, Newbury
FREEMAN, FORTUNE, African American, S43572, Boston
FREEMAN, JACK, African American (“colored”), HTHM, Hingham
FREEMAN, JOHN, African American, S18410, MVBH:370, Ipswich (later lived in Bath, Maine)
FREEMAN, JONAS, African American, MSS, Reading
FREEMAN, JOSEPH, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
FREEMAN, JUBE/JUBAL, **, MSS, Hingham
FREEMAN, NERO, African American, Seaman, SBF, CRS, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:86
FREEMAN, PRIMUS, **, MSS, M881, JBR:17, Medford
FREEMAN, PRINCE, **, MSS, M881, Boston
FREEMAN, REUBEN, African American (“complexion black”), MSS, Ipswich
FREEMAN, SALISBURY, **, MSS, Bellingham
FREEMAN, SAM, **, MSS, Mendon
FREEMAN, SAMPSON/SAMSON, African American, S17419, LM (Providence v. 5:269), RIHSRWPI, PTRC:72,
Salem/Beverly, [later moved to Johnston and Providence, Rhode Island, and then to Peru and
Waterville, Maine.] }
FREEMAN, SCIPIO/SIP, African American, MSS:6:52, VRBEV, Beverly
FREEMAN, SHARPER, African American, MSS, S34891, M881, Stoneham
FREEMAN, SIMEON, African American, MSS, Sandisfield
FREEMAN, TITUS, African American, (“reported a Negro”), MSS, SBF, Boston
FREEMAN, CAESAR, **, MSS, no residence given [This may be one of the men listed above as “Freeman.”]
FREEMAN, DICK, **, MSS, no residence given
FREEMAN, FORTUNE, **, MSS, no residence given [This may be one of the men listed above as “Freeman.”]
FRETO, EMMANUEL/ENTHARO, MANIWELL, **, MSS, Marblehead. [This individual may have been of
African, Azorean or Iberian descent.] No residence given
FRISHER, THOMAS, African American, MMP:29, Dighton
FRIZELL, CATO, African American, MSS, Mansfield
FROST, CATO, **, MSS, M881, no residence given.
FROST, NEPTUNE, African American, MSS, QUIN, Cambridge
FROTHINGHAM/FROTHINHAM, CATO, African American (“Negro”), MSS, Watertown
FRY/FRYE, CATO, African American, MSS, GDR, M881, Groton/Andover
FRYE, CAESAR, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, Andover
FRYE, PRINCE, **, MSS, Andover/Holliston
FRYE/FRY, ROZI/ROZER/ROIZER, **, M881, no residence given
FULLER, JULIUS, **, MSS, Ashfield
FULLER, PETER, African American, MSS, Danvers
FULLER, TITUS, African American ("reported a Negro"), W21501, MSS, Berkley
FUNELO, NERO, African American, petitioner to the General Court, patriotic service, PFM77, no residence given
FYAS, JOHN, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
GAD, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, no residence given
GAGE, PRINCE, **, MSS, Martha's Vineyard
GAINS, POMP B./B. POMP, **, M881, CSP, no residence given
GARDNER, ADAM, African American, HGC (Squire Garder's "Adam"), MSS, Brookline
GARDNER, JACK, see SLADE, JACK/JOHN
GARDNER, MOSES, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), MSS, Boston
GARDNER, SHARP, African American ("recorded a Negro"), MSS, Boston
GARDNER, THOMAS, African American ("recorded a Negro"), MSS, Boston
GARE, GEORGE, African American ("Negro"), [soldier ill in Providence, Rhode Island and supported by the town.] C00482:2 (Providence Town Papers)
GARY, CAESAR, African American ("complexion: black"), MSS, Reading
GAWEN, PRINCE, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, seaman on the ship "Protector," no residence given
GEORGE, BENJAMIN, Indian, MSS, Franklin
GEORGE, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
GEORGE/GEORGES, GIDEON, African American. MSS, NOU, PEACH, Bolton & Lancaster [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name from Haverhill, MA.]
GEORGE, PRINCE, **, MSS, Boston
GEORGE, SAMUEL, African American, MSS, Freetown & Taunton
GHANT, PRIMUS, **, MSS, Springfield
GIBBS, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Sunderland
GIDGER [GIGGER], NICODEMUS, **, MSS, HMF, TWHA, Sudbury
GILBERT, PRINCE, African American, Seaman, SBF, MSS, CRS, seaman on the frigate "Boston", ANOM:86, no residence given
GILES, CAESAR, **, MSS, Boston?
GILL/GILLS, JOEL, African American, MSS, SBF, Medfield/Stoughton
GILL, QUINTUS, African American ("complexion: Negro"), MSS, seaman on several ships, Boston
GILMORE/GILMORE, TOBEY, **, MSS, Raynham
GILMAN, ANTHONY, African American, fifer, MSS, S32729, SBF, North Castle
GLASGO/GLASGOW, CATO, **, MSS, Plymouth
GLOVER, CAESAR, ("colored"), S32738, res. Boston
GODFREY, CAESAR, African American, Waiter & Mariner, MSS, S32739, res. Boston
GOING, PRINCE, **, MSS, Newton
GOLD/GOULD, BENJAMIN, African American, MSS, Wareham
GOODALE, PRIMUS/PRINCE, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, no residence given
GOODING/GOODWIN/GOOING, CUFF, African American, MSS, TRDM, M881, Dighton
GOTT, CAESAR/CUFF, **, MSS, Lynn
GOULD, BENJAMIN, African American, PHM, Wareham
GOULD, BRISTER, African American, MSS, MGC [former enslaved man of Squire Torrey; married January 10, 1797 to Phebe Rowe/sec/Rosier (Indian); died August 28, 1823 age 64], BGBR, Abington
GOULD, CAMARALZAMAN/CAMARAMSAWDE, African American ("Negro"), MSS, PHM, Wareham
GOULD, CHARLES, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
GOWEN/GOING, PRINCE, **, MSS, M881, Waltham
GRAY, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
GRAY, CATO see CATO DUNSETT
GRAY, CYPRUS, **, MSS, Amesbury
GRAY, SCIPIO, African American, QUIN, Amesbury
GREEN, CATO, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, MSS, Stoneham
GREEN, JACK, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, MSS, Reading
GREEN, JOSEPH, African American, MSS, W27415, Easton
GREEN, NEWPORT, African American, MSS, Medfield
GREEN, PETER, African American (“b. in Africa”), VRSAL4, Patriotic Service, servant of Maj. Gen. N. Green, Salem
GREEN, POMP, **, QUIN, MSS, Stoneham
GREEN, PRIMUM/PRIMAS, African American, MSS, M881, Beverly
GREEN, ROBERT, African American, MSS, Ware & Bradford
GREEN, WARWICK/NORWICH, African American, MSS, Medfield
GREEN, WILLIAMS, African American, MSS, Adams
GREENE, CUFF, **, MSS, no residence given
GREENE, JOHN, African American (“a Negro man”). PTCR2:5 (born on Antigua, West Indies; seaman on the privateer Rattlesnake out of Boston), Boston and Providence, R. I.
GREGER/GRIGER/GRIGGER/GRAGER, CATO, African American, (“reported a Negro”), MSS, W2731, BLWt10, GARWPF:2:1442, Williamstown/Hancock
GRINNELL, CAMBRIDGE, **, MSS, “boy, sloop Providence,” no residence given
GROUNISLL, TITUS, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
GRUSHA/GERUSHA, BLANEY/BRINNEY, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, Framingham
GUNDAYAW, RICHARD, African American, MSS, Scituate
GUNN, MOSES, Indian? MJE-1, Stockbridge
GUNN, PETER, African American, MSS, Paxton
GUY, African American, MJE-1, Sheffield
HABENS, WM., “dark complexion,” MSS, Salem
HABINS, THOMAS, “dark complexion,” MSS, Salem
HACAKET, JOHN, **, MSS, Middleborough
HACSTER, African American, MSS, Sultan
HADAD, BENJAMIN, **, MSS, Westfield
HAFFORD, PRINCE, African American, SBF, Chester/Salem
HAGGON, LONDON, **, MSS, Taunton
HAISE, CUFF, **, MSS, Charlestown
HALE, AESOP, African American, SBF, Marblehead?
HALL, AGRIFFA, see HULL, AGRIFFA
HALL, BOSTON, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, seaman on the ship “Protector,” no residence given
HALL, CAESAR, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Salisbury/Berkshire Co.
HALL, JAMES, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Swanzey/Taunton
HALL, JUPITER, **, MSS, Worcester Co.
HALL, PERO/PEER/PETER, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, SBF, QUIN, M881, Newbury
HALL, PRIMUM, aka PRIMUM TRASK, African American, W751, BLWt 26340-160-55, CPAR, JVB, FIA, Boston
HALL, PRINCE, **, MSS, M881, Dartmouth
HALL/HULL, PRINCE, African American, MSS, VRMED, JBR:17, petitioner to the General Court, patriotic service, PFM77; GDR, CSP, Medford/Groton (See the bibliography for some of the considerable literature on Prince Hall.)
HALL, SPINE?, “complexion: brown,” MSS, seaman on the brig “Union” privateer, residence Virginia
HAMBLETON/HAMBLTON/HAMELTON/HAMITLON/HAMLETON, YORK, African American, MSS, Palmer
HAMELTON, YORK, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Westford, Middlesex Co.
HAMLEN/HAMLIN, YORK, **, MSS, no residence given
HAMMON/HAMMOND, CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), MSS, QUIN, PEACH, Holliston/Hopkinton/Lancaster
HAMMON, JACK, African American ("complexion: black"), MSS, West Springfield/Hampshire Co.
HAMMOND, JACK, African American, PHM, Bridgewater
HAMMOND, PRINCE, **, MSS, Dartmouth
HAMON, JOHN, African American, MSS, ARPP, Medford/Southborough
HANDY, FREEMAN, **, MSS, Plymouth
HANEY, SAMUEL, Indian, deserted (New-England Chronicle (Boston), v. 9, issue 448, p. 3), Martha's Vineyard
HANKER, CATO, **, MSS, Medford
HANNET, SAMUEL, Indian, MSS, RAP2, Cape Cod
HANOBEL, African American, MSS, no residence given
HANSON, LUKE, African American, MSS, Mariner, Pa.
HARDEN, ADONIS, African American ("reported a Negro slave"), MSS, Taunton
HARDEN, AESOP, African American ("reported a Negro slave"), MSS, Taunton
HARDEN/HARDN, "CHARLESTOWN"/CHARLESTOWN/CHARLS, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, NAT, Natick
HARDEN, PRINCE, **, MSS, no residence given
HARRASE, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Worcester
HARRIS, VALENTINE, ("dark complexion"), MSS, Colrain
HARSCOL/HASKELL/HASKEL, CICERO, African American ("complexion: Negro"), MSS, Boxford
HART/HARTS/HEART/HEARTS, CATO, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, QUIN, Framingham
HART, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Rowley
HARTWELL, JEFFREY/JESSE FREEMAN, African American ("Negro"), QUIN, Bedford
HARVEY, JOHN, African American, SBF, MSS, res Portsmouth
HASE, PLINY, **, MSS, Southampton
HASENS, WILLIAM, Indian, MSS, Mariner, res Conn.
HASKALL/HASKELL, BAR'S, **, MSS, seaman on the brigantine "Tyrannicide", Boston
HASKALL, PETER, African American, MSS, PHM, Rochester
HASKEL/HASKELL, CICERO, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, M881, Newbury/Newburyport
HASKELL/HASKILL, CHARLES, African American, ("man of color"), S38817, (private in the Massachusetts Line in the Continental Army), LEAV, NBG, KMG, res. in Providence, R. I.
HASKELL, PETER, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Plymouth Co.
HASKILL, CABINAH, **, M881, no residence given
HATCH, DAVID, Mashpee Indian, MSS, HBCM, CPAR, APESS
HATCH, THOMAS, Indian? MSS (Hanover), GH1793, Mashpee
HATHAWAY, JOB, Mashpee Indian, MSS, BLW1 1931–100, WAL, FIA, Mashpee/Rehoboth/Dighton
HATHAWAY, PRINCE, **, MSS, Barnstable Co./Bristol Co.
HAWKINS, ____, Punkapoag Indian, DRM:177, Grafton
HAWWAWAS, JOSEPH NICHOLAS, Indian, S17997 [The pension references father and son as having service under numerous names (HAWAS, NICHOLAS; OVAS, NICHOLAS; NICHOLAS, JOSEPH; NICHOLS, CAPT.; HAWWAwHAS, NICHOLAS), but did not clarify the service performed by each man under these names.], no residence given
HAWWAWAS, NICHOLAS, Indian, Lieutenant, S17997, res Perry, Maine
HAY/HAYS, CUFF/CUST, **, MSS, QUIN, Charlestown/Cambridge
HAYARD, BENJAMIN, African American, MJE-1, Adams
HAYNES/HAINS/HANES, LEMUEL/LAMUEL, African American, MSS, CPAR, BHAM, Granville
HAYWARD, BRISTOL, **, MSS, Bridgewater
HAYWARD, TITUS, African American ("Negro"), QUIN, Acton
HAZARD, BENJAMIN, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), MSS, Adams/Lenox
HAZARD, JAMES, African American ("complexion: black"), MSS, Berkley
HAZARD/HAZZARD, JEFFREY/JEFRAL/JEFFRY/JEFFERY, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), MSS, M881, Pittsfield
HAZARD/HAZZARD, PETER, African American, MSS, M881, Sandwich
HAZARD, QUASHY, African American, CRS, seaman on the Continental frigate Boston, no residence given
HAZARD/HAZZARD/HASZARD, THOMAS, African American, S29213, Shirley [Col. Ebenezer Sprout’s Regt.]
HAZE, “JERIM,” (“complexion brown”), from Virginia, Seaman, MSS, no residence given
HAZE, PLINY, **, MSS, Southampton
HAZELTINE/HEZELTON/HEZZLETION, PRINCE, “complexion: dark/black; hair: wool,” S32282, BLWt 922-100, M881, MSS, Upton
HAZZARD, LEVI, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Bolton
HEART/HEARTS, CATO, **, MSS, Framingham
HECTOR, JOHN, African American, MSS, Sutton
HECTOR, MONDAY, **, MSS drummer, Mansfield
HEMINGWAY/HEMENWAY, JEFFREY, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, QUIN, DMR, Worcester/Framingham
HENDERSON, DAVID, African American, MSS, Needham
HENDRICK, BENJAMIN, African American, MSS, Acton
HENDRICK, CAESAR, African American, MSS, CUR p. 69-70, Newburyport
HENDRICK, CHARLES, Indian, MSS, Westminster
HENRY, CHARLES, African American, MSS, NOU, PEACH, Lancaster
HERRICK, CHARLES, African American, MSS, Ashby
HERRICK, SCIPIO/SIP, African American, MSS, M881, Beverly
HIBBERY/HIBRAY, ABNER, African American, MSS, SBF, Brookfield
HICH/HITCH, PLEASANT, African American, MSS, Dartmouth
HICKS, “CASHAM,” **, Seaman, MSS, no residence given
HICKS, “CHAICE,” **, MSS, Rehoboth
HIGGINS, PRINCE, **, MSS, M881, Eastham
HIKUMON, THOMAS, Indian, MMP:11 (2nd sergeant in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
HILL, BILLIOUS, “dark complexion,” carpenter; MSS, born Connecticut, resident of Lenox, enlisted for Shrewsbury
HILL, DAVID, African American (“Negro”), cook, MSS, no residence given
HILL, JAMES, African American, MSS, Swanzey
HILL, JOHN, Indian, MSS, Mariner, res. Conn.
HILL, LANCASTER, African American, petitioner to the General Court, patriotic service, PFM:77
HILL, PRIMUS, **, MSS, M881, Murrayfield
HILL, PRINCE, **, MSS, Malden
HILL, RICHARD, African American, MSS, S39687, SSVT:256, “colored,” JHN, Leicester
HILL, SAMUEL, African American, MSS, Petersham
HILL, TOWER, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS [23 years old in 1781], SBF, Wilbraham
HILL, WILLIAM, Indian, MSS, Mariner, Conn.
HILMAN, “SASH,” **, MSS, Freetown
HINKLEY, ADINO, **, MSS, Barnstable Co.
HITCH, PLEASANT, African American, MMP:29, MSS, deserted, Dartmouth
HOARE, BRISTOL, **, MSS, Lincoln
HOBBY, RICHARD, African American, MSS, Concord
HODGDON/HODGEDON, CAESAR, African American, SBF, Newington/Newbury
HODGE, CATO, **, MSS, landsman frigate “Boston,” no residence given
HOLLAN, JEPHA, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Great Barrington
HOLLAND, CAESAR, **, MSS, Billerica
HOLLAND, FORTUNE, African American (“Negro”), MSS, Springfield
HOLLAND, FORTUNE, African American, MSS, Sandwich
HOLLAND, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Brantree
HOLMES, PLINY, **, MSS, Southampton
HOLMAN/HOMAN/HOMER, TITUS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Worcester/Barre
HOMER, FORTUN/FORTUNE, **, MSS, M881, CSP, Sudbury
HOMER, TITUS, African American, S38834, no residence given
HON/HORN/ORNE, CAESAR, African American, MSS, Salem
HOPKINS, PRINCE, **, MSS, Barnstable Co.
HOPKINS, SCOTTO, **, MSS, Barnstable Co.
HORDAIN, AESOP, **, MSS, no residence given
HORN, CAESAR, African American, “birthplace: Guinea,” MSS, no residence given
HORSEWIT/HOSWIT, ABEL, Mashpee Indian, MSS, CPAR, APESS, Mashpee
HORTON, SQUIER/SQUIRE, **, MSS, no residence given
HOSWIT, JONAS, Indian, RAF2 (Seaman on the Connecticut privateer American Revenue), Martha’s Vineyard
HOW/HOWE, CATO, African American, W2354, BLWt 12829-150-55, MSS, CPAR, M881, DEE, PHM, TJFBH, Plymouth Co.
HOW/HOWE, QUASH/SQUASH, **, MSS, M881, Plymouth
HOWARD, BRISTOL, African American, MSS, PHM, Bridgewater
HOWARD, YORK, **, MSS, no residence given
HOWLAND, FORTUNE/FORTUNE, African American, MSS, S32861, BLWt 849-100, M881, Sandwich
HOWLIN, FORTUNE, **, MSS, Sandwich
HUBBARD/HUBBRT, CATO/KETO, **, MSS, Tewksbury
HUBBARD, HUMPHREY, African American, MSS, MJE-1, Sheffield
HUBBARD, ISAAC, African American, MMP:29, MSS, Granville
HUBBEL/HUBBLE, CATO, **, MSS, M881, CSP, no residence given
HULL, AGRIPPA, African American, MSS, W760, PIP, WAL, MJE-1, FOL, Stockbridge
HULL, AMOS, African American, MSS, Hadley
HULL, CUFF/COFFEY/CUFFE, African American, MSS, M881, CSP, Spencer
HULL, FLEET/FLETUS, African American, MSS, Granville
HULL, PRINCE, **, MSS, QUIN, Pittsfield
HUMPHREY, African American, MSS, Berkshire
HUMPHREY, THOMAS, Indian, PHM, Bridgewater
HUMPHREY/HUMPHRY/HUMPRY, TOWER, **, MSS, Western/Warren
HUNAEL, ZADOK, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Montague
HUNT, CATO, African American, MSS, M881, Rehoboth
HUNT, FORTUNE/FOSTER, African American (“complexion: black; hair: wool”), MSS, M881, Salem
HUZZA/HUZZEY/HUSSEY, JAMES, African American, MSS, SBF, QUIN, Conway/New Marlborough
HYDEN, EBENEZER, African American, MSS, Stoughton
IDE, SQUIRE, **, MSS, Rehoboth
INCHES, CATO, African American, MSS, Boston
ISAAC, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Methuen
IVES, SIPP, **, MSS, New Providence
JABEZ, JOLLY, African American, WAL, no residence given
JACK, African American, MSS, Leicester
JACK, African American, MSS, Sandwich
JACK, African American, NMS, MMP:40, Mariner, no residence given
JACK, JOHN, African American, MSS, seaman brigantine “Tyrannicide”, Suffolk Co.
JACK, JOHN, **, MSS, Ipswich
JACK, JOHN, African American (“Negro”), MSS seaman brig “General Gates,” no residence given
JACK, PETER, **, MSS “boy” brigantine “Active”, no residence given
JACKALL, PRIMUS, African American, MSS, Palmer
JACKSON, JOHN, African American, MSS, Holliston
JACKSON, POMP/POMPEY, African American (“born: Africa”), MSS, SBF, CPAR, M881 fifer, Newbury/Newburyport
JACKSON, POMP, African American, MJE-2, Berkshire Co.
JACKSON, PRINCE, **, MSS, Sandwich
JACKSON, PRINCE, **, MSS, no residence given
JACOB/JACOBS, AESOP, African American, MSS, Hanover/Scituate
JACOBS, PRIMUS, African American, MSS, W21446, M881, Danvers
JAHA, ELIAKIM, African American, MSS, Sherburne
JAHA/JAHOR/JEHAR/REHAH, CAESAR, **, MSS, Sherburne/Natick
JACKLIN, POMP, African American, M881 fifer, no residence given
JAMES, Mashpee Indian, GH1776, no residence given
JAMES, JAMAICA, aka JAMES JAMAICA, African American, S44984, QUIN, Boston; later lived in Orange Co., New York.
JAMES, SAMUEL, Indian, MSS:8:710, DRM:174, 177, Bridgewater
JANES, CHAMP, **, MSS, South Brimfield
JARVIS, CHARLES, African American, MSS, QUIN, Newbury
JEAN, JULIAN, African American, MSS, Boston
JEFFERS/JEFFERY, BENJAMIN, African American/Indian, MSS, PHM, Kingston
JEFFERY, African American, MSS, Sandwich
JEFFS, HAZARD, **, MSS, M881, no residence given
JENK, PRIMUS, **, MSS, Rehoboth
JENKINS, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
JENKINS, BACCHUS, **, MSS, Seaman, schooner “Active,” no residence given
JENKS, PRIMUS, **, MSS, Douglas
JENNINGS, SOLOMON, African American, MSS, Sutton
JEPHTHAH, African American, MSS, Salem
JEREMIAH, ANTHONY, aka “RED JERRY” or “RED CHERRY,” Narragansett Indian, DARM:54, ACB
JEWELL, BOSTON, **, MSS, Warwick
JOB, JEREMIAH, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Chesterfield, Mariner
JOB, MOSES (DEACON), Mashpee Indian, GH1776 no residence given
JOE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, no residence given
JOEL, RICHARD, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Halifax
JOHN, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS (on the brig Hazard), no residence given
JOHNS, ISAAC, Indian, MSS, Upton
JOHNSON, CATO, **, M881, no residence given
JOHNSON, CATO, **, MSS, Stoughtonham/Stoughton
JOHNSON, JACK, African American, MMP:29, Kingston
JOHNSON, PHAROH, **, MSS, Lynn?
JOHNSON, WILLIAM, African American, MMP:29, Berkshire Co.
JOHNSON, WILLIAM, African American, MSS, Newport & Lanesborough
JOHNSON/JOHNSTON, PRIMUS, **, MSS, Dracut
JOHNSTON, GEORGE, Indian, RAP2 (Privateer), Edgartown, Martha’s Vineyard
JOHONNOT/JOHNNOT/JONHONOT/JONNOT, PRINCE, African American, SBF, MSS, QUIN, Boston/
Methuen/Andover
JOLLI, JOHN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Suffolk Co.
JOLLEY, JABEY, African American, MSS, Barnstable
JONAH, DAVID, African American, MSS, Sherburne
JONAH, JEREMY, African American, CPR:22, no residence given
JONAH, THOS., African American, MMP, Sherburne
JONAS, JACOB, African American, MSS, Framingham
JONAS, THOS., African American, MMP:29, Sherburne
JONES, BENJAMIN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Sandwich
JONES, CAESAR, African American (“Negro”), MSS, QUIN, DMR, Bedford
JONES, JEREMIAH, African American, PHM, Bridgewater
JONES, JETHRO, African American, MSS, Leicester
JONES, NATHANIEL, African American, LM (Providence v. 6:2-3), Johnston
JOHNSTON, GEORGE, African American (“complexion, Negro”), MSS, Salem
JOSEPH, African American, MSS, Barnstable & Marshfield
JOSEPH, "DOMINDO," (“complexion: dark”), MSS, seaman brig "Julius Caesar." [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, or African descent.] No residence given.
JOSEPH, FRANCIS, Indian, MSS, no residence given
JOTHAM, CALVIN/LUTHER, African American, MSS, W9911, BLWt 100391-160-55, Bridgewater
JOY, CAESAR, **, MSS, “boy” brig “Hazard,” Boston
JUCHES, CATO, African American?, CSP, no resident given
JUPITER, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Worcester
JUSNUCK/TUSNUCK, JACOB, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
KAUKENWAUNAUNT, BENJAMIN, Indian, MSB:198, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
KAUNKAUPOT, JACOB, Indian, Soldier, MSB:198, MSS, Stockbridge
KEDER, JAMES, Indian, MSS, Mashpee
KEETER/KETOW, ELISHA, Mashpee Indian, MSS, HBCM, CPAR, APESS, no residence given
KEETER/KETOW, JACOB, Mashpee Indian, MSS, BLWt 1928-100, APESS, Mashpee & Sandwich
KEETER/HEATER/KETOW, JAMES, Mashpee Indian, S32942, MSS, CPAR, APESS, Mashpee/Sandwich
KEETER/KETOW, JOSEPH, Mashpee Indian, MSS, CPAR, APESS, Sandwich
KEETHER, JOHN, Mashpee Indian, MSS, no residence given
KENDALL, African American, MMP:29, Deerfield
KENDALL?, REUBEN, African American, NOU, PEACH, Lancaster
KENEBEC, “DOUBLIN,” **, MSS, died in service, Becket
KENT, CYRUS, African American, MSS, Boston
KETH, FREEMAN, **, MSS, Easton
KETTLE, CAESAR, **, MSS, Concord
KIETHER, JAMES, African American, MSS, Sandwich
KILBURN/KILBORN, YORK, African American, MSS, MJE-1, Great Barrington/Sandwich/Sandisfield
KIMBLE, JOHN, African American, MSS, Newburyport
KINDELL, REUBEN, African American, MSS, Chocset
KINGS, BANGS, **, MSS, seaman on the ship “Essex,” Salem
KINGWOOD, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
KINNECUT, ANTHONY, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Mariner, R. I.
KITRIDGE/KITTEREDGE/KITTERIDGE, CATO, **, MSS, Springfield?/Chatham?
KITTLE, CAESAR/CEZAR, African American, MSS, M881, Concord
KITTRIDGE, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Boston
KNOCK, DISCO, **, MSS, no residence given
KNOX, JAMES, African American, MSS, Salisbury
KONKAPOT/KONKPOT, JACOB, Indian, MSB, Stockbridge (Capt. William Goodrich’s Company of Indians)
KONKHAUPOT, DAVID, Indian, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
KONKKAUPOT/KONKPOT, ABRAM/ABRAHAM, Indian, MSS, SPP, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), SARBW:16, Stockbridge; also listed as RONKOPORT, ABRAHAM
KONKOPOT, JOHN, Indian, Constable, MCO, Stockbridge
LAMB, POMP, **, MSS, wagoner, no residence given
LAMBERT/LAMBORD, PLATO, “colored,” QUIN, Natick
LAMSON, DAVID, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), QUIN, Arlington
LARCOM, CESAR, see THISTLE, CESAR
LATHROP/LOTHROP, BACKUS/BACCHUS, **, M881, no residence given
LATHROP, CATO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, seaman on the ship “Protector,” no residence given
LEE, CAESAR, African American, MSS, Manchester
LEE, CAESAR, African American, seaman on the brig “Union,” SBF, no residence given
LEE, CAESAR, African American, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:87
LEE, JUPITER, African American, MSS, Hardwick
LENNOX, CORNELIUS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), QUIN, Woburn
LEONARD/LEANORD/LENARD, CUFF, African American, MSS (on “list of men entitled to honorary badges for faithful service; “entitled to 1 and 2 stripes.”), M881, S32982, BLWt 1044-100, 1790MA, Raynham & Taunton
LEVITT, PERO, **, M881, no residence given
LONDON, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Barnstable
LONDON, SAMPSON, African American (“complexion black, hair: wool”), MSS, Reading, M881, CSP, died in service, no residence given
LONG, JOB, Indian, MSS, Hanover
LOOK, ADAM, Indian, MSS, MGC, Abington and Rochester
LOOK, JAMES, Indian, MSS, MGC, Abington and Rochester
LOOK, JOB, African American, petitioner to the General Court, patriotic service, PFM77
LOPE, JOHN, African American, MSS, Bridgewater
LOREEM/LORAM/LORING/LOROM/LORUM, POMP [also an entry under just “Pomp” with a reference to Lorom, Pompl], **, MSS, M881, CSP, Sturbridge/Western
LOT, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Haverhill
LOUDEN, EPHRAIM, Indian, MSS, Milton
LOUDER, CHANDLER, African American, MSS, Dorchester
LOVEJOY, DICK, African American, MSS, Andover
LOVEJOY, POMP, African American, MSS, Andover
LOVEJOY, PETER, African American, MSS, Andover
LUMMIX, SCIPIO, **, MSS, Martha’s Vineyard?
LUNNOX, ORNELIUS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Woburn
LUWIS, JOB, African American, MSS, Lancaster
LYNDE, CHARLESTOWN, **, MSS, Boston
MACEY, SOVIS, Indian, MSS, no residence given
MAGOS/MAGUS/MUNGUS, POMP, African American (“Negro”), MSS, S33059, MHS625, Malden
MAKEPIECE, CESAR, **, M881, no residence given
MALCOLM/MALCOME, CAESAR/CASAR, African American, MSS, M881, Stoneham
MAMANASH/MAMINASH, JOSEPH, Indian, MSS, MPNP, Hadley
MANAUESTT, EBENEZER, Stockbridge Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
MANUEL/MANUEL/MANUELL, ANTONA/ANTHONY, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Martha’s Vineyard?/
Boxford [This individual may have been of African, Azorean or Iberian descent.]
MANLEY, MONDAY, African American, MSS, Lanesborough
MANNOLA, ANTONA, “complexion: dark,” MSS, sailor on the brigantine “Murr,” Salem. [This individual may have been of African, Azorean or Iberian descent.]
MANTOKAMUN/MANTOSKANMUN/MATTUCKMAN/METACAMEN, BENJAMIN, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
MAPIA/ MAPIX, JOHN, Mashpee Indian, MSS, HBCM, CPAR, APRESS, Barnstable
MARK, African American, MSS, Andover
MARK, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR, M881, no residence given
MARK, African American (“Negro/Negrow/Mashpee Indian”), HBCM, CPAR, APRESS, MSS, Sandwich
MARK, THATCHER, **, MSS, seaman on the ship “Lion,” Boston
MARTEN, ISAAC, African American, MSS, Berwick
MARTICK/MAVERICK, QUORCK/QUACK, African American, S1039, 1790MA, CPAR, Bridgewater/Stoughton/Suffolk Co.
MASON, CATO, African American “Black” (“reported a Negro”), MSS, seaman on the ship “Protector,” no residence given
MATHROK, QUASH, African American, PHM, Bridgewater
MATTES, BENJAMIN, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
MAUNAIMEPETh, JEOIKIM/JOHOKIM, Indian, Selectman & Assessor, MCO, Stockbridge
MAUNAUSET, EBENEZER, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
MAUSARD, FRANCIS, African American, MMP:29, Marlborough
MCCARTER, JOHN, African American, PHM, Marshfield
MCCLELLAN, PLATO, African American, MSS, HOTHM, WAL, Hingham
MCGARGER, THOS., African American, MMP:29, Colerain
McGOLDSMITH, PELATIAH, African American, S36114, Goffstown,
MCGREGOR, LONDON, African American, SBF, MSS, no residence given
McNEAL, PRINCE, African American, MSS, Framingham
MEAD/MEED, CATO, “complexion: copper colored; hair black,” MSS, M881, Norwich, Conn.
MEAD, GEORGE, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
MECKROFF, PETER, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
MEESOR, “WINE,” Indian, MSS, no residence given
MEFRICKS, JOHN, Indian, MSS, Marshfield & Wareham
MELOOS/MELOSSE, ANDREW, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
MERCO, PRINCE, **, MSS, residence: Fryeburgh/engaged for the town of Woburn
MEREAE, CESAR, Indian, PHM (drummer), Pembroke
MEREEO, PRINCE, **, CSP, no residence given
MERRILL, CAESAR, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Amesbury
MERRIL/MERRILL, JUBA, African American (“reported a Negro”), died in service, MSS, Newbury
METHRICKS, JOHN, see SOUL, JOSIAH
MEUSARA, FRANCIS, African American, MSS, Marlborough
MHTOCK/SIN, WHARNNUSS, Indian, Selectman, MCO, Stockbridge
MICHAEAL, SHARP, African American, RAP1, Martha’s Vineyard
MICHIEL, CATO, **, MSS, Bridgewater
MICHELL, LONDON, **, M881, no residence given
MILLER, TORTUNATUS/FORTUNATUS, **, M881, no residence given
MILLS, CAESAR, African American, MSS, M881, Watertown
MINGO, CHARLES, African American ("reported a mulatto," "reported a Negro"), MSS, M881, Wrentham
MINGO, ROBIN, **, MSS, Mendon
MINGO, SAMUEL, African American/Indian, MSS, M881, PHM, Bridgewater
MINGO, THOMAS, **, MSS, seaman on the privateer "Thomas," Nantucket
MINGO, WILLIAM, African American, SBF, MSS, seaman on the sloop "Providenee," Dartmouth
MINOR, DROVER, African American, SBF, Falmouth
MINOT, CAESAR, African American, MSS, DMR, Concord
MIRICK, RICHARD, African American, MSS, Leicester & Brookfield
MIRICK/MIRICK, CAESAR, African American, HATW, Wilbraham
MITCHELL, ABNER, African American, MSS, PEACh, Lunenburg/Townsend/Lancaster/Shirley
MITCHELL/MITCHEL, CUFF, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, W27332, M881, PHM, Bridgewater
MITCHELL, ISAAC, African American, MSS, Boston
MITCHELL, PETER, African American ("Negro"), QUIN, Medford
MOHEGH/MOHIGH, PHILIP, Indian? MSS:10:866, Marblehead
MOHHEWCH, ANDREW, Stockbridge Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
MOHO/MAHO, ASA, Ponkapoag Indian, DTVH:26, MSS:10:867, DRM:172, Canton
MOHO, GEORGE, Ponkapoag Indian, DTVH:26, MSS:10:867, DRM:172, Canton
MOHO/MOHOW, JEREMIAH, Ponkapoag Indian, BLWt 1991-100, WAL , DTVH:26, MSS:10:867, DRM:172, Canton
MOHO/MOHOW, JOHN, Ponkapoag Indian, DTVH:26, MSS:10:867-868, DRM:172, Stoughton
MOHO, SAMUEL, Ponkapoag Indian, MSS:10:868, Stoughton
MOHO, WILLIAM, Ponkapoag Indian, DTVH:26, MSS:10:868, DRM:172, Canton
MOLTON, CAESAR, **, CSF, no residence given
MONTGOMERY, CATO, African American, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
MOODY, PERO, **, M881, no residence given
MOOR/MOORE, CAMBRIDGE, African American ("Negro"), MSS, QUIN, DMR, Bedford
MOREY, ___, African American (enslaved man of Samuel Morey), SCSM, Taunton [Note: This entry is likely for one of the three men that follow. The man’s first name is not given in the record.]
MOREY, ANTHONY, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), MSS, M881 fifer, Norton
MOREY, CAESAR/CASAR, African American, MSS, S38951, 1790MA, M881, Bristol Co.
MOREY, LONDON, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, M881, Norton
MORILL/MORRELL/MORRILL, JUBA, **, MSS, no residence given
MORS/MORES, CAMBRIDGE, **, MSS, JBR:17, Bedford
MORTON, African American, MJE-1, Great Barrington
MOSES, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, ("on the brigantine Hazard"), no residence given
MOSES, ELI, Indian, MSS, Sandwich
MOSES, SAMUEL, Mashpee Indian, MSS, HBCM, CPAR, APESS, Sandwich, died April 1, 1779 [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name from Warwick.]
MOUTH, PARM, Indian, PHM, Bridgewater
MUMFORD/MUMFREE/MUMFREY, CATO, African American, MSS, Stockbridge
MUNFORD, CUFF, **, MSS, Bristol Co.
MUNRO, ISAAC, **, MHS625 (fifer), no town given. [This man’s name is included because the surname spelled "Munro" is one of several African American families in eighteenth and nineteenth century Massachusetts.]
MURCOCK, PEDRO, Indian, MSS, Pembroke, Plymouth
MURDER/MURDOCK/MURDUCK, PERO/PEDRO, Mixed descent ("Mutatto"), MSS, Plympton/Pembroke
MURPHY, MILAN, ("colored"), S33146, Danvers
MUSSUS, "FORTUS," African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, on U. S. brig "General Gates," no residence given
NANHAND, ZACHEUS, Mashpee Indian, GH1776 no residence given
NASH, JOSEPH, Indian, MMF:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
NATTANIS, Indian, MSS, no residence given
NAUCHUTWAT/NAUKAUWOT/NAUNKAUWAT, ABRALM/ABRAM, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
NAUNAUMELRINK, JEHOIKIM, Indian, Constable, WAL, SPP:76, Stockbridge
NAUNAUMPHITANKY/NAUNAUPATED, JEHOAIKIM/JOHOKIM, Indian, Selectman, MSB:198, WAL, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
NAUNAUNECK/NAUNAUNECKAUNUCH/NAUNAUNECKNACK/NAUNAUNECKWAET/NAUNAUNEEM/NAUNECK, David, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
NAUNAUPHTANKY/NAUNAUPHTANKY, ABRAM, Indian, Soldier, MSB:198, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
NAUNAUPHTANKY, JEHOAIKIM, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
NAUNAUPHTANKY, JACOB, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
NAUNAUPETONK/NAUNAUPTONKY, JACOB, Indian, MSS, M881, Stockbridge
NAWNOHNSTENDER, JACOB, Indian, M881, no residence given
NEDD, REUBEN, **, MSS, Hardwick
NEHAHROMPO, PETER, Indian, MSS, (probably) Stockbridge
NEMRO/NIMROO, CUFF, **, MSS, MPRWR, Deerfield
NEPO, PETER, African American, MSS, West Springfield
NEPTY, PETER, **, MSS, Great Barrington
NEPTON/NEPTUNE, JOHN, Indian, MSS, (Lt. Andrew Gilman’s Company of Indians), Indian Island, Maine
District [Note: DAR established patriot]
NEPTON, PETER, **, MSS, Hancock
NEPTUNE, African American, NMS, Mass. Arch.:233, MSS, Boxford
NERCHWAT, ABRAM, Indian, MSS, Ipswich
NERO, **, MSS, “boy, ship ‘Mars’,” no residence given
NEROW, FESTUS, African American, MSS, Leicester
NESANAHUKHAH/NESANAHUKHAH, DAVID, Indian, MSS, IRWSR, Sheffield
NEWCOMB, CATO, **, MSS, Medway
NEWELL, CATO, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, MSS, Charlestown
NEWPORT, African American, MSS, Leicester
NEWPORT, DANIEL, African American, MSS, Western (Warren)
NEWPORT/NEWPORT, PRINCE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, M881, PHM, Plympton
NEWPORT, WILLIAM, African American (“complexion black”), MSS, Taunton
NEWTON, PRIMUS, **, MSS, Shrewsbury
NICHOLS, ISAAC, African American, MSS, Worcester
NICHOLS/NICHOLS, BRITTON/BRITTON, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Cohasset
NICHOLS/NICHOLS, PETER, African American, MSS, WFH, Taunton
NICKELS, ISAAC, African American (“complexion black”), MSS, Uxbridge
NICKELSON, LUKE, African American, S37270, no residence given
NICKERSON, PRINCE, **, MSS, M881, Cambridge?
NICKOLS, BACCHUS, **, MSS, Malden
NICKOLS, BRITTON/BRITTON, **, MSS, M881, Cohasset
NIG/NIGHT, JACK, **, MSS, no residence given
NIMHAM, ABRAM, Indian, PIR
NIMHAM, DANIEL, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge & Newbury
NIMHAM, JOHN, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
NIMROD/NIMRO/NIMRO/COUFF, **, QUIN, MSS, M881, Sudbury
NINCAMHO, MOSES, **, MSS, seaman on the brig “Hazard,” no residence given [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, or African descent.]
NOBLE, PAUL, African American, MMP:29, Westfield
NOCHOTA, PIEL, Indian, (“reported an Indian”), MSS (Lt. Andrew Gilman’s Company of Indians) (see also Piel Encoulier), no residence given
NOCAKE, JAMES, Mashpee Indian, MSS, CPAR, APESS, Falmouth
NOKES, TIMOTHY, **, Epping, NH, SBF, MSS, no residence given
NOOK, ESQUIRE, **, MSS, Boston
NORTHGATE, ABRAHAM, African American ("Negro"), MSS, Boston, Mariner
NOTANKSION/NOTANKSN, WILLIAM, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge/Middlesex Co.
NOTANKSION/NOTANKSHON/NOTONKSIN, WILLIAM, JR., Indian, MSS, MSB:198, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
NOWELL/NEWELL, KITTERY, African American, ("reported a Negro"), MSS on ship “America,” no residence given
NYE, ICHABOD, African American ("Complexion: Black, Hair: Black"), S9444, MSS, Hadley [Note: DAR established patriot. His service record describes him and several other men from Hampshire Co. as black, although all census records from 1790 to 1840 in Ohio describe his family as being white.]
OBADIAH/OBEDIAH, BENJAMIN, Indian, DRM:174, MSS:11:607, Dartmouth
OBSCOW, JONAS, Indian, Natick, NAT
OCKER, JEREMIAH, Indian, MSS, Newton
OLIVER, AARON, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), MSS, QUIN, Temple [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name who was from Athol, Worcester Co., Mass.]
OLIVER, BENJAMIN, African American, MSS, Salem
OLIVER, CROMWELL, **, MSS, Barre
OLIVER, PETER, African American ("Negro"), MSS, QUIN, Littleton/Carlisle/Lincoln
ONESIMUS, African American ("Negro"), HTSM:782, Sutton
ORR, BOSTON, **, MSS, Bridgewater
ORMSBY, TITUS, African American, WFH, Taunton
OSBORN, BOSTON, **, QUIN, Ipswich
OSGOOD, PRIMUS, **, MSS, Middleton
OVERHILL, BRISTER, **, MSS, no residence given
OVID, SCIPIO, **, MSS, CSP, no residence given
OXFORD, LUKE, African American, MSS, Shelbume
PAIN, EDWARD, African American, MSS, Beverly
PALMER, PRINCE, **, MSS, Scituate
PANE/PAINE, CHARLES, African American, MSS, S33418, Franklin
PAPOON, BENJAMIN, Indian, MCO, Stockbridge
PARKER, CHESTER, African American ("Negro"), MSS, QUIN, Dracut
PARKER, ROBERT, African American, MSS, Templeton
PARKS, CUFFIE, African American, MSS, Ward & Auburn
PARMER, SCIPIO, **, MSS, Bridgewater
PARSONS, POMP, **, MSS, on board the sloop "Defence," no residence given
PARSONS, SAMUEL, African American, SBF, Marblehead
PAUGENIT, JOSEPH, see POGNET/POGNIT/POGNOT, JOSEPH
PAUNCE, SCIPIO, **, MSS, Bridgewater
PAUPAUMHAM, CORNELIUS, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
PAUTAUPEET/PATAUWANPEET/PAULAUWAUPEET, JACOB, Indian, MSS, killed in service, Stockbridge
PEARCE, JOHN, Mashpee Indian, MSS, HBCM, CPAR, APFESS, no residence given
PEARCE/PEIRCE, PRINCE, African American ("complexion: black, 44 years old"), MSS, Dighton
PEARCE, SQUIRE, **, MSS, Rehoboth
PEARPOINT, JACK/JOCK, **, MSS, Cambridge?
PEASE, MICHAEL, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Nantucket
PEAUGE, DAVID, Indian, PHM, Plymouth
PEBODY/PEEBODY, ICK, "dark complexion," MSS, Rehoboth
PECKHAM/PECKHUM/PECKUM, POMPEY, African American, MSS, Dartmouth
PEENEY/PENEY/PENNY/PERPEANEY, SIMON, Mashpee Indian, MSS, BLWt 1941-100, Mashpee
PEGIN/PEAGIN, ROBERT, Indian, MSS, PHM, DRM:174, Bridgewater
PELHAM, CATO, African American, MSS, Medford
PEMBLETON, CATO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, volunteer on the ship “Deane,” no residence given
PEPENA/PEPENO/POPENY/PERPEANEY, SIMON, Indian, MSS, BLWt, GARWPF:3:2661, Sandwich
PEPENO/PEPERA/PEPENER, JOHN, **, MSS, seaman on the brigantine “Freedom,” Sandwich/Eastham
PEPENER, SOLOMON, **, MSS, seaman on the brigantine “Freedom,” no residence given
PEPOON, SILAS, Indian, Constable, MCO, Stockbridge
PEREGRINO, MANUEL, **, MSS, Boston [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, or African descent.]
PERO/PEROW, PRINCE, **, MSS, Plymouth Co./Braintree/Hanover
PERRY, CAESAR, African American (“reported a Negro”), “a servant to Col. Gimot,” “on a list of men who were entitled to honorary badges for faithful service — entitled to 1 & 2 stripes,” MSS, Rehoboth & Taunton
PERRY, CUFF, African American, MSS, M881, CSP, Rochester
PETER, African American, MSS, no residence given
PETER, African American, MSS, no residence given
PETER, African American, MSS, Andover
PETER, African American, MSS, Dedham
PETER, African American, MSS, Lancaster
PETER, African American, MSS, WAL, MJE-1, Lee
PETER, African American, MSS, WAL, Plymouth
PETER, JOHN, African American, MSS, Worcester
PETER, JONATHAN, African American, MSS, Hanover
PETER, MOSES, Indian, deserted (New England Chronicle/Independent Chronicle and Universal Advertiser, March 20, 1777, v. 9, issue 448, p. 3)
PETER/PETERS, POMPEY, African American, MSS, S45062, Worcester Co.
PETER, PRINCE, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Northampton
PETERS, JOHN, Indian, MSS, Southwick
PETERS/PETIBUS, POMP, African American, MMP:28, Charlton
PETERS, POMP, African American, MMP:29, S45062, BLWt 110-100, WAL, Western
PETERS, POMP, African American, MSS, SBF, Charlton
PETERS, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Hampshire
PETTERS, POMP, African American, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:88
PETTIBONE, PRINCE, **, MSS, Southampton
PHILIPS/PHILLIPS, BOSTON, **, MSS, M881, Holden
PHILLIPS, JACK, **, MSS, seaman on the ship “Mars” and on the state ship “Tarter,” no residence given
PHILLIS/PHILES, POMP/POMPEY, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, M881, GDR, Pepperell/Groton
PICKHORN, POMP, **, MSS, Dartmouth
PIERCE, PRINCE, African American, MSS, Dighton
PIERCE, TITUS, African American, MSS, Medford
PIERPONT, JACK, African American, petitioner to the General Court, patriotic service, PFM77
PITTMAN, WILLIAM, African American, PHM, Bridgewater
PITTS, BOSTON, African American, MSS, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:88, Boston
PLATITTO, African American (“reported a Negro”), seaman on the sloop “Republic,” MSS, no residence given
PLATO, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Bolton
POGNET/POGNIT/POGNOT/POQUET, JOSEPH, Indian, MSS, QUIN, CSP, Boston/Suffolk Co./Framingham
POGNET, ROBERT, Indian, MSS, no residence given
POCKNETS, JACOB, Mashpee Indian, MSS, Mashpee
POCKNETT/POCNUTT/POCONOT/POCONOTT, SAMUEL, Indian, M881, no residence given
POCKNIT/POGNIT/POGNET, DANIEL/DAVID, Mashpee Indian, MSS, CPAR, APESS, DRM:174-175, CSP, Barnstable/Mashpee
POGNIT/POCKNOT/POKNET, HOSEA, Mashpee Indian, MSS, HBCM, CPAR, M881, APESS, DRM:174-175, CSP, Mashpee
POGNIT/POCKNET/POCKEUT, JOSHUA, Mashpee Indian, MSS, HBCM, CPAR, M881, DRM:174-175, APESS, Framingham/Mashpee/Plymouth
POHTAUAUPEUT/POHOTOAUPEUT/PAHTOHWAUPUT, JACOB, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
POLAIR, JOHN, African American, MMP:29, Waltham
POLLEY/POLLOY, QUASH/SQUASH, **, cook’s mate on the Continental frigate “Deane,” Boston
POMP, aka POMP ALLEN, African American, MSS, no residence given
POMP, African American, MSS+, no residence given
POMP, African American (“a Negro”), MSS, Danvers
POMP, African American, MSS, Sturbridge
POMP/POMPY/POMPEY/POMPE, CATO, African American, MSS, Deerfield
POMP, POLLAS/POWLAS, **, MSS, New Windsor
POMP, TITUS, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Stockbridge
POMPY, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Braintree
POMPY, ANDRES, African American, PHM, Bridgewater
PONCE, SCIPIO, **, MSS, M881, Bridgewater/Providence
POND, JOHN, African American, MSS, MMP:28, Northampton
POND/PONS, PETER, African American?/Indian?, MSS:12:536, DRM:174, Dartmouth
PONN, PETER, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Worcester Co.
PONNEE, SCIPIO, **, MSS, Boston
POOR/PORE, SALEM, African American, served at the Battle of Bunker Hill, 1775, MSS, QUIN, WAL, M881, BPC, PTRC:78, DAL, Andover (later lived in Providence, Rhode Island)
POPOONUCK, EBENEZER, **, “reported died in the service,” MSS, Pittsfield
PORISS, Indian, MSS, Lt. Andrew Gilman’s Company of Indians, no residence given
PORTER, CAESAR, African American (“Negro”), MSS, SBF, QUIN, Andover
PORTER, NEPTUNE/NIP/NEPTUEN, **, MSS, M881, Boxford
PORTER, SCIPIO/SIFEO, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, M881, Wenham
POTAMEA, SILUS, African American, NYHS:1, MPRWR (“black Sutter” [sutler?]), no residence given
POTAMIA/POTAMI, TITUS, African American, MSS, QUIN, Stoneham
POTEIMA/POTAMIA/POTAMIE/POTAMY/POTAMYA/PUTAMY, JOHN, African American, MSS, Waltham/Stoneham
POTOMIA/POTAMIA/POTANA/POTAMY/PURTAMEY/PURTOMY, JOB, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, VRSTO, QUIN, Boston/Stoneham/Cambridge/Menotomy
POTOMIA, TITUS, African American, QUIN, Stoneham
POTTER, PRINCE, **, MSS, Dartmouth
POWAREY/POWER, CAESAR, African American (“Negro man”), MSS; FCP:114, 121; Grafton
POWARS/POWER/POWERS, CAESAR/CEASAR/CEASAR, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, M881, Franklin
POWARS/POWER(S), PRINCE, African American, MSS, M881, Grafton
POWERS, THOMAS, African American, SBF, no residence given
PRAT/PRATT, CAESAR, **, MSS, Amherst
PRATT, BRISTOL/BRISTER, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, M881, Malden
PRESCOT/PRESCOTT/PRESCUT, FORTUNATUS, **, MSS, M881, Paxton
PRESCOTT/PRESCUT, CAESAR/CEASAR, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, QUIN, M881, DMR, Bedford
PRICE, JABEZ, African American, WAL, no residence given
PRICE, PETER, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Chesterfield
PRIME, QUASH, African American, M881, no residence given
PRIMOR, CATO, **, MSS, no residence given
PRIMOS, African American, (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Plymouth Co.
PRIMUS, African American, MSS, WAL, Middleton
PRIMUS, JEFFREY, **, MSS, collier and woodcutter, no residence given
PRINCE, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Pittsfield?
PRINCE, African American, MSS, Amesbury
PRINCE, African American, MSS, QUIN, slave of Joshua Boylston, Brookline
PRINCE, African American, MSS, Suffolk Co.
PRINCE, African American, NMS:1, JPCM:678-679, Lexington
PRINCE, African American, MSS, York
PRINCE, African American ("Negro"), MSS, MJE-1, Pittsfield
PRINCE, African American ("Negro"), MSS, Suffolk Co.
PRINCE, CAESAR, **, MSS, M881, no residence given
PRINCE, CATO, African American, MSS, S33514, M881, Essex Co.
PRINCE, EBENEZER, African American/Indian, MSS, Dartmouth
PRINCE, FESTUS, African American, MSS, MJE-2, Stockbridge
PRINCE, SALEM, African American ("Negro"), PIR, no residence given
PRINCE, SCOTIPEDE, African American, MSS, Mariner, Wellfleet
PROVIANO, FERDINANDO, **, MSS, Boston, [This man may have been of Iberian, Azorean, or African descent.]
PRUTHER, FORTIN, African American, MSS, Marblehead
PRUTT, CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), QUIN, HBAM, Amherst
PRUTT, JOHN, African American, MSS, Pelham
PRUTT, LEVI, African American/Indian ("Mustere"), S33497, MSS, Hadley
PURTAMCY/PURTAMEY/PURTAMY, JOB, **, M881, no residence given
PUTMAN/PUTNAM, SCIPIO, **, Boston?
PUTNAM, PRIMUS, African American, MSS, M881, Lanesborough
PUTNUM, PRIMUS, African American, MSS, Lunenburg
QUACO/QUOKA, CAESAR, **, MSS, Concord
QUAGO, GEORGE, **, MSS, Boston
QUAM, CHARLIE, African American, BFN, Plymouth
QUAM, PRINCE, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, seaman on the ship "Protector," no residence given
QUAM, SHARP, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, seaman on the ship "Protector," died in service, no residence given
QUAMHOS/QUAMHOUSE/QUAHOUS, JAMES, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
QUAMM, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Plymouth
QUANDO, QUASH, African American, BFN, Plymouth
QUAPESH/QUAPISH, ALEXANDER, Indian, MSS, QUIN, NAT, Dedham/Natick
QUARQUO, THOMAS, **, MSS, seaman on the ship "Winthrop," no residence given
QUASH, **, MSS, Plymouth
QUASH, PHINEHAS/PRIMUS/PRIME, **, MSS, M881, Petersham
QUASH, QUOMOY/QUAMONY, African American, R18097, waiter to Col. Theodore Cotton, PHM, Plymouth
QUASMAS, JOHN, African American?, CBAN, M881, no residence given
QUAWCO, CAESAR, **, QUIN, Concord
QUINEGUOM, JOSEPH, **, MSS, no residence given
RAINEN, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Mariner, Salem
RALPH, CHARLES, Indian, MMP:29, JRAHA, Sandwich
RALPH, CHARLES, Indian/African American, MSS, Swanzey
RAND, JACK, African American, MMP:29, Medford
RAND, JACK, African American, MSS, S41092, Mystic
RAND, JAC/AUSTIN, African American, MSS, SBF, Woburn
RANDALL, ROBERT, African American, SBF, Virginia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire
RANDOL, JACK, **, MSS, no residence given
RANDOL, WATERMAN, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, seaman on the ship Deane, Malden
RANFREE, JOHN, African American, MSS, Malden
RANKEN, DANIEL, African American, MSS, Pelham
RANNEY, RICHARD, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
RASARY/RAZARAY, CUFF, **, MSS, Abington
RAWSON, CATO, African American, MSS, Braintree
RAYMOND, CAESAR, African American, MSS, Beverly
RAYMOND, POMP, **, MSS, Ticonderoga
READ, WILLIAM, African American, MSS, Freetown
REAVES, POMP, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Hatfield
REAVES, POMP, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Rehoboth
RECKARDS, JACK, **, MSS, no residence given
REDWOOD, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given
REED, HEZEKIAH, African American, MSS, Hatfield
REED, SIMEON, African American, MSS, Freetown
REMMON, JAMES, African American, MSS, Falmouth
REPNEY, ARABEL, “Brown complexion,” MMP:28, Southampton
REUBEN, African American, MSS, Brookefield
REUBEN, African American, MSS, Lancaster
REUBEN, SIMEON, Indian, MSS, Long Island
REVES, POMP, **, MSS, Rehoboth
RHODE/RHODES, LONDON, **, MSS, Windham
RICHARD, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Plymouth
RICHARD, DICK, **, MSS, Worcester
RICHARD/RICHARDS, JUPITER, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, no residence given
RICHARDS, ISHMAEL, Indian, MSS, Richmond
RICHARDS/RECHARDS, JUPITER/JUBITER, African American, MSS, PHM, Bridgewater
RICHARDS, PRINCE, African American, CPAR, East Bridgewater, 1790MA, 1820MA
RICHARDS, SAMUEL, Indian? MSS (Roxbury), GH1793, Mashpee [It is not clear if the military record for the man in Roxbury is for the man with the same name in the 1793 Mashpee census.]
RICHERTON, ALLEN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Andover
RICHMOND, LONDON, **, MSS, Dighton
RIGHT, COFFEE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS [Col. Ebenezer Sprout’s Regt.], Middleborough
RILY, WILLIAM, African American, MMP:29, Rochester
RIMMON, JOB, African American, MSS, Mashpee
RIMMON/RIMOND, JAMES, Mashpee Indian, HBCM, MSS, CPAR, APELL, Mashpee
RIMMON/RIMOND, JOB, Mashpee Indian, MSS, CPAR, APELL, died in service, Mashpee/Sandwich/Middlesex Co.
RIPLY, PRIMUS, **, MSS, Scituate/Hanover
RIPPLE/RIPLEY, JOB, African American, MSS, W1487, BLWt 920-100, no residence given
ROBBINS/ROBINS, CAESAR, **, MSS, Acton?
ROBBINS, JOSHAU, Indian, MSS, Falmouth
ROBBY, RICHARD, African American, MMP:29, Concord
ROBERS, PTOLOMOW/PTOLOMY, **, M881, no residence given
ROBERTS, CUFF, **, MSS, no residence given
ROBERTS, FORTUNE, **, MSS, seaman on the brigantine “Hazard,” no residence given
ROBERTS, REUBEN, **, SBF, no residence given
ROBIN/ROBEN, African American, MSS, SBF, Sandown
ROBIN/ROBINES, SAMUEL, Indian, MSS (Middleborough), GH1793, Mashpee
ROBINS, CESAR, African American, GDR, Groton
ROBINSON, ISAAC, African American (“reported a slave to Capt. Brown”), MSS, Leicester
ROBINSON, JACK, African American, SBF, Andover, Mass.
ROBINSON/BABSON, LONDON, **, MSS, no residence given

Massachusetts
ROBINSON, PETERS, African American, SBF, Newmarket & Gilmanton,
ROGER, ISAAC, Indian, M881, RDNY:1:110, deserted, Charlestown, R. I.
ROGER/ROGERS, LONDON, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Newbury
ROGERS, CATO, African American, Durham, SBF, MSS
ROGERS, CRISP, **, MSS, no residence given
ROGERS, PERLEY, African American, NOU, PEACH, Lancaster
ROMEO, African American, MSS, GAB, Marblehead
RONKOPORT, ABRAHAM, see KONKAUPOT/KONKPOT, ABRAM/ABRAHAM
ROSE, TONY, African American, MSS, M881, PHM, Middleborough. See also: Rhode Island entry for this man.
ROSIER/ROSAREA/ROZER/ROZERY, MSS, Cambridge/Boston/Waltham
RUSSEL/RUSSELL, CAESAR, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, M881, Andover [Note: DAR established patriot]
RUSSELL, CATO, **, MSS, seaman on the State Ship Tartar, no residence given
RUSSELL, POMP, African American, MVBH:371, Charleston; later lived in Weld, Maine
RUSSELL, PRINCE, **, MSS, Dartmouth
RYALL, CAESAR, **, MSS, Stoughton?
SABBINS/SABENS/SABINS, ISAAC, **, M881 drummer 2nd Mass, no residence given
SABY, JONATHAN, African American, MSS, Mariner, Boston
SACHAMUS/SACHEMUS/SACHEMIN/SACHEMUS, JEFFREY/JEFF, Indian ("reported an Indian"), MSS, Rochester/Freetown/Roxbury
SALEM, PETER, African American, served at the Battle of Bunker Hill, 1775, MSS, QUIN, BPC, BHAM, THFBH, NYRB, DMR, Framingham
SAMBO, African American, deserted (Massachusetts Spy (Worcester), June 25, 1778, v. 8, issue 373, p. 4; "belonging to the Continental Army."), Leicester
SAMBO, NEWPORT, African American, MSS, Leicester
SAMBO, THOMAS, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), MSS, Mariner, no residence given
SAMMS, EDWARD, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Springfield
SAMPSON, BENJAMIN, **, CSP, no residence given
SAMPSON, SETTO, **, CSP, no residence given
SAMPSON/SAMPSON/SAMSON, STUDLEY, ("complexion: dark"), MSS, Duxbury, sailor on the brigantine Dolphin, no residence given
SAMPSON/SAMSON, NEHEMIAH, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), MSS, PHM, Scituate
SAMS, CATO, **, MSS, no residence given
SAMSON, **, MSS, Stoughton
SANDS, EDWARD, African American ("colored"), W16148, SBF, no residence given
SANFORD, PHOENIX, **, MSS, Berkley
SANQUERQUOT, JOSEPH, Indian, Constable, WAL, Stockbridge
SANQUESQUOT, JOSIAH, Indian, Selectman, SPP:76, WAL, no residence given
SAPAWAMKEN, JOHN, Indian CSP, no residence given
SARRAGOSHAH, __, **, MSS, "born: Marblehead," seaman on the ship Franklin [This name may be Zarragosa and the man perhaps of Iberian or African origin.]
SASH, MOSES, African American, MSS, NVSR, Cummington/Worthington
SAUQUESQUOT, JOSEPH, Indian, SPP, Stockbridge
SAUSONKHOK, AARON, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (2nd corporal in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
SAVAGE, JUBE, African American, SBF, MSS, Lincoln
SAYWARD, PRINCE, African American, W27467, no residence given
SCHIAPUUCH/SCHEEBUCK, JOHN, Indian, Constable, WAL, SPP:76, Stockbridge
SCIPIO, African American, MSS, no residence given
SCIPIO, African American, MSS, Middleton
SCIPIO, ISAAC, **, MSS, “boy on brigantine Hazard,” Plymouth
SCIPIO, JOHN, **, MSS, Boston
SCIPIO, SALEM, **, MSS, Woburn
SCIPPEO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Littleton
SCOTT, CAESAR/CEAZR, **, MSS, M881, Chesterfield/Hingham, died in service
SCOTT, JOSEPH, African American, MSS, MMP:29, Hatfield
SCOTT, PRINCE, **, MSS, Boston
SEAPIT/SEPET/SEPI/SEPIT/SCEPET, ISRAEL, **, MSS, Bridgewater
SEASOR, THOMAS, **, M881, no residence given
SECHEMUS, JEFFREY, Indian (“complexion: black, reported an Indian”), MSS, Roxbury
SEENAH, JOSEPH, African American, MMP:28, Charlton
SEENAH, STEPHEN/STEPNEY, African American, MSS, Charlton
SEMER, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Bridgewater
SEPIT, ISRAEL, Indian, MSS, Bridgewater
SEWARD, CATO, **, MSS, M881, Essex Co.
SEWELL, ELIAS, African American, MSS, no residence given
SEXTON, ABNER, African American, MMP:29, Westfield
SHACTON, BARNABAS, African American (“complexion, black; reported a Negro”), MSS (mariner on the ship Deane), no residence given
SHADOC/SHADOCK/SHADOOK, SHATTECK/SHATTUCK/SHDOCK, CATO, African American, MSS, Newburyport/Falmouth
SHADWICK, CATO, **, MSS, Falmouth/Newbury
SHARON, PETER, African American, MSS, Lincoln
SHARP, African American, MSS, Mariner, Salem
SHARP, **, MSS, Bridgewater
SHARPER, African American, DRM:176, Gay Head, Martha’s Vineyard
SHASWELL, ANTHONY, **, QUIN, Charlestown
SHATTUCK, CATO, African American, WAL, MVBH:371, later lived in Falmouth (Portland), Maine
SHAW, SCIPIO, African American (“Negro”), MSS, QUIN, Danvers
SHAWN/SHAUN, GEORGE, Massep Indian, MSS, HBCM, CPAR, APESS, no residence given
SHEAKHEAKKAUWOH/SHUKHUKWAN, HENDRICK, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
SHAD, MARCUS, **, QUIN, Tewksbury
SHEFFIELD, THOMAS, Indian, MSS, Mariner, no residence given
SHELDON, PLINY, **, MSS, Southampton, fifer
SHEPABWEENK, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
SHEPHERD, LEWIS, African American, W24944, MVBH:371, later lived in Falmouth (Portland), Maine
SHERRON, PETER, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Middlesex Co.
SHUPAUMWAUNH, DAVID, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
SILAS, African American (“reported a servant”), MSS, Leominster, no residence given
SILAS, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Plymouth
SILAS, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS (seaman or marine on the sloop Tyranicide), no residence given
SIMMONS, SIP, African American? MSS, Danvers
SIMON/SIMONDS, BENJAMIN, JR., Indian, PHM, BFN, MSS, Middleborough/Assawompsett
SIMONS, JAMES, Indian, PHM, Plymouth
SIMMONS, BENJAMIN, African American, MJE-2, Berkshire Co. [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot Colonel Benjamin Simmons from Williamstown, Berkshire Co., Mass, QUIN, Lincoln
SISCO, FRANCIS, African American, MSS, Taunton
SLENSER, BRISTER, African American, petitioner to the General Court, patriotic service, PFM77
SMALL, NATHANIEL, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS:14:316, Gloucester
SMITH, CAESAR, African American? MSS, GH1793, GH1800, Plympton/Falmouth/Mashpee
SMITH, PELATIAH, African American, MSS, Palmer
SMITH, PRIMUS, **, MSS, Providence
SMITH, THOMAS, African American, MSS, MJE-1, Richmond
SMITH, TOBY, **, MSS, no residence given
SNELL, GEORGE, African American, SBF, MSS, no residence given
SOCIDIX, JEFFREY, Indian? MSS:14:631, seaman on the sloop Providence, no residence given
SOLOMEN/SOLOMON/SCPIO, African American? MSS:14:635, Bridgewater
SOLOMON, JOHN, Indian, MSS:14:636, Dartmouth
SOLOMONS/SOLOMON/SOLMON, SOLOMON, Indian? MSS:14:636, Richmond
SOMERSETT, CUFF, **, MSS, no residence given
SOODUCK, EPHRAIM, Indian, Natick, NAT
SOTO, MANUEL, **, MSS, Marblehead
SOUCONKHOK, AARON, Indian, MSS:14:645, Stockbridge
SOUL, JOSIAH, aka JOHN MERTHICKS, Indian, PHM, Plymouth/Rochester
SOWARD, CATO, **, MSS, Newbury
SOWOMOG, JETHRO, Indian, DRM:177, Falmouth and Martha’s Vineyard
SPARGE/SPRAGUE, CUFF/CAFFE, African American, MSS, CSP, Rochester
SPEAN/SPEEN, JACOB, African American (“Negro”), MSS, QUIN, Natick/Sudbury, NAT
SPEIN, SAMUEL, **, MSS, No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

Hampshire Co. [The surname Spein sometime occurred among Native Americans in Southern New England.]

SPACRUE, SHUBAEL, African American, MSS, Western
SPRAGUE, CAESAR, **, MSS, M881 (also Corps of Invalids in Continental Troops), Boston
SPRAGUE, CUFF, African American (“Negro servant of Dr. John Sprague”), MSS, Dedham
SPRINSTON, TIMOTHY, **, M881, no residence given
SPYWOOD, NEHEMIAH, African American? MSS, CBAN, M881, Sherburne
SQUATPAN, TOMO, Indian, MSS, (private, Capt. Ambrose Bear’s detachment of Indians), no residence given
SQUEYAH, DANIEL, Indian, MSS, no residence given
SQUIBBS/SQUIBS, DEMPS, Mashpee Indian, HBCM, CPAR, APESS, no residence given
SQUINTOOP/SQUINTROP, SAMUEL, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
SQUIRE, African American, HTHM, Hingham
SQUUNKUM, CARRIGEOUS, Indian, MSS, Berkshire Co.
STACEY/STACY, OLIVER, African American, MSS, Belchertown
STAFFORD, PRIMUS, **, MSS, marine on the ship General Putnam, no residence given
STAFFORD, PRINCE, **, MSS, M881, Essex Co.
STARNES, EPHEMIAH, African American, MSS, New Ipswich
STEDMAN, CATO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, QUIN, Cambridge
STEPNEY, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Barre/Worcester Co.
STEVEN, CUFF, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, seaman or marine on the sloop (‘briggantine’)
Tyrianicile, no residence given
STEVENSON, JAMES, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Plymouth
STEWARD, CESAR, African American, PHM, Pembroke
STEWART, PELEG, African American/Indian (“Mulatto”), MSS, PHM, Rochester
STILLMAN, ROBIN, “complexion: dark,” MSS, Sandisfield
STOAKHAM/STOKEHAM, JUSTUS, **, West Stockbridge
STONE, WILLIAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Gloucester
STONE, ZUBAL, African American, MSS, Stow
STOREY/STORY, PRIMUS, **, Topsfield/Ipswich
STORM, JAMES, African American, MSS, MJE-1, Sheffield
STRANGE, JACK, **, MSS, no residence given
STUART, CHARLES, African American, NOU, PEACH, Lancaster
SUCKAMUG/SUGARMUG/SHUGARMON/SUCKERMUG/SUGERMON/SUGERMUG/SUGERMOR/-SUGER/SUGAMOG/SUGMAG/SUGMUG, JOEL, African American, MSS, Bridgewater
SUCKONASH, MOSES, Indian, MSS, Bristol or Barnstable Co.
SUMERSETS/SUMERSETT/SUMMERSET, CUFF, **, MSS, Billerica?
SUMER, NEWPORT, African American, petitioner to the General Court, patriotic service, PFM77
SUMER, SAUL, African American, MSS, Spencer
SUNAX, WILLIAM, Indian? MSS:15:261, Suffolk Co.
SUNCOSON/SUNSCON, JAMES, Indian? MSS:14:261, 262, Barnstable Co.
SUNJUCE/SUNJUSE, ROBIN, **, MSS:14:261, Norwich
SUPPAWON/SUPPOSON/SUPPOSION/SUSPASON/SOPPOSSEN, ABEL/ABIE L, Indian, MSS:14, RAP2
(private on the Connecticut armed sloop American Revenue), MSS, Pembroke/Barnstable or Plymouth Co.
SURCOMB/CIRCUM, CAESAR, **, MSS, Boston
SUSSEX/SUSSO, ISAAC, Indian? MSS:14:263, Falmouth
SUTTON, PRINCE, African American ("reported a mulatto"), MSS, QUIN, WAL, M881, Woburn
SUTTON, ZEBA, African American, PHM, Scituate
SWEAT/SWEATT/SWEET/SWET/SWETT, CICERO/CISCERO, African American, MSS, S43189, SBF, Marblehead/Billerica/Woburn
SWEATON/SWETEN/SWEETON/SWEETING, CAESAR, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Bellingham
SWIFT, ISAAC, Indian, BLW1 1926-100, no residence given
SYMONDS/SYMS, FORTUNE, **, MSS, "cook on brig Hazard and on State Ship Protector," no residence given
SYMONDS/SIMONS, POMP, African American ("Mulatto") and ("complexion: yellow"), MSS, Danvers
SYMONDS, SYP, **, MSS, Danvers/Marblehead
SYPHAX, CAREY, **, CSP, no residence given
SYPHAX, PRICE, **, M881, no residence given
TACKANASH/TUCKANASH, JOHN, Indian, RAP2
TALBERT/TOLBOT/TALBOT, ABRAHAM, African American, MVBH:370 [later lived in China, Maine]
TALBERT/TARBET/TARBET/TARBIT/TARBIL/TARBOL/TARBOT, TOBY, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, MVBH:370 [father of Abraham], Bridgewater
TALBOT, CAESAR, "Other Free," MSS, Swanzey/Dighton
TAMPUM, JOB, Indian, MSS, Mashpee
TANTOR/TAYUTER, STEPHEN, **, FCP:115, 117, drummer; Grafton
TARBIT, TOBY, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Bridgewater
TASH, OXFORD, African American, Newmarket, W16155, SBF
TASHARO, GEORGE, **, MSS, no residence given
TATTEN, ISAAC, African American, Lempster, SBF
TAUPAUPET, PETER, Indian, M881, no residence given
TAY, JACK, see TOY, JACK
TAYLOR, PRINCE, African American ("complexion: black"), S42463, MSS, SBF, Lunenburg
TAYLOR/TAYLER, THOMAS, African American ("Negro"), MSS, Charlestown
TERRY, LONDON, see DERRY/DEREY, LONDON
TERRY, THOMAS, African American, MMP:29, Medford
TEW, URIAH, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), MSS, deserted, Dighton
THARE, JACK, see BRIENT/BRIANT, JACK
THATCHER/THACHER, CAESAR, African American ("reported a Negro"), MSS, Dorchester
THAUGOKEHEEK, MOSES, Indian, M881, no residence given
THISTLE, CESAR, African American, "lost at sea while serving as a privateer cook in the Revolution," CLH, Beverly
THISTLE, JETHRO, African American, CLH, MSS, Beverly
THOMAS, African American “Negro,” MSS, [“a Negro to David Dean”], Dighton
THOMAS, African American, MSS, Westfield
THOMAS, BENJAMIN, Indian, MSS, Natick
THOMAS, BENJAMIN, Indian, NAT, Natick
THOMAS, CAESAR, **, MSS, no residence given
THOMAS, EDMUND, African American, MSS, Reading
THOMAS, JAMES, African American, MSS, Newburyport
THOMAS, MARGARET, “free person of color,” GWPL, servant, no residence given
THOMAS, PETER, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Manchester
THOMAS, SCIPIO, **, MSS, Swanzey
THOMPSON/THOMSON, CAESAR, African American, MSS, NAT, M881, Natick
THOMPSON, JACK/JOCK, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Kingston
THOMPSON, PRINCE, **, MSS, Leicester
THOMPSON, PRINCE, **, MSS, Paxton
THOMPSON, THOMAS, African American, SBF, Durham, N. H.
THONKPOTT, ABRAHAM, Indian, Constable, MCO, Stockbridge
TIGH, OXFORD, **, MSS, Newburyport
TILDEN/TILDREN, CUFF, African American, MSS, CSP, Hanover
TILE/TITE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Andover
TILER, JAMES, Indian, RAP2 (seaman on the Nantucket brig Hanover), Nantucket
TINGY, CUFF, aka CUFF COUSINS/COUSAND, African American, S33804, MSS, PEACH, GREE, Hopkinton/Holliston/Lancaster
TING/TYNG, BOSTON, **, MSS, M881, Dunstable
TING, CORNWELL, **, MSS, Dunstable/Metheun
TING, ROBERT, **, MSS, Dunstable
TINGE, ADAM, **, MSS, musician, no residence given
TINGLE, JOHN, “Colored,” HTLM, Lexington
TITUS, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, no residence given
TITUS, African American, “reported a servant to William Burt,” MSS, Harvard
TITUS, African American, MSS, Capt. Edward Hurcum “sent his negro man Titus and is credited with I turn”
TITUS, African American, MSS, MJE-1, Pittsfield
TITUS, TIMOTHY, African American, MSS, Boston
TOB, MOSES, **, CSP, no residence given
TOBEY, African American, MSS, Andover
TOBIAS, JOB, Indian/African American, MSS, BLWt 1927-100, Barnstable
TOBY, ABSALOM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, M881, Harwich
TOBY, VERNON, **, CSP, no residence given
TOLBERT, TOBY, African American, PHM, Bridgewater
TOLBUT, CAESAR, **, MSS, “on brigantine Freedom,” no residence given
TOM, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Berkshire Co.
TOM, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS (cook for sail and tent makers), no residence given
TOM, JAMES, Mashpee Indian, MSS, Mashpee
TOMASES, Indian, MSS “pay roll of a number of Indians under Lt. Andrew Gilman,” no residence given
TOMSON, GEOR, African American, MSS, Newbury
TOMS, CAESAR, **, MSS, “boy on brigantine Tyrannicide,” no residence given
TOMS, JUPITER, **, MSS, “seaman on brigantine Tyrannicide,” no residence given
TOMSON, JACK, African American, MSS, PHM, Kingston
TOMSON/TOMPSON, JOHN, (“complexion: brown”), MSS, Salem
TONY, MARK, **, M881, no residence given
TORBIT, TOBY, **, MSS, Bridgewater
TORREY, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Medford
TOUNGHAM, GIDEON, Mashpee Indian, MSS, no residence given
TOUPAUPET, PETER, **, MSS, Sheffield
TOWNSAND/TOWNSEND, JETHRO, **, MSS, Chelsea; 1790MA (Woburn)
TOWNSEND, CUFFEY/CAFFEY, African American, MSS, M881, CSP, Boston
TOWSEY, BENJAMIN, Indian, MSS, West Stockbridge
TOY, JACK, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Woburn/Middlesex Co.
TRAIN, PRIMUS, **, MSS, no residence given
TRAIN, ROBERT, **, MSS, Stockbridge
TRASSON, GEORGE, African American (“reported a mulatto”), MSS, Kent
TRAY, PRINCE, **, MSS, Newburyport
TREE, JUPITER, “Colored,” HTLM, Lexington
TROY, JOHN, African American, PHM, Bridgewater
TUDOR/TUDA, CATO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Lexington
TUDOR, CAESAR, **, MSS, Boston
TUFTS/TURFTS, CATO, African American, SBF, MSS, QUIN, Medford
TUMPUM, Gideon, Mashpee Indian, MSS, CPAR, APESS, Mashpee/Sandwich
TURNER, ISHMAEL, African American (enslaved man of Seth Field), MSS, SBF, JHN, PVMA:1:483, Northfield
TURNER/TUNER, PLATO, African American, MSS, S33832, PHM, Plymouth
TURNER, THOMAS, African American, MSS, Falmouth
TUSNUCK, JACOB, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (1st corporal in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
TUTTLE, ADAM, African American, MSS, Chelsea
TUTTLE, ADAM, African American, MSS, Medford
TUTTLE, TITUS/TITUS___, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Harvard
TWILIGHT, ICHABOD, African American, SBF, MSS, Boston/Newburg
TYNG, BOSTON, **, MSS, Dunstable
TYNG, CORNWELL, **, MSS, Dunstable
TYNG, PRIMUS, African American, RI0795, no residence given
UHHAUNAUWANUMT, CAPTAIN SOLOMON, Indian, MSB, Stockbridge-Mohican
UMPAUMUT, HENDRICK, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
UMPHY, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR, M881, no residence given
UNCILLS/UNCLES, WILLIAM, **, MSS, drummer, Boston
UNDERWOOD, CATO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Needham/Natick
UNKET/UNKETT/UNCKET, BENJAMIN, Indian (“reported an Indian”), MSS, PHM, Pembroke
UPTON, CESAR, African American, MSS, Essex
UPTON, JUBA/JUBE, African American, MSS, Danvers
VAN HUFF, JOHN, African American, MSS, Richmond, Mass. & Kinderhook, N. Y.
VANDOOSEN/VANDOOSER, PRINCE, **, MSS, no residence given
VARNON, JAMES, African American, MSS, Newbury, Mass. & Newport, R. I.
VELSON, PLATO, **, MSS, crewman on the ship Auror, no residence given
VIBRIGE/YBRIGE, DOMINA, **, MSS, boy on the brigantine Independence, Plymouth/Brookline [This man may have been of African, Iberian, or Azorean descent.]
VOMHAVI, HENRIES, Indian, SUMN:387, no residence given
VORCE, FRANCH, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, seaman on the ship Pilgrim, no residence given
WADSWORTH, PRINCE, **, MSS, Sandwich/Plymouth
WAIT, SAMBO, African American, MSS, marine on the brig Hazard, Suffolk Co.
WALKER, MINGO, **, MSS, no residence given
WALKER, POMP, **, MSS, private on the brigantine Freedom, no residence given
WALKER, PRINCE/PRIMUS/PRENTICE, African American (“complexion: dark”), SBF, Andover/Amesbury
WALLACE, CAESAR, “Man of colour,” S43250, QUIN, Newbury
WALLEE, POMP, **, MSS, Boston
WALLIS/WALES, POMPEY/POMP, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, M881, Stoughton/Dedham
WAMLEE, JAMES, African American, MSS, Dartmouth
WAMPEE/WOMPEE/WAMPA/WOOMPEE, JOHN, African American, MSS, M881, deserted (New England Chronicle/Independent Chronicle & Universal Advertiser (Boston), June 5, 1777, v. 9, issue 459, p. 4)

Medway

WAMPEE/WAMPEY, SAMUEL, **, MSS, Sandwich/Falmouth
WAMSQUAM/WAMSQUAN/WAMZQUAM/WORMAGURN, SOLOMON, (“complexion: dark”), MSS, NAT, drummer, M881, Needham
WANNEHNAUWEET/WAUNICHORUWEET, BENJAMIN, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
WANNUTT/NORMETT/NORNELL/VEMOTT/VOMELL/VOMETT/WOMMETT, JOSEPH, **, MSS, Boston
WANT, POMP, (“complexion: dark”), MSS, landsman on the brig Prospect, Boston
WANTON, PRINCE, African American (“complexion: dark”), MSS, Berkley
WARD, CUDJO, African American, Patriotic Service, slave and servant of Governor Samuel Ward, DEN:109, 1790RI, Westerly
WARD, JACOB, African American, SBF, MSS, Springfield
WARD, JEPTHAH, African American, MSS, Salem
WARD, PRINCE, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Medfield
WARWICK/WARRICH, JOSEPH, African American (“Mulatto”) and (“Indian”), MSS, PHM, Marshfield
WAUSHAM, SALMON, African American, PHM, Bridgewater
WATERMAN, BENJAMIN, African American, MSS, Freetown
WATERMAN, ISAEL, African American, MSS, Freetown
WATERMAN, SILAS, African American, MSS, Greenwich
WATERS, SCIPIO, African American? MSS, Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.
WATTS, CHARLES, African American, MSS, Lynn
WAUMANKEY/WAUMANKY/WAMONKY/ WAUMOHHEWEH, ANDREW/ANDRES, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
WAUNECHNAUWEET, BENAJJMIN, Indian, MSS, M881, no residence given
WAUPEEK/WAUPICK/WAYPICK, ISAAC, Indian, MSS, M881, Stockbridge
WAURWAUMANT, DANIEL, Indian, MSS, Stockbridge
WAUTAUNKAUWOT/ WAUTONKAUWOT, HENDRICK, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
WAUTONQUAT, TIMOTHY, **, MSS, Stockbridge
WAUWAUMPEQUUNAUNT/ WAUWAUMPEQUENMANANT/ WAUWAUMPEQUINNAUNT/ WAUWAUPU-QUENONT/ WAUWAUMPEGUNT, DANIEL, Indian, Soldier, MSS:198, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
WAY, JOHN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, South Hadley
WAY, RALPH, “Other Free,” MSS, 1800MA, Hadley
WEBAMP/WEAUMP/WEAYUMP, DAVID, Indian, M881, no residence given
WEARE, SCAPIUS, **, MSS, Andover
WEBB, JOHN, African American, MSS, SBF, no residence given
WEBB, JOHN, African American, MSS, Stoneham
WEBB, PRIMUS, African American, MA188:134-136, soldier, Salem
WEBSTER, PRIME, **, MSS, Dartmouth
WEBQUISH/WEBQUISH/WEBQUISSH, FRANCIS, Mashpee Indian, MSS, HBCM, CPAR, APESS, Sandwich
WELDING, BOSTON, **, MSS, Worcester
WELF, SAMUEL JAMES, African American, MSS, West Springfield
WELLINGTON, POMP, African American, MSS, Cambridge
WELLS, PRINCE, **, MSS, seaman ship Protector, no residence given
WENAUMPEH/WENAUPHE/ WENAUMPEH, ISAAC, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
WENAUMPEH, JACOB, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
WENCH, CHARLES, African American, MSS, Framingham
WERCK, CHARLES, African American, MMP:29, Framingham [May be same as the preceding.]
WETHERBEE/WEATHERBEE, CAESAR, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, GDR, Stow/Groton
WEYUMP, DAVID, African American, MSS, Marlborough
WHEATLEY, PHILLIS, African American, (wrote a patriotic poem complimenting Gen. George Washington), PWBAR, GWPW [The literature on Philis Wheatley is extensive.]
WHEATLEY/WHEATLY/WHELLEY, PRINCE, **, MSS, M881, Suffolk Co.
WHEELER, FORTUNATUS, **, MSS, Marlborough
WHEELER, JOHN, African American, W14148, Belchertown
WHELLEN, BOSTON, **, MSS, no residence given
WHENUPPUSEK/WHENUPPAUSUK, CORNELIUS, **, MSS, M881, Sheffield
WHITCOMBE, PETER, African American, MSS, New Braintree
WHITE, ARCHELAUS, African American, S43299, SBF, Plaistow, N. H.
WHITE, BOSTON, **, MSS, no residence given
WHITE, CAESAR, **, MSS, no residence given, seaman on the State sloop Winthrop
WHITE, LEVI, African American, SBF, MSS, Lancaster?
WHITE, PETER, African American, HGC, Brookline
WHITE, PLINY, **, MSS, Hampshire and Worcester Co.
WHITE, REUBEN, African American, MSS, WFH, Dighton
WHITE, SUNDARY, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS (seaman on the frigate Boston and on the ship Protector, no residence given
WHITE, TOBY, **, MSS, South Hadley
WHITENEY/WHITNEY, CASE, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, PECCH, Lancaster
WHITIMON/WHITMAN, PRINCE, **, MSS, Dartmouth
WHITING, PRINCE, **, MSS, Suffolk Co.
WHITNEY, ROBERT, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
WHOMPEGE/WHOMPIG, SAMUEL, **, MSS, Falmouth
WICKET, OBED/OBADIAH, Indian, S34535, MSS, Sandwich
WICKHAM/WICKUMS, ISAAC, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”; Mashpee Indian), S34354, BLWt 5277 and 906-100, MSS, PHM, DR:173, Pembroke/Marshpee
WIER, SCIPIO, **, MSS, Roxbury
WIGGIN, COCKER/COOKER, African American, Stratham, N. H.
WILKINS, SAMBO, **, MSS, no residence given
WILL, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Oxford
WILLARD, PETER, African American, MSS, Marlborough
WILLIAMS, BENONI, African American, MSS, Dighton
WILLIAMS, ISAAC, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, Dedham
WILLIAMS, JOHN, Indian, MMP:29, PHM, Kingston
WILLIAMS, PLATO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Mariner, no residence given
WILLIAMS, POMP/POMPEY/POMPH, African American, MSS, Sandwich/Falmouth
WILLIAMS, PRINCE, **, MSS, Boston/Sandwich
WILLIAMS, PRINCE, **, MSS, Weston
WILLIAMS, PRINCE, **, MSS, seaman on the sloop Providence, also a marine on board the ship Alfred, no town given
WILLIAMS, URIAH, African American, MSS, Berwick
WILLIAMS, URIAH, African American, PHM, Middleborough
WILLINGTON, POMP, African American, MSS, Middlesex Co.
WILLS, LONDON, **, MSS, seaman on the State brig Hazard, Boston
WILLSON/WILSON, MYRICK, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MSS, no residence given
WILSON, DICK, **, MSS, Lincoln
WIMAN, CAESAR, **, MSS, Woburn
WIND, THOMAS, Indian, MSS, MMP:11 (private in Capt. William Goodrich’s Co. of Indians), Stockbridge
WINDSOR/WINSOR, CUFF, **, MSS, no residence given
WINGFIELD, NEPHENE, African American (“complexion: black”), gentleman soldier, MSS, Boston
WINSLOW, JAMAICA, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, Freetown
WINSLOW, PETER, African American (“reported as a Negro”), MSS, Dighton
WINSOR, ANTHONY, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Freetown
WINSOR/WINSOUR, DUTY, **, MSS, Rehoboth
WITE, ABIJAH, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Monson
WITHEREL/WITHERELL/WITHERLY/WITHREL/WITHRELL, PRINCE, **, MSS, Taunton/Plymouth Co.
WITT/WITTES, SCIPIO, African American (“complexion: black”), “reported a servant to Maj. Rice,” MSS, Brookfield
WNAUMPEY/WNAUPEEK/WNUUNPEY/WUNAUMPEE, ISAAC, Indian (“reported an Indian”), MSS, Watertown/Stockbridge
WOBBIN/WOBON/WOBEN, JOHN, African American, MSS, Conway/Worcester Co./Petersham
WOLLIS, POMPEY, **, MSS, Boston
WONTON, PRINCE, **, MSS, no residence given
WOOD, ASAHEL, African American (“Negro”), S33947, QUIN, MSS, Hatfield/Hampshire Co.
WOOD, CATO, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, SBF, M881, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:89, CRS, Ipswich
WOOD, CATO, African American, MSS, QUIN, WAL, GREE, Charlestown
WOOD, CUFF, African American, Seaman, SBF, QUIN, marine on Frigate Boston, ANOM:89, Charlestown
WOOD, EBER/ALLIS, African American (“Negro”), QUIN, Hatfield
WOOD/WOODS, PRIMUS/PRIMOS, African American, MSS, M881, Bridgewater
WOODARD/WOODWORTH, TOPSAL/TOPSAIL, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, NOU, PEACH, Lancaster
WOODBURY/WOODBERY/WOODBRY/WOODBRRY, PRINCE, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, cook on the ship Resource, Beverly
WOODWARD, POMPEY, African American, W4867, BLWt 26731-160-55, SBF, no residence given
WORD, SAMUEL, Indian, FHM, Bridgewater
WORNTON, TOBIAS/BACCHUS/BACKUS, African American (“African”), QUIN, Newburyport
WRENTHAM, PRINCE, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Wrentham
WYATT, NERO, **, MSS, no residence given
WYMAN, CAESAR, African American, MSS, M881, Reading
WYMAN, CATO, African American (“complexion: black”), MSS, MMP:29, Woburn
WYMON, POMPE, **, MSS, Woburn
YARNEY, SAMBO, **, MSS, no residence given
YOKUN/YOUKON, TIMOTHY, Indian, Soldier, MSS, MSB:198, MMP:11 (1st sergeant in Capt. William Goodrich’s Company of Indians), Stockbridge
YORK, LIVY/LEVI, **, MSS, marine on the Lincoln Galley, no residence given
YOUNG, JOSEPH, African American, MMP:29, Amherst, no residence given
ZEBULON, Indian, MSS, Hampshire Co.
ZON/XONE/ZOR, LEWIS, Indian (“reported an Indian”), MSS, Rehoboth, Swanzey, & Freetown
Throughout the monumental publication *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolution*, one will notice descriptions of men having a “brown complexion.” Such a color descriptor may or may not indicate that this individual was of African or Indian descent, but without further proof it is impossible to say one way or the other. Given the vagaries of these uses of color from the eighteenth century, modern researchers cannot definitively state that such a description from over 225 years ago means the same as it does now.

In surveying the vast quantities of records that have been studied during this long project, the use of specific colors to describe an individual is usually the observation of a “white” man describing another man and trying to create distinctions between individuals. Because specific and designated terms such as “Negro,” “mulatto,” “mustee,” “black man,” etc., were used to describe individuals of African descent or partial African descent, the use of terms such as “ruddy,” “sandy,” “light,” “dark,” etc. usually refers to someone of European descent in an attempt to describe better the variations in skin tone lumped together by some as “white.” One likely explanation for the use of “light” and “dark” in descriptions of the same man in many records in *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors* is that the observer was noting the shade of another “white” man’s skin during different seasons when exposure to the sun or lack thereof would result in a change in skin tone. Such descriptions as “light” and “dark” often appear in the same record for the same man in *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors*.

Similarly, one “white” man exposed to the sun for long periods of time often tans to a “brown” complexion while another may turn bright red from sunburn. Such variations in Caucasian skin tones must also be taken into account when studying older records and cannot be dismissed out of hand. These possibilities only add to the confusion when attempting to interpret eighteenth-century sources and lead to the requirement for further documentation to be located.

We include here the following names of men listed in *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors* as having brown complexion, and separate from the preceding list, because either we have determined that they were of European descent using existing records from their places of residence or we have not been able to find any other information about them. The DAR would appreciate receiving documentation relating to the ethnicity of any of these men from interested readers.

The notation in the following listings, “No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution” results from searches of census records for the years 1790 to 1850. Variations in spellings of surnames were also checked. Indexes and online versions of pension records were also examined. The vital records on <www.newenglandancestors.org> were checked for more information regarding each man. If descriptions provided in *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors* listed the birthplace, the vital records book for that particular town was checked for further information on this individual.

ANGERSBACH/ANGERSBACK, JOHN. Boston. No census, no pension or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution. The surname suggests that he was likely of German origin.

ARMSTRONG, JOHN. Boston. The 1790 census for Massachusetts lists only one John Armstrong, and he was white and a resident of Boston.

AVARY, TIMOTHY. Temple. Died 7 August 1775, 21 years old. No further information found.

AVREY, DAVID. New Ipswich, New Hampshire. In the 1790 census there are two men with the name David Avery in New Hampshire, both white. Townsend, *Massachusetts Vital Records*: David Avery, b. 4 August 1737.

BADGER, JOHN. Boston. The 1790 census for Boston lists a man with this name as white.

BAKER, JOHN. There are twenty-four men with this name listed in the 1790 Massachusetts census.
BALLARD, EBENEZER. Boston. There is no man with this name in the 1790 census of Massachusetts. An Ebenezer Ballard does appear in the 1800 census of Haverhill, Massachusetts as white.

BARRETT, THOMAS. Boston. The three men with this name in the 1790 Massachusetts census are listed as white. In addition one of these men was a Revolutionary War pensioner (W679; BLWT 3869-160-55. These sources do not give a skin color for the pensioner.)

BARTLEY, JOHN. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution in Massachusetts. There is a John Bartley in New York in the 1800-1820 censuses, and he is listed as white.

BASS, SAMUEL. Boston. There are four men with this name in the 1790 Massachusetts census living in Boston, and they are all listed as white.

BAYLEY/BAILEY, JAMES. Woolwich [Lincoln Co., Maine]. No man with this name appears in the 1790-1810 censuses in this area. Everyone with this name in Lincoln Co. in the census is listed as white.

BENNETT, WILLIAM. Boston. The only man with this name in the 1790 census for Boston is listed as white.

BICKNALL/BICKNELL, SAMUEL. Hingham. There is a Samuel Bicknell in the 1810 census in Plymouth Co., Massachusetts, who is listed as white. There are several men with the name Samuel Bicknell listed in Rhode Island vital records.

BIRD, EDWARD. Boston. Two white men with this name appear in the 1790 census for Boston, and only one man with this name appears in the 1800 and 1810 censuses and is listed as white.

BLANBAN, SAMUEL. West Springfield. No further information has been found on this man.

BLISS, THEODORE. Boston. The 1790 census listed only one man with this name in Boston as white.

BLUNT, JONATHAN. Palmer. Pension S44634 does not give a color. He is living in Genesee Co., New York, in the 1820 census and is listed as white.

BOOTH, ROBERT. Boston. Booth appears in MSS, and his complexion is given as both “red” and “brown.” These comments are not sufficient information to classify him as American Indian or African American.

BOYINGTON, JACOB. Watertown. Complexion given as “light” and “brown.” There is no subsequent census record for a man with this name in Massachusetts.

BRADFORD, SAMUEL. Plymouth. The only man with this name in Plymouth in the 1790-1810 censuses is listed as white.

BREED, JOHN. Packersfield, N. H. Pension S12344 does not give a color. In the 1790 census for this town, the only man with this name was white.

BREEDER, SAMUEL. Temple. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

BRIDGE, SAMUEL. Kittery [York Co., Maine] There is no census information for Samuel Bridge in Maine, but there are three men with the same name in Massachusetts in the 1790 census. All three are listed as white.


BROWN, JOHN (2). Boston. There are five men with this name listed in the 1790 census. One is listed as “other free person.” One of the men listed in MSS: “occupation: gentleman soldier.” No pension.

BROWN, NATH. Salem. MSS: “2nd mate on the brig Union.” No pension. There are fourteen Nath(aniel) Browns in the 1790 census in Massachusetts.

BROWN, RICHARD. Boston. No 1790 census record. No pension.

BROWN, SAMUEL. Boston. There were two men listed in the 1790 census for Boston, and both were white.

BRYANT, JAMES. Boston. The 1790 census for Boston listed one white man with this name.

BURCHHARDT/BURKHARDT, GEORGE. Boston. No census records. The surname suggests that this man was German.

BURHANS, EDWARD. Ulster Co., N. Y., Pension W16876 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. His widow was in the 1810 census in Roxbury, Delaware Co., New York, and was white.

BUTTERIE, EDWARD. Grafton. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CALERVAN, MICHAEL. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CAMBRIDGE, CHARLES. Boston. The only man with this name in the 1790 and 1800 censuses was listed as white.

CARRELL, JOHN. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.
CARROL, MORRIS. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CASSIDY/CASSADY/CASSIDAY, ANDREW. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CATO, HENRY. Barre. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CAVENDER, JOHN. Littleton. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CHACE/CHASE, DAVID. Harwich. No pension. There are over fifteen census entries for men with the same name in 1790. There are over 20 entries in the Harwich vital records for a David Chase/Chace. None of these sources reveals a color. The absence of a color descriptor in the vital records usually means the person was of European descent.

CHANDLER, SAMUEL. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CHAPER, WILLIAM. Marblehead. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CHAPPEL, SAMUEL (alias SAMUEL JONES)

CHURCHWED/CHURCHWARD, ARTHUR. Temple. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CLARK, GEORGE. Boston. There are three men in the 1790 census in the state of Massachusetts with this name, and they were all listed as white.

CLARY, JOB. Sunderland. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CLEMENTS, SAMUEL. Berwick [Maine]. The 1790 census for Berwick only lists one white man with this name.

COLEMAN, WILLIAM. Ipswich. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

COLLINGS, JAMES. Boston. The 1800 and 1810 censuses list a James Collings in Massachusetts as white.

COLLINS, DANIEL. Boston. No pension. The 1790 census for Boston listed one man with this name as white.

COLMAN, STEPHEN. Ipswich. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

COLTON, EDWARD. Wilbraham. No pension. The 1790 census for Wilbraham lists one man with this name as white.

CONDON, PATRICK. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

COOPER, THOMAS. Boston. No man with this name appears in the census for Boston until 1820 census. That census lists that man under “other Free Persons” with no age information (of course) for comparison.

COREY, EDMUND. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CRAFTS, GEORGE. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CREIGER/GRAGER, JOHN. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

CUSHING, REGEMMELECH. Braintree. Pension S34726 does not give a color, and the vital records for Braintree do not reveal one either.

CUTTER, BENJAMIN. New Ipswich, N. H. Pension W18987 does not give a color. No census records found.

DAMON, EBNENEZER. No further information found on this man.

DAVENPORT, JAMES. Dorchester. Pension S34304 does not give a color descriptor for the pensioner.

DAVIS, ELIJAH. New Ipswich, N. H. There are two entries for men named Elisha Davis in the Concord vital records: Elisha Davis, b. 26 March 1746, Concord. Elisha Davis, b. 22 August 1747, Concord.

DAWSON, JOHN. Boston. No census or pension.

DENNISON, PRINCE. New Windsor, N. Y. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

DEWEY, GIDEON. Conway. Pension W1155 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. His widow is in Canandaigua, Ontario Co., New York, in the 1860 census and is listed as white.
DINSMORE, ABRAHAM. Temple, N. H. Pension SI2777 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1790 census he is listed as white in Reading, Windsor Co., Vermont.

DONOHEW/DONOHUE, ELISHA. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

DOUBLEDAY, BENJAMIN. Boston. Pension BLWT1829-100 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. By 1790, Benjamin Doubleday is deceased, but his wife, Mary, is listed as white in the 1790 and 1800 census in Newport, Newport Co., Rhode Island.

DUMOND/DU MOND, PETER. Ulster Co., New York. A Peter Dumond is listed in the 1790 census as white living in Kingston Township, Ulster Co., New York.

DURHAM, NICHOLAS. Leominster. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

EDDY, CALEB. Providence, R. I. Pension S39485 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1790 census, he was living in Scituate, Providence, Rhode Island and described as white.

ENGLISH, JOHN. Boston. No census. No pension. Five marriages appear for men with this name in Boston with no colors given.

ENTWISHILL/ENTWISTLE, EDMUND. MSS: “2nd corporal; occupation: gentlemen soldier.” No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

FIFFER, WILLIAM. Ulster Co., New York. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

FILSINGHAM/FILZHINGHAM, JOSEPH/ANDREW JOSEPH. Boston. MSS. Appearance also listed as “light” in MSS.

FITCH, ZABDIEL. Boston. No census or pension listed. Boston vital records lists a Zabdiel Fitch born in 1736, but no color is given.

FOUGETTE, JULIAN. Boston. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution. The surname suggests that he was either French or French Canadian.

FOVELL, FRANCIS. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

FOWLE, JOHN. Boston. There are four 1790 census entries for a John Fowle in Massachusetts, and all four are listed as white.

FRANCES/FRANCIS, JOSEPH. Boston. No pension. No vital records. The 1790 census for Boston lists one man with this name as white.

FRANKS, DAVID SALSBERY. Boston. Also given as Philadelphia. Pension BLWT742-400 (Aid de Camp) does not give a color.

GALLEY, JOHN. Dedham. His complexion is described as “light” twice in the MSS entry as well as brown.

GARDNER, JONATHAN. Salem. In the 1790 census, he is listed as white and living in Salem, Essex Co., Massachusetts.

GAY, JOSEPH. Hopkinton. Land warrant 4274 is left to heir, Jonathan Gay. No census or vital records were located.

GIGUEL, WILL. Needham. No definitive census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

GOMEY, JOHN. MSS lists this man as “Portuguese.”

GOOD, ROBERT. Beverly. No pension or vital records could be found for this man in Beverly.

GORDON, THOMAS. Boston. No definitive census, pension or vital records appear for his man after the Revolution.

GOSS, THOMAS. Salem. The only man listed in the 1790 census for Salem with this name was white.

GRANGER, FREDERICK. West Springfield. Pension S32769/BLWT7-100 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1810 census he is listed as white.

GRAY, EDWARD. Boston. In the 1790 census there is an Edward Gray living in Boston who is listed as white. In the 1810 census there are two Edward Grays’ living in Boston, who are listed as white.

GREACE/GRACE, JAMES. Boston. No definitive pension, census, or vital records appear for this man in Boston, Massachusetts.

GREEN, JOHN. Boston. The 1790 census lists a John Green, white, living in Boston.

GREEN, JOHN, JR. Boston. The 1790 census lists a John Green, Jr., white, living in Boston.
GREEN, RICHARD. Suffolk Co. There is an entry in the 1790 and 1810 census that lists Richard Green as white and living in Boston.

GREEN, SAMUEL. Boston. Pension R4269 and W14814 does not give a color. There was a Samuel Green living in Boston in the 1790 census, who was listed as white.

GREEN, THOMAS. Boston. The 1790 census for Boston, lists him as white.

GRIFITH, JOHN, JR. Boston. The 1790 census for Boston, lists him as white.

HALL, DANIEL. New Ipswich, N. H. Listed as a Pensioner in Berkshire Co., Mass., in 1810 and 1832 and as white.

HAMLEN, AFRICA. Pembroke. Hamlen was white. He had brothers named Europe and Asia.

HANDERSON, DAVID. Hampshire Co. No census. There are pensioners in states other than Massachusetts with this name.

HANDEICKS/HENDRICKS, JOHANNES. Kingston, R. I. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

HANSCOMB, STEPHEN. Springfield. Pension W24401 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1790 census, a man with this name is listed as white in Kittery, York Co., Maine.

HANSON, ISAAC. Berwick, York Co. In the 1790 census for Berwick, a man with this name is listed as white.

HAPPY/HOBBIE, JOHN GEORGE. Ulster Co., N. Y. Pension W17047 does not give a skin color for the pensioner.

HARDY, JOSHUA. Boston. This man’s complexion also given as “light” in the same record in MSS. Pension W21277 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. The pension states that in 1818, Joshua Hardy is living in Suffolk Co., Massachusetts. There are two in the Suffolk Co., Massachusetts area in the 1810 census, and both are listed as white.

HASTON, BERNHARDT, CHRISTO. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

HAWKINS, ROBERT. Boston. No pension. There was a Robert Hawkins living in Brookhaven, Suffolk Co., Massachusetts in the 1790 and 1800 census and listed as white.

HAYDEN, EBENEZER. Stoughton. In the 1800 census he is listed as white in Stoughton, Norfolk Co.

HENDERSON, WILLIAM. Danvers. MSS lists hair and complexion also as “light” in the same record.

HENLEY, JOHN. Boston. He is listed in the 1790 census in Boston as white.

HILL, JOHN. Suffolk Co. In the 1790 census in Boston, he is listed as white.

HINKLEY, EBENEZER. Boston. No pension. In the 1790 census, there is an Ebenezer Hinkley in Maine who is listed as white, and one in Massachusetts listed as white.

HODGKINS, JOSEPH. Great Barrington. Born: London, Great Britain. In the 1790 census for Massachusetts, a Joseph Hodgkins is listed as white. In Maine in 1790, there are two men with the name, and both are recorded as white. In the 1800 census there are three men with this name listed as white living in Massachusetts. No pension has been found.

HODGKINS, MOSES. Ipswich. Ipswich Vital records: Moses, baptized 8 June 1760 (no color given). No pension has been found.

HOLLAN, REUBEN, Great Barrington. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

HOLLES, EBENEZER. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

HOLLOWAY, SAMUEL. Pembroke. No census (in Massachusetts) pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

HOLMES, EBENEZER. Plymouth. In the 1790 census for Plymouth, Ebenezer Holmes is listed as white.

HUBBARD, JOSHUA. Boston. In the 1790 census, there is one Joshua Hubbard in Massachusetts, and he is listed as white. There is also a man with this name listed as white in the 1800 census in Massachusetts.

HUCHENS, SAMUEL. Temple, N. H. MSS: Described as having "blue" eyes. MSS: Complexion: brown; occupation: carpenter; birthplace: Concord. A061236

HUNTER, PETER. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

HUNTLEY, NOAH. Suffolk Co. No census or pension for this man after the Revolution. A Noah Huntley is mentioned in “John Huntley and Descendants” in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 101:1 (January 1947), 57.

HUTTER, JOHN. Boston. There is no pension or census information for this man. There are several entries for a John Hutter in the Boston Vital records for births and marriages, but none give a skin color.
INDICOTT/ENDICOTT, JAMES. Boston. No pension. In the 1790 and 1810 census, there is a James Endicott in Massachusetts and is listed as white. In the 1790-1800 censuses in Connecticut there is a James Indicott that is listed as white.

INGALS, JAMES. Middlesex Co. Pension S32882 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1790-1810 censuses there is a James Ingals living in Middlesex Co., and he is listed as white.

IRWIN/ERWIN, ROBERT. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

JACOBS, JAMES. Worcester. No pension. There are no entries for James Jacobs in the 1790 census in Worcester Co, Massachusetts. In 1790-1820 censuses there is a James Jacobs in Scituate, Plymouth Co., Massachusetts, who is listed as white.

JAMES, WILLIAM. Salem. No pension. There are no entries for this man in the 1790 census in Massachusetts. In the 1800 census there are two men with this name in Massachusetts, and both are listed as white.

JENNISON/JEMISON, NATHANIEL. Suffolk Co. No pension. In Massachusetts History edited by Justin Winsor, the case of Nathaniel Jennison for attempting to hold a “negro” (Quock Walker) as a slave in Massachusetts, in 1781, is discussed. The Nathaniel Jenisson in this case is listed in the 1790 census in Barre, Worcester Co., Massachusetts as white and also in the 1810 census in the same area. Vital records for Barre list Nathaniel’s marriage to Isabel Caldwell in 1769.

JENNISON, WILLIAM. Boston. No pension. There are two William Jennisons’ in the 1790 and 1800 census in Worcester Co., Massachusetts, and both are listed as white.

JEPSON, JOHN. Boston. He is listed as white in the 1790 census in Boston.

JOB, JEREMIAH. Barre. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

JOHNS, SAMUEL. Grafton. In the 1790 census, there are several Johns, but none in Grafton.

JOHNSON, WILLIAM. Newport/Lanesborough. Further information for this man in this area could not be found.

JOHNSTON, WILLIAM. Salem. There are several men with this name listed in the Salem vital records, and none were clearly identifiable as the man in MSS.

JONES, JEREMIAH. Boston. No pension. In the 1790 census, there is a Jeremiah Jones listed as white in Plymouth Co., Massachusetts.

JONES/CHAPPEL, SAMUEL. Boston. No pension or other information on this man has been found.

JONES, WILLIAM. Boston. This may be the same person in Pension R5736, but this pension does not give a skin color for the pensioner.

JORDON, JOHN. Born Ireland; complexion black, listed as Irish for nationality.

KIDDER, BENJAMIN. Temple, N. H. In the 1800 and 1810 censuses, a man with this name was listed as living in New Hampshire and was white.

KING, BENJAMIN. Mason, NH. MSS: This man is described as having "blue" eyes. Worcester Vital Records: b. 25 March 1722, s. of Peter and Elizabeth, page 157. MSS: Complexion: brown; eyes: blue; occupation: farmer; birthplace: Worcester.

KING, CHARLES. Needham. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man in Needham after the Revolution.

KING, JOHN. Dorchester. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

KNIGHTS, GEORGE. Salem. No census or pension. Salem Vital records: George Knights, b. 1745, gives no color information.

KNOX, JOHN. Boston. There are four men named John Knox in Massachusetts in the 1790 census, and they are all listed as white.

LAW, BENJAMIN. Cape Ann. No census, pension, or records appear for this man after the Revolution.

LAWRENCE, JOHN. Walpole. No census or pension. His birth is listed in the Walpole Vital Records, b. 8 May 1764 but with no color description given.

LEAVITT, JOTHAM. Suffolk Co. In the 1790 census in Boston, he is listed as white.

LEE, JOHN. Newburyport, Essex Co. All men of this name listed as white in the 1790 Essex Co. census.

LEFOUNT, JOHN. Salem. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

LEMON/LEMMON, JOHN. From Pennsylvania. No pension. In Essex Co., Massachusetts in 1790 and 1800 census, the men listed with this name are both listed as white.
LEWIS, JOHN. Boston. Pension W15028 does not list a skin color for the pensioner. In that pension he is listed as living in 1792 in Boston. In the 1790 census there are three men with this name living in Boston, and they are all listed as white.

LOTHROP, TOM. Barnstable. No pension. There are two men with this name in the 1790 census in Massachusetts and all are listed as white. There is one man with this name in Massachusetts in 1800, and he is also listed as white.

LOWE, THOMAS. Boston. No pension. No census in Boston, but one man with this name appears in Ipswich in 1790 and is listed as white.

LOWEL/LOWELL, PETER. Camden, Maine. Pension S13785 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. The 1790 census for New Hampshire lists a white man with this name.

LUZIGNANT, JOHN FRANCIS. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MACEY, JOHN. Andover. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MACKAY/MCKAY, JNO. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MALCOM, JOHN REED. Marblehead. He is listed as white in the 1790 census in Marblehead, Essex Co.

MALCOM, MICHAEL. Deserter. No further information on this man has been located.

MALVEIN, JOHN. Falmouth [Maine or Mass.?] No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MARCHEL/MARSHALL, DAVID. Temple, N. H. No pension. In the 1790 census, there are several men with this name living in Pennsylvania and New York, but none in New Hampshire or Massachusetts. A David Marshall was born on 13 December 1750 in Holliston according to the town’s vital records.

MARTEN/MARTEREIN, JOHN. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MAYNARD, PETER. Westborough. No pension. In the 1790 census, there is an entry for a Peter Maynard in Stockbridge, Berkshire Co., and he is listed as “negro.” These may be the same man.

MCCLURE, RICHARD, JR. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MCCULLEY, JAMES. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MCCUNE, RICHARD. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MCINTASH, JOHN. Boston. No pension. There are several men with this name in the 1790 census in Massachusetts, but none in Boston.

MCKAWES, HUGH. Chelmsford. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MCLAND, ALEXANDER. Boston. No pension. One man with this name appears in the 1800 census in Pennsylvania, and he is listed as white. There are two men with this name in the 1810 census in Pennsylvania, and both are also listed as white.

MCLELLAN, JOSEPH. Woburn. No pension. There are two entries in the 1790 census in Maine for this name, and they are listed as white. In the 1800 census there are two white men with this name in Maine, and one white man in Pennsylvania.

MCCARTER, JOHN. Plymouth. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

MELVIN, DAVID. New Ipswich, N. H. Pension S37240 does not give a skin color for the pensioner.

MILBURN, ROBERT/REUBEN. Pittsfield. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution in New England.

MILLER, PHILIP. Ulster Co., N. Y. In the 1800 and 1810 censuses in Ulster Co., he is listed as white.

MILLER, SAMUEL. Newton. Pension S33109 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. Newton vital records show a Samuel Miller, b. 12 May 1750 but with no color description.

MITCHEL, SAMUEL. Peterborough, N. H. Pension W26262 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1820 census, a white man with this name is listed in Franklin Co., Vermont.

MOROSON, THOMAS. Peterborough, NH. MSS: Eyes described as “light.” In the 1790 census, he is listed in Peterborough, New Hampshire as white. MSS: Complexion: brown; eyes: light; occupation: farmer; birthplace: Peterborough.

MORTE, HENRY. Boston. Pension S33119 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In Dorchester, where the pensioner lived, there are two marriage intentions by a man of this name but no color references.

MURPHY, JAMES. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.
NASH, ENOCH. Braintree. No pension. There is an entry for a Enoch Nash in the Braintree vital records, b. 1762, but with no reference to skin color.

NELSON, URIAH. Falmouth [Maine or Mass.?] No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

NORDMEYER, HEN. Boston. MSS: “occupation: gentlemen soldier.” No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

OLIVER, ADAM. Suffolk Co. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

ORCUTT, STEPHEN. Hampshire Co. No pension. There is an entry for a person of the same name in the 1800 and 1810 census in Hampshire Co., Massachussets, listed as white.

PACKER, ISAAC. Andover. No pension. Andover vital records show an Isaac Parker, b. 29 August 1749, but with no color given. In the 1790 and 1800 censuses there is an Isaac Parker in New York, listed as white. In the 1790 census there is an Isaac Parker living in Boston and listed as white.

PAGE, SIMON/SIMEON. Harpswell, Me. Land Bounty Warrant 4887, issued to Evander Childs, 30 December 1796 does not give a color. In the 1790 census there are two entries in Massachusetts; he is listed as white. MSS: Complexion: brown; occupation: blacksmith.

PAINE, NATHAN. Boston. No pension. In the 1790 census, there is one entry for a white man with this name in Rhode Island and for another white man in Massachusetts.

PALEY, THOMAS. Suffolk Co. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

PALFRAY, HUNLOCK. Salem. He is listed in the 1790 census in Salem as white.

PALMER, ZADOX/ZADOCK/ZADOCH, alias JOHN SMITH. Westfield. In MSS he is described as having “light” hair and eyes. Pension W8298. He married in Westfield in 1784 and this record shows no color information. In the 1830 census he is living in Clermont Co., Ohio and listed as white.

PARKER, JOHN. Boston. In the 1790 census, he is listed as living in Boston and white. There are several birth, marriage and death entries relating to him in Boston vital records.

PARKHAM, THOMAS. New Braintree. Pension W18690/BLWT870-100 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1840 census, his widow, Hannah Parkman, is living in Hudson, Ward 1, Columbia Co., New York and listed as white.

PARSONS, JOSIAH. Salem. In the 1790 census he is listed as living in Salem and as white.

PATERSON, THOMAS. Temple, N. H. MSS. Eyes were described as "light." MSS: Complexion: brown; eyes: light; occupation: farmer; birthplace: Shirley. Shirley Vital Records: Patterson, Thomas, s. of James and Elizabeth, March 25, 1759, pg. 77.

PERKINS, THOMAS. Boston. In MSS, his complexion is described as “light.” In the 1790 census there are three men of this name in Boston, and all three are listed as white. There are several Boston births that are around the right period for children with this name.

PERRY, WILLIAM. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

PETTY, ABIEL. Walpole. Land Warrant 7637 (N. Y.) does not give a skin color for this man. No census.

PIERPOINT, JOSEPH. Boston. In the 1790 census, there is one man with this name in Massachusetts (listed as white) two in Connecticut (both listed as white,) and one in Maine (listed as white.)

PLATT, SAMUEL. Suffolk Co. Pension W12980 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1820 census, he is listed as living in Litchfield Co., Connecticut and as white.

POLAND, SAMUEL. Suffolk Co. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution. There are several Poland family entries in the Wenham Congregational Church records.

POLAND, WILLIAM. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

PORTER, EZRA, Sunderland. No pension. There are two entries in the 1790 census in Connecticut for Ezra Porters, and both are listed as white.

POTTER, EPHRAIM, Shelburne. In the 1790 census, he is listed as living in Shelburne, Hampshire Co., Massachusetts and as white.

PRESSON, SIMON. Taunton. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

PRESTON, JOHN. Boston. In the 1790 census, he was living in Boston and listed as white.

PRESTON, SAMUEL. Dorchester. No pension. There is an entry for a Samuel Preston in the 1800 census in Hampshire Co., Massachussets, and he is listed as white.

PRICHARD, JEREMY/GEREMIAH. New Ipswich, N. H. Pension X602 does not give a color. In the 1790 and 1800 censuses, he is listed as living in New Ipswich, New Hampshire and described as white.
PRINCE, BLACKINBERY. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

PURNINGTON, HEZEKIAH. In the 1790 census in Massachusetts, he is listed as white, and in the 1800 census he is listed as white and living in Maine.

QUINER, WILLIAM. Suffolk Co. No pension. In the 1810 census, there is a man with his name living in Boston and recorded as white.

RANKEN/RANKIN, JAMES. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

READ, BRACKLEY. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

READINGTON, AARON. Andover. MSS. Complexion described as “sandy,” a term that does not indicate African ancestry. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

REED, JAMES. Charlestown. MSS. Complexion described as “red.” There are census entries for men with this name in Massachusetts, but none for Charlestown, making it difficult to determine which man served in the Revolution.

REMAGE, ANTHONY, Salem. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

RENDELMAN, JOHN. Boston. No pension. There are two entries in the 1800 census for John Rendelmans in North Carolina who is identified as white and as owning slaves.

RICE, NATHANIEL. Suffolk Co. No pension. There is a Nathan Rice in Suffolk Co. in the 1790 census, who is listed as white.

ROBEE, JOHN. Newbury. No pension. In the 1790 and 1800 censuses, a man with this name is listed as living in New Hampshire and as white.

ROBINSON, OBED. Pownalborough. Pension W15281 does not give a skin color for the pensioner.

ROGERS/RODGERS, THOMAS. Westborough. No pension. There are seven men with this name in the 1790 census in Massachusetts, and all listed as white.

ROLLINGS/RAWLINGS, ELIPHALET. Boston. Pension W26944 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1790 census there are two men with this name in Massachusetts, all are white, and three men with this name in New Hampshire who are also listed as white. In the 1800 census, there is one man listed in Massachusetts, who was white and two white men in New Hampshire.

ROSS, ALEXANDER. Plymouth Co. In MSS, he is listed as “A foreigner from England.” Pension X663 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1790 census there are three men with this name in New York and one in Massachusetts, and all are listed as white. There is one white man with this name in Maine in the 1800 census, and in New York City, there is one man with the name who is listed as owning an enslaved person.

RUSSEN, ANDREW. Wareham. Russen is listed in MSS as “Portuguese.” Russen is reported to have deserted, so there is no pension for him, and he does not appear in vital records. Not until the 1820 census does a man with this name appear in the federal census for Massachusetts, and he was listed as white.

SADLER, WILLIAM. Boston. Land Warrant #4996, issued 28 July 1795 to George Brewer, Jr., does not give a skin color for the claimant. In the 1790 census, in Essex Co., Massachusetts, he is listed as white, and in the 1800 census in Maine, he is listed as white.

SAMSON, CALEB. Plymouth. No pension. In the 1790 census in Maine, he is listed as white and in the 1800 and 1810 census in New York he is listed as white.

SANDERS, WILLIAM. Suffolk Co. No pension. In both the 1790 and 1800 censuses, he is listed as white.

SAVAGE, DANIEL. Boston. No pension. In the 1790 census, there were two men with this name in New York who were recorded as white, and one in Connecticut who was recorded as white. There were two in New York in the 1800 census recorded as white and one in Maine also recorded as white.

SCOTT, JOHN. Boston. Pension W24918 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1790 census, there are five men with this name Massachusetts, and all are white. In the 1800 census, there are seven white men with this name Massachusets.

SCOTT, JOHN. Boston. Census information is the same as for the man in the preceding entry.

SEVERANCE, DANIEL. Camden, Me. In MSS, he is described as having "light" eyes. In the 1790 census in New Hampshire, he is recorded as white. There are two entries for white men with this name in the 1820 census in Massachusetts and one other in New Hampshire listed as white with one slave. MSS: Complexion: brown; eyes: light; occupation: blacksmith; birthplace: Groton.
SHANEWAY, REUBEN. Hampshire Co. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

SHERIDAN, THOMAS. Boston. The 1790 census for Boston listed one man with this name as white.

SIMMONS, JOHN, Suffolk Co., No pension. In the 1790 census, there is one entry for a man with this name in New Hampshire (listed as white) and two in New York (also listed as white.) In the 1800 census, there were three men in Massachusetts: two listed as white and another listed as having four free persons of color.


SINCLAIR, JOHN. Salem. In MSS, Sinclair is described as a "foreigner" and his complexion is described as "light." MSS: v 14, Page 262, 4th entry.

SLAITOR, BAR. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

SMITH, BENJAMIN. Temple, N. H. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

SMITH, JAMES. Boston. No obvious census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

SMITH, JOHN. Boston. In MSS, Smith is described as a “gentleman soldier; complexion, brown.” There is no other way to match him up with subsequent census, pension or vital records owing to his common name.

SMITH, JONATHAN. Boston. MSS. Complexion listed as “dark” and “brown.” No pension with matching date and state can be located.

SOPER, SAMUEL. New Ipswich, N. H. There is only one man with this name listed in the 1790 census for New Hampshire, and he was shown as white.

STANFORD, JAMES. Suffolk Co. No pension. In the 1800 census in Essex Co., Massachusetts, there is a man with this name listed as white. In 1810 there are men with this name in Kentucky, Ohio, and Georgia.

STANHOPE, ISAAC. Parkersfield, N. H. No pension. In the 1820 census there is a white man with this name in Vermont. In the Sudbury, Mass. vital records, an Isaac Stanhope was born 15 October 1755, but there is no color given for him.

STARNS, TIMOTHY. New Ipswich. No pension. In the 1810 census there is a man with this name living in Lancaster, Worcester Co., Massachusetts who is listed as white. In the 1820 census there is a man with this name living in Guilford, Windham Co., Vermont who is listed as white. MSS: Complexion: brown; eyes: black; occupation: farmer; birthplace: Harvard. Harvard Vital Records: Sterns, Timothy, s. of Timothy and Dinah, Dec. 15, 1742, page 97.

STARR, WILLIAM. Boston. MSS. Described as “ruddy.” There are four William Starrs’ in the 1790 census in Connecticut, who are listed as white. In the 1800 census, there is one white man with this name in Massachusetts and five in Connecticut.

START, JOHN. Temple, N. H. No pension. In the 1790 and 1820 censuses, a white man with this name is living in Temple, Hillsborough Co., New Hampshire.

STEBBINS/STEBBENS, DARIOUS. Hampshire Co. Pension W19411 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1810 census there is a white man with this name living in Berkshire Co., Massachusetts.

STEWART, CHARLES. Pittsfield. No pension. There is no census information for this man in Pittsfield.

STODDARD, EBENEZER. Pittsfield. No pension. In the 1790 census, there is one white man in Massachusetts with this name. There are four entries for white men with this name in Connecticut for the same year. In the 1800 and 1810 censuses, there are entries for white men in Connecticut with this name.

STONE, JOSIAH. Temple, N. H. No pension. In the 1790 and 1800 census, a man with this name was living in Hillsborough Co., New Hampshire and identified as white.

STRATTON/STROTON, JOSEPH. Sheffield. No pension. In the 1790 census, there is an entry for a white man with this name. In the 1800 census, there are two white men with this name in Connecticut.

STULL/HULL/SELL, GIDEON. Boston. This may be the same man listed in Stryker's New Jersey in the Revolutionary War, page 773 as Gideon Stull. No census or pension has been found. MSS: Nationality: American; complexion: brown.

TAYLOR, GEORGE. Boston. No census, pension (in the correct state with the correct date), or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

TAYLOR, JAMES. Northampton. No census, pension (in the correct state with the correct date), or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.
THOMAS, ARTHUR. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

THOMAS, JAMES. Boston. Deserter. In the 1790 census, there are three men with this name in Massachusetts, and all are identified as white. In the 1800 census, there are two men with this name, and they are identified as white.

THOMAS, WILLIAM. Boston. No pension. In the 1790 census, there are twelve men with this name, none living in Boston, and all identified as white. In the 1800 census, there are 10 men in Massachusetts with this name, all are identified as white, and none were living in Boston.

THOMPSON, GEORGE. Plymouth. Deserter. In the 1800 census, there are two men with this name in Massachusetts: one is white and the other, living in Nantucket, is listed as two free blacks and two slaves.

THOMPSON, JAMES. Hampshire Co. No census, pension (in the correct state with the correct date), or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

THOMPSON, STEPHEN. No census, pension (in the correct state with the correct date), or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

THORNER, WILLIAM. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

TOMSON/TOMPSON, JOHN. Salem. No census record has been found for a man with this name in Salem

 TOWER, JAMES. Suffolk Co. In the 1790 census, a man with this name is listed as living in Braintree, Suffolk Co., Massachusetts and as white. In the 1820 census, he is living in the same area and still listed as white.

TRASH/TRASK, DAVID. Woburn. No pension. In the 1790 census, there are two men with this name in Massachusetts, and both are identified as white. There are two men in Maine in the 1800 census with this name, and both are identified as white.

TRAYNER, FRANCIS. Hadley. In the 1790 census, he is listed as white and living in Hadley, Massachusetts.

TURNER, ELISHA. Weymouth. No pension. In the 1790 census, there are three men in Massachusetts with this name; two are white, the other is identified as white with one check for "All other free persons" in the household. In the 1800 census there are three in Massachusetts and all are listed as white.

UNDERWOOD, DAVID. Boston. No pension. In Worcester Co., Massachusetts, in the 1790 and 1800 censuses, there is a man with this name listed as white.

UPTON, TIMOTHY. Middlesex Co. No pension. In Hampshire Co., Massachusetts there is a man with this name in the 1790, 1800, and 1810 census listed as white.

USHER, HENRY. Boston. No pension. There are two men with the name “H. Usher” in the 1810 census in New York, but no Henry Ushers in previous Massachusetts censuses.

VAN STEENBERGH, ABRAHAM. Ulster Co., N.Y. In the 1790 census he was living in Ulster Co., New York and identified as white.

VEAZIE, JOSEPH. Falmouth, Maine. In the 1800 census in Cumberland Co., Maine he is listed as white.

VOSE, SAMUEL. Boston. In the 1790 census, there is an entry in Suffolk Co., Massachusetts, and he is listed as white. In the 1800 census, there are two with this name in Norfolk Co., Massachusetts, and both are listed as white. In the 1810 census, there is one man in Boston, identified as white, and another in Norfolk Co., also listed as white.

WAKEFIELD, JOSEPH. Boston. Pension W15458 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In his pension, he is listed as living in Suffolk Co. in 1818 and 1820. In the 1810 and 1820 censuses, he is listed as living in Boston and identified as white.

WAKEFIELD, MATTHEW. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

WALKER, JOHN. Boston/Brookline. Pension W25909 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the pension, his widow, Nancy is identified as living in Anson, Somerset Co., Maine. In the 1830, census she is living in Somerset Co., Maine and listed as white.

WARREN, AARON. Berwick, ME. Pension W25913 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the pension, the widow is listed as living in York Co., ME. In the 1790 and 1800 censuses, he is living in York Co., Maine and is identified as white. In the 1810 and 1820 censuses, he is living in York Co., Maine, identified as white with two slaves.

WAY, FREDERICK. MSS: West Springfield. Deserted in June 1780. Age: 16; stature: 5 ft 10 inches; complexion: black. There are two entries for this man in MSS, v 16, p 727. He is listed as "reported deserted" after June 1780, but in the next entry there is mention of the "return of 3 and 6 months men raised in Hampshire Co. from (late) Col. Moseley's reg't. By order of Brig. Gen. Danderson
(Danielson), dated Hampshire Co., Oct. 26, 1780." Frederick Way is also identified as reinforcement for the Continental Army during 1780.

WEARE/WEAR/WARE/WEIR/WIRE, JOHN. Boston. No pension. In the 1790 census, there are three men with this name in Massachusetts, all white. In the 1800 census, there are three living in Massachusetts with this name, all white. In the 1810 census, there are two men with this name, again both were white. In the 1820 census, there is one man with this name in Massachusetts, who is listed as white.

WELCH, DENNIS. Boston. BLW 5336 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. No census records have been found for this man.

WELCH, JAMES. Marblehead. No pension. In the 1790 census, there is a man with this name in Massachusetts, listed as white. In the 1810 census, there are three men in Massachusetts, and all are listed as white. In the 1820 census, there are two men in Massachusetts, and all are listed as white.

WELCH, TITUS. Hampshire Co. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

WELCH, WILLIAM. Boston. No pension. In the 1810 and 1820 census, there are three men with this name in Massachusetts, and all three are identified as white.

WELLMAN, SILAS. Mansfield. Pension S43261 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the pension, he is listed as living in Laurens, Otsego Co., New York in 1818. In the 1820 census, he appears in Laurens, Otsego Co., New York and is identified as white.

WELLS, JACOB. Ulster Co., N. Y. No pension. In the 1800 census for Ulster Co., New York, he is listed as white.

WELSH, JOSEPH. Philadelphia, Pa. In the 1790 census, he is listed as living in Water Street, E. Side, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and as white.

WENDELL, JACOB. In MSS, he is described as “ruddy.” In the 1790 and 1800 censuses, there is one man in Massachusetts with this name, and he is listed as white.

WESTON, NATHAN. New Ipswich, N. H. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

WHEIDEN, ICHABOD. Pension W26013/BLWT17898-160-55 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1790 census, there is an entry with this name in Lee, Strafford Co., New Hampshire, and he is listed as white.


WHITMARSH, SAMUEL. Weymouth. In the 1800 census, he was living in Weymouth, Norfolk Co., Massachusetts and identified as white.

WHITMORE, Enoch. Needham. Pension S33904 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the 1800 and 1810 censuses, he was living in Royalston, Worcester Co., Massachusetts and listed as white.

WIGEON, FRANCIS. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

WILD(E), PHILIP. Suffolk Co. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution.

WILLARD, PETE. Lancaster. In the 1790 census, he is listed as white and living in Lancaster, Worcester Co., Massachusetts.

WILLIAMS, JOHN. Needham. He was reported as deserted Oct. 13, 1782. MSS: Complexion: brown; occupation: Mariner, age: 33. Descriptive list for a muster dated 25 June 1780.

WILLIAMS, JOHN. Ulster Co., N. Y. Born Germany. There are seven pensioners for Massachusetts and New York, but not one has the correct dates served to match the listing in MSS.

WILLMS/WILLIAMS, JOHN. Boston. There are seven pensioners for Massachusetts with this name and not one has the correct dates of service to match the listing in MSS.

WISWALL, DANIEL. Dorchester. In the 1790 census he is listed as living in Dorchester Township, Suffolk Co., Massachusetts and identified as white.

WITHINGTON, JAMES. Dorchester. In the 1790 census, he is listed as living in Dorchester Township, Suffolk Co., and identified as white.

WOODARD/WOODWARD, TOPSAL/TOPSAIL. Worcester Co. Pension S33941 does not give a skin color for the pensioner. In the pension, in 1818 he listed his residence as Belcherstown, Hampshire Co., Massachusetts. No census found. There is a probate for him in 1820 in Worcester Co., Massachusetts.
WOODEN, JAMES. Suffolk Co. No pension. There are two entries for men with this name in New York in the
1790 census, and they are identified as white. There are three entries in New York for white men with
this name in the 1800. There are two white men with this name in the 1820 census in New York.

YEATEN/YEATON, JACOB. Boston. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the
Revolution in Massachusetts. There is, however, an 1830 census entry in Maine for a white man with
this name. MSS: Yeaten entry: Dated: 5 Jan. 1781; Description: age: 44; complexion: brown; Yeaton
entry: Description: hair: brown; eyes: grey; complexion: dark.

YORK, JOHN. No census, pension, or vital records appear for this man after the Revolution in Massachusetts.

YOW/YAW/YEAW, OLIVER. Woburn. No pension. In the 1820 census, there is an entry for a man with this
name in Vermont, who is listed as white.
Other Notable Minority Persons from Massachusetts in the Revolutionary Era

For the general purposes of identifying the military service of all patriots in the American Revolution for membership purposes, the Daughters of the American Revolution has set the dates of the conflict to be April 19, 1775 (Battles of Lexington and Concord) through November 23, 1783 (evacuation of British troops from New York City). Because of this focus on military service and other patriotic activities during the armed conflict, individuals involved in other events and activities before or after these dates are not in the general list of patriots above. Included in this situation are involvement in the Boston Massacre (1770), the Boston Tea Party (December 16, 1773) (and other similar protests), and the Battle of Point Pleasant (1774, Dunmore’s War).

The following individuals from the Revolutionary Era are well-known in history and appear in many accounts of the period. They appear in this section based on activities outside of the beginning and ending dates of the Revolution or on the fact that no documentary proof of Revolutionary War service can be found despite extensive research to discover it.

CRISPUS ATTUKS

Attucks’ involvement in the Boston Massacre is the subject of many studies, articles, books, and media presentations. Several of these publications appear after this paragraph No one disputes Attucks’ involvement and death in the event. The massacre occurred on March 5, 1770, five years prior to the start of the actual military phase of the War for Independence.

For more on Crispus Attucks see:


“Boston Massacre, March 5, 1770: Commemorative Festival at Faneuil Hall.” The Liberator, March 12, 1858, p. 42, col. C.

“A Bridge for Attucks.” Boston Globe, February 17, 2000, p. A22 (editorial) [Discusses naming a bridge in Framingham for Crispus Attucks.]


“Martyrdom of the Colored American Crispus Attucks, March 5th, 1770, the day which history selects as the dawn of the American Revolution: The 93rd anniversary will be commemorated on Thursday eve’g, March 5th, 1863. At Tremont Temple, by exercises of speaking and music, in which the following friends are expected to participate...” Boston: Press of C. C. Mead, 1863. [broadside]

McLeese, Don. Crispus Attucks. Vero Beach, Fla.: Rourke Pub., 2004 [a biography for juvenile readers]


Orations Delivered at the Request of the Inhabitants of the Town to Commemorate the Evening of the Fifth of March 1770. Boston: Peter Edes, 1785. [Boston Massacre]


**BUCKS OF AMERICA**

See the following discussion on George Middleton.

**GEORGE MIDDLETON**

Proof of any involvement by Middleton in the Revolution cannot be found despite extensive research in Massachusetts records. Some writers have mistakenly associated him with the Battle of Groton Heights in September 1781, and therefore placing the Bucks of America at that battle in Connecticut. (See: C. R. Gibbs. “The First Black Army Officer.” *Armed Forces Journal International*, 112:10 (June 1975), 24, in particular for this erroneous interpretation.) The existence of an eyewitness account of the battle by a local resident, twelve-year-old George Middleton (later mayor of Newark, New York), explains this confusion (See: Charles Allyn. *The Battle of Groton Heights New London: Charles Allyn, 1882*). 79

Additional information on George Middletown is also available on the website of the Boston African-American National Historic Site at: <www.nps.gov/archive/baal/ site2.htm>. The editor’s research at the Massachusetts State Library, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Massachusetts Archives, and the Rare Books and Special Collections Department of the Boston Public Library has not yielded further information on Middleton or the Bucks of America. A staff member who specializes in the American Revolution at the Massachusetts Archives has stated that he has never seen a reference to this group in the governor’s and council’s records in their collections, through which he had read to the year 1800. 80 Most online information about Middleton is vague or illusive as to any military role he played during the Revolution. Contemporary newspapers in Boston for this time period do not mention Middleton or the Bucks of America unfortunately.

According to tradition, John Hancock, as governor of Massachusetts (1780-1785), presented a flag to the Bucks of America at some point during his governorship, and it is now owned by the Massachusetts Historical Society. Attempts by the staff of the historical society to document military service for Middleton and the Bucks of America have also been unsuccessful. An unpublished analysis of this overall topic has been prepared by Anne E. Bradley, Art Curator, Massachusetts Historical Society. “History of ‘Bucks of America’ as It Appeared in Print and Chronology of George Middleton’s Life in Boston, 1778-1815.” (1991). For a black and white image of the flag, see: Richardson, Edward W. *Standards and Colors of the American Revolution*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution and Its Color Guard, 1982. [See specifically, “Bucks of America,” 98.] Another historian made the following observations about the Bucks of America:

The story of the Massachusetts Bucks is hidden in controversy. It may not have

80 Personal conversation between the editor and John Hannigan, Reference Archivist, Massachusetts Archives, Boston, September 28, 2007.
been a military unit. Instead, it was a group of “Protectors” who guarded the property of Boston merchants against Tory sabotage.81

Also see the following article, which mentions the Bucks of America flag and the woman who gave it to William C. Nell (She cannot be clearly traced unfortunately): “Boston Massacre, March 5, 1770: Commemorative Festival at Faneuil Hall.” The Liberator, March 12, 1858, p. 42, col. C.

DEBORAH SAMSON/SAMPSON GANNETT

Some writers have stated that Deborah Sampson/ Sampson Gannett was of African descent because William C. Nell included her in his book Colored Patriots of the American Revolution. Nell mentioned her in the book as someone well-known who was an anomaly as a female soldier and because she served with African American troops at the Battle of Monmouth, but not because she herself was of African descent. A careful reading of Nell reveals this clearly as his intention.82

AFRICAN AMERICAN TROOPS WITH “MAJOR” SAMUEL LAWRENCE OF GROTON

In 1913, the following quote appeared in an article about black soldiers during American wars and in this instance, the Revolution specifically:

Samuel Lawrence, a prominent white citizen of Groton, Massachusetts, lead a company of Negroes to the Battle of Bunker Hill.83

Five years later, a similar statement appeared in another article:

[African Americans] “served usually in the ranks with the other soldiers, but it is recorded that Major Samuel Lawrence of Groton, Mass., raised a command composed entirely of free negroes.”84

While information exists on the military service of Lawrence (who apparently only attained the rank of corporal with “major” being a later honorific title) researchers have not discovered any evidence to support this undocumented statement.85 The listings of men in units with Lawrence give no indications of color and all have English names typical of Groton and vicinity during this time period. A search of the online version of Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors does not reveal, unfortunately, the names of any soldiers connected with Lawrence thereby reconstructing his unit which did fight at Bunker Hill.

What was the origin of this story? A likely answer is found in a 1904 genealogy of the Lawrence family. Published nine years prior to the 1913 article, the book contains the following statement:

At the battle of Quaker Hill [emphasis added], in Rhode Island, Aug. 29, 1778, Samuel Lawrence narrowly escaped being captured by the enemy, having become separated from his command. His rescue was due to the gallant conduct of a company of negro troops, who hastened to his support.86

If this account is the source of the story, clearly someone misread or conveyed it improperly and confused the event with the Battle of Bunker Hill. The unit mentioned is very likely the mostly-African-American First Rhode Island Regiment.


85 See the various index entries for Lawrence in Samuel Abbott Green. Groton during the Revolution. Cambridge, Mass.: John Wilson and Son, University Press, 1900. These entries also include a short biography of Lawrence and his reminiscence of the Battle of Bunker Hill. Neither include any reference to his command of an all-black unit.

Affidavit from the pension file of Francis Duncan of Massachusetts. 
Pension S4773, page 4, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, 
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 863) 
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Deposition from the pension file of Francis Duncan of Massachusetts. 
Pension S4773, page 10, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, 
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 863) 
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Massachusetts

Deposition from the pension file of Francis Duncan of Massachusetts. Pension S4773, page 11, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, "Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files," (M804, roll 863) National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Bounty Land Warrant Record Card from the pension file of Agrippa Hull of Massachusetts. Pension W760, page 18, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 1363) National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Affidavit from the pension file of Agrippa Hull of Massachusetts.
Pension W760, page 9, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 1363) National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Massachusetts

I, Agrippa Hull of Stockbridge in the County of Berkshire, in the State of Massachusetts, do hereby declare that I served in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution for the term of one year, and that I was a private in Capt. John Gadsden's Company in the Second Massachusetts Regiment of the Massachusetts Line. And I also declare that I afterwards received certificates for the receipt of Eighty Dollars to which I was entitled under a resolution of Congress passed the 15th day of May, 1778, and I further declare that I was not on the fifteenth day of May 1783 on the pension list of the United States.

Writhe my hand this twenty-fourth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight.

Agrippa Hull

Before me, Charles Sargeant of the town of Stockbridge, do personally appear and subscribe the above, as required.

Charles Sargeant, Clerk of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in and for the County of Berkshire, do certify, that the above-agreed-to, before whom the said Joseph Sunderland, as aforesaid, was sworn, is an Administration of the Estate of Joseph Sunderland, deceased, as aforesaid.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of said court to be affixed.

15th day of June 1808.

Charles Sargeant, Clerk.
Deposition from the pension file of Agrippa Hull of Massachusetts.
Pension W760, page 22, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 1363)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.
Receipt for Agrippa Hull's Discharge, Signed by George Washington.
Pension W760, page 25, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 1363)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
A Cato Prince of Marblehead in the county of Essex and commonwealth of Massachusetts Labrador, upon oath make the following declaration. That I was a soldier in the American Revolutionary War and on or about the latter part of December the nineteenth hundred and eighty as the beginning of the year following, I was selected as a private for and during the war by Ensign Hendrick and marched with him to New York, and there was placed in Capt. Butts Company 1st Jackson's Regiment on the Continental establishment, and that I this declarant faithfully served during one term, and that when the Peace took place in the year nineteen hundred and eighty three I was honourably discharged during the whole time I was a private man.

That this declarant received a written certificate of my discharge, that I have lost the same by fire and accident. That I am twenty years old and inform and from my reduced circumstances in life am now in need of assistance from my country for support. And that I hereby relinquish my claim to every pension heretofore allowed me by the laws of the United States.

Signed before

[Signature]

[Signature]

Massachusetts

Deposition from the pension file of Cato Prince of Massachusetts.
Pension S33514, page 5, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 1978)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Deposition from the pension file of Cato Prince of Massachusetts.
Pension S33514, page 6, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration,
"Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files," (M804, roll 1978)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Taunton, Bristol County, Mass. to
March 29th. 1837.

Sir,

I hereewith transmit the papers in relation to the claim for Bounty Land by the name of Job Hathaway, a colonist there, late of Taunton, and as such, a member of the Army of the Revolution. His mother and his late wife were residents of Taunton, and his late wife was a sister to Job. He was a private in Captain Henry Williams' regiment of the Mass. to live in the Army of the Revolution. His claim is for bounty land, and he is a relative of the late John Williams, who was a first lieutenant in the Army of the Revolution. He has been a resident of Taunton for many years, and has a claim to bounty land. If this claim should be confirmed, you will please to issue a Warrant in the name of Job Hathaway, for the amount of 10 acres of land, as stated in my communication of 5th May last.

Very respectfully,

Dubon Balcony

Hon. Secretary of War,
Washington.

P.S. I suggest it for the consideration of the Secretary, that a warrant of bounty land should be issued in the name of Job Hathaway, the son of the late John Williams, who was a first lieutenant in the Army of the Revolution. He has been a resident of Taunton for many years, and has a claim to bounty land.

Dubon Balcony.
Correspondence from a Pension Agent to the Pension Office Mentioning Job Hathaway’s Bounty Land Warrant Application. Bounty Land Warrant #1931-100, page 6
RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 1223)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Deposition from the pension file of Cicero Swett of Massachusetts.
Pension S43189, page 8, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 2332)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Deposition from the pension file of Cicero Swett of Massachusetts.
Pension S43189, page 9, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 2332) National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Massachusetts

Application for a new Pension Certificate from the pension file of Cicero Swett of Massachusetts.

Pension S43189, page 13, RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 2332) National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.
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Westport Historical Society. A Man Born on


The 1774 Census of the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations showed 59,678 inhabitants (54,435 whites, 3,761 blacks, and 1,482 Indians).\(^1\) Though proportionately small in number, the African Americans, both free blacks and enslaved, and Indians, resided in every county and were occupied in commerce, agriculture, and many trades. Rhode Island’s minority population was deeply affected by the rapid series of Parliamentary Acts and American retaliations in the early 1770s that transformed civil strife into open warfare in 1775.

The contentions between Colonies and King were almost as long and fierce as were the loyalties. When the Rhode Island Assembly met on 15 June 1774 to consider the consequences of Parliament closing the port of Boston, there was much deliberation. After all, what had happened in one colony could happen in another. Rhode Island’s capital, Newport, was second only to Boston in maritime activity on the Atlantic seaboard, and its own economy had to be protected. On the other hand, all American colonists were being seriously affected by Great Britain’s unreasonable taxes, no parliamentary representation, and losses of property and liberty.

The Assembly finally resolved “...that a firm and inviolable union of all the colonies, on councils and measures is absolutely necessary for the preservation of their rights and liberties.”\(^2\) Stephen Hopkins and Samuel Ward were then appointed to represent Rhode Island at the Continental Congress. At this time, independence was not the open objective. The representatives were admonished to petition the King regarding the grievances of his faithful American subjects and to use all “reasonable and lawful measures”\(^3\) to secure their rights and liberties.

Throughout 1774 the talk in Rhode Island was of reconciliation, but the preparations were for war. Independent militia companies were established: the Newport Light Infantry, Providence Grenadier Company, Kentish Guards, Pawtuxet Rangers, and a Gloucester Company of Light Infantry.\(^4\) The officers commissioned in 1774 became outstanding figures in Rhode Island and in American Revolutionary War history: Nathaniel Greene, his cousin Christopher Greene, Daniel Hitchcock, James Mitchell Varnum and Jeremiah Olney, to name a few.\(^5\)

A general muster of the militia held on 3 April 1775 had fifteen hundred men reporting for duty in Kent County and two thousand in Providence.\(^6\)

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2 Ibid., 246.

3 Ibid., 247.

4 Ibid., 259-260.

5 Joseph Jencks Smith, comp., Civil and Military List of Rhode Island 1647-1800 (Providence: Preston and Rounds Co. 1900), 304-309. (Hereafter cited as Smith, Civil and Military List)

A page from the 1774 Rhode Island census for the town of South Kingstown illustrates the valuable information collected during this survey of the population relating to the color of residents just prior to the beginning of the Revolutionary War.

Source: “Census of the Colony of Rhode Island, 1774.” Rhode Island State Archives, Providence.
Disquieted by the news of the Battles at Lexington and Concord on 19 April 1775, the General Assembly met on 22 April and passed a series of resolutions that were designed not only to protect the vulnerable little Colony, but to set Rhode Island’s future course. A committee was appointed to proportion 2,500 pounds of powder, lead, bullets and flints belonging to the Colony among the several towns.\(^7\)

Declaring they were at a dangerous crisis in American affairs, and surrounded by armies and navies that threatened their destruction, the Assembly authorized an “army of observation” of fifteen hundred good, effective men to be raised and properly armed and disciplined. A standing army was considered illegal. The army was to protect the people of Rhode Island and, if necessary, to march to defend neighboring colonies.\(^8\) Each man would receive a bounty of four dollars and a monthly wage of one pound sixteen shillings. If an enlisted man brought his own gun, bayonet and other accoutrements, he received a bounty of forty shillings.\(^9\)

Early in 1776, Governor Nicholas Cooke detailed the deteriorating conditions in Rhode Island in letters to General Washington, Stephen Hopkins and Samuel Ward. Rhode Island had sent a large number of troops to the Continental Army, which not only greatly reduced its manpower at home, but also created a deficiency in arms. Rhode Island had more than 400 miles of seacoast to defend; the few arms available had to go to the state’s militia and could not be spared to the Continental Army.\(^10\)

Prices were inflated, and half the militia was destitute. The crisis alluded to earlier had become a reality to both citizens and militia.

On 4 May 1776, the General Assembly officially repealed all allegiance to King George III. Declaring that since he was endeavoring to destroy rather than protect the colony, they were “...obliged to use every means, with which God and Nature have furnished us, in support of our invaluable rights and privileges; to oppose that power which is exerted only for our destruction.”\(^11\)

A census was taken early in 1777 to discover how many men over age 16 were able to bear arms. The census showed that by 1777 many African Americans and American Indians were already serving in the Continental Army or the state militia.\(^12\) By the end of 1776, the British had captured Newport – the great slave port and commercial center – as well as a large portion of Rhode Island’s rich farmland.\(^13\) Rhode Islanders already in military service had not been paid for months and there was no money in the treasury to pay bounties for new recruits. When General Washington called for another battalion from Rhode Island, the prospects for filling it were bleak.

Brigadier General James Mitchell Varnum then suggested to Washington that a battalion of slaves could be raised. If the two small battalions already in the Continental Army were combined, then one


\(^{13}\) Mildred M. Chamberlain, trans., *The Rhode Island 1777 Military Census* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., for the Rhode Island Genealogical Society, 1985), introduction. Although the Colonial and Revolutionary records tend to use the terms "black," "slave," and "colored" interchangeably, the term "negro" seems to consistently refer to free blacks rather than to slaves in Rhode Island.

corps of officers could return to Rhode Island and recruit troops from the slave population.\textsuperscript{15}

With Washington’s approval and support, the Rhode Island Assembly passed an unprecedented resolution in February 1778. “Every able bodied negro, mulatto, or Indian man slave” could enlist in the Army for the duration of the war. They would be entitled to the same bounties and wages allowed any other soldier enlisting in the Continental Army. Upon passing muster, a slave would be “...immediately discharged from the service of his master or mistress, and be absolutely free, as though he had never been encumbered with any kind of servitude or slavery.”\textsuperscript{16}

Since slaves were considered the property of their owners, the state would pay the masters up to four hundred Continental dollars (clothing included in the evaluation) for each slave who enlisted. If the slave were unable to maintain himself through illness or injury, the state -- rather than the former master -- would support him.\textsuperscript{17}

Enlistments began as soon as the slaves received permission from their masters.\textsuperscript{18} Cuff Green, Dick Champlin and Jack Champlin were the first to enlist on 25 February 1778. Enlistments were slow at first because the owners were hesitant to release their human property without first receiving compensation. Masters were issued promissory notes for the value of the slaves, payable on demand at six percent interest.

Unfortunately, the Continental Congress, while responsible for the payments, was short of funds and slow to pay. The Rhode Island Treasurer began to pay the masters in October 1778 with a promise from Congress that it would reimburse the state treasury.\textsuperscript{19} A year later the delegates to Congress informed the Rhode Island Assembly that there was little hope of procuring the balance of the account.\textsuperscript{20}

The second major reason for a relatively small number of enlistments was that a large slave population was residing in the British-held territory around Newport.\textsuperscript{21} Colonel Christopher Greene, an experienced field officer, was in charge of recruiting and training the new regiment, designated as the 1st Rhode Island. At least 74 slaves had enlisted by October 1778.\textsuperscript{22} Not all enlistees serving in this regiment were minorities, however, and the records of the unit indicate many European descent who served throughout the remainder of the war.

The General Assembly found the Act to enlist slaves to be expensive and impractical. Calling it a temporary measure, they repealed the Act, effective 10 June 1778.\textsuperscript{23} This did not stop enlistments, however, and Colonel Greene and his officers continued to train the African American and American Indian infantrymen.

Their efforts paid off when the Regiment participated in the Battle of Rhode Island in August 1778. Wave after wave of Hessian and British soldiers were repulsed as the 1st Rhode Island defended the right flank of the American Army. At the end of the battle, the British had 248 dead or wounded, the Americans 167. Of the Americans, eleven were from Colonel Greene’s Regiment.\textsuperscript{24}

The Regiment actively served for five consecutive years, one of the few units that enlisted (and served) for the duration of the war. Not only did it defend the home state, but the 1st Rhode Island also participated in the battles of Red Bank, Points

\textsuperscript{15} RICC, 641. The 1st Rhode Island Regiment was often referred to as a battalion in the Revolutionary records.


\textsuperscript{17} Ibid., 360.

\textsuperscript{18} Greene, “Black Regiment,” 156-157.

\textsuperscript{19} Ibid., 166-167.

\textsuperscript{20} RICC, 250.

\textsuperscript{21} Greene, “Black Regiment,” 166.

\textsuperscript{22} Ibid., 157.


\textsuperscript{24} Paul F. Dearden, The Rhode Island Campaign of 1778 Inauspicious Dawn of Alliance (Providence: The Rhode Island Bicentennial Foundation for the Rhode Island Publications Society, 1980), Chapter 8, especially 126-127.
Bridge, and Fort Oswego and at the Siege of Yorktown.25

After Christopher Greene was killed in 1781, Jeremiah Olney of Providence assumed command of the 1st Rhode Island. He remained with them until the Regiment was disbanded on 13 June 1783 at Saratoga, New York.26

Throughout the war, officers commended the Black Regiment for its valor in battle and its patience under desperate circumstances. Rhode Island Governor William Greene, in an effort to obtain more money from the Continental Congress, stated the original four hundred dollars per slave was inadequate considering the benefit the men were to the United States. They “...are good soldiers and serve during the (entire) war without any other allowance than what is paid them by the Continent [sic]....” 27

Lieutenant Colonel Olney in his farewell address to the Regiment praised the men for their unprecedented fortitude and patience throughout the long war and for their conduct on and off the field of battle. Because of the affection and esteem he held for the corps, “…which no time nor circumstance can eradicate,” he volunteered to continue to use his influence to obtain their just dues.28

After the war, the General Assembly tried to obtain the wages and bounties due to the Revolutionary troops. Special attention was given to the needs of the 1st Rhode Island Regiment when a committee was appointed in 1784 to inquire into the circumstances of “the negroes who were slaves” who had previously enlisted in the Continental Army but were now incapable of maintaining themselves.29 This resulted in legislation in 1785 directing the town councils, in the towns where the former slaves had enlisted, to take care of and provide for the ex-soldiers as they would for any other pauper in their town. The accounts for their maintenance were to be given over to the Assembly and paid out of the general treasury.30

It was little enough compensation for men who, after five years of active service, had been demobilized hundreds of miles from home without wages and without much hope for receiving the balance due to them. However, members of the 1st Rhode Island Regiment did receive one precarious benefit that could not be measured in bounties or wages—freedom.

Thoughts on Research in the Records of Rhode Island

Records at the state and local levels in Rhode Island have been critical sources of information on the minority participants in the Revolution. Rhode Islanders made a particular effort to record the race or color of many of the men in their military units, but there are many for which such descriptors are absent. These records are also quite voluminous, and in many respects better than those of neighboring states and certainly moreso than the states beyond New England.

The Rhode Island State Archives and the Rhode Island Historical Society, both in Providence, contain the bulk of the material relating to the Ocean State’s involvement in the Revolution and to the African American and American Indian men who participated in the war. Yet another repository of pertinent information is the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society, 65 Weybosset Street at the Arcade, Suite 29, Providence, RI 02903.

The sources for service and the bibliography of studies for Rhode Island listed below provide ample evidence of the richness of Rhode Island’s documentation of the activities of minority men in the conflict. Individuals researching the families of these men will find much material in the town and state records and in abstracts of records being published in such genealogical journals as Rhode Island Roots.

26 Smith, Civil and Military List, 444.
27 RICC, 250.
29 Records X, 44.
30 Ibid., 85.
Abbreviations & Sources
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


1774RI   “1774 Census of Rhode Island.” Rhode Island State Archives, C00197. [There have been two abstracts of this census: John R. Bartlett. Census of the Inhabitants of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, 1774. Lambertville, N. J.: Hunterdon House, 1958; reprinted, 1984. The main concern with this abstract of the 1774 census is that it does not list African American and American Indian residents of Rhode Island, although they do appear in the original records. Rhode Island Roots: Beginning in 2003 (v. 29), Rhode Island Roots has published complete abstracts by town of this census including all residents listed. Citations in the list of Rhode Island soldiers below to individuals appearing in this census are for listings in these newer abstracts.


BAM-1   Manuscript: Cherry Fletcher Bamberg. “Some Black and Indian Revolutionary War Soldiers from Warwick, Rhode Island.” Provided by Mrs. Bamberg, of Marlboro, MA, for citation on March 19, 2007 prior to its publication in Rhode Island Roots later in 2007.

BAM-2 Manuscript: Cherry Fletcher Bamberg. “Rufus Barton of Warwick: His Family and His Slaves.”

**BAM-3**

**BBP**
Document dated 1778 “on which Brown drafted a letter to the new government regarding his slave Sipio, who had enlisted in the army.” Beriah Brown Papers (Mss. 109). Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.

**BHAM**

**BIC**
RuEllen “Rudi” Serina Hjella Ottery. “Brotherton Indian Collection.” Manuscript collection 395, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston. [This collection contains extensive files of genealogical information on the families from New England and from New York associated with the Brotherton Indians. Ottery was the genealogist for the Brotherton Tribe, and she collected a large amount of material now contained in sixty manuscript boxes.] Contents include:

- Subgroup I. Brotherton Indian Records, 1801-1986
  - Series A. Tribal Rolls and Lists, 1833-1986
  - Series B. Descents from Brotherton Progenitors
  - Series C. Brotherton Enrollment Records
  - Series D. Numbered Individual Data Files
  - Series E. Historical Records, 1801-1980

- Subgroup II. Source Materials for Brotherton Genealogy, 1839-1893

- Subgroup III. Correspondence on Brotherton Genealogy, 1977-1991

- Subgroup IV. Source Materials for New England Indian History, 1622-1941

- Subgroup V. Graphics

**BLWt**
Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).

**C00101**
“Black Americans Revolutionary War Documents; Back Pay, Service & Supplies, Revolutionary War, 1795-1819, Manuscripts.” Rhode Island State Archives Record Group C00101. There are often multiple references to the named individuals throughout this collection of records.

**C00247**
“Military Papers, French and Indian & Revolutionary Wars,” 19 manuscript volumes; vols. 1-6 are for the French and Indian War; vols. 7-16 are for the Revolutionary War. Rhode Island State Archives Record Group C00247. LDS microfilm numbers 953925-953937, 954952-954955

**C00253M**
“Minutes of the Council of War, 1776-1784,” 4 manuscript volumes. Rhode Island State Archives Record Group C00253M.

**C00482**
Transcripts, Military Records, 1774-1786, 2 manuscript volumes. Rhode Island State Archives. Record Group C00482. Entries refer to a volume and page number, i. e. C00482:2:455 = volume 2, page 455. Then, the page number takes you to the portion of the below abstracts in which
the citation to an individual appears. The names of many of the men in the service list appear many more times within the set of abstracts, so further reading to obtain every reference for every individual would be needed to find every instance for an individual’s service.

Contents of this collection of abstracts:

Volume 1
Pages 1-23, part 1, “Rolls in Possession of Hannah Read, Newport, RI, Wm. E. Davis, Providence, RI, and Thomas W. Bicknell”
Pages 24-48b, part 2, “Rolls in Possession of Thomas Bicknell and Fred A. Arnold.”
Pages 107-125, part 6, “Military Papers, vol. 1, pp. 211-227”
Pages 167-186, part 9, “Military Papers, vol. 2, pp. 303, 310-413”
Pages 267-286, part 14, “Military Papers, vols. 3 & 4, pp. 544-596”
Pages 327-341, part 17, “Military Papers, vol. 5, pp. 49-35” [sic]
Pages 381-397, part 20, “Rhode Island Regiment Casualties, etc.; Angell’s Regiment, 1781, pp 381-394”
Pages 401-420, part 21, “Pensions, Manuscript Rhode Island Historical Society, March 18, 1818; 1820 Applicants, and some muster rolls; accounts, pp 416-420”
Pages 421-439, part 22, “Names of Officers and soldiers in the Regiments Commanded by Colonels Robert Elliott, John Topham, and Archibald Crary, In the Rhode Island State Service with their Balances of Depreciation, so called, reported to be due by a committee in October 1785.” [Topham’s, pp 423-429; Elliot’s, pp. 430-431; Crary’s, pp. 432-439]
Pages 1-20 [at back of vol. 1], part 23, “Book of Returns; Returns of the Rhode Island Regiment, 1779-1781” [These pages are also lettered. The names in this list are numbered. This number appears in the entries below instead of the page numbers. An example of an entry for this section would be: C00482:1:S23:#394 = Vol. 1, section 23, entry number 394.]
Pages 545-568, part 34, “Providence Town Papers”
Pages 569-578, part 35, “Military Papers, State Archives, No. 1 Folio”
Pages 588-607, part 36, “Military Papers, State Archives, No. 2 Folio”
Pages 608-623, part 37, “16th Congress Letters”
Pages 657-676, part 40, “Revolutionary Navy”
Page 676a, part 41, “Revolutionary Navy”
Pages 677-689, part 42, “List of Pensioners”
Pages 690-701, part 43, “Returns of Enlistments”
Pages 702-721, part 44, “Deserters from Rhode Island Regiment”
Pages 722-741, part 45, “Deserters from Rhode Island Regiment”
Pages 742-751, part 46, “Pardon Gray’s Papers”
Pages 752-777, part 47, “Samuel Aborn’s Papers”

C00486 “Military Returns, Revolutionary War.” Rhode Island State Archives. Record Group C00486. Entries refer to volume and page number, i.e. C00486:1:4 = vol. 1, page 4


CBSL “Claims Barred by the Statutes of Limitation, 11th Congress, 3d Session, No. 216” includes: “A statement of all of the claims which have been adjusted and allowed at the Treasury Department, and for which certificates of registered debt issued, in virtue of a law entitled ‘An act providing for the settlement of claims of persons under particular circumstances barred by limitations heretofore established.’ Passed on the 27th of March, 1792.” American State Papers: Documents, Legislative, and Executive of the Congress of the United States from the First Session of the First to the Second Session of the Seventeenth Congress, Inclusive: Commencing March 4, 1789, and Ending March 3, 1823. vol. 9 (Washington, D.C.: Gales and Seaton, 1834), 386-406.


COWELL Benjamin Cowell. Spirit of ’76 in Rhode Island, or, Sketches of the Efforts of the Government and People in the War of the Revolution. Boston: A.J. Wright, printer, 1850. Indexed by: James N. Arnold. Vital Records of Rhode Island 1636-1850, Vol. XII, pp. 91-298. Cowell’s listings of men in specific units, and particularly in the long list for the Rhode Island Regiment, 1 February, 1781, on pages 217-223 (620 names) appears to be grouped by color in a couple of sections without stating so. This lack of color descriptors makes it difficult to determine the color of all of them men in this list. Because this regiment was not entirely African American in its composition, the list complicates identification of some men.


DBC-PR  *Deed Book Collection – Providence*, v. 2, Mss. 378, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence V. 2, p. 135: “Receipt given by Henry Bacon who agrees to hold Mingo Bentley ‘free negroman of Providence’ the amount of his soldier’s bounty.”

EGC  *Bill dated 1781 to the State of Rhode Island from Elizabeth Greene of Warwick for boarding and nursing of Nathaniel Wickes, a black soldier in Col. Christopher Greene’s Regiment*, Mss 9001-G, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.

FPPV  Manuscript Final Pension Payment Vouchers are located at the National Archives (Record Group 217: Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Records of the Office of the Third Auditor 1775-1923, Entry 722 Selected Final Pension Payment Vouchers, National Archives, Washington, D.C.). The vouchers consist of pension agent files selected by National Archives staff for their genealogical value. The files contain details relating to the final payment to heirs of a pensioner after his death. Details in these accounts may include the name of the spouse, children, and other heirs; the date and place of death; and the date, place and amount of the final pension payment. The vouchers are filed by the state where the pensioner received payment and thereafter alphabetically by surname of the pensioner.

GH1793  Gideon Hawley. “An Account of the Number of Indian Houses in Mashpee Taken This 1st July 1793 at the Desire of the Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians and Others by the Missionary to Those Indians, Which Is Humbly Addressed to the Society.” The original document is in the “Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts “collection, Autograph File (Gideon Hawley), Houghton Library, Manuscript Collection, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts. A handwritten transcription of this document is available in the R. Andrew Peirce Collection, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts.


JCP  *Crew List, c. 1776-1781*, Joseph Crawford Papers (1737-1796), Mss. 982, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.


“Letter of Jeremiah Olney to Arther Fenner, 18 May 1791, relating to Jack Champlin ‘a pensioner of the United States said to be unlawfully held at Hispaniola’.” Mss 18, Rhode Island Historical Society.


Provided Town Papers Collection
1. “Oath of Allegiance, 21 June 1780” [including the name of Pomp Reaves; mustered into Continental service], Providence Town Papers Collection, Mss 214 sg 1, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.
2. “Receipt dated 15 July 1780 by Nicholas Power who received bounty from John Brown for Negro Caesar for his enlisting into a battalion with permission from Power.” Providence Town Papers Collection, Series 1, v. 5, no. 2131, Mss 214 sg 1, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.


“Regimental Book, Rhode Island Regiment, 1781-1783.” On microfilm at Rhode Island State Archives and through the Family History Library (film number 954935)

B1:F11: “Letter, Providence, 2 April 1794.” Box 1, folder 11 “Claims by six Negro soldiers for depreciation on their monthly pay” [Box 1, folder 11]  
B3:F8: “List of Officers and men belonging to the Continental Brig’t Resistance, Capt. Chew, who are intitled to Shares in the Prize Ship Mermaid, cargo taken by said Brig’t May 5th, 1778.” [Box 3, folder 8]  

RIHS231  “Petition of the Narragansett Tribe in Charlestown, Rhode Island, Read to the General Assembly in February 1785 and referred to the June 1785 Session” [“regarding land taken from Indians and given to others while the original owners where away as soldiers in the Continental service.”] “Rhode Island State Records Collection,” Mss231 sg3, Series I: General Assembly, Box 3, folder 15 (1785): Petitions: Narragansett.  

RIHS455  “Papers of Col. Christopher Greene (1737-1781). Book of Returns (July 24, 1777 to July 29, 1780).” Rhode Island Historical Society, microfilm roll 3 of this collection, pp. 98-103.  

RIHS673  “Rhode Island Military Papers: Colonial Militia Collection.” Rhode Island Historical Society. Mss673. [This collection is divided into subgroups. The following subgroup references with a letter designation are to enable citation of specific documents in this list. The letters added to the reference do not appear on the actual documents. Sample citation: RIHS673; SG1:A = subgroup 1, document A.]  
SG1:A: “Receipt, 7 August 1778, by Esek Hopkins for bounty paid for enlistment of his ‘Negro Loser’ [Losher?] in the 1st Rhode Island Regiment, Providence County Militia (Mathewson’s Regiment, Jencks’ company.]  
SG2:B: “Return of the Men’s Names that are free and inlisted [sic] for term of 3 years in the 2nd Company of Foot commanded by Lieutenant Burlingame, Dec’r 1777 [Foster]; and, “Return of the Men’s Names who were slaves and inlisted [sic] during the war in the 2nd Company of Foot commanded by Lieutenant Burlingame.” [one document]  
SG2:C: “Book of Returns, Returns of 2nd Rhode Island Battalion, Late Regiment, commanded by Col. Angell [February 1780-April 1782]”  
SG2:E: “Pay at Camp Rhode Island Village, 10 February 1781, Col. Chr. Greene.”  
SG2:F: “Amount of Money Paid by the State of Rhode Island to Soldiers in the Revolutionary War, 1781 February 3.”  

RIHS789  “Transcripts of the Logs of the Sloop Providence (September 1779)” in the “Richard Waterman Family Papers, Mss 789, folder 22a, pp. 75 and 83, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.  

RIHS828  “Log of the Sloop of War Independence, 1776.” Ships’ Log Collection, Mss 828, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence. [On the last page of this log book is a crew list for another vessel, the brigantine Famey, and this list includes the names of five African Americans. The log book does not, however, include a crew list for the Independence itself unfortunately.]
RIHS9001-B  "Deeds from Japheth Bicknell of North Kingstown, Rhode Island to Sampson Gardner (alias Samson Chaucum, a free black man), 1788-1791." Rhode Island Historical Society Mss 9001-B (Bicknell)

RIHS9003  "Statement of the Settlement at the Treasury of the Claims on the following persons for services during the late war in the Rhode Island line of the Army." Rhode Island Historical Society. Mss 9003, "Rhode Island Historical Society Manuscripts, Providence, Statement" vol. 7, p. 59.

RIHS9006  "Shepley Collection," Mss 9006, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence. Includes:
   "Petition of Harry Niles to the Honble. Committee Appointed to Settle Indian Affairs in Charlestown requesting land on the basis that his mother was 'one of the Tribe of Indians', 14 December 1792." In the Shepley Collection, Mss 9006, v. 6, p. 112
   "Petition of Continental Army soldier Plato McClellan [who] signs his petition to the Rhode Island Assembly for relief for a disability incurred in service; dated March 1789." In the Shepley Collection, Mss 9006, v. 13, p. 141.

RIHSM  Rhode Island Historical Society Manuscripts
   2.  "Receipt dated 24 February 1781, Jeremiah Caesar signed order assigning his wages for service as a soldier to John Waterman." Rhode Island Historical Manuscripts, Mss. 9003, v. 18, p. 97, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.

RIHSRWPI  "Rhode Island Historical Society Revolutionary War Papers [Card] Index." A reference in this card index in the reading room of the Rhode Island Historical Society’s Library provides additional references to the military service for the man whose name appears on the card. Often, but not always, a description will also appear for the man’s color or ethnicity. The following sources are those most frequently cited in this index. (The codes following the title are those used on the cards but not in this publication.)
   Anonymous typescript headed “Rhode Island Muster and Pay Rolls, Revolutionary.” 1907
   "Size and Muster Roll of Enlistments for Campaign of (May) 1782 [Angell’s Regiment]." V
   "Shepley Collection. Rhode Island Muster Rolls, 1774-1782.” Sh
   "Sloop Providence's Muster Roll, … 1777.” PRV
   "Size Roll and Return Col. Christopher Greene 1st [Black] Regiment, 1780.” Gr80
   "Military Papers.” MP [RIHS Mss. 673]


RIRWNI  "Rhode Island Revolutionary War Names Index, 1776-1780." Card index at the Rhode Island State Archives; also available on microfilm. There are two manuscript boxes (A-M and N-Z) sitting on top of the card catalog cabinet for the RIRWNI at the Rhode Island State Archives labeled “Revolutionary War Minority Participant Index.” The material in these boxes is composed of photocopies of cards from the main index arranged alphabetically. RIRWNI cites many sources at the state archives and at the Rhode Island Historical Society.

RIS91  Rhode Island Schedules [Acts of the General Assembly], May 1791-February 1793, May 1791 session, p. 19: “It is voted and resolved, that twelve pounds five shillings and fourpence
halfpenny, Specie, be allowed to Mr. Robert Rodman; it being the Amount of his Account for the Board of Mingo Rodman, late a Soldier in Col. Green’s Battalion, and now a State Pauper, from October 11, 1790, to April 11, 1791, and for Cloathing provided for him; and that the same be paid Robert Rodman out of the General Treasury, in the Bills of Credit emitted by the State at the established Rate of Exchange.”


SPB  “Bond of Samuel Perry of South Kingston to the town council as administrator of the estate of William Greene, a black Revolutionary War veteran,” Mss 9001-P, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.


REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE
RHODE ISLAND 1775-1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

AARON/ARON, BENEDICT/BENEDICK, Indian, 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, RIMN, M881, C00247:9:23,233 & 245, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, Charlestown
AARON/ARON, THOMAS, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
ABORN, ANTHONY, African American, 1776RI, 1777, 1782RI Cranston
ACKMAN/AICKMAN, WILLIAM, African American, C00101, RIRWNI, Bristol
ACTIUM, PASQUE, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
ADAMS, SCIPIO, African American, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
ADAMS/ADDAMS, THOMAS, African American, W13615 [married Abigail Larkin July 10, 1764; died summer 1810 in Charlestown; children: Mary Johnson, Simon Adams and James Adams], (1st Rhode Island Regiment), 1777, IRWSR, RIHS455 (deserted), RIHS455 (joined March 7, deserted June 9), Charlestown
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (enslaved man of Mary Franklin of Jamestown; not named), RSRI:9:172 &727, Jamestown
ALBRO, WEIGNO, **, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), Kings Co.
ALDRICH, STEPHEN, African American, C00101, [Note: Two men of the same name are DAR established patriots. These men are listed as white in federal censuses in Smithfield and Gloucester, Kent Co., and are probably not the same as this man.]
ALLEN, African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:63 (waiter to Committee of Congress), no residence given
ALLEN, JACK, African American, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), died at Valley Forge, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
ALLEN, JAMES, Indian, RDNV:1:90, deserted, C00482:2:722 (“Indian,” deserted, Providence Gazette, 28 March 1778), no residence given
ALLEN, JOHN, African American, ISWSR, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment and 2nd Rhode Island Regiment), no town given
ALLEN, PARDON, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
ALLEN, POWER, African American, ISWSR, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given
ALLEN, PRINCE, African American, M881, 1777, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Gloucester
ALLEN, RICHARD/DICK, African American (“Negro”), RIMN, ISWSR, COWELL, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00101, C00486:3:25, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, Charleston/Barrington
ALLEN, ROBERT, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment and 2nd Rhode Island Regiment), BLWt 1-100 in 1842, no residence given
ALLEN, RUFUS, African American, M88, ISWSR, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment and 2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:523:#418 (died January 1, 1782), PTRCl:70, no residence given
ALLEN, WALLEY/WILLEY, African American, ISWSR, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHS18:B1:F11, East Greenwich
ALMEY/ALMY, JACK/JACKS/JAMES, African American ("Negro"), 1777:106, M881, ISWSR, M246, C00482:1:S23:450 (deserted April 1, 1781), C00486:3:10, Tiverton

ALMY, SHARPER, African American ("Negro"), M881, 1777, RIRWNI (served on the privateer Lady Washington), RIHSRWPI, Tiverton

AMOS, THOMAS/TOM, African American ("black"), COWELL, MSS, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:2:493, C00486:3:10, RIRWNI (laborer), RIHS455, Tiverton

ANDREW, SILAS, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

ANDREWS, JONATHAN, African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:47 (waiter)

ANDREWS/ANDREW, THOMAS, African American, ISWSR, M881 (1st and 2nd Rhode Island Regiments), 1777, no residence given

ANGEL, LEPARD, African American ("negro boy"), sailor on a privateer, JCP, Providence

ANGELL, PRIMUS, African American, RIHSRWPI, no residence given


ANGELL, RUFUS, African American, M881, no residence given

ANGELL, STUKLEY, African American? RIHSRWPI, no residence given

ANGLE, THOMAS, African American? C00482:1:S23:521 (prisoner of war May 15, 1781; exchanged; joined September 1, 1781)

ANN, ANTHONY, **, M246, C00247:9:245, RIRWNI, no residence given

ANTHONY/ANTENY, EDWARD/NED, Mixed descent ("Mustee"), 1777, COWELL, MSS, RIMN, M881, C00486:2:138 (died or deserted 1 November 1780), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, South Kingstown

ANTHONY, ELISHA/ELISA, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"; also described as "Negro"), RIHS673:SG2:F:9 (age 17, born South Kingston, resident of Johnston, enlisted there)

ANTHONY, JAMES, Indian, RIHS673:SG2:F:9 (age 39, born South Kingstown, resident of Johnston, enlisted at Johnston), Johnston

ANTHONY, JAMES, African American ("Negro"), RIHSRWPI, no residence given

ANTHONY, JOHN/JACK, Indian, 1777, RIRWNI, ISRWR, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), BLWt 297-110, RIHS673:SG2:E:1, 1774RI (Charlestown), RIRWNI

ANTHONY, JOSEPH, Indian, 1777, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), died in service in the year 1777, RIRWNI, no residence given

ANTHONY, MICHAEL, Spanish, BLWt 6736-100, ISWSR, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI ("Spanish-born"; wife Margaret was an Indian from Charlestown, Rhode Island; married in 1788; moved to Smithfield, Mass. in 1813. She received a widow's pension, moved back to the reservation in Charlestown with her children, and died in 1848.)

ANTONIO, JOHN, **, C00247:7:23 (recruit), Johnston

APIS, SAMUEL, Indian? COWELL:150, no residence given


ARNOLD, JOSIAH, African American ("Negro"), RIRWNI (over 60 in 1777 military census; had a substitute named Chas. Douglas; troops were stationed and quartered in Arnold's house in East Greenwich during the war.) [Note: DAR established patriot]

ARNOLD, PRINCE, African American ("Negro") C00247:9:125, C00486:3:10, RIHS673:SG2:F:7 (age 26, born Smithfield, resident there), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI


BABCOCK, ASA, Indian, COWELL, RIRWI, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:S23:455, RIHS673:SG2:F:82, RIHS673:SG2:F:4 (age 17, born Westerly), RIHSRWPI, BRRIR (age 18; 5'7"; trade: labourer; born Westerly, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of same; hair black; complexion Indian; enlisted '81 in Westerly for 3 years), Westerly

BABCOCK, CEASAR/CARSAR, African American (“Man of colour,” “Negro”), a slave of and substitute for Hezekiah Babcock, RIMN, 1777, 1782RI, R339, RIRWI (substitute for Hezekiah Babcock; born 1758; pensioner – Rhode Island Pension Book VI; lived in Newport when pensioned in 1835.), South Kingston

BABCOCK, PRINCE, African American? C00247:7:41 (1st Rhode Island Regiment)

BALONTINO, WILLIAM, African American, GREE, no residence given


BABCOCK, PRINCE, African American? C00247:7:41 (1st Rhode Island Regiment)

BALONTINO, WILLIAM, African American, GREE, no residence given

BAPTIST/BAPTEST/BAPTISS/BATISS, FRANCIS, **, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:9:245, no residence given

BARBER, ELLICK, African American, RIHS455 (dead), RSRI:9:675 (enlisted man of John Barber) , no residence given

BARNEY/BARNEYBEE/BARNABE, JACK, African American? RIHSRWPI, no residence given

BARTON, HAMPTON, African American, RIMN, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, COWELL:186, C00247:9:125,233&245, RIRWI (slave enlisted into Continental Battalion in 1778), RIHS455, Warren

BARTON/BASTON, PERO, African American (“Negro”), BAM-1, RIRWI (sailor in 1777), Warwick; 1774RI, Providence, lists a Pero Barton as an Indian.

BARTON, SIMON/SIMEON, Mixed descent (“Mustee”), BLWt 2976-100, COWELL, MESS, BAM-2, C00482:2:734 (“Negro,” deserted, Providence Gazette, 13 April 1783), C00842:2:734, RIRWI (slave enlisted into Continental Battalion in 1778), RIHS455, BRRIR (age 33; 5' 3 ¼"; trade: labourer: born Warwick, Kent Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Mustee; enlisted '78 in Warwick [for the duration of the] war), Warwick

BATES, BENONI (I), African American (“man of colour”), S38515, BLWt 2971-100, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHS673:SG2:E:1, 1790RI, BRRIR (age 21; 5' 7 ¾"; trade: labourer; born Newport, Newport Co., Rhode Island; resident of Providence, Providence Co.; hair dark; complexion yellow; enlisted in Providence for 3 years.), BRRIR (age 21; 5' 7 ¾"; trade: labourer; born Newport, Newport Co., Rhode Island; resident of Providence, Providence Co.; hair dark; complexion yellow; enlisted in Providence for 3 years.), FPPV [died January 22, 1838 in Cranston, RI; left no surviving widow; Dennis Bates surviving lawful heir], Providence, res. Warwick

BATTEY/BATTY, WILLIAM, African American (“Negro”), 1777, RIRWI, Jamestown/Scituate [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name who was pensioned under W1208.]

BEAMUS, ABRA’M, African American? RIHS455 (deserted) , no residence given

BEN, African American, crew member of the brigantine Famey (1776), RIHS828, no residence given


BENNETT, MERRICK, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), RIRWI (age 15, on the Sloop Success, 1781), no residence given

BENNETT, SAMUEL, African American, 1777, M881, RIRWI, Warwick [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name who was pensioned under S37743.]

BENNETT, WILLIAM, Indian, BLWt 1590-100, (1st and 2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00842:2:726, no residence given
BENT, PRINCE, African American, S38541, BLWt 2983-100, COWELL, CBSL:403, M246, MSS, LG, GTA, M881, C00247:7:71, C00247:9:221, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:378, C00486:2:123, C00486:3:23, RIRWNI, RIHS9003, RIHSRWP1, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 20, 5' 4"; trade: labourer; born Guinea; resident of Westerly, Washington Co., Rhode Island; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Westerly for 3 years.), FPPV [died April 24, 1833; wife Betsy died July 1833; Prince & Martha Bent surviving children], Westerly


BESAYADE/BIZEAR/BESEAR, LUIS, **, RIHSRWP1, no residence given

BICKNELL, PERO, **, RIHSRWP1, no residence given

BILLING, ____ African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:63 (waiter to Committee of Congress), no residence given

BLACK, CUPID, **, M881, C00247:10:167&171, no residence given

BLACKAMORE, JOHN, African American, C00482:2:595, no residence given

BLACKMAN/BLACKMORE/BLACKMAR, CUFF/CUFFS, African American, COWELL, M881, C00247:9:35, C00482:1:432, 437; C00486:2:95, RIRWNI, RIHSRWP1, no residence given

BLACKMAN, JACOB, **, C00247:9:129, no residence given


BLINK/BLINKS, JACK, African American, COWELL, M881 (1st and 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:7:79, C00247:10:5, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:454, C00486:2:123, RIHS673:SG2:F:81, RIRWNI (tailor from Swansea, Mass.), RIHSRWP1, RBRIR (age 19; 5'7"; trade: tailor; born Swansea/Tanton [sic], Massachusetts; resident of same; black hair; complexion Negro; enlisted 1 March 81 in Warren for 3 years), Warren

BLOOD, PRINCE, **, RIHSRWP1, no residence given


BOOSE/BOURS/BOURSE, CATO, African American, SI5342, RIHT-10, COWELL, M246, M881, MSS, LG, GTA, C00101, C00247:7:85, C00247:16, RIRWNI (enlisted slave; died in Providence February 28, 1839), RIHSRWP1, RIHS455, Newport


BOURN, FRANK, African American ("Negro"), COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI, RIHS455 (dead), Bristol

BOURNE/BOUR/BOWEN, CATO, African American, C00486:2:138 (died 5 October 1780), RIRWNI, RIHSRWP1, no residence given

BOWEN, CAIN, African American ("Negro"), M881, Kingstown, 1790 Smithfield

BOWEN, FRANK, African American, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, Foster

BOWERS, JOHN, African American, C00101, no residence given

BOYER/BOWYER, JOSEPH, African American ("Negro"), fifer, COWELL, MSS, M881, C00482:1:S23:453, RIRWNI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 18; 5'4.5"; trade: labourer; born N. Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted N. Kingston for [the duration of the] war), North Kingston

BRADLEY, NED, African American, see Pension of PETER JENNINGS (S4436) with whom he served, no residence given

BRENTON/BRINTON, DUBLING/DUBLIN/DUBLON, African American? C00486:3:40, RIHSRWP1, no residence given


BRISTOL, PETER, African American, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), died in service, C00247:9:245, C00482:2:607, C00486:1:84, RIHSRWPI (died June 6, 1778), no residence given

BRITAIN, DAVID, African American? RIHSRWPI (died April 1, 1782), no residence given

BRITTAIN, African American (“Captain’s boy,” “a Negro”), C00482:2:660, RIRWNI (captain’s “boy” on the ship Alfred and on the ship Trumbull in 1776 and 1777), RIHSRWPI, no residence given


BROWN, CATO, African American, COWELL, MSS, M246, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments), C00101, C00247:7:115, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:4369 (fifer; died December 8, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:C:19A, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

BROWN, CUDGE/CUDGO, African American, C00247:16, 1790RI, Johnston

BROWN, ESEK, African American (“Negro”), C00486:1:1, RIRWNI. [Note: There were two Esek Browns and both are listed in the 1790 Census as head of white household in Glocester, R. I. Both privates have pensions, S21079 and S26172 (son of Col. Chad Brown). Not the same as DAR established patriot of the same name.]

BROWN, JAMES, African American, RIRWNI, 1777, 1782RI, 1790RI, 1800RI South Kingston

BROWN, JOHN, [This was likely one of the two men that follow.] RIHS673:SG2:C:23A (deserted 21 June 1781), RIRWNI, no residence given

BROWN, JOHN, Indian, 1777, 1782RI, 1790RI Charlestown

BROWN, JOHN, Indian, W14357, 1777, M881, Jamestown

BROWN, JOSEPH, African American, W1543 [born a slave on November 18, 1749 in North Kingston, R. I.; married Lucretia Thomas on January 5, 1794 in Marblehead, Essex Co., Mass.; died April 1, 1834, 1777;], BLWt 26918-160-55, (enslaved man of Beriah Brown, sheriff of King’s Co., R. I., who served as a substitute for Christopher Brown, Beriah’s son), North Kingston


BROWN, JOSIAH, African American, M881, C00482:1:S23:4420 (died January 20, 1782), RIRWNI, Kingston

BROWN, POMPEY, African American, C00247:16, no residence given


BROWN, PRINCE, African American, 1777, COWELL, MSS, M881, C00247:7:123&125, C00486:1:53, RIRWNI, South Kingston

BROWN, SAMBO, African American, 1777, RDNV:1:42, deserted, C00486:1:5, RIRWNI, South Kingston


BROWN, THOMAS, African American, M881 (drummer/fifer), COWELL, MSS, CPAR, RSRI:9:582 (slave of Beriah Brown), RIHS673:SG2:1:F:124 (drummer), RIRWNI, RBRIR (age 19; 5′ 4 ½″; trade: labourer; born North Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion “yellow”; enlisted in North Kingston [for the duration of the war.], North Kingston

BROWNING, LAY, African American ("Negro"), RIHS673:SG2:F:7 (age 22, born Newport, resident there, enlisted there), Newport

BUCKLIN, LONDON, African American, MSS, RIRWNI, Providence


BURRELL, CUDJO, African American, RIHRSWPI (seaman on the Sloop Independence in 1776), no residence given

BURRINGTON, JACK, **, RIHSRWPI (boatman Munro), no residence given


BURTON, JOB, African American ("Negro"), RIMN, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIH18:B1:F:11, RIHS455, Foster


CADDY, DARIUS, African American, BLWt 3900-100, M881, RIRWNI, no residence given

CAESAR, African American, 1777, COWELL, RIRWNI, no residence given in these records; 1774RI Johnston lists an African American man named Caesar and his family, but there is no direct evidence that the soldier is the same man.


CAESAR/CEASOR, JEREMIAH, Indian/African American, 1777, RIHSM-2, C00247:9:133, RIHS673:SG2:F:9 (age 25, born Johnston, resident there, enlisted there), RIRWNI, Johnston

CAESAR, JOHN, African American, 1777, RIRWNI, RIHRSWPI, no residence given

CAESAR/CEZAR, JOSEPH, African American, RIHRSWPI, no residence given


CAESAR/CEASAR/CEESAR, SAMUEL, African American, M881, RIRWNI, RIHRSWPI, no residence given


CAESAR/SEAZAR, WILLIAM, African American, C00247:16, 1774RI (Providence) lists a William Casar and family as Indians.

CAPWELL, JAMES, African American, 1777, M881 [Note: Not the same as DAR patriot of the same name pensioned under S39329.], no residence given

CARBIT, FRAGIT, **, RIHRSWPI, no residence given

CARMEN, CUDJO, African American, 1777, RIHT-10, RIRWNI, LG, GTA, South Kingstown
CARR, BRISTOL/BRISTON, African American ("Free Black"), 1790RI, IRWSR, M881, C00486:3:40, no residence given

CARR, QUAM/QUISH/QUASH, African American, M881, 1777, RIHSRWPI, South Kingston

CARTER, JOHN, African American ("a Negro man"), PTRC:1:84 (born in Guinea), no residence given

CASAR, African American, RIMN, RIWRNI (free Negro seaman on Privateer Joseph, 1777), no residence given

CASE/CAVE, RUFUS, African American, 1777, COWELL, MSS, M246, M881, C00101, C00247:16, C00486:2:138 (died 26 December 1780), RIWRNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RSRI:9:675 (enslaved man of Joseph Case), South Kingston

CASE, TOM, African American? C00247:16, no residence given

CEASOR, African American, RIWRNI (enslaved man of Nicholas Power, 1780-1781, for military service), no residence given

CEASOR, JOSEPH, African American? RIWRNI, no residence given

CHACE, CATO, African American, C00482:2:493, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

CHACE, PRINCE, African American? RIHSRWPI, no residence given

CHADSEY, WILLIAM, African American, C00101, C00482:1:523 (died May 4, 1781), no residence given

CHADWICK, QUAKO/QUACO, African American ("Negro"), RIWRNI (landsman on the Sloop Fly), RIHSRWPI, no residence given

CHAMPLIN, ASA, African American, M881, 1777 Charlestown [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name from Stonington, Conn.]


CHAMPLIN, DEWEY, African American? RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given

CHAMPLIN, DICK/RICHARD, African American, LG, GTA, 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, RIWRNI, M881, (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, South Kingston

CHAMPLIN, EDWARD, **, C00247:7:171, no residence given


CHAMPLIN, NEWPORT, African American, 1777, BLWt 1768-100, RIHT-10, COWELL, LG, GTA, M246, M881, C00247:7:173, C00247:16, C00482:1:523:460, C00486:2:123, C00486:3:23, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIWRNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 16, 5' 3 ¼"; born S. Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted '78 in S. Kingston for [the duration of the war], South Kingston/Foster


CHAMPLIN, WILLIAM, **, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment) [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name who lived in Newport, R. I. during the war.], no residence given

CHAMPLIN, YORK, African American, S34689, BLWt 3046-100, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, M246, LG, GTA, CPAR, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), CBSL:403, C00247:8:383, C00247:7:177, C00247:16, C00482:1:523:458, C00486:2:123, C00486:3:23, RIWRNI (born Africa), RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 17; 5' 4 ¾"; trade: labourer; born Africa; resident of South Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted '78 in S. Kingston for [the duration of the war], South Kingston

CHAPMAN, RUFUS, African American, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), no residence
CHARLES, EPHRAIM, Indian, 1777, COWELL, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:S23:464, RIHS673:SG2:F:82, BBRIR (age 37; 5' 4'; born Charlestown, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of same; hair black; complexion Indian; enlisted '81 in Charlestown for 3 years), Charlestown
CHARLES, JOHN, Indian, DARFP, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, RIHS455, no residence given
CHARLES, STEPHEN, Indian, COWELL, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:S23:462 (died December 15, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:C:21A, no residence given
CHASE, CATO, African American, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given
CHEESEBOROUGH, CUFF, African American, M881, C00486:3:23, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
CHEESEBOROUGH, PETER, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
CHEW, PRINCE, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
CHICKNOW, CHARLES, Indian? RIHSRWPI, no residence given
CHILD, NAIL, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
CHILDs, JEREMIAH, **, RIHSRWPI (boatman), no residence given
CHILDs/CHILES, PRINCE (1), African American, COWELL:186, MSS, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:7:181&183, C00247:9:233&245, C00247:16, C00482:2:734 ("Negro," deserted, Providence Gazette, 13 April 1783), C00486:2:138, C00101, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, Newport. [Clearly, there were two men with this name based on the 1783 desertion date for one and the 1781 death date for the other. Determining which record citations go with which man has proven very difficult.]
CHILDs, WILLIAM, **, RIHSRWPI (boatman), no residence given
CHOTTER, JOHN, Indian? RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI (seaman on the ship Independence), no residence given
CHUNKS, GEORGE, Indian, C00247:16, C00486:1:49, 96, C00486:2:29, RIRWNI, no residence given
CLARK/CLERK/CLARKE, CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), 1777, C00486:2:18, RIRWNI (born Africa), RIHSRWPI, Warwick
CLARK/CLARKE, JAMES, African American, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, LG, GTA, C00482:1:S23:4381 (died Feb’y 1, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:E:1, RIHS455 (deserted), South Kingstown
CLARK, JAMES/JEMMY, African American, RIHT-10, 1776, MSS, LG, M881, RIRWNI, RIHS455, South Kingstown
CLARK, JOHN, African American ("Negro"), RIRWNI (cook on the Sloop Fly, Continental Navy), RIHSRWPI
CLARK, PRIME, African American, C00247:16, RIHS673:SG2:C:24A, RIHSRWPI (died January 27, 1782)
CLARKE, BERIAH, African American? RIRWNI, no residence given
CLEAR, PANAM, **, C00247:7:191, no residence given
COESAR, JEREMIAH, Indian, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
COGGANY/COGGERY, PETER, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"/Indian, RDNV:1:58, deserted, C00482:2:707 (deserted, Providence Gazette, 12 April 1777), C00842:2:707, no residence given
COGGESHALL, ISAAC, African American? BBRIR (age 19; 5' 3'; trade: labourer; born Newport, Newport Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Newport for 3 years.), Newport
COLE, LEVI, African American? C00247:16, no residence given
CONGDENS/CONGDON, STUTELY, **, C00247:9:121&123, no residence given
CONGDON, BRISTER/BRISTOL/BRISTON, African American (“Negro”), RIMC:13, M881, C00247:9:23, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI (deserted), South Kingston/New Shoreham
CONGDON, STUCKELY, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
CONGLE, BRISTER, African American, RIHSRWPI (Sloop Providence), no residence given
CONYA, PETER, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
COOK, ABRAHAM/ABRAM, African American (“Negro”), SS019, TVTN:363, M881, RIRWNI (Mariner), 1790RI
Tiverton
COOK, CAESAR/SESER, African American, COWELL, WAL, M246, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:16, Providence
COOK, SESAR, African American, RIHSRWPI (seaman on the Sloop Independence), no residence given
COOK, DANIEL, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
COOK, MINGO, Indian? C00247:16, no residence given
COOK, QUOM, African American, C00247:16, no residence given
COOK, SIMEON, African American (“black”), RIRWNI (Mariner)
COOK, SIP, African American, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
COON, WILLIAM, African American, 1777, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), RIRWNI, Hopkinton
COOPER, ADAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), M881, no residence given
CORDIZ, JOSEPH, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
COREY, TAYBOR, African American? C00482:1:523:571, no residence given
CORY/COREY/CORREY, PARIS, African American, M881, C00482:1:404, West Greenwich [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name pensioned under W1238.]
CORY, PARDON, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
CORY, TABOR, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
CORY, WILLIAM, Indian, C00842:2:732 (deserted; Providence Gazette, June 8, 1782), RIHSRWPI, North Kingston [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name pensioned under W17662.]
COUCHOP/COUCHAP/COWSHIP, JOSEPH, Indian? RIHSRWPI, no residence given
COUCHUP/CONCHUP/COUCHEP/CONCHOP/CONCHUSS, JEFFREY//JEPHRY/JOPHREY, Indian? RIHSRWPI, no residence given
COUCHUP/CUTCHUP, PETER, Indian? RIHSRWPI (seaman on the Sloop Independence), no residence given
COWELL, African American? RIRWNI, MSS, musician/fifer, ARN:12, ARN:21, CPAR, GREE, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), Newport
COY, ELISHA, Indian? RIRWNI, no residence given
on June 18, 1859; children: Martha Willis widow of George Willis, Albert Cozzens, Charles Cozzens and George Cozzens, all of Providence, Providence
COZZENS/COZZINS, DAVID, African American? RIHSRWPI, no residence given
COZZENS, SAMUEL, African American? C00247:9:31, RIHSRWPI (died December 20, 1781), no residence given
COZZENS, WILLIAM, African American? C00247:9:225, no residence given
CRANDALL, CHRISTOPHER, **, RIHSRWPI (seaman on the Sloop Fly), no residence given
CRANDALL, JAMES, **, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given
CRANDALL, MINTAS, **, C00247:16, RIHS673:SG2:C:24A, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
CROMWELL, JAMES, African American, SECT:96, Middletown
CROSS, JAMES, African American, C00101, no residence given
CROUCH, PETER, African American (“a Negro”), COWELL, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:7:229&231, RIRWNI (born African/Guinea), RBRIR (age 20; 5' 5 ¼”; trade: labourer; born Guinea; resident of Providence, Providence Co.; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Providence for 3 years), Providence
CUFF, African American (“Negro”), RIHS18:BS:F8 (marine on the brigantine Resistance), no residence given
CUFFEE, AMOS, African American, C00482:2:466, 467 (“among those brought from the Enemy’s prison ship”), RIRWNI, no residence given
CUPID, African American, crew member of the brigantine Famey (1776), RIHS828, no residence given
CUTAWOM/CUTTOWOM, JOSHUA, Indian, M881, no residence given
DAILEY/DALEY, EMOR, African American, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), no residence given
DAILEY, FIELD, Mixed descent (“Mustee”), M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:2:464, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
DAILEY, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mustee”), M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, RIHS455, no residence given
DAILEY/DAYLY, PETER, Indian (“Indian,” “yellow complexion”), RIMN, BLWt 3076-100 and 3068-100, COWELL, (1st Rhode Island Regiment), 1790RI, C00482:1:S23:383 (taken prisoner May 1781; exchanged and rejoined September 1781), RIHS673:SG2:F:125, RIHS673:SG2:E:2, RIRWNI, RIHS455 (deserted), RBRIR (age 20; 5' 8 ¼”; trade: labourer; born Cranston, Providence Co., Rhode Island; resident of Warwick; hair black; complexion “yallow”; enlisted in Warwick [for the duration of the war.], Warwick
DANIEL, JAMES, Indian, 1777, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, 1774RI (Charlestown)
DANIELS, JOHN, Indian, 1777, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RDNV:1:60 (deserted), C00482:2:708 (deserted, “an Indian,” Providence Gazette, 26 April 1777), C00842:2:708, RIRWNI, 1774RI (Charlestown)
DANMOUTH, P(H)ARON, **, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment)
DAVENPORT/DEVENPORT/DIVENPORT, POMP, African American (“Negro”), RIMN, MSS, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:433, C00486:3:25, RIRWNI, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (dead), N. Kingstown
DAVID/DAVIDS, SOLOMEN, Mixed descent (“Mustee, “Negro”), 1777, M881, RIRWNI, 1790RI Tiverton
DAVIDS, BRISTOL, African American, M881, no residence given
DAVIDS, JACOB, Indian/African American (“Negro”), 1774RI, RIRWNI, 1777, RIHSRWPI, Tiverton
DAVIS, BILL, **, RIHSRWPI (seaman on the Sloop Independence), no residence given
DAVIS, HENRY, **, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHS455, no residence given
DAYTON, BENEDICK, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
DEMONS, ABRAHAM, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
DEMONS, JOSEPH, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
DEWOLF/DEWOLPH, SCIPIO/SIFIO/SEIPOI D. WOLF, African American, W2562, M881 (1st & 2nd
Rhode Island


Diamond/Dimon, Ezekiel/Ezek, **, C00482:1:S23:#384, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHS455, no residence given


Dick, Milford/Millard, African American, RIMN, COWELL, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:9:233, C00247:16, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (deserted), GH1793, East Milford

Dick, Thomas, African American, 1777, M881, Jamestown

Dimond/Dimon, Peter, Indian, RAP2 (seaman on the Alfred and the Providence), Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.

Dobag, Simon, **, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given

Dongaron/Donjeron, Joseph, African American, 1774RI, 1776RI Newport

Dotty, Brister, **, M881, 1st Rhode Island Regt., no residence given

Dunbar, Christopher, **, RIHSRWPI, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments – consolidated), RIHS455


Dyar, Andrew, **, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given

Dye, Firman, **, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), RIHSRWPI, no residence given

Eagar, Lorabelle, **, RIHSRWPI (fifer), no residence given

Earl, Domine, African American (“black”), C00482:2:493, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

Eason, Caesar/Ces, African American, M881, RIHSRWPI, 1790RI Providence

Easterbrook, Edward, African American, C00101, no residence given

Easterbrooks, Benjamin, African American? RIHSRWPI, no residence given

Elbridge/Eldridge, Caesar, African American, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, no residence given

Ellery, Pomp/Pompey, African American, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, (“negro boy” on the Ship Columbus; died), no residence given

Ephraim, Michael, Indian, RDNV:1:110 deserted, C00482:1:S23:#516 (deserted, Providence Gazette, April 7, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:C:23A, RIHSRWPI, Charlestown

Ewing, Dixo, **, RIHSRWPI (seaman on the Ship Alfred in 1776), no residence given

Fairchild, Pero, African American, M881, RIHSRWPI (drummer), no residence given

Farbun, Cat, **, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, no residence given

Fennor, Abraham, African American (“Negro”), RHIS18:B:1:F11, no residence given

Fenner, Brister, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

Fillarida, Joseph, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given


Finch, Pero/Perow, African American, COWELL, M881, (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:7:289, C00247:9:145, C00247:16, RIHS673:SG2:C:2&72, RIRWNI, RRRIR (age 23; 5’8”; trade: labourer; born Warwick, Kent Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Mustee; enlisted ’78 in E. Greenwich for [the duration of the war]), Warwick


Foay, Boston, **, MSS, Bristol, R. I.

Fones/Fomes, Jack/John, African American, RIHT-10, MSS, COWELL, LG, M246, GTA, M881 (1st and 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), RIHS673:SG2:C:63 (waiter to Field officers), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, North Kingston
FORTUNE/FORTIN, ANTHONY, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
FORTUNE, JAMES, **, RIHSRWPI (deserted April 1, 1781), no residence given
FORTUNE/FORTIN/FORTEEN/FORTING/PROCTOR, JOSEPH, **, M881, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
FORTUNE, THOMAS, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
FOSTER/FOSTER, JACK, **, M246, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given
FOWLER, JAMES, Indian, IRWSR, RIRWNI, South Kingstown
FOYE, BOSTON, African American? RIHSRWPI, no residence given
FRANK, ANDREW, African American (“man of color”), S21207, RIRWNI (pensioner 1834; Rhode Island Pension Book XXXIII), Johnston
FRANK/FRANCK, BENJAMIN, African American, RIMN, M881 (1st and 2nd Rhode Island Regiments), SLG, RIRWNI, RIHS455 (deserted), no residence given
FRANK/FRANCK, WILLIAM, African American (“Negro”), BLWt 3127, COWELL, MSS, M881, C00482:1.523:4385, RIHS673:5G2:E:125, RIRWNI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 21; 5’ 5 ¾”; trade: labourer; born Providence, Providence Co., Rhode Island; resident of Johnson, Providence Co.; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Tiverton [for the duration of the war])
FRANKLIN, SQUIRE, **, C00247:9:129 [Note: Not to be confused with DAR patriot of the same name pensioned under S21206.], no residence given
FREE, SILAS, African American, RIS18:B3:F8 (ordinary seaman on the brigantine Resistance), no residence given
FREEMAN, CATO, African American, BLWt 4158-100, 1790RI, Providence
FREEMAN, CHARLES, African American, S38711, M881, drummer, (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments – consolidated), RIRWNI, no residence given
FREEMAN, JOHN, **, C00247:9:107&237, RIHSRWPI, M881, no residence given
FREEMAN, KEDAR, **, CSP, no residence given
FREEMAN, PETER, African American, S36521, pvt. in Capt. Willis’ Co., no residence given
FREEMAN, SALISBURY/SALISBY, African American, W8206 [married Mrs. Rhoda Irons May, 1842 in Gloucester], BLWt 178-160-55 and 3117-100, M246, M881 (Pvt. in 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments), C00247:7:307, C00247:9:245, C00482:1:411, RIHSRWPI, FPPV [died February 6, 1854 in North Providence, Cumberland
FREEMAN, THOMAS, African American, M881, RIHSRWPI, no residence given. [Note: The Thomas Freeman with pension W289 and bounty land warrant 34275-160-55 does not appear to be this man. The 1820 Census in Attleboro, Bristol Co., Mass., listed a white head of household with this name. His pension (taken in 1818) states that he was residing in Attleboro at that time. He died in 1822 or 1823.]
FRINK, CAESOR, **, RIRWNI, no residence given
FROST, FANTEE, African American, M881, no residence given
FRY, WINZOR/WINDSOR, Mixed Descent, Indian (“Mustee,” “man of colour”), S38709, BLWt 3126, COWELL, MSS, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:8:383, C00247:9:233, C00482:1:402, C00482:1:523:466, RIHS673:5G2:E:2, RIRWNI, RIHS455 (deserted), RBRIR (age 22; 5’ 10 ½”; born E. Greenwich, Kent Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Mustee; enlisted ‘77 in E. Greenwich for [the duration of the war], FPPV [died Saturday February 1, 1823], East Greenwich
GARDENER, CUFF, African American, COWELL, 1777-99, South Kingstown
GARDNER/GARDNER, SHARPER UTTER, African American, BLWt 619-100, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), M246, RIRWNI, LG, GTA, RIHS455 (deserted), South Kingstown
GARDNER, ASA, African American, COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, RIHS455, no residence given
GARDNER/GARDENER, CAESAR, African American, 1777, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00101, C00247:7:313, C00247:16, RIRWNI, no residence given

GARDNER, DAVID, **, C00247:7:313, no residence given


GARDNER, HANSAN, (“man of color”), RIRWNI, no residence given

GARDNER, JOSIAH, **, C00247:7:315, no residence given

GARDNER, MINTUS/MINTIE/MINTIL, African American, 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL, M246, MSS (Rhode Island Regiment), LG, GTA, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI (slave), RIHS455, South Kingstown/Foster

GARDNER, POMPEY, African American, cook on the sloop Providence, RIHS789, no residence given

GARDNER, PRIMUS/PRIAMUS, African American, 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL, LG, GTA, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00486:2:138 (died 20 October 1780), RIRWNI, South Kingstown

GARDNER/GARDENER, PRINCE, African American, 1777, COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00101, C00247:16, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, South Kingstown

GARDNER, RUTTER/RUTTEE, African American, RIHT-10, M881, RIRWNI, LG, GTA, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:7:315&317, RIHSRWPI, Exeter

GARDNER, SAMSON/SAMPSON, aka SAMSOM CHAUCUM, African American, 1777, RIHS9001-B, 1782RI South Kingston

GARDNER, SANFORD, **, C00247:7:317, no residence given


GARDNER/GARNER, TOM/THOMAS, Mixed descent (“African American”/“mulatto”), W7500, BLWt-31-60-55, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, Glocester

GARRISON, JOHN, African American, C00101, no residence given

GASGO, JACOB, **, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

GAULME, CESAR, **, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given

GAVETT/GAVIT/GARRETT, JOHN, African American, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00101, Westerly/New Milford, Conn. [Note: Not to be confused with DAR patriot of the same name.]

GEORGE, JOHN, “Indian,” “coloured man”, W13248 [wife Bridget; Skesuck, COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated) C00482:1:S23:470 (prisoner, May 14, 1781; exchanged and joined September 1, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:F:83, RIHS673:SG2:C:21A, RIHSRWPI (seaman on the Ship Alfred), RBRIR (age 39; 5' 6''); trade labourer; born Charlestown, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Indian; enlisted 22 Dec'r 80 in Charlestown for 3 years), Charlestown


GIDEON, HARRY, Indian, COWELL, no residence given

GOODWIN/GOODIN/GOODEN/GOODING, PRINCE, African American, COWELL, RIRWNI, M881, C00247:16, C00482:1:423, C00482:2:578, C00486:1:23, 113; C00486:2:10, 23, 64, 72; Providence

GORTON/GORDON, PROSPER/PROSPEROUS, African American (“Negro”), 1777, S38741, COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI, BAM-1, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:S23:391, C00486:2:123, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIHSRWPI (as Gorton Prosper), RIHS455, RBRIR (age 30; 5' 6½''); trade labourer; born Scituate, Providence Co., Rhode Island; resident of Warwick, Providence Co.; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Warwick [for the duration of the war.], FPPV [died March 13, 1833; left no widow; heirs: Flora Profit wife of John Profit of Cranston, Jeremiah Prosper and Warwick

GORUM/GORHUM/GORAM, ROBERT, African American, COWELL, M881 (1st and 2nd Rhode Island Regiments), C00482:1:S23:386 (died 2 Jan'y 1782), RIHS673:SG2:C:19A, RIHS673:SG2:E:1, RIHS455, no residence given
GREENE, CATO, African American ("Negro"), RIHS9003; CBSL:403, RBRIR (age 50; 5' 5''); born Africa (also adds N. Kingston); resident of Mendon, Worcester Co., Massachusetts; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted '78 in Providence [the the duration of the war], RSRI:9:566. [This entry is for one of the two men listed below.]

GREENE/GREENE, CUFF/CUFFE, African American ("Negro," "of colour"), CPAR, S38758, BLWt 3160, 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, LG, GTA, BAM-1, M246, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), CBSL:403, C00247:7:341, C00247:9:221, C00247:16, C00482:1:404, C00486:2:123, RIHS673:SG2:C:24A, RIHS9003, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 36; 5' 6 ½''); trade labourer; born Warwick, Kent Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted 28 Feb'y 1778 in East Greenwich for the duration of the war, FPPV [died July 4, 1819], Warwick


GREENE/GREENE, JAMES, African American, RIMN, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), RIHSRWPI, Warwick


GREENE/GREENE, PRIMUS/PRIME, African American, seaman on the sloop Providence, RIHS789, RIHSRWPI

GREENE, CATO/CATOR, African American ("man of colour"), 1777, S38753, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, LG, GTA, RIMN, CPAR, M246, BAM-1, HEG:69, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:195, 402, 409; C00482:1:523:#592 (joined from Desertion June 1, 1781), C00486:3:23, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, Warwick/East Greenwich/Cranston/Foster


GREENE, JEREMIAH/JERE, African American, 1777, COWELL, MSS, RIA, BAM-1, C00482:1:523:#467 (killed May 15, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIHS673:SG2:E:1, RIHS455, Warwick/Foster

GREENE, JOHNN, **, RIHS455, PTCR2:5 (born on Antigua, West Indies; seaman on the privateer Rattlesnake)


GREENE, ROBERT/PRINCE, African American, S33268, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), RIA, Coventry

GREENE, WILLIAM, African American, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, LG, GTA, SPB, WGSP, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIHS455, RIHS455, South Kingstown/Foster

GRIER, JOHN, African American, RIHSRWPI [killed May 14, 1781]
GRINNELL, CAMBRIDGE, African American, MSS, RIRWNI, no residence given
HALL, CAESAR, African American, BLWt 13231, M881, no residence given
HALL, JOSEPH, African American, C00101, South Kingstown
HALL, LONDON, African American, BLWt 3234, COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), CBSL, C00247:8:383, C00247:7:367, C00247:16, RIHSRWPI, C00482:1:S23:#472, C00485:2:123, RIHS455, RRIR (age 40; 5' 7 3/4"; born N. Kingston, Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted '78 in E. Greenwich [for the duration of the war], North Kingstown
HALL, NATHANIEL, African American, M881 fifer and drummer 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), RIHSRWPI (deserted), no residence given. [Note: Pension W7637 belonged to another man with the same name.]
HALL, PRIMUS, African American, W751, BLWt 26340-160-55, North Kingstown
HAMMOND/HAMMAND, PRINCE, African American, BLWt 3237, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI, LG, GTA, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), CBSL, C00247:7:371, C00247:10:235, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:#394, C00486:2:123, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RRIR (age 49; 5' 6 ½"; trade: labourer; born North Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in North Kingston [for the duration of the war], North Kingstown
HANLY, CHARLES, African American? RIHS455 (died in service)
HARRIS, CAESAR, African American, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, LG, GTA, C00486:3:24, Cranston, RIHS455, 1790RI RIHSRWPI, CSP, Johnston
HARRY, ANDREW, **, RIHS455 (died June 1/80), IRWSR
HARRY, CHRISTOPHER, Indian, 1777, 1782RI, RIRWNI, Charlestown
HARRY, DANIEL, Indian, 1777, 1782RI, RIRWNI, Charlestown
HARRY, EDWARD, Indian, RIRWNI, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), no residence given
HARRY, GIDEON, Indian, 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments), C00486:3:26, C00482:1:S23:#475 (deserted May 16, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:C:22A, RIHS455 (deserted), 1774RI (Charlestown)
HARRY, JOHN, Indian, drummer, S3876, COWELL, RIRWNI, M881 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:S23:#427, RIHS673:SG2:C:20A, RRIR (age 18; 5' 7"; trade: labourer; born Charlestown, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion yellow; enlisted in Charlestown for 3 years.), Charlestown
HARRY, SILAS, Indian, 1777, RIRWNI, no residence given
HART, Job, African American ("Negro"), M881 (Thompson's), (living in Westport, Mass. in 1790), RIHSRWPI,
HASSARD, BRISTOL, African American? C00247:9:15
HASSARD/HAZARD/HAZARD, DICK/RICHARD, African American ("Negro"), COWELL (Duke), RIRWNI (Richard), MSS, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment - Corps of Invalids), CBSL:403, C00486:3:24, East Greenwich, RIHS9003, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, 1790 Charlestown
HASSARD, DUKE, African American? COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment)
HASZARD/HASARD, JACOB, African American, 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL, LG, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:S23:#519 (died February 15, 1781), RIIHRWPI, RIHS455, East Greenwich

HASZARD/HAZARD/HAZZARD, PETER, African American, 1777, BLWt 3235-100, RIHT-10, COWELL, IRWNI, LG, GTA, MSS, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:S23:#474 (joined from desertion March 20, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:C:2, RIIHRWPI, RIHS455 (deserted), RBRIR (age 21; 5' 9''); trader labourer; born South Kingstown, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted 78 in N. Kingston [for the duration of the war.], South Kingstown


HASZARD/HAZARD/HAZZARD, SAMPSON/SAMSON/SAMPSOM, African American, BLWt 3236, COWELL:186, IRWNI, CBSL:405, CPAR, MSS, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:7:397, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:#487, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIIHRWPI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 22; 5' 3 ½''); trade:labourer; born North Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Providence [for the duration of the war.], North Kingstown

HASZARD, SYLVESTER, African American? C00247:9:259&265

HATHAWAY, BEN/NBONE/BENON/BENNOL, African American (“negroman”), RIMN, COWELL, M881 1st Rhode Island Regiment, (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00101, C00482:1:S23:#393 (died December 13, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:E:2, RIIHRWPI, RIHS455, no residence given


HAVENS, PERO, ** RIIHRWPI
HAVENS, SYLVESTER, **, C00247:9:261&263

HAZARD, BENJAMIN/BEN, Indian, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:2:702 (deserted, “an Indian,” Providence Gazette, 5 January 1776), CBSL:396 (marine on the Confederacy)

HAZARD, HARRY, Indian, 1777, C00247:9:237

HAZARD, HARRY, IR, Indian, 1777, IRWNI

HAZARD/HASZARD/HAZZARD, HENRY, African American/Indian, 1777, RIMN, MSS (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments), M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:194&195; RIHS455, East Greenwich/Jamestown

HAZARD, JABIN, African American, 1777, RIHT-10

HAZARD/HASZARD/HAZZARD, JAC, African American, 1774RI (South Kingstown), 1777, RIRWNI, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment)

HAZARD/HASZARD, JACOB, African American, LG, GTA, COWELL, RIHS673:SG2:C:23A, North Kingstown

HAZARD/HAZARD/HAZZARD, JAMES, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment)

HAZARD, LONDON, African American/Indian, S17463 [served as a substitute for Samuel Hazard, a relative of his master Godfrey Hazard; given his freedom after the war], FPPV [res. South Kingston 53 years], GREE, South Kingston

HAZARD, MOSES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), RDNV:1:84 (deserted), C00482:2:711 (deserted, “mulatto,” Providence Gazette, 15 November 1777), C00256M:2.7 (“Indian”)

HAZARD, QUACO/ZUACO, African American (“Negro”), 1777, 1800RI, South Kingstown

HELLE, PRIMUS, African American, C00482:2:657, 660 (died April 9, 1776 – p. 657), RIIHRWPI (seaman on the Ship Alfred)

HELMES, PELEG, African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:42

HENLEY/HENDLY/HANDLEY/HENLY, CHARLES, African American, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments), no residence given

HERCULES/ARCHULES, JAMES, African American? RIIHRWPI
HICKS, DOBBIN, African American? RIHRSWPI
HIIT, JAMES, African American? C00482:1:S542
HOLBROOK, FELIX, African American (“Negro”), RIHS673:SG2:F:4 (age 37, born Boston, resident of Providence, enlisted at Providence), RIHRSWPI (“black”)
HOLDEN, JACOB, African American? RIHRSWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment)
HOLLEY, MANCHESTER, African American? C00482:1:434, no residence given
HONEYMAN, QUACO, African American, spy, BHAM, no residence given
HOPKINS, AMHERST, African American? RIHRSWPI, C00101, C00248:9:35
HOPKINS, LOSHER/loser, African American, RIHS673:SG1:A, RIHRSWPI (The card for Hopkins contains the following reference at the Rhode Island Historical Society: Mss673, sg2, Box 3, folders 69 and 69a, August 30, 1778)
HOPKINS, PRIMUS, African American, C00247:16
HOPKINS, TIBBITS F., African American, C00101, C00482:1:434, Portsmouth
HOPPS/HOPS, EDWARD, African American, W10111, SECT:186, no residence given
HORSLEY/HUSSEY, JOHN, African American, C00101, also known as BLACKAMORE, JOHN, African American, C00482:2:595 587 (died December 17, 1781), North Kingstown
HOSMER, TITUS, African American, (“colored”), S38834, C00482:1:411
HOWARD, QUAM, African American? C00247:9:133, RIHRSWPI
HOWLAND, DAVID, aka DAVID SPENCER or DAVID DOMINE, “a colored man”, W22290 [born a slave; married Phoebe ___ December 1779; died November 8, 1800], FPPV [surviving children: James Spencer Howland, Louisa Simmons (widow), Hannah Halsey (widow); wife died June 15, 1839], Tiverton
HOWLAND, FORTUNE, “other free,” RIHRSWPI, 1820MA, testified on service of another in pension S33268
HUNT, BENONI, African American, S44954, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments), 1777, COWELL, C00101, North Kingstown, res. Madison Co., N.Y. in 1820
HUNT, CHRISTMAS, African American, ARN:12, ARN:13; ARN:18, Rehoboth
INCHEN, RHODES, **, RIHRSWPI
INCHES, ISHMAEL, **, RIHRSWPI
INON/RVION/INVON, BENJAMIN, Indian, C00248:9:128&212, 1790 Census, Charlestown (Indian)
JACKSON, PRINCE, African American? M881, M246 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:16, C00482:2:455, 595, 607; C00486:1:84, RIHRSWPI, CSP, Newport
JACKWAYS, JOSEPH, **, C00247:9:213&215
JACOB, African American, crew member of the brigantine Famey (1776), RIHS828, no residence given
JACOBS, SILAS, African American? RIHS455 (joined 29 March 1780; deserted June 7)
JACOBS, TOBE, African American, C00486:1:5, RIHRSWPI (seaman on “PRV sloop”)
JAMBELL, FRANCIS, African American, RIHS455
JAMES, JAMES, African American, see pension of Peter Jennings S4436, with whom he served, no residence given
JAMES, PHILLIP, African American, see pension of Peter Jennings S4436, with whom he served, no residence given
JAMES, WILLIAM, African American, C00482:1:S23:#395 (deserted March 18, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:E:1, RIHS455 (deserted June 3/80 & joined July 1st)
JANG, MALICA, **, C00247:9:241
JEFFERS, JONATHAN, Indian, C00247:7:439, RIHSRWPI
JEFFERS, WILLIAM, **, C00247:9:127
JEFFREY, JOSEPH, Narragansett Indian, RIHS231, RIHSRWPI, Charlestown
JENCKS/JENKS/JINKS, PRIMUS, African American, M881, (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), RSR1:9:582 (slave of John Jenckes), COWELL, CSP, 1790RI Smithfield
JENKS, ANTHONY, **, C00482:1:523:#443
JENNINGS, PETER, African American, S4436, GREE, no residence given
JILSON, SQUIRE, African American? C00482:1:434
JOHNSTON/JONSTON/JOHNSON SAMUEL, African American? S43717 [The pension does not give any color for this man.], RIHSRWPI
JONES, EDWARD, Indian? RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00248:9:125
JONES, NATHANIEL, African American (“a Free Negro Man”), PTCR1:108-109, Johnston
JOYE, JOE/JOHN, **, RIHSRWPI
KADY, CAESAR, African American? RIHSRWPI (died February 13, 1782)
KEATCH, JACK, African American? C00486:3:38
KEEN/KEENE, PRINCE, **, C00247:16, RIHSRWPI
KEESICK, MOSES, African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:24A (died 26 December 1781)
KING, WILLIAM, African American, C00101
KINGSTON, REDS, **, RIHSRWPI
LABIUS, CAESAR, African American, C00482:1:196
LAMPHEAR, SCIPIO, African American, C00247:16
LANGLEY, PAUL, African American, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:523:#480 (died January 2, 1782), RIHSRWPI, no residence given
LAWRENCE, AMOS, African American? RIHS673:SG2:G:2 [Note: Not to be confused with DAR patriot of the same name pensioned under S40074 who died in Blairsville, Pa.]
LATANIFF, EVE, **, RIHSRWPI
LeFAVOUR, THOMAS, African American, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, LG, GTA, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (deserted), Bristol
LEWIS, JOHN, Indian, 1777, M881 (Topham’s), COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:523:#479 (died December 24, 1781), RIHSRWPI, Charlestown
LIMAS/LIMERS/LYMOS/LEMIUS, PRINCE, African American, BLWt 3293, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, M246, C00247:8:37, C00247:9:233, C00247:16, C00486:2:123, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), BAM-3, C00482:1:523:#488, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 25; 5’ 2½”; born N. York; no residence given; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted ’78 in East Greenwich [for the duration of the] war), East Greenwich
LINCOLN, FREEMAN, **, C00247:16
LIPITT, LONDON, African American, C00482:1:424, C00486:3:59
LIPITT, JUBA, African American, RIMN, 1777, Warwick
LIPPITT/LIPPETT, PRINCE, African American, 1777, RIRWNI, RIMN, M246, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, Warwick
LOVETT, PETER, Indian, 1777, COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHS455, no residence given
LYNDAI/LYNDALL/LINDALL/LYNDON/LINDON, CATO, African American, M881 (Topham's), C00247:16, C00486:2:28, 95&96; C00486:3:10, RIHSRWPI, Providence
MAKEPEACE, COESE, African American, RIHSRWPI
MASON, WARREN, African American, RIHT-10, LG, GTA, HWRI:25, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), Warren
MATTHEWS/MATTHEW, HENRY/HENERY, Indian, 1774RI (South Kingstown), 1777 Charlestown, BLWt 3350 and 3345, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:S23:482, RIHS455, RIRWNI, RBRIR (age 16; 5' 1 ½"; trade: labourer; born Charlestown, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Indian; enlisted '79 in Newport [for the duration of the] war), 1782RI, Charlestown
MCCALL, WILLIAM, African American, C00101
MCDONAGGHI, JOHN, African American, C00101
MCELAVIN, CATO, African American, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), no residence given
MCSPARROW, JAMES, African American? C00482:1:S23:486 (died December 12, 1781) RIHSRWPI
MERRY, JOSEPH, African American, C00101
MILLER, BRISTOL, African American? C00247:9:125, RIHSRWPI
MINGO, WILLIAM, Indian, C00482:1:101 RIRWNI
MINTUS, Indian? C00482:1:195
MIX, JOHN, Indian, C00842:2:714
MOCAN, ANTHONY, Indian? RIHSRWPI
MOLIER, LEWIS, **, RIHS455
MORGAN, JOHN, **, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given
MORRIS, HARRY, African American (“Negro”), COWELL, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:S23:428, RIHS673:SG2:F:7 (age 22, born Guinea, resident of Newport; enlisted at Newport), RIHS673:SG2:C:20A, RIRWNI (born Guinea; resident of Newport); RBRIR (age 24; 5' 4"; trade: labourer; born Guinea; resident of Newport, Newport Co.; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Newport for 3 years.)
MORRIS, MOWREY, **, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), no residence given
MORRIS, PHILLIP, African American, S28815, M881 (Crary’s Regiment 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments consolidated), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Cranston. [Note: The Philip Morris identified in pension S28815 served as a teamster under Capt. John Stafford and later under Capt. Jeremiah Olney. The pension did not reveal his race and Philip Morris did not appear in any federal census. Thus the race of the pensioner remains unknown.]
MOULEN, LEWIS, **, RIHS455

MOWHAWK, PETER, Indian, M881, no residence given

MOWNEY/MORNEY/MAWNEY/MOREY, CAZAR/CAESAR, Mixed descent (“Mustee”), S38951, BLWt—4670-100, 1790RI, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st and 2nd Rhode Island Regiments – consolidated), C00482:1:408, 411, RIRWNI (pension 1819, 56 years old), RBRIR (age 26; 5’7”; trade: labourer; born Smithfield, Providence Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Mustee; enlisted ’78 in Providence [for the duration of the] war.), Smithfield

MOWNEY/MAWNEY, CUTS/CATO? African American, ("other free persons"), M881 (Lippitt’s Regiment), RIHSRWPI, 1790RI Providence

MOWREY, ESECK, African American? C00482:1:424

MOWREY, JOHN, African American? C00247:8:93&95

MOWREY, PETER, African American? RIHRWNI


MUMFORD, CATO, African American (“a Negro man”), C00247:16, PTCR2:58&64 (born “on the coast of Africa,” lived in Newport and Providence; mentions his family), Newport

MUMFORD, EBENEZER, **, RIMN, COWELL, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, RIHS455, no residence given

MUMFORD, JOHN, Indian, M881 (Allen’s Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), COWELL 1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:S23:484, RIHS673:SG2:F:83, RIRWNI, RBRIR (age 18; 5’6”; trade: labourer; born S. Kingston, Washington Co., R. I.; resident of the same; hair black, complexion Indian; enlisted 6 Jan’y ’81 in S. Kingston for 3 years), South Kingstown

MUNRO/MUNROW/MONROE, JOHN, African American (“Negro”), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI [Note: Pension W24022 is for a John Monroe/Munrow who served in the 9th MA Regiment under Capt. John Blanchard and Col. Weston. He was also awarded bounty land. The pension does not reveal the pensioner’s race. However two of his children, son John Munroe and daughter Anna Munroe Simmons, were in the 1850 Washington Co., Maine census and enumerated as white. No John Munro of color (of variant spellings) appeared in any census in Rhode Island from 1790 to 1840 that was of age to have served in the war. Thus, the African American patriot was not pensioned under this number.]


NED, SOLOMON, Indian, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI

NEGARS/NIGGARS/NEGUS, BENJAMIN, African American, ISWSR, C00482:1:430, C00486:2:71, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

NEGERS, ISAAC, African American, IRWSR, no residence given

NEGERS/NIGS/NIGUS, NOLES, African American, IRWSR, M881 (Topham’s Regiment), C00486:3:7&11, no residence given


NEGRO, POMP, African American, RIHSRWPI (seaman on the Sloop Independence, 1776)


NEWPORT, RUFUS, African American? C00486:2:137


NICHOLS, POMP, African American, see pension of Peter Jennings S436 with whom he served, no residence given

NICHOLS, THOMAS, African American, 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL, GTA, BAM-1, HEG:69, M881 (1st
Rhode Island

Rhode Island Regt.), C00482:1:S23:+514 (transferred to corps of Invalids, March 1, 1781), RIRWNI, RIHS455, Warwick [Note: Possibly the Stratford, Fairfield Co., Conn. resident in the 1790 census who is listed as Thomas (Neg.) Nichols. Not the same as DAR established patriot from East Greenwich.]

NILES, BENJAMIN, African American, C00486:1:19, 20, 21

NILES, GEORGE, African American? C00247:16, RHISRWPI


NILES, HENRY, Mixed descent (African American or ‘Mustee”), M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), RIHS9006, C00247:8:101, C00247:9:221, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:+490, C00486:2:123, RIHS673:SG2:F:84, RIRWNI, 1790CT, RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (age 16; 5' 7 ¾"; trade labourer; born S. Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Mustee; enlisted 1 Jan’y/81 in S. Kingstown for 3 years), South Kingstown/Charlestown

NILES, JALEB, **, C00247:9:261&263

NILES/NILDS, JAMES, Narragansett Indian, 1774RI (Charlestown), M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:8:101&103, C00247:16, C00486:2:123, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Charlestown

NILES, JAMES, JR., Narragansett Indian, C00482:1:S23:+554 (died November 24, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:C:24A, RIRWNI

NILES, MARTIN, Indian? C00247:16

NILES, MINGO, Indian? 1777, 1782RI, 1790RI South Kingston

NILES, ROBERT, **, S5828. [Note: The Pension does not mention his color, but does say he was born in Kingston, Jamaica. He cannot be found in the census because he moved so often between PA, RI, MA, and VA.]

NILES, SAMUEL, Narragansett Indian, AKPW:139, fn 57; COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:8:103, C00247:9:31, 33.75&131, C00247:10:131, 151, 155, 161,169,191&251, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:+488 (died February 7, 1782), IRWSR, RIHS673:SG2:C:22A, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Charlestown. [Note: Pension W1463 was for another man with this name in Massachusetts.]

NILES, SAMUEL, JR., Narragansett Indian, RHISRWPI, IRWSR

NILES, SILAS, Indian? C00247:16

NILES, SIMEON, **, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:16, no residence given

NILES, SPENCER, **, C00247:16, C00486:2:53

NISHUEMOND/NISHNUMAN, ISAAC, Indian? C00482:1:95, RIHSRWPI


NOCAKE, JAMES, Indian, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:10:131, 169,191&251, RIRWNI, RIHS455 (deserted July 3/80), no residence given

NOCAKE, JOHN, Indian, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given

NOCAKE/NOKAGE, JOSEPH, Indian, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 2nd Rhode Island Regiment), CRS, C00247:16, RAP2 (seaman on the Alfred and on the Providence), RIHSRWPI, RIHSRWPI, CSP, Cape Cod, Mass.

NOCAKE, JOSIAH, Indian, C00247:16, RIHSRWPI

NOKEHES/NOKEHIG/NOKEGE/NOKEAG/NOCAKE, ROBERT, Indian, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:9:75, RIRWNI, no town given

NORSA, African American (“Negro”), C00247:9:241

NORTHUP/NORTHUP, ICABOD/ICHABOD, African American (“man of colour”), W20279 [married Marcy__ in November 1786; he died September 5, 1821; she died September 1838; children: Anne Northup, Phebe Northup, Lucy Northup, Ichabod Northup, Sarah Richadson (a widow), Cato Northup, Marcy Hunt (a widow), Hannah Northup, Penelope Northup, Eliza Perry (wife of Jacob Perry), Priscilla Jackson, James Northup, and Juda Northup], BLWt 3368, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), MSS, CPAR, (1st Rhode Island Regiment), CBSL:403, C00482:1:S23:+487 (prisoner May 14, 1781; “claimed by the enemy.”), RIHS673:SG2:E:2, RIRWNI, RIHS9003, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, 1790, East Greenwich
NORTHROP, JAMES, African American (“Negro”), C00482:1:S23:#523, (fifer; transferred to Invalids May 1, 1781), RIHS18:B1:F11, RIRWNI

NORTHROP, STUTELY, African American? C00482:1:435, no residence given [Note: Not to be confused with DAR patent of the same name received under S38966.]

NORTHUP, JAMES, African American, M881 (fifer/drummer 1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given

OAKMAN, SAMPSON/SAMUEL, African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:63 (wailer to Gen’l Green), RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (listed with no descriptive or identifying information)


OLNEY, JOHN, Indian, RIRWNI, 1777, M881, Charlestown


PAGAN/PAGON/PEGGIN/PIGGIN, THOMAS, Indian, RIHS673:SG2:F:9 (age 28, born Killingly, Conn., resident of Providence, enlisted there), RIRWNI (age 26, on the Sloop Success) RIHSRWPI

PAGE, DANIEL, Narrangansett Indian, COWELL:150, W26845, BLWt-9409-160-55, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

PAGE, PRIMUS, African American? C00247:16, no residence given

PALL, JAMES, Narrangansett Indian, RIHS231, Charlestown

PARE, WARWICK, **, C00486:1:5, no residence given

PECK, BRISTOL, African American, C00247:9:123, C00486:1:5, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI

PECK, GAIUS, **, C00247:9:119, no residence given


PENNY, DANIEL, Narrangansett Indian, RIHS231, Charlestown

PERIGO/PARIGO/PERRIGO, JOSEPH H., **, M881 (fifer/musician 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:S23:#567 (fifer), RIHSRWPI, no residence given

PERKUNUT, JOSHUA, Indian, C00486:1:84, no residence given

PERO, NATHAN/NATHANIEL, African American (“Negro”), 1777, COWELL, M881 (Lippitt’s Regiment, Cray’s Regiment), C00482:1:435, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Scituate

PERO/PEROW, PRINCE, African American, M881 (Cray’s Regiment), C00247:9:55, C00482:1:438, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

PERO, WILLIAM, African American (“Negro”), 1777 Scituate, M881 (Topham’s Regiment; Elliott’s Regiment Artillery), C00482:1:425&430, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Scituate

PERRY, ABRAM, African American, COWELL, C00482:1:S23:#430 (died December 9, 1781), no residence given

PERRY, DANIEL, African American/Indian, 1777 Charlestown, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:S23:#493, RIHS673:SG2:F:84, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (age 22; 5’ 7’’; trade labourer; born Charlestown, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Indian; enlisted 28 Dec’r 80 in Charlestown for 3 years), Charlestown

PERRY, GARRET/NARRANGANSET/GANSET, African American, 1777, RIHT-10, LG, GTA, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, South Kingstown

PERRY, JOHN, Indian, M881 (Lippitt’s Regiment, Noyes’ Regiment, 1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), RIRWNI, Charlestown

PERRY, JOHN? RIHSRWPI (seaman on the Ship Alfred)

PETERS, AARON, **, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment)
PETERS, JOHN, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RDNV:1:51 (deserted), C00482:2:716 ("mulatto," deserted, Providence Gazette, 22 February 1777), C00842:2:716, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

PHILLIPS/PHILOPS, PHILLO/PHILON/PHILLOP/PHILOUGH, African American ("Negro"), S39013, RIHT-10, COWELL LG, GTA, MSS, CPAR, CBSL:403, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:402, RIRWNI, RIHS9003, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 29; 5' 7 1/8"; trade: tanner; born N. Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted '78 in E. Greenwich [for the duration of the] war); North Kingstown/ Providence


PIERCE/PEIRCE, TITUS, African American, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, LG, RIMN, GTA, HEG:69, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:196, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI (slave), RIHS455, East Greenwich

PIQUISH/PISQUISH/PISQUISUS, HENRY, Indian, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), CSP

PIQUISH, HOSIA, Indian, C00247:16

PIQUISH, MOWRY, Indian, RIHSRWPI

PIQUISH, JOSHUA, Indian, C00247:16

POCK, FREDERICK, **, CSP (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given

POLOCK/POLLOCK/POLUCK/POLLUCK, ASHER, African American, BLWt 3410, COWELL, RIRWNI, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, no residence given

POMP/(POMEROY?), African American ("Negro"), RIRWNI (died as a prisoner of war at Halifax between November 23, 1776 and December 26, 1777, Providence Gazette; V. R. XIV:190)


POMP, JOSHUA, African American, IRWSR, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regt.), RIRWNI, no residence given

POMP, RICHARD, **, IRWSR, M246, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:16, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, CSP, New Shoreham

POMPA, African American ("Negro"), C00247:9:241

PONCE, SCIPIO, African American, RIHWNI

POTTER, DAVID, African American, S22445, RIHT-10, COWELL, LG, GTA, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00482:1:523:402, RIHS673:SG2:E:2, RBRIR (age 21; 5' 6"; born Cranston, Providence Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion "yallow"; enlisted in Greenwich [for the duration of the] war.), Cranston

POTTER, MINGO, African American, 1777, 1782RI South Kingston

POTTER, PRINCE, African American? RIRWNI

POTTER, RICHARD, African American, R8380, COWELL, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (deserted), no residence given

POUCHATOUC/PACHETONCH/POCHATAUCH/PONCHALANCH/POWHATAUH/POUCHATO/POSH


POWERS, SCIPIO, African American, RIRWNI

PRICHARD, RICHARD, African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:55&72 (waiter to Gen’l Green)

PRIME, BRISTOL, African American (“Negro”), RDNV:1:90, deserted (Providence Gazette, April 4, 1778, v. 15, issue 744, p. 4), C00486:1:53, C00486:2:45, no residence given [same man as Bristol Prince?]

PRIME, THOMPSON, African American? RIRWNI

PRIME, TITUS, African American? RIRWNI

PRIMOS, PETER, African American? RIRWNI

PRIMUS, EDWARD, African American? RIRWNI (seaman on the Pigot Galley)

PRIMUS, JABEZ, Indian, RIHS673:SG2:F:4 (age 17, born Stonington, Conn., resident there, enlisted in Westerly), RIHSRWPI

PRIMUS, NEGRO, African American, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

PRINCE, African American, RIMN, 1777, no residence given

PRINCE, African American (”colored”), RIRWNI (obituary in the Providence Gazette; Vital Records v. 11, p. 603; v. 14, p. 201; “battered the door down with his head during the capture of Gen. Prescott with Col. Barton”; age 78]

PRINCE, African American, RIRWNI (seaman; prisoner exchanged)

PRINCE, BRISTOL, African American, M881 (Talman’s Regiment), C00482:2:590, 724 (“Negro,” Providence Gazette, 28 March 1778), C00486:3:41, 42, 54; RIRWNI, no residence given [Same man as Bristol Prince?], RIHSRWPI

PRINCE, TITUS, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given

PROCTOR, CESARUS/CYRUS, African American (“Negro”), C00247:8:161, RIHS673:SG2:F:9 (age 25, born Boston, resident of Providence, enlisted there), RIHSRWPI (slave)

PROPHET/PROFIT, JAMES, Indian (also “man of color”), BAM-1, RIRWNI, 1790RI, Warwick

PROPHET, THOMAS, Indian, IRWSR, RIRWNI, 1774RI (Warwick)

PUTNAM, PRIMUS, African American, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI

QUACHO, JOHN, African American? RIRWNI

QUACO, FORTUNE, African American? CBSL:396 (marine on the Confederacy)


QUAKO/QUACKO/QUOCKE, JAMES, African American? M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:16, C00486:2:11, 76; RIRWNI, CSP:139, CSP, Westerly

QUAM, EDWARD, African American, RIRWNI

QUAM, JAMES, African American, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment)

QUAM, JOSHUA, Indian, C00486:1:5, RIRWNI, 1774RI (Barrington)

QUANWELL/QUANNAWELL/QUANAWAY/QUONNWIN, PETER, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), RAP2, Tiverton

QUARY, GEORGE, African American? RIRWNI

QUARREY/QUARRY/QUERY, RICHARD, African American? RIRWNI (deserted), RIHSRWPI

QUAS/QUASH, GIDEON, African American, RIMN, R8539, RIRWNI, no residence given

QUASH, BURKE, African American, see pension of Peter Jennings S4436 with whom he served, no residence given

QUOS/QUAS/QUAWS/QUASH, JAMES, Indian, M881 (Topham’s Regiment), C00482:1:425, C00486:1:93, RIRWNI, no residence given

RANDALL, JACK, African American, S35593, RIRWNI (from Middlesex Co., Conn.), 1782:RI Cranston

RANDALL, ROBERT, African American, S45165 [Note: The 1810 New Hampshire Census listed a man with this name as an “other free person” in Lebanon, Grafton Co., which is the same place his pension claimed he was living in 1818.]

RATHBUN, PARIS, African American? M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment). [Note: Pension W24897 says that a man with this name was residing in Exeter, R.I. till 1805 when he moved to Chenango, N.Y. In the 1820 Census it listed him as living in Oxford, Chenango, N. Y. as white head of household. His son, Gideon Rathburn (also mentioned in his pension), 1790 & 1800 Census in Exeter, Washington Co., Rhode Island listed him as white head of household.]

RATHBURN, SCIPIO, African American ("Negro"), RIRWNI ("boy" on the ship Columbus; died at New Providence, March 3, 1776), RIHSRWPI

RAY, JACK, Indian? C00486:1:84

RAY, THOMAS, Indian (also “man of color”), 1790:RI, W13843, M881 (Elliott’s Regiment Artillery), JH:149, New Shoreham (Block Island) (b. 11 October 1752; d. 21 March 1837), RIHSRWPI, Westerly

READ/REED, JOHN/JACK, African American, C00101, RIHSRWPI

READAN, KIAIS, **, C00486:2:36

REDWOOD, PRINCE, African American ("black"), COWELL, MSS, RIRWNI (Mariner), RIHSRWPI, ("Negro boy on the ship Columbus; died), RIHSRWPI, Boston/Bridgewater


REMINGTON, ACRO, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, no residence given

REMINGTON, ASA, **, RIRWNI, RIHS455

REMINGTON, BENJAMIN, African American ("Negro"), C00247:16, 1777, Exeter [Note: Pension S21937 is for a different Benjamin Remington who lived in Warwick, R.I. all his life and is listed as white head of household in the 1810 Census in the same area.]


REYNOLDS, MINGO, African American ("Negro"), 1777, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), captured, prisoner of war, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00486:3:23, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, South Kingstown

REYNOLDS/REYNOLDS, SAMPSON, African American ("Negro"), S21442, 1777, COWELL, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:16, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, South Kingstown

REYNOLDS, TOM/THOMAS, African American, W17524, 1777, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), MSS, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:S23:499 (transferred to Invalids May 1, 1781), RIRWNI, 1777, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, South Kingstown


Cranston), RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 20; 5 9 ½”; born Guinea; resident of Cranston, Providence Co.; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Warwick [for the duration of the] war.), 1790RI Warwick, FPPV [he died January 17, 1827; wife died February 20, 1841, left no children]. Cranston

RHODES, PETER, Indian, IRWSR, RIRWNI, 1774RI (Providence)

RHODES/RHODS, PRIMUS/PRIME/PRIAMUS, African American (“Negro”), BLWt 3457, RIHT-10, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), LG, GTA, BAM-I, CPAR, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:9:221, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:#498, C00486:2:123, C00486:3:23, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIRWNI (distiller), RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 20; 5’ 4 ½”; trade: distiller; born Cranston, Providence Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted ’78 in Warwick [for the duration of the] war; Cranston/Warwick/Foster

RHODES, PRINCE, African American? C00247:8:185, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI

RHODES, SAMUEL, African American, R8732, RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, LG, GTA, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI (seaman on the Galley Spitfire), RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, Cranston

RICE, H. PISQUISH, Indian? C00247:16

RICHMOND, EBENEZER, African American, RIHT-10, COWELL, LG, GTA, Little Compton

RICHMOND, SIGBY, African American, 1777, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:8:193, C00482:1:S23:#515, RIHS673:SG2:F:127, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, Cumberland

ROBBINS, GEORGE, African American, C00482:1:S23:#500 (died July 20, 1781)


ROBERTS/ROBERT, ESEK, African American, W2351, COWELL, RIRWNI, M881 (Tophams’ Regiment), RIHSRWPI, FPPV [died September 9, 1849; wife Delany Roberts], no residence given

ROBERTS, REUBEN, African American, S39834, BLWt 3461, COWELL, MSS, CPAR, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:8:193, C00482:1:196, C00482:1:S23:#408 (deserted June 1, 1781; joined 10 July 1782), RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIHS673:SG2:C:20A, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, Foster

ROBIN, African American, crew member of the brigantine Famey (1776), RIHS828

ROBIN, GEORGE, African American? RIHSRWPI

ROBINSON, AMOS, African American, S36265, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, 1777, South Kingstown


ROBINSON, QUACO, African American? CBSL:396 (marine on the Confederacy)

ROBINSON, PRINCE, African American (“Negro”), R8894, RIRWNI, no residence given

RODMAN, CAESAR, Indian, RIHSRWPI, 1774RI (Charlestown)

RODMAN, ISAAC, African American (“Negro”), 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), LG, GTA, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, South Kingstown

RODMAN, MINGO, African American (“Negro”), BLWt 1687-100, RIHT-10, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), LG, GTA, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, drummer/fifer 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments (consolidated), RSR1:10:83 (former slave of William Rodman), RIRWNI, C00247:8:203, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:#496 (died December 9, 1781), C00486:2:123, C00486:3:25, RIRWNI (born South Kingston), RIHSRWPI (slave), RIHS455, RBRIR (age 16; 5’ 4 ½”; trade cobler [sic]; born S. Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of South Kingstown; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted ’78 in E. Greenwich [for the duration of the] war.), South Kingstown
RODMAN, PHILIP, African American ("colored"), S39835, COWELL, LG, GTA, M881 (Lippitt’s), RIRWNI (North Kingston; pension suspended under act of May 1, 1820), RIHSRWPI [Note: DAR established patriot]

RODMAN, POLYDOROE, African American ("Negro"), RIRWNI


ROFY/ROFEY/ROPHEY/ROFEE, SOLOMON, **, MSS 1st Rhode Island Regt., C00247:8:205, C00247:9:125&245, RBRIR (age 20; 5’ 7 ½”; trade blacksmith; born Bristol, Bristol Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair Light Sandy; complexion Light; enlisted April ‘81 in Warren for 3 years.), RSIRI:9:618, Bristol. [Solomon Rofy’s inclusion in this list is because of conflicting information as to his color. His listing in the Regiment Book of the Rhode Island Regiment as “Light complexion” is problematic for his inclusion in this list considering that in the same list in the same handwriting many other men are listed as “Negro” if they were of African descent, as “Indian” if of Native American descent, or as “Molatto” or “Mustee” if of mixed descent. This and other listings in the Regiment Book lend support to the interpretation that the writer was describing the various skin-color shades of European Americans by labeling their complexions as “brown,” “light,” or “dark”, thereby making a distinction from “Negro,” “Indian,” “mulatto,” “black,” or “mustee.” The members of the Rhode Island Regiment were not all of African or Indian descent.]


ROGERS, EPHRIAM, Indian? RIHS455

ROGERS, GEORGE, **, RIMN, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (deserted), no residence given

ROGERS, ISAAC, Indian, C00482:2:730 (“Indian,” deserted, Providence Gazette, 7 April 1781), C00486:2:111, RIRWNI, Charlestown

ROGERS, JOHN, African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:43 (waiter to Col. Lawrence)

ROSBOTHAM, PRIMUS, African American, C00482:2:572, COO486:1:4, RIHRWNI

ROSE, ABRAHAM, **, C00247:8:209, C00247:9:245


ROSE, NED/EDWARD, African American (“Negro”), 1777, RIHT-10, COWELL, LG, GTA, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:9:43, C00486:3:25, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (dead), South Kingston

ROSE/ROSS/ROZE, TONEY/JONAS, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00486:3:23, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, South Kingston

RUNNELS, PELEG, African American (“colored”), W15295, SBF, RIRWNI (born ca. 1752; died November 11, 1833; Rhode Island Pension Book LX), no residence given

SABENS/SABINS/SABINES, CEZAR/CAESAR, African American, COWELL, DARFP, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:16, C00247:9:221&233, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIRWNI, RIHS9003, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (deserted), RBRIR (age30; 5’ 4 ¼”; trade labourer; born Newport, Newport Co., Rhode Island; resident of Providence, Providence Co.; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Providence for 3 years.), Providence

SACHEM, THOMAS, Narrangansett Indian, AKPW:139, fn 57; 1777; COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:9:31,33&131, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:#504 (died April 15, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:C:22A, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Charlestown
SAILES/SAYLES, FORTUNE, African American, C00482:2:464, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI
SAILES/SAILER, PROSPER, African American, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), CSP, no residence given
SAM, African American ("Negro boy Sam"), crew member of the brigantine Famey (1776), RIHS828, no residence given
SASAR, African American, RIMN (slave of Esek Hopkins), no residence given
SCHUYLER/SKYLER, CHARLES, African American, COWELL, M881 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments (consolidated), RIR5673:SG2:C:24A (deserted 24 July 1781; joined again 1 March 1782), RIRWNI (born Hell Gate, N. Y., shoemaker, resident of New London; deserted), RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (age 29; 5' 5"; trade show maker; born Hell Gate, New York, New York; resident of New York, New York; hair black; complexion "Black"; enlisted April '81 in N. Kingston for 3 years; listed again with essentially the same information but with the trade of labourer and residence in New London, Connecticut), New York, New York or New London, Connecticut
SCHUYLER/SKYLER, CHARLES, African American, COWELL, M881 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments (consolidated), RIR5673:SG2:C:24A (deserted 24 July 1781; joined again 1 March 1782), RIRWNI (born Hell Gate, N. Y., shoemaker, resident of New London; deserted), RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (age 29; 5' 5"; trade show maker; born Hell Gate, New York, New York; resident of New York, New York; hair black; complexion "Black"; enlisted April '81 in N. Kingston for 3 years; listed again with essentially the same information but with the trade of labourer and residence in New London, Connecticut), New York, New York or New London, Connecticut
SCHUYLER/SKYLER, CHARLES, African American, COWELL, M881 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments (consolidated), RIR5673:SG2:C:24A (deserted 24 July 1781; joined again 1 March 1782), RIRWNI (born Hell Gate, N. Y., shoemaker, resident of New London; deserted), RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (age 29; 5' 5"; trade show maker; born Hell Gate, New York, New York; resident of New York, New York; hair black; complexion "Black"; enlisted April '81 in N. Kingston for 3 years; listed again with essentially the same information but with the trade of labourer and residence in New London, Connecticut), New York, New York or New London, Connecticut
SEAMANS/SIMMONS, JOHN, **, M881 (fifer and private, 2nd Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, no residence given
SEAMANS, PERO, African American, C00482:1:425, RIRWNI
SHELTON, BRISTEL, African American, C00486:2:1
SHEPHERD, SAMUEL, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI (one source says he died October 22, 1777, but another lists him in January 1778; perhaps there were two men?), no residence given
SHEPHERD, SAMUEL, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI (one source says he died October 22, 1777, but another lists him in January 1778; perhaps there were two men?), no residence given
SHEPHERD, SAMUEL, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI (one source says he died October 22, 1777, but another lists him in January 1778; perhaps there were two men?), no residence given
SHEPHERD, SAMUEL, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI (one source says he died October 22, 1777, but another lists him in January 1778; perhaps there were two men?), no residence given
SIMMONS, ICHABOD, African American, C00101 [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name from Tiverton, Newport Co., R. I.]

SIMONS, SIMMONS, ABRAHAM (alias SOLOMON SIMONS), Indian, RDNV:1:76 (deserted, C00482:2:718 ("Indian," deserted, Providence Gazette, 16 April 1777), C00482:2:718, no residence given

SIMONS, QUAM/QUOM/QUEAN, African American, M881 (Topham's), C00486:2:10, 95; RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

SIMONS/SIMMONDS, SIM/SIMEON, African American, SECT:379, (lived in Norwich after Revolution.), M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments (consolidated), R9587, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:S23:#503, RIHS673:SG2:F:85, RIRWNI (Mixed descent "mustee"; said to be a Wampanoag, born Norwich, Conn., resident of Stonington-tin), RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (age 16; 5' 5 ¾’; trade labourer; born Norridge, N. London Co., Connecticut; resident of Stonington, N. London Co., Connecticut; hari black; complexion Mustee; enlisted '81 in Stonington for 3 years.), Stonington, Conn.

SIMS, SAMSON/SAMPSON, Indian, C00842:2:718

SINGLETON, JAMES, African American, C00101, North Kingstown

SISCO/SISCO/SISCOW, EBENEZEER, African American ("colored"), COWELL, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

ISCO, MOSES, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), RIRWNI

ISCO, NOAH, **, C00247:10:3


SISSON, GEORGE, **, RIHS455


SKEEZOUCKS/SKESUCKS/SHEEZUCK, MOSES, Indian, C00247:8:259


SKEESUCK/SKESUX/SKESOCKS, DANIEL, Indian, RIMN, 1777, C00247:9:21, RIRWNI, Block Island

SLADE/SLAED/SLAID/SLAIDS/SLAYDE, CUFF, African American, S33684, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), GREE, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments consolidated), C00247:8:259, C00247:9:233, C00247:16, C00482:1:S23:#502 (joined from desertion March 1, 1781), C00486:2:123, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIHS673:SG2:C:22A, RIRWNI (free man of color, born Swansea, Mass., resident of Tiverton; Rhode Island Pension Book LXIV), RIHSRWPI (slave), RIHS455, RBRIR (age 19; 5' 10 ¾’; trade labourer; born Swansy, Taunton Co. [sic], Massachusetts; resident of Tiverton, Newport Co., Rhode Island; hair black; complexion Negro: enlisted '78 in Trentown [? for the duration of the war], Bristol Co., Mass./Foster, R. I.


SLOCUM, PERO, African American, 1777, 1782RI Warwick

SLOCUM, POMP, African American, MSS, no residence given

SLOCUM/SLOCOMB, PRIME/PRIMUS, African American ("a black man"), S39844, MSS, M881 (musician Allen's Rhode Island attachment, 1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:8:267, C00247:16, RIHS673:SG2:E:2, RIRWNI (born Rehoboth, resident of Providence, died Seekonk November 3, 1826, obituary, Providence Gazette, Vital Records v. 13, p. 28)

SLOCUM, PRINCE/PRIME, African American, COWELL, C00486:2:123, C00482:1:S23:436, RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (age 25; 5' 5 ¾’; trade: labourer; born Rehoboth [sic], Taunton Co. [sic], Bay [state; i.e. Massachusetts]; resident of Providence, Providence Co.; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Providence for 3 years.

SMITH, ABRAHAM, African American, C00101
SMITH, AMOS, African American (“Negro”), RIRWNI (born South Kingstown, ca. 1751; pensioner, Rhode Island Pension Book LXIV), RIHSRWPI, M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), South Kingstown [Note: Pension S19092 is for another man with the same name.]

SMITH, CHANCE, African American? RIHSRWPI (discharged December 24, 1776)


SMITH, JUBE/JUBA/JUBY, African American (“Negro”), RIHT-10, COWELL, MSS, LG, GTA, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:9:45, C00486:3:25, RIHS673:SG2:B:1, RIRWNI (“slave of Josiah Smith of Bristol, enlisted into Continental Service, 1778”), RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (dead), Bristol/Foster

SMITH, POMP, African American, C00247:9:125

SMITH, THOMAS, **, RIMN, S21985, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (deserted), no residence given

SMITH, TOBEY, African American, C00486:2:96

SNOW, ____ African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:47 (waiter to Lt. Wheaton) (same as next man?)

SNOW, AARON, African American? RIHSRWPI (same as preceding?)

SOLE, ADAM, **, C00482:1:S23:437 (died July 12, 1781)

SOLE, JOSIAH, **, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (deserted)

SOLE/SOUL, JOSIAH, **, RIMN, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given

SONK/SUNK, JOSEP, Indian RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI

SPENCER, THOMAS, **, RIMN, W22285, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, (no residence given)

SPRAGUE, BENJAMIN, African American, C00101


SPYWOOD, JONATHAN, Indian, RIHSRWPI, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:9:127

SPYWOOD, SAMSON/SAMPSON, Indian, 1774RI, 1777 Warwick

STADELAND, FORTUNE, African American? RIHSRWPI

STAFFORD, PRIMUS, African American (“Negro”), RIRWNI, 1777, Tiverton

STAKE/STOKES, BRIDGET, African American, C00101, C00482:1:S23:553 (died April 7, 1782), RIHS673:SG2:C:24A, RIHSRWPI


STODARD/STODDARD, FORTUNE, African American, COWELL, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:9:127&221, C00482:1:S23:576, RIHS673:SG2:C:24A, RIHSRWPI, RBRR (Listed without any descriptive or identifying information.), no residence given

STREETER, BARZILLAR, African American, SBF, RIHSRWPI, Cumberland. [Note: Pension W16076 is for a man with the same name living in New Hampshire and who was listed as a white head of household in the 1810 census.]

SUCKKUSH, AARON, Indian, C00482:2:742, RIRWNI (born in Little Compton), RIHSRWPI

SUCKNASH/SUKINASH/SUKNASH/SOWNISH/SECONISH, MOSES, Indian, M881 (Crary’s Regiment), C00482:1:436, C00486:3:40, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

SUCKNASH/SUCKENASH/SUKNASH/SUKNASH/SOCONISH/SOWNISH, SIMON, Indian, M881 (Crary’s Regiment), C00482:1:436, C00486:3:46, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

SUNCHIMAN, AARON, Indian, C00247:9:75

SUNDAY, JOHN, **, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI

SUPONDES, NATUS, Indian? C00247:10:121, 129, 133&147

SWEET, BENJAMIN/BENAJAH, African American, C00101, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments – consolidated), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI. [Note: Pension W39859 is for another man who was living in Kent Co., Rhode Island and is listed in the 1790 census as white.]

SWEET, CICERO/CISOK, African American, RIHSRWPI

SWEETING/SWEETEN, QUERY, African American, RIHT-10, MSS, RIRWNI, LG, GTA, C00247:9:45, RIHSRWPI, Providence
TABER/TABOR, HENRY, African American (“man of color”), W1331 [born in Africa; slave of Judge Constant Taber of Newport; received freedom for his service as a private under Capt. Dexter, Col. Greene in Olney’s Rhode Island Regiment; married Esther Waterman on October 2, 1814 in Providence; died June 18, 1822], BLWt 27-60-55, FPPV [wife Esther died June 29, 1856; children: Christiana Nedson, Jane B. Collyer wife of John A. Collyer and Henry Taber], Providence


TALBET, E. **, RIHS455

TALBET/TALBUT, SIGBY, African American, RIHT-10, COWELL, LG, GTA, Providence

TALBURY/TALBUT/TALBUT, SIMON, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), ARN:2:57,1777, BAM-3, East Greenwich/Warwick

TALBUT/TALBOTT/TAULBERT/TALBERT, CAESAR, African American, M881 (Crary’s Regiment), C00247:9:125, C00486:2:95, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

TALMAN, SEASER, African American? C00247:9:91

TANNER/TANER, QUAM/QUOM, African American, S42445, BLWt-1636-100, RIHT-10, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), prisoner of war, LG, GTA, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00486:3:23, RIRWNI, Hopkinton

TANNER, BRISTER/BRISTOW, African American, M881 (Lippitt’s Regiment), RIHSRWPI, no residence given

TANNER, JOSEPH, African American, C00101

TANNER, QUAM, African American, RIHSRWPI

TAYBOUR, NOEL, African American, C00482:1:S23:#448 (“transferred to Invalids, March 1, 1781”)

THOMAS, JOHN, African American, C00101, Portsmouth

THOMAS, SCIPIO, African American, RIHSRWPI

THOMPSON, JOSHUA, African American (“Negro”), 1777, RIRWNI, Westerly. [Note: Pension W22400 is for a man living in Westerly with this name, and who appears in the 1790 census as white.]


THOMPSON, PRINCE/PRIME, African American (“Negro”), COWELL, MSS, M881 (Elliott’s Rhode Island Regiment Artillery, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), C00247:10:29, C00247:16, C00482:1:431, C00482:1:S23:#439, C00486:2:71, 97, C00486:2:123, RIRWNI (drummer), RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (age 23; 5’ 8’’; born Providence, Providence Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Providence for 3 years.), Providence. [Note: Pension W2273 does not appear to have been for this man.]


TIFFFERNEY, PRINCE, African American? C00482:2:570

TILLINGHAST, CATO, African American, COWELL, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

TILLINGHAST, CUFF, African American, RIHT-10, LG, GTA, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:431, CSP, West Greenwich

TILLINGHAST, LIMBRICK/LEINBUCK, African American, M881 (1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments – consolidated), C00247:9:131, C00482:1:S23:#440, RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (listed without any descriptive or identifying information), no residence given

TITUS, SETH, **, RIRWNI

TITUS, SIMEON, **, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Tiverton. [Note: Pension S11556 is for a man with this name who resided in Sterling, Windham Co., Conn., in 1832 at the age of 80. In the 1830 Sterling, Windham Co., Conn. Census he appeared as a 70 to 80 year old white head of household.]

TOBIAS, JOB, African American, C00482:1:S23:#438, (deserted February 26, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:C:21A
TOBY, PETER, aka JOHN, Indian, M881, RDNV:1:76 (deserted). C00482:2:720 (“Indian,” deserted, Providence Gazette, 16 August 1777). RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given [Pension W2196 appears to be for another man with the same name who lived in Massachusetts and later in Maine.]

TOMPKINS, SOMERSET, African American? RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Portsmouth

TONE, African American, (“Negro”), WAL, C00247:12:167, no residence given


TRAIN, PRIMUS, African American (“black”), C00482:2:493, RIRWNI

TRIPP, CAESAR, African American? C00247:9:221

TURLEY/TULEY, JOHN, African American? RIHS673:SG2:C:43 (waiter to Col. Olney), RIHS673:SG2:C:63 (waiter to field officers)

TWOGOOD/TWEGOOD/TOOGOOD, SAMUEL, Indian, M881 (Cray’s Regiment, Topham’s Regiment), RIRWNI, 1777, RIHSRWPI, Warren


UPDIKE, JAMES, African American, S22028, 1790RI. [Note: 1790 RI Census listed as a “Negro” res. in N. Kingstown and in the 1820 RI Census listed as “free colored”. His pension states that he was still living in that same area in 1831.]

UPDIKE, MOSES, African American, RIHT-10, LG, GTA, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, RIRWNI, North Kingstown (slave of Lodowick Updike of North Kingstown; enlisted 1778)

VAN DOORN, ANTHONY, African American? C00247:16

VANDORUM/VANDORON/VANDORON/ VAN DORN/VANDOORN, PLATO, African American (“Negro), BLWT 3543, RIMN, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), COWELL, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:S23:#414, C00486:2:123, C00486:3:23, RIHS673:SG2:C:13A, RIRWNI, 1777, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RBRR (age 23; 5’ 1 ¼’’; trade: taylor; born Guinea; resident of Bristol, Bristol Co.; hair black; complexion black; enlisted in Bristol [for the duration of the war.], Bristol


WAGGS/WAGGO, ELIJAH, Indian? RIMN, BLWt 3595-100, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments - consolidated), COWELL, M246 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:96, C00486:2:25, 38, 42, 61; C00486:3:10, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Charlestown

WAGGS, SIMON, Indian? C00482:1:426

WALTON, JACK, **, C00486:1:58

WAMPHY/WARMSLEY, FULLER, **, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI

WAMPPY/WAPPPY/WHARPPY/WAPPEYE/WHOMPPY/WAMPOG, JOHN, Indian, 1777, RIMN, M881 (Lippitt’s Regiment), C00482:1:96, C00486:2:25, 38, 42, 61; C00486:3:10, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, Charlestown
WAMPY, SAMUEL, ("Indian"), M881 (2nd Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:2:589, C00486:1:52, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
WANTON, JEREMIAH, African American, 1777, RIRWNI, 1790RI Tiverton
WANTON, PRINCE, African American, M881 (Col. Barton’s Lt. Corps), C00247:10:121,129,133,155,161,165&251, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
WANTON, QUACO/QUACHO, African American, C00486:1:74, RIRWNI
WANTON, SAUL, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
WANTON, SOLOMON, African American, RIMN, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), COWELL:186 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:S23:#510 (died December 28, 1781), RIHS673:SG2:C:23A, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455 (deserted; taken, 5 Dec. /80 joined), Tiverton
WANTON, WILLAM, African American ("Negro"), 1777, RIRWNI, GREE, M881 (Topham’s), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, FPPV [died in Newport on October 9, 1832; his "wife died before him leaving no legal children;“ Phebe Wanton of Providence, his sole sister testified that he had "no brother, wife, father or mother living at the time of his decease"], Newport
WAPPY, JAMES, Indian, RIHSRWPI, RIRWNI
WARD, JACK, **, M246 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:8:375, C00247:16, no residence given
WARD, QUORKO/QUACKO/QUACHO, African American, C00482:2:577, C00486:1:22, 79 RIRWNI
WARDEN/WORDEN, CEASOR/SEZER, African American, RIRWNI
WARDWELL, BRISTOL, African American, C00247:8:377
WATE, TOBY/JOBE, African American, C00486:1:76, C00486:2:39, 42
WATERFORD, African American ("Negro"), RIHS18:B3:F8 (able seaman on the brigantine Resistance)
WATSON, FORTUNE/FORTING/FORTIN, African American, RIHT-10, MSS, LG, GTA, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00486:2:138 (died 22 August 1780), C00486:3:24, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, North Kingstown

WATSON, GUY/GUG, African American ("Negro"), 539874, 1777, RIMN, C00482:1:S23:#511, C00486:2:123, C00486:3:23, COWELL (1st Rhode Island Regiment), CFAR, CBSL:403, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments (consolidated), RIHS673:SG2:F:80, C00247:8:379&383 (mentions his invalid pension), C00247:9:160,167&221, C00247:16, RIRWNI, RIHS9003, RIHSRWPI, RIHS455, RBRIR (age 25; 5 7 ½”; trade labourer; born S. Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted ’78 in S. Kingston [for the duration of the] war.), South Kingston See also: Esther Bernon Carpenter. “Traditions of Narragansett Servitude.” In her South County Studies of Some Eighteenth Century Persons, Places & Conditions in that Portion of Rhode Island Called Narragansett (Boston: Merrymount Press, 1924), 211-212. Carpenter mentions “Old Guy, who gained his freedom as a volunteer in the Continental Army...” and refers to his being a pensioner. See also: Daniel Stedman; transcribed and introduced by Henry Clay Oatley, Jr.; Cherry Fletcher Bamberg, ed. Daniel Stedman’s Journal, 1826-1859 (Greenville, R. I.: Rhode Island Genealogical Society, 2003), 150 for the following entry: March 1837, 3d. “I and Wm. Nichols went to the Funeral of Guy Watson (a man of Color), one of the old pensioners. He died at Alex P. Hazard’s his son in law. He was buried on J. B. Dockey’s place near Kingston. Sermon by Elder Crandall.”, FPPV [died March 2, 1837 leaving no widow; left one heir, daughter Sarah Hazard wife of Alexander P. Hazard], S. Kingston
WATSON, JOAB, African American, RIRWNI, no residence given
WATSON, PRIMAS/PRIMUS/PRIME, RIMN, African American (“Negro”), MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment, 1st & 2nd Rhode Island Regiments (consolidated), COWELL:186 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), RIHS673:SG2:F:8:80, C00427:16, C00482:1:S23:#506 (prisoner of war, April 15, 1781; joined September 1, 1781), C00486:2:123, 138; C00486:3:26, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI (slave), RIHS455 (deserted, taken, joined 2d Sept.), RBRIR (age 23; 5’ 6½”; trade labourer; born South Kingston, Washington Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted ’78 in S. Kingston [for the duration of the war], South Kingston

WATSON, PRINCE, African American, RIMN, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), 1777, M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00247:8:3:87, C00482:1:S23:#417 (died March 1, 1781), C00486:3:26, RIHS673:SG2:C:20A, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI (slave), South Kingston

WATSON, THOMAS, **, 1777, RIRWNI (last pension payment 1822), res. South Kingston, Coventry [Note: This man may have been the same as the Thomas Watson listed in the Connecticut Chapter with pension W22550 and BLWt 10221-160-55, M881, enlisted at Stonington.]


WEAVER, DUTY, African American? S21563, RIHSRWPI

WEAVER, GEORGE, Indian, 1774RI (Charlestown), IRWSR, RIRWNI

WEBSTER, CATO, African American, RIHSRWPI (1st Rhode Island Regiment)

WEEDEN, AMINTUS, African American, (slave of Peleg Carr; served with his master), R11276, 1800RI, TFCM, no town given

WELCH, PRINCE, **, M881 (Topham’s Regiment), no residence given


WEST, BENONI, Indian, RIHSRWPI, 1777, Warwick

WEST, CUDJO, African American, RIHSRWPI

WEST, ISHMAEL, Indian, 1774RI (Warwick), 1777, 1790RI, RIRWNI, Warwick

WEST, NATHAN, African American, COWELL, RIRWNI, no residence given [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriots from Bristol Co., R. I. or Essex Co., N. Y.]

WEST, SAMUEL, **, RIHS455

WEST, TIMOTHY, Indian, S17765, RIRWNI (seaman on the Sloop Success, 1781), Westerly

WESTCOT, CHARLES, African American, RIHS673:SG2:C:23A (deserted, 22 March 1781)

WHEATON, CAESAR/CESAR, African American, RIMN, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regiment), M246, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), C00486:3:23, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given

WHEEDON, DANIEL, African American (“Negro”), 1777, RIRWNI

WHEELER, JOSEPH, African American? ("black complexion"), BLWt-5-100 Special Act of June 4, 1842, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI [Note: The Special Act of June 4, 1842 relates to the claim of the heir of Israel Pierce, Mrs. Mary M. Telfair, and does not provide any information as to the color of Joseph Wheeler or others listed in her petition. Israel Pierce was an assignee of Joseph Wheeler's bounty land, and his daughter attempted to obtain monies due that her father never received.]


WHIPPLE, SIMON, African American (“Negro”), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, RBRIR (age 35; 5’ 4”; trade labourer; born in N. Providence, Providence Co., Rhode Island; resident of the same; hair black; complexion Negro; enlisted ’81 in N. Providence for 3 years), North Providence [Note: Not to be confused with any of the four DAR established patriots from Attleborough, Mass., Smithfield, R. I., Cumberland, R. I. or Grafton, Mass.]
WICKET, BENJAMIN, Indian, RDNV:1:72 (deserted), C00482:2:721 ("Indian," deserted, Providence Gazette, 5 July 1777), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI (seaman on the Sloop Independence), no residence given
WICKS/WEICKS, SAUL, African American, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regiment), no residence given
WILCOX/WILLCOX, JAMES/JOHN, **, RIMN, COWELL, MSS (1st Rhode Island Regt.), RIRWNI, RIHS455 (deserted), no residence given. [Note: Pension W9019 is for a man who lived in Farmington, Hartford, Conn. and later in Ontario, Wayne Co. N. Y. (res. in 1818). He died in West Walworth, Wayne Co., N. Y. in 1833. In the 1790 Farmington, Hartford, Conn. Census this man was listed as a white head of household. In the 1830 Walworth, Wayne Co., N. Y. he appears as a 70-80 years old white head of household.]
WILKERSON/WILKINSON, CUDJO, African American, M881 (matross, Elliott’s Rhode Island Regiment), C00482:1:431, C00486:2:66, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, South Kingstown
WILLIAMS, FRANCIS, African American? RIHS673:SG2:E:2, RIHSRWPI
WILLIAM, PRINCE, African American, C00482:2:666, RIHSRWPI (landsman on the Sloop Providence)
WILLIS, JESSE, **, RIMN, 1st Rhode Island Regt., RIRWNI (deserted), RIHSRWPI, 1777, RIHS455 (deserted), no residence given
WILSON/WILLSON, JOHN, African American, C00101, RIHSRWPI
WILSON, KUDGO, African American, RIHSRWPI
WILSON, WILLIAM, African American? COWELL, M881, 1790RI [Note: There are 5 William Wilsons in the 1790 Rhode Island census. Only one living in Newport was listed in the “other free” column in 1790. When pension S11822 was given in 1831 to a William Wilson, the “other free” man in 1790 was living in South Kingstown, Washington Co.], FPPV [died February 27, 1846 leaving no widow], S. Kingstown
WINSLOW/WINDSLOW, PERO, African American, M881 (Lippitt’s Regiment), C00482:2:571, C00486:1:4, RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI, no residence given
WINTER, LEVI, African American ("Negro"), C00482:1:S23:#526 ("deserted fr. Sgt. Sheldon on the road April 4, 1781, not included in the returns.").), RIRWNI, RIHSRWPI (died May 4, 1781), Johnston
WIRE, ROBERT, Indian, RDNV:1:109 (deserted), C00482:2:732 ("an Indian, age about 27, deserted, Providence Gazette, 17 March 1781), RIRWNI (deserted), Gloucester
WISEL, CEZAR, African American, C00101
WISTCOT, CHARLES, African American? C00482:1:S23:#520 (deserted March 22, 1781)
WORDEN, JOHN/JACK, African American ("a black man"), C00101, C00247:9:121&123, Tiverton
YAMMAS, BRISTOL, African American? C00247:16
ZACKO, JOSHUA, Indian? C00482:1:426
Selected Revolutionary War Documents Relating to Rhode Island Soldiers

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<td>24</td>
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<td>Brown</td>
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<td>Mary Brown</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5'4&quot;</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Fit for Duty</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Muster Roll of “Captain Dextor’s Co. in the First Battalion of the Rhode Island Troops in the Service of the United States Commanded by Col’ Greene for the Month of January 1779.” RG 93, Revolutionary War Rolls, (M246 Roll #85). National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Pay Roll of “Captain Dextor’s Co. in the First Rhode Island Regiment in the Service of the United States Commanded by Col’ C. Greene for the Month of January 1781.” RG 93, Revolutionary War Rolls, (M246 Roll #85). National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.
“Return of the Men’s Names that were Slaves & Inlisted During the War In the fourth Comp’y of foot Commanded by Lieut. Brown, Dec’r 1779.”

RG 93, Revolutionary War Rolls, (M246, Roll #85)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.
Deposition from the pension file of Peter Jennings of Rhode Island.
Pension S4436, page 16, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll #1413)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
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AND AMERICAN INDIANS
IN THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA

(See also “New England” in the main bibliography section.)


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Connecticut began mobilizing her militia in September 1774 after learning that the Massachusetts militia had clashed with British troops sent to enforce the Boston Port Act of May 1774.\(^1\) By the time that the Continental Army was disbanded in 1783, Connecticut had furnished nearly one-half of her total eligible male population of approximately 66,000 to the Army.\(^2\) Connecticut men numbering 31,939\(^3\) enlisted in the Continental Army. Some men served in the local militia companies and aboard naval vessels and privateers while others held civil offices or contributed money and supplies.

In 1774, there were slightly more than 3,500 minority males living in Connecticut; nearly 2,900 were African Americans, the balance, Indians. One third of the total minority population and one-half of the Indian population lived in New London County. New London, Hartford, and Fairfield Counties had the heaviest concentration of African Americans.\(^4\)

Of those who had service in the Revolution, about 450 have been identified as being African Americans or Indians. African Americans and Indians who had common English names and were not always identified by race on original records are not now easily distinguished as members of either minority.

Many Connecticut African Americans and Indians actively supported the cause of American Independence. Service of Connecticut African Americans in the Continental Army in the early years of the Revolution was limited by legislative acts of the Connecticut General Assembly and the Continental Congress. It appears that participation in the Army by American Indians was less limited. Members of both minority groups served in the Connecticut Navy without restriction.

In March 1775, the Connecticut General Assembly took action to strengthen the state militia by issuing new commissions and filling vacancies.\(^5\) As a result of Connecticut’s preparedness, 3,716 men from forty-two of her towns were ready to march to Massachusetts when news of the Lexington Alarm on April 19, 1775 was received.\(^6\)

One of the earliest and strongest supporters of the Revolution was Connecticut’s Royal Governor, Jonathan Trumbull. He supplied provisions from his own store to the men from Lebanon who responded to the Lexington Alarm. Trumbull was the only Royal Governor to support the Americans. Consequently, he was nicknamed “The Rebel Governor.”\(^7\)

\(^1\) Richard Buel, Jr., *Dear Liberty* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1980), 29. (Hereafter cited as Buel.)


\(^4\) *Pub. Rec., 1772-1775*, 491

\(^5\) Ibid., 393-402.

\(^6\) Buel, 38.

On April 26, 1775, Governor Trumbull called a special session of the General Assembly, which passed an act that began as follows:

An Act for assembling, equipping etc., a Number of the Inhabitants of this Colony for the special Defence and Safety thereof Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives, in General Court Assembled, and by the authority of the same, That one fourth part of the militia of this Colony be, and it is hereby, ordered and directed that they be forthwith enlisted, equipped, accoutred and assembled, for the special defence and safety of this Colony, to be led and conducted as the General Assembly shall order...  

Law limited African American participation during the first years of the war. In the fall of 1775, Congress and George Washington and his generals agreed that the service of African Americans, especially slaves, be rejected altogether.9

By the winter of 1775-1776, that policy was found to be impractical. As a result, Washington wrote Congress on December 11, 1775,

It has been represented to me, that the free negroes who have served in this army are very much dissatisfied at being discarded. As it is to be apprehended that they may seek employ in the Ministerial Army, I have presumed to depart from the resolution respecting them, and have given license for their being enlisted. If this is disapproved of by Congress, I will put a stop to it.10

Congress agreed with Washington and on January 16, 1776 decided, “That free negroes who have served faithfully in the army at Cambridge may be re-enlisted therein, but no others.”11 It appears that after January 1776, Connecticut did allow free Blacks to enlist in the Army, as no specific mention is made of them in later state legislation. Black slave enlistments continued to be prohibited by the Connecticut General Assembly. An Act passed in December 1776 requiring that a reserve be formed in every town accepted the following:

“...members of the Council, of the House of Representatives and American Congress, for the time being, the Treasurer and Secretary of the State, ministers of the gospel, the president, tutors and students of Yale College for the time being, and negroes, indians and mulattoes. ...”12

By May 1777, Connecticut was faced with the problem of meeting her quota for the Army. At that time a specially appointed legislative committee recommended that slaves be allowed to enlist. The proposal was rejected but the General Assembly did pass an act, which enabled residents of Connecticut to hire African Americans as substitutes.13

David Griswold of Wethersfield released his slave, Caesar, in May 1777, on the condition that he serves three years in the Continental Army.14 In the same month, Silas Loomis also of Wethersfield sent a memorial to the General Assembly regarding his Negro man Dick, alias Dick Richard, age 23, “...who is desirous of enlisting into the Continental Army provided he can be manumitted or set free at the Expiration of the Term of Enlistment.”15 Cases such

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10 George Livermore, “An Historical Research Respecting the Opinions or the Founders of the Republic on Negroes as Slaves, as Citizens, and as Soldiers.” Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society 6 (1862-1863), 185.  
as those involving Caesar and Dick set a precedent for the General Assembly to consider. When it met in October 1777, the Assembly established a definitive position on the enlistment of slaves in an act, which read in part:

An Act in Addition to and Alteration of An Act concerning Indian, Molatto and Negro Servants and Slaves. Whereas It stands enacted in said act, that all slaves set at liberty by their Owners, and all negro, molatto or Spanish Indians, who are servants to masters for time, in case they come to want after they shall be so set at liberty or the time of their said service be expired, shall be relieved by such owner or master respectively, their heirs, executors or administrators...16

One slave freed as a result of the Act of October 1777 was Jack Arabas who enlisted from Stratford in October 1777 and served until the end of the war. Jack Arabas vs. Ivers ultimately resolved the question of manumitting slaves who had served in the Continental Army. The master, Ivers permitted his slave, Arabas, to enlist in the Army. Arabas served throughout the war after which time Ivers again claimed him. Arabas fled from his master but was captured and imprisoned for safekeeping. Jack Arabas filed a habeas corpus, which was granted, by the court “upon the ground that he was a free man, absolutely manumitted from his master by enlisting and serving in the army.”17

The exact number of slaves who were manumitted as a result of their service in the Continental Army has not been determined. It is possible that many more names can be found by carefully reading the records of the individual Connecticut towns.

George Washington’s Army, which was headquartered at White Plains, New York in August 1778, included 755 African Americans, of whom 210 were in Connecticut regiments under the commands of Generals Samuel H. Parsons and Jedidiah Huntington. Major General Parsons’ regiment with 148 Negroes on its rolls had the largest number of African Americans of any of the regiments at White Plains.20

20 Henry P. Johnston, The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Service during the War of the
The African American soldiers of Connecticut were generally not assigned to regiments by color but were integrated throughout the State’s various regiments. There was, however, one company commanded by Captain David Humphreys of Derby which was composed primarily of African American men. The company was stationed at George Washington’s headquarters across the Hudson from West Point during the winter of 1781. Jack Arabas and Jeff Sill, mentioned previously, were members of Humphreys’ company.21

A number of Connecticut African Americans received pensions and bounty land from the federal government. One such man was Primus Babcock of Preston who “…belonged to the black regiment so called under the command of Col. Green(e) (of Rhode Island)…” Babcock was one of nineteen African American soldiers whom The Honorable Calvin Goddard of Norwich claimed to have assisted in obtaining pensions under the pension Act of 1818. Goddard stated the following regarding Babcock:

I cannot refrain from mentioning one aged black man, Primus Babcock, who proudly presented to me an honorable discharge from service during the war, dated at the close of it, wholly in the handwriting of George Washington. Nor can I forget the expressions of his feelings, when informed, after his discharge had been sent to the War Department, that it could not be returned. At his request it was written for, as he seemed inclined to spurn the pension and reclaim the discharge.22

In addition to those African Americans who received bounty land for military service, several were awarded bounty land in the fire lands of Ohio for losses suffered when a number of Connecticut towns were burned. Among them were negroes Syphax of Norwalk, Ned of Fairfield, Roger of Danbury, and Shoram of Groton.24

Connecticut African Americans served throughout the Revolution from the Lexington Alarm until the Army was disbanded in June 1783. Representatives of those African Americans were Timon Negro from Wethersfield who marched to the Lexington Alarm in April 1775,25 and Cash Affrica who was with the Marquis de Lafayette’s troops at Yorktown in 1781 and remained in the Army until it was disbanded.26 Two of Connecticut’s Revolutionary War heroes, Jordan Freeman and Lambert Latham were African American men. Both killed British officers before they themselves were slain at Fort Griswold during the Battle of Groton Heights September 6, 1781.27

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22 Revolutionary War Pension File, S37698. Record Group 15, National Archives and Records Administration. (Hereafter cited as RWPF).
25 Johnston, Rec. of Ct. Men, 25
26 Ibid., 352, 360-361.
African Americans Jordan Freeman and Lambert Latham were among the soldiers killed at the Battle of Groton Heights in 1781.

The observations of the battle by a young Groton resident, George Middleton, (published in Charles Allyn. The Battle of Groton Heights New London: Charles Allyn, 1882), have lead some to conclude erroneously that George Middleton, an African American resident of Boston, and a group of men with which he was involved called the “Bucks of America,” were present at this battle. (See Chapter 3 for more information.)

Connecticut Indians in the Revolution

Indian participation in the Revolution was less restricted by law. Many of Connecticut’s Indian Soldiers were from the Mohegan tribe which resided in New London County. One Mohegan, John Uncas, enlisted in Colonel Heman Swift’s Regiment in March 1781 and served until the Army was disbanded in 1783. Both he and his widow, Martha, received bounty land and were pensioned. Uncas also was assisted by Calvin Goddard of Norwich when he applied for a pension.28

A census of the Mohegan tribe was taken in 1782 lists nine Mohegans who were killed during the Revolutionary War, five of them were the sons of the widow Rebecca Tanner.29 One of the first members of the tribe to be killed was Samuel Ashbo who died at the Battle of Bunker Hill in June 1775.30 The names of fifteen other Indians who lost their lives in the Revolution during the years 1776 and 1778 are recorded in the town records of Ledyard.31

Although most of the Indians who fought on the side of the Americans during the Revolution were Mohegans, there were soldiers from other tribes as well. Among them are Peter Mohawk of Wethersfield32 and Simon Hobart, a Nehantic Indian from New London.33

Other Indians such Reuben Cognohue and Joseph Johnson served as messengers on behalf of the State of Connecticut to the Oneidas.34 Some Indians suffered for their support of the Americans. Two Tunxis Indians, Elijah Wimpsey and Samuel Adams, originally from Farmington, moved to the Mohawk country but returned to Connecticut when they were driven out of New York by pro-British Indians.35

Connecticut’s strategic location across the sound from British-controlled Long Island made it necessary for her to maintain a strong naval force. As a result, in July 1775, the Connecticut General Assembly resolved,

That two vessels of a suitable burthen be immediately fitted out and armed with a proper number of cannon, swivel-guns and small arms, and furnished with necessary warlike stores, and well officered and mann’d for the defence of the seacoasts in this Colony, ....36

The first of those two vessels, the brig Minerva, had among her crew two Negroes, Peter and Gist. A second naval vessel, the brig Defence had crewmembers, George Negro and Peter Indian. The ship Oliver Crowell, one of Connecticut’s larger vessels, had a number of both African Americans and Indians in her crew.37

In addition to the vessels needed to defend the seacoast, Connecticut also built the galley Trumbull on Lake Champlain for the use of Benedict Arnold’s command in 1776. An African American man, Peter, is listed on the Trumbull’s roster.38

After Congress approved the use of privateers for naval service in April 1776, Connecticut began issuing commissions to such vessels.39 The names

28 RWPF, W26610.
30 Ibid., 61; Johnston, Rec. of Ct. Men, 58.

36 Pub. Rec., 1772-1775, 292; DeForest, 374-375.
38 Louis F. Middlebrook, History of Maritime Connecticut during the American Revolution, 1775-1783 (Salem, Mass.: The Essex Institute, 1925), 1:27, 71-72, 118-119, 123. (Hereafter cited as Middlebrook.)
39 Ibid., 152.
30 Middlebrook, 2:11.
of Negroes Livy, Josephus and Ham appear on crew lists of some Connecticut privateers.\footnote{Ibid., 70, 156-157.}

Several Indians were among the workmen employed at New London in the construction of the Confederacy, a continental frigate commissioned by Congress. When the frigate was launched in November 1778, the crew included African Americans and Indians recruited from New London.\footnote{Frances M. Caulkins, History of Norwich, Connecticut. (Norwich: Thomas Robinson, 1845) 404-405.}

Unlike the Army, no evidence has been found that Connecticut placed color restrictions on service in the State’s Navy. This is evidenced in several letters from Colonel Jedidiah Huntington to his father, Jabez, regarding a Negro Sam. In a letter dated November 16, 1775, Huntington wrote, “Sam will come Home at the Expiration of his Term the 6 of Decr. no Negroes are to be inlisted....” On May 5, 1776, Huntington again wrote to his father regarding Sam:

I cannot improve Sam so as to get any thing for his Service. I should think as he has commenced a Sailor it will be best to continue him so untill an Opportunity presents of selling him.

The last letter from Colonel Huntington to his father on the subject of Sam, dated June 27, 1776 reads, “As to Sam, I cannot get him into the Army without transgressing a Rule of Congress which forbids the inlisting Negroes unless they have Certificates from their Masters of their Freedom.”\footnote{Correspondence of the Brothers Joshua and Jedidiah Huntington during the Period of the American Revolution. Huntington Papers (Hartford: Connecticut Historical Society, 1923), 251, 284, 301.}

The Revolutionary War had a profound impact on both the African American and Indian populations of Connecticut. It saw the beginnings of the end of slavery for Blacks, while the already small Indian population, which suffered a high percentage of casualties, was seriously diminished.

\textit{Thoughts on Research in the Records of Connecticut}

Connecticut’s sources for military service are particularly good and are among the best for inclusion of color descriptors with the men’s names. This has enabled the inclusion of many names in the following list.

From the beginning of this project, those involved have made an effort to identify persons by color through primary sources. As the work progressed, however, it has become more and more difficult to follow this precept. An example in Connecticut is the documentation available for men who served in David Humphrey’s “Company of Blacks.” Published secondary sources such as Frank Landon Humphreys’ Life and Times of David Humphreys and Nell’s The Colored Patriots of the American Revolution, both show lists of these African American soldiers. Nell names fifty-six men in his compilation, while Humphreys names only forty-eight. Neither cites a source for their information. Meanwhile, Johnson’s The Record of Connecticut Men… names fifty persons in David Humphreys’ company. Examination of census records for 1790 through 1830 fails to identify positively many of these men as either African American or Native American. The names alone are sometimes suggestive of a person’s color, but are deficient for positive identification. For this reason, the published sources have been given the benefit of the doubt, and the men listed as having served in this company have been included in this list despite the lack of color descriptors in the original sources. These and others of no clear ethnic background are listed as “***” (Included by of analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these).
ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.

1774RI “1774 Census of Rhode Island.” Rhode Island State Archives, C00197. [There have been two abstracts of this census: John R. Bartlett. Census of the Inhabitants of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, 1774. Lambertville, N. J.: Hunterdon House, 1958; reprinted, 1984. The main concern with this abstract of the 1774 census is that it does not list African American and American Indian residents of Rhode Island, although they do appear in the original records. Rhode Island Roots: Beginning in 2003 (v. 29), Rhode Island Roots has published complete abstracts by town of this census including all residents listed. Citations in the list of Rhode Island soldiers below to individuals appearing in this census are for listings in these newer abstracts.


BIC  RuEllen “Rudi” Serina Hjella Ottery. “Brotherton Indian Collection.” Manuscript collection 395, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston. [This collection contains extensive files of genealogical information on the families from New England and from New York associated with the Brotherton Indians. Ottery was the genealogist for the Brotherton Tribe, and she collected a large amount of material now contained in sixty manuscript boxes.] Contents include:

- Subgroup I. Brotherton Indian Records, 1801-1986
  - Series A. Tribal Rolls and Lists, 1833-1986
  - Series B. Descents from Brotherton Progenitors
  - Series C. Brotherton Enrollment Records
  - Series D. Numbered Individual Data Files
  - Series E. Historical Records, 1801-1980
- Subgroup II. Source Materials for Brotherton Genealogy, 1839-1893
- Subgroup III. Correspondence on Brotherton Genealogy, 1977-1991
- Subgroup IV. Source Materials for New England Indian History, 1622-1941
- Subgroup V. Graphics


BLWt  Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


- Subject Index: Indian references.
- Indians, Series 1, 1647-1789, vol. 23 of master index set
- Indians, Series 2, 1666-1820, vol. 24 of master index set

CACRW  “Connecticut Archives Collection: Connecticut Revolutionary War Records.” Series I, Series II, Series III. Connecticut State Archives, Hartford, These references are to the specific volumes of
textual records and to the specific document in that volume. [example: 30:78a = vol. 30, document 78a] These records are indexed by:

Subject Index for CACRW: Revolutionary War.
Series 1, 1763-1789, index vols. 41-48
Series 2, 1756-1856, slip [card] index at Connecticut State Archives
Series, 3, 1765-1820, index vol. 50

CACRWA

CARON

CBN

CBS

CCHS

CCHS7

CCS

CHS70106

CHS84476

CHS91553
Connecticut. Committee of Pay Table. “Note, 1780, October 9, Groton, Conn.” This note “certifies that Samuel Pompy of Groton served three years as a soldier in the first regiment of the Continental Army.” Connecticut Historical Society accession number 91553.

CHS93535A

CHS95395
Connecticut. Committee of Pay Table. “Pay Document, 1781.” Connecticut Historical Society. Accession number 97556. “Camp, Feb’y 9th 1781. Gentlemen: “Please to deliver the bearer Sgt. ___ of the late 6th Conn’t now 4th Reg’t, the Amount due to us in State Noats [sic] for service in the Conn’t line before the 1st Jan’y /80. [lists the names of the men referenced to this source below]. This certifies that the above Soldiers of the late 6th Conn’t Reg’t signed the above order in my presence and were in service before the 1st Jan’y 1780 & belong to the Conn’t Line. A. Prior, Maj’r Comd’r.”


National Archives. Compiled Services Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army during the Revolutionary War. National Archives and Record Administration, A Microfilm Publication.


FPPV Manuscript Final Pension Payment Vouchers are located at the National Archives (Record Group 217: Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Records of the Office of the Third Auditor 1775-1923, Entry 722 Selected Final Pension Payment Vouchers, National Archives, Washington, D.C.). The vouchers consist of pension agent files selected by National Archives staff for their genealogical value. The files contain details relating to the final payment to heirs of a pensioner after his death. Details in these accounts may include the name of the spouse, children, and other heirs; the date and place of death; and the date, place and amount of the final pension payment. The vouchers are filed by the state where the pensioner received payment and thereafter alphabetically by surname of the pensioner.


JER


JJC


JHN

Joann Hesseltine Nichols. “‘Other Free Persons’ Listed in the 1791 Vermont Census.” Unpublished manuscript provided to the editor of this book by Mrs. Nichols of Brattleboro, Vermont, May 2007. Mrs. Nichols is continuing her research for publication at a later date.

JVB


KMJ


LCRS

Josephine Ellis Richards, ed. *Honor Roll of Litchfield County, Revolutionary Soldiers.* Litchfield, Conn.: Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, DAR, 1912.

LHF

“A List of the Heads of Familys Now Living in Mohegan That Are Not Properly Mohegans.” *Connecticut Archives* collection, 1629-1820. Indians, Series II, item 315a. [The record does not tell whether these individuals were of other Indian groups, of mixed descent, or of African descent.]

LMI74


LMI82


LTDH


M860

*General Index to Compiled Military Service Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers.* National Archives and Records Administration, Microfilm Publication M860.

M881


MACC


MAT


MI73

“Mashantuxett Indians, 1773.” *Connecticut Archives* collection, 1629-1820. Indians, Series II, item 243a. Connecticut State Library, Hartford. [The abstract of this document in the Connecticut State Library gives a date of 1733, and someone has written in 1773 as the correct date based on other information apparently.]
MID

MPRWR

MSS

NAT

NDAR

P1776

PRCT

PRF

QUIN

RAP2

RAP3
R. Andrew Pierce. “List of Prisoners Taken in the American Brig Dean(e), on the 25th of September 1781 by His Majesty’s Ship Pegasus.” *Connecticut Nutmegger,* 39:4 (March 2007), 533-534. [The list is from The National Archives, London, HCA 32/303/7 New York Admiralty Court, High Court of Admiralty Records.]

RIRWNI
“Rhode Island Revolutionary War Names Index, 1776-1780.” Card index at the Rhode Island State Archives; also available on microfilm. There are two manuscript boxes (A-M and N-Z) sitting on top of the card catalog cabinet for the RIRWNI at the Rhode Island State Archives labeled “Revolutionary War Minority Participant Index.” The material in these boxes is composed of photocopies of cards from the main index arranged alphabetically. RIRWNI cites many sources at the state archives and at the Rhode Island Historical Society.

RWBL

SECT
Text of email from Marie Drouin, of Scott J. Winslow Associates (dealers of autographs, manuscripts and historic documents) to Hollis Gentry, DAR Library Special Projects Researcher, dated December 16, 2005. The text is from two original documents in their possession at the time: (1) pay order dated ca. 1783 relating to the Revolutionary War service and estate of Josias/Josiah Poheague; and (2) pay order form “Joseph Alias Jeff Liberty.” Copy in DAR Library, Forgotten Patriots Research Collection. The DAR Library does not own the originals or a copy of them.


The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

AARON, JOSEPH, CTM, **, no residence given
AARON, THOMAS, African American, MID:1:114, boy on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
ABEL, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:68b and 31:21, 22b; CTM, CCHS, IRWSR, M881, M246,
East Windsor
ABIMELECK, UNCAS, Indian, WAL, Norwich
ACHMET, HAMET, African American ("black man," "coloured"), S38107, CPAR, ETS, FPPV [died November 20, 1842 in Middletown; widow Mary Ann Achmet], Bridgeport/Middletown
ACKLEY/ACKLIN, CUFF, African American, CCHS, CTM, Glastonbury
ADAMS, ASHER, **, CTM, Canterbury
ADORE, MARK, **, CTM, no residence given
AFRICA/AFFRICA/AFRICA/AFRACA, CASH, **, LCRS CBS, CCHS, CTM, IRWSR, WAL, FC&W, BLWt 5375-100, CRWR, Litchfield
AFRICA/AFFRICA/AFRACA, RAUL/RAEL/RAEL, African American, CBS, CACRW, CCHS, IRWSR, FC&W, Wallingford
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro") (name not given), CACRW:30:35a
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro") ("name not known"), CCHS, Simsbury
ALLEN, ASHER, **, CTM, FC&W, Mansfield
ALLEN, JARED, African American ("Negro"), IRWSR, M881 (1st Rhode Island Regt), no residence given [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name from Windham Co.]
ALLEN/ALLYN, DANIEL, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, AJA-2:10 (Makes a statement that the records are unclear as to whether this man was Daniel Allyn or one of Allyn’s enslaved men.), Farmington
AMOS, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Danbury
AMOS, African American ("Negro"), enslaved man of Stiles Curtiss, CCHS, Stratford
ANDREW, ABNER, African American, CBS, no residence given
ANTHONY/ANTONY, JACK, African American, BLWt 297-100, CACRW, CTM, FC&W, GREE, Danbury
APES, PETER, Indian, CCHS, CTM, Stonington
APOMB/UPOMB, DEPDO/DOPPO, **, CTM, no residence
ARABAS/ARIBAS, JACK, **, CBS, CTM, CCHS, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CPAR, CHS97556, Stratford
ARCHELLAUS, African American, CCS (enslaved man of Pierpont Bacon freed for enlisting in the Continental Army), Colchester
ASHBO/ASHPO, JAMES, Mohegan Indian, CHSJS, Norwich?
ASHBO/ASHBOW, JOHN, Indian, Mohegan Indian, CTM, SECT:12, QUIN, LMI74, DRM:171, CHSJS, Norwich/ Montville
ASHBO/ASHBOW, ROBERT, Mohegan Indian, CTM, LMI74, LHF, DRM:171, CHSJ, Norwich/Montville
ASHBO/ASHBOW/ASPO, SAMUEL, JR., Mohegan/Wangunk Indian; killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill, CTM, BHMC, QUIN, LMI74, LHF, DRM:171, CHSJ, CSP, Norwich/Montville
ASHBO, SIMEON, Mohegan Indian, CTM, DRM:171, CHSJ, Norwich/Montville
ASHER/ASHUR, GAD, African American, S17244, CTM, CACRW:1:30, CACRW:II:4, CHSHS, FPPV [died November 28, 1833 in North Branford; left no widow, but three children: Ruel Asher, Temperance Primus and Mariette Copes (wife of Caleb Copes) Branford, Guilford
ATWATER, African American (“a negro slave”), CTM, PRF, CBS, New Haven/East Haven
ATWATER, TITUS, African American, CTM, CHSHS, Wallingford
AUGUSTUS, BRISTO, African American, CTM, CHSHS, no residence given,
AUGUSTUS, CEASAR JR., African American (“Free Black”), CTM, BLWt 5363, no residence given
AUGUSTUS, CEASAR/ZEZAR, African American, CTM, CHSHS, Hartford
AUGUSTUS, JACOB, African American, CTM, no residence given
BACCHUS, DELUCENA, **, LCRS, CHSHS, Woodbury
BADGER, FREEMAN, **, CHSHS, no residence given
BAGDEN/BAGDON, CAESAR, African American, CBS, CTM, CHSHS, LTDH, BLWt 5465-100, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Branford
BAKER, BRISTOL/BRISTER, African American, CBS, CTM, CACRW, WAL, CPAR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), New Haven
BALL, JOHN, African American, CPAR, no residence given
BARZILLA, HENRY, African American, CBS, HOWC, Windsor
BAZELL, HANNABALL, **, FC&W, no residence given
BEAMAN/BEAUMONT/BEEMAN/BEMAN/BEAMENT, CEASAR, African American, CBS, CTM, 1790CT Warren, S39190, CHSHS, FPPV [died July 19, 1821 in Colchester], Colchester
BENFUTT, CROMWELL, **, CTM, Norwich
BENNET/BENNIT, TOBY, **, FC&W, no residence given
BENONA, DICK, Indian, “Indian boy,” CTM, Seaman, no residence given
BLACK, BENJAMIN, see SIMMONS, BENJAMIN
BLACK, CAESAR/EBENEZER, aka CAESAR FIDDLER/FIDLER, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, WAL, FC&W, M881, CRWR, Wethersfield
BLACK, CATO, African American, CTM, Granby
BLACK, DAN, African American, M881 (drummer, fifer & private, 8th CT Regiment), no residence given
BLACK, FORTUNE, African American (“Free Black”), CTM, WAL, BOAS, Stonington
BLACK, JASPER, **, CHSHS, no residence given
BLACK, SAMSON, African American, M881, no residence given
BLACK, TOM, **, CHSHS, no residence given
BLACKMAN, SAMPSON, African American, CTM, no residence given
BLANCHARD/BLANCH, ROBIN, African American, SECT:30, CHSHS, Colchester
BOENY, CAESAR, **, CTM, CHSHS, Wethersfield
BOHEMA, CAESAR, **, CTM, no residence given
BOSTON, African American (“Negro”), CHSHS, Wallingford
BOSTON, BEN, African American, FC&W, M881, no residence given
BOSTON, JOBE, African American, FC&W, no residence given
BOSTON, PETER, African American, sea service, W3650 [wife Rhoda], NEA, VRNAN, enl. Nantucket, Mass.
BOSTON, SAMUEL, African American, CHSHS, MID:1:105, seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
BOSTON, TOBY/TOBE, African American, CTM, CHSHS, M881, CSP, Danbury
BOSTON/BASTON, SAWNEY/SHAWNY/SAUNEY/SAUNY, **, CTM, CHSHS, M881, Middletown
BOTSFORD/BOCHFORD, JACK, African American, CBS, FC&W, Newtown
BOW, TONY, African American, Seaman, RAP3, no residence given
BOWS, FREEBORN, **, RAP2 (deserted; on Connecticut privateer Oliver Cromwell), from Nantucket, Mass.
BRACE, JEFFREY/BOYREAU BRINCH/JEFF STILES, African American, S41461 [born in Africa], BAS, JVBv, SSVT, JHN, enl. Woodbury, res. Franklin Co., Vt. [See also the listing for Jeff Sill/Sills.]
BRADLEY, DANIEL, African American, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Co. of Colored Troops)
BRISTER, African American ("Negro/Negroe"), IRWSR, M881, CRWR:s2:v38:p70a (Served in Col. John Durkees Company), no residence given
BRISTER, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, GEL, New Haven
BRISTER, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Hebron
BRISTER, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, CACRW:17:39, Norwich
BRISTER, DAVID, **, LCRS, CTM, Barkhamsted
BRISTER, JOHN, African American ("colored"), CBS, HOWC, W20772 [married Lilly Scott in Bolton, Middlesex Co.], WAL, CCHS, FC&W, FPPV [died March 2, 1824 in Hartford], Winchester/Windsor
BRISTER/BRISTOL/BRISTORL, DICK, African American, CTM, CCHS, M881, 1790CT, Cheshire
BRISTER/BRISTOL, ISAAC, **, M881, no residence given
BRISTOE/BRISTOL, African American, AJA-1:35 (enslaved man of Thomas Hart Hooker), Farmington
BRISTOE/BRISTER, GIDEON, **, FC&W, M881, no residence given
BRISTOL, CAESAR, African American, CCHS, Newtown
BRISTOL/BRISTER/BRISER, PETER, African American, FC&W, M881 (private and drummer 8th Conn. Regiment; drummer 1st Conn. Regiment), no residence given
BRISTON, African American, CACRW:30:1g&5b, CCHS, Saybrook
BRITTAIN, African American, NDAR, CTM, CCHS, New London
BROWN, CATO, **, MSS, 1st RI Bttn, East Greenwich
BROWN, ROBERT, Mixed descent ("Mulatto/Indian"), SECT:47-48, East Haddam
BROWN, SAMBO, African American, M881, CTM, no residence given
BRUSTER, AMOS, **, CTM, CCHS, no residence given
BRUSTER, SAMUEL, **, CTM, CCHS, no residence given
BUCKLEY/BULKELEY/NEGRO, JACK, African American ("Negro"), CTM, CBS, SECT:53, IRWSR, M881, Chester, Glastonbury
BUDD/BIDD, BRISTOL/BRUSTER, African American, W25304 [wife Phoebe Perkins; died Brooklyn, Susquehanna Co, Pa. in 1848], BLW: 24772-160-55, CTM; FC&W, also cited as SAMPSON, BRISTOL
BUSH, SAMUEL, African American, S36450, CBS, WAL, CTM, FPPV [died November 26, 1835 in Greenwich; widow Hannah Bush], Stamford
Cady, CAESAR, **, CTM, CCHS, FC:2:671, Killingly
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Hebron
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Stamford
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Stratford
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Suffield
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:17:54, CCHS, Branford
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:17:39, CCHS, Norwich
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CACRW, CCHS, Pomfret
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:42, CCHS, Voluntown
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CACRW, CTM, Groton
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), CTM, Woodstock
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), IRWSR, M881, CRWR:s2:v38:p70a (Served in Col. John Durkees Company), no residence given
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), slave of John Edwards, CCHS, Danbury
CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), WAL, New London
CAESAR/CAESAR, African American, CACRW:137, CCHS, no residence given
CAESAR/CEASAR/CASAR, BRISTOL/BRISTER, African American, WAL, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, FC&W, M881, Newtown
CAESAR/SEASOR/CEASER/CAESAR/CESAR/CESSAR/CESSER, JOB/JOBE, African American, CBS, LTDH, CTM, CRWR, CPAR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, FAS, Milford
CAESAR/CEASER/CEASER/CESESER, JONATHAN, African American, M881, FC&W, no residence given
CAESAR/CEASER/CEASER/CEASER/CEASER/CESSER/CESSER/CAER/CESSER, TIMOTHY/TIM, African American, CBS, LTDH, CTM, 1790CT, CTM, CRWR, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, Haddam
Connecticut

CAESAR, WILLIAM, African American, M881, no residence given
CAMBRIDGE, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Farmington
CAMBRIDGE, CAESAR, African American, MID:1:74, seaman on the Brig Defence belonging to the State of Connecticut
CAMP, SHARP/HEARPER, African American, S37821, CBS, LTDH, CTM, 1790CT, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), FPPV [died December 30, 1824 intestate], Durham
CAPENY, CUFF, African American, CBS, Waterbury
CAPEY/CAPEE, SOLOMON, Indian, RAP2 (deserted; on the Connecticut privateer Oliver Cromwell), from Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.
CAPLES, JESSE, African American, SECT:62, Chatham
CARTER, AARON, African American (“Colored”), W22726 [also refers to his brother Edward’s service], Colchester
CARTER, AARON, African American, SECT:xvii, 64, CCHS, CTM, Chatham [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name who served from New Jersey.]
CARTER, ASHER, African American, SECT:65, Chatham
CARTER, EDWARD, African American, WAL, [service reference in his brother Aaron’s pension W22726], Colchester
CARTER, EDWARD [JR.], see CHAPPEL, EDWARD CARTER
CARTER, EDWARD/NED, African American, SECT:xvii, 66, Chatham
CARTER, ESAU, African American, SECT:xxi: 67, WAL, CTM, CCHS, Colchester
CASH, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Lebanon
CATA, *, IRWSR [This may have been one of the men listed below.]
CATO, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, East Windsor
CATO, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, FC:2:671, Killingly
CATO, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:43, CCHS, FC:2:673, Woodstock
CATO, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:13a, CCHS, GEL, Durham
CATO, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:17a, CCHS, Groton
CATO, African American (“Negro”), CTM, CCHS, FC:2:671, Ashford
CATO, African American (“Negro”), CTM, Pomfret
CATO, African American (“Negro”), M881 [Four listings are likely for some of the men listed below.]
CATO, DICK, aka CATO DICK, African American, CACRW, Windham Co.
CATO, MAJOR, African American, MPRWR, no residence given
CATO, PRINCE, African American, CCHS, deserted, no residence given
CEASAR, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR [This may have been one of the men listed above with first name of Caesar.]
CEAZOR, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR [This may have been one of the men listed above with first name of Caesar.]
CESAR, African American (“Negro”), (Servant of Daniel Buck), CRWR:s1:v37:p239, no residence given
CESAR, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR [This may have been one of the men listed above with first name of Caesar.]
CESJOY/CHRISJOY/CUSHOY/CUSJOY, BENJAMIN, Indian? CTM, Guilford
CEZAR, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR [This may have been one of the men listed above with first name of Caesar.]
CHAMP, African American (“Negro”), Teamster, IRWSR, M881, M246, no residence given
CHAPMAN, CAESAR/CEASAR, African American, CBS, CTM, LTDH, BLWi 5565-100, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, Haddam
CHAPPEL, EDWARD CARTER, African American, W20850, SECT:xx, Chatham
CHARLES, DANIEL, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, SECT:73, MI73, JA:281, Ledyard
CHARLES, JANER, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, JA:283, Ledyard
CHARLES/SCODAUB, JOSEPH, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, SECT:73, MI73, Preston
CHEAPEAK, SIMON, Indian, CACRW, CCHS, Fairfield
CHERRY, POMP, African American, CTM, no residence given
CHINCHI, NOAH, Mohegan Indian, DRM:175, Norwich or Preston
CHOICHOI/CHOYCHOY/CHAWCHOY/GEORGAY/GORGOY/GEORGIE/GEORGIA/GORGAY/JOYJOY/
GEORGEJOY, SIMON, Mohegan Indian, CACRW, CCHS, QUIN, BIC:sgIl:serB:box10:file138, ZLML,
Norwich/New London

CHUBBuck, EBEN, Indian? CTM

CHUSH, PHILIP, Indian? CCHS:8:263, seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, DRM:170, no residence given

CHUNCKS, GEORGE, Indian, CTM

CHURCH, PRINCE, African American? CTM, died in service, no residence given

CILLEY, PRINCE, **, CSP, no residence given

CLARK, CAESAR, African American, S37871, SECT:78, GREE, Ashford

CLARK, CUDGO, African American, M881, CTM, FC&W, no residence given

CLARK/CLARKE, BERIAH, African American, S34209, BLWt 3034-100, M881, Killingly

CLARK, DICK, **, CTM, no residence given

CLEVELAND, JOHN, African American, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), no residence given

COBUS, CULL [CUFF?], African American? Seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, CCHS:8:263

COCHEATS – see Quacheats

CODODE/CODUDY/CODUDA, EBENEZER/EBEN, Indian, RAP2 (private on the Connecticut armed sloop American Revenue; prisoner of war on the private ship Jersey in New York harbor), Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.

COGNOHUE/COGNEHEW, REUBEN, Indian, CACRW, MACC:1, MSS:3:718, Connecticut

COLLUMBUS/COLUMBUS, JEAMES/JAMES, **, FC&W, no residence given

COLLY, JOSEPH, African American, CNONL:60, no residence given

COMSTALK, CUFF, African American, CCHS, Kent

COMWAS, ISAAC, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, JA:281, Ledyard

COMWAS, J. Mashantucket Pequot Indian, JA:283, Ledyard

CONGO, JACK (or CONGO JAK), African American, CBS, CACRW:III:3, WAL, M881, CTM, FC&W, KMJ,
LTDH CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops) Ridgefield

CONOMY/CAPENY/CAPENCY, CUFF, African American, CTM, FC&W, CSP, Groton

COOK, JUPE, **, CTM, no residence given

COOMES, SAMUEL, Indian, RAP2 (private on the Connecticut privateer Oliver Cromwell; deserted 1778), Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.

COOPER, CYRUS, Mohegan Indian, CHSJS, Mohegan

COOPER, JACOB, Mohegan Indian, CCHS, Mohegan

COOPER, JOSHUE, Mohegan Indian, CCHS, deserted, Mohegan

COOPER, SAMUEL, Mohegan Indian? DRM:175, Norwich or Preston

COOPER, WILLIAM, African American, CHS97556, no residence given

CORNELIUS, SOTO/TOTO, **, CTM, no residence given

COSSUMP, JAMES, **, CTM, no residence given

COUCH, WILLIAM, “Colored,” R2358, Fairfield

CROMWELL, PRINCE, African American, CCHS, no residence given

CROSLEY, SAWNEY, aka SAWNEY YORK, African American, S36862, SECT:97, Norwich

CROSLEY/CROSBEE, PRINCE, African American, W24833, LCRS, CBS, SECT:97, WAL, CTM, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, New Milford

CROSS, NERO, African American (“Negro”), S39370, CTM, CCHS, WAL, FC&W, SSVT:139, JHN, Brookfield/Lebanon

CROYDON, NERO, African American, SECT:482, Lyme

CUDGO, African American (“Negro”), FC:2:671, Canterbury

CUDJO, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:22, 80d, & 81a; CCHS, Haddam

CUDJO, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, Plainfield

CUDJOE, HAM, African American, M881, CTM, CSP, Wallingford

CUFF, African American (“Negro”) (“Negro/Negroe/Niger”), IRWSR, M881 [These entries are likely for the men listed below.]

CUFF, African American (“Negro”) (“Negro/Negrow”), CACRW, CACRW:30:79a, Groton
CUFF, African American (“Negro”), (“Negro/Negrow”), CTM, CCHS, CACRW:3:75b, Guilford
CUFF, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, East Haddam
CUFF, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, M881, Middletown
CUFF, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:1g&55a, CCHS, Colchester
CUFF, African American, SECT:485, Colchester
CUFF, African American, SECT:485, CACRW:3:78A, Groton
CUFF, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Simsbury
CUFF, ABEL, African American, CTM, CCHS, FC&W, M881, Stratford
CUFF/CUFFE, CATO, African American, S36587, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, BOAS, SECT:99, WAL, FC&W, M881, FPPV [died October 27, 1843 in Stonington; widow Flora Cuff], Stonington
CUFF, COPENY, **, CSP, no residence given
CUFF/MCCUFF, POMP, African American, M881, no residence given
CUFF, SAMPSON/SAMSON, African American, S34616, MJE-1, MJE-2, CBS, HOWC, LTDH, CTM, CCHS,
CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, Windsor/Richmond/Otis
CUFFEE, STEPHEN, African American, WAL, CTM, FC&W, M881, New London
CUGGO, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, New London
CUMBER/CUMBO, LEMON/LEMUEL, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, WAL, Wallingford/Kent
CUMBO, JOHN, African American, CCHS
CUMMY/CUMMING, African American (“Negro”), LCRS, CACRW, CCHS, Woodbury
CUPHOTY, JOHN, Indian? CTM, no residence given
CUSCHIP/CRUHIP/CHUCHIP, SIMON, **, CTM, CSP, IRWSR, no residence given
CUSHOY, BENJAMIN, **, CSP, no residence given
CUSH, CATO, African American, M881, CTM, no residence given
CYRUS, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, Guilford
CYRUS, EXETER, Indian, SECT:100, CTM, M881 Corps of Sappers & Miners, Norwich
CYRUS/SYRUS/CYRES/CYRIS, POMP, African American, CBS, CTM, CRWR, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, CCHS, CHS70106, FAS, Milford
DAN, African American (“Negro”), CACRW2:46c, Farmington/Somers
DART, DOLPHIN/DOLFIN, African American, S36456, SECT:101, CTM, CCHS, FPPV [died January 3, 1825 intestate in Chatham], Chatham/Colchester
DAVID, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, FC:2:673, Woodstock
DAVID, JOSEPH, Indian, RAP2 (private on the Connecticut armed sloop American Revenue), Martha’s Vineyard, MA
DEATES, SAMUEL, African American, CBS, CACRW, CCHS, Plainfield
DEE/DEA, JAMBO/TAMBO, African American, CBS, CTM, MID:1:118, marine on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
DELAMATER, NICHOLAS, African American, CBS, no residence given
DENNISON, PRINCE, African American, MSS, CTM, CCHS, BOAS, New Windsor, b. Stonington
DERRICK, CATO, African American, CTM, CCHS, Norwich
DEWIS/DUIS, DENNIS, Indian, WAL, CCHS, New London
DEXTER, SAMUEL/SAM/SAMSON, African American, CTM, CCHS, FC&W, Plainfield
DICK, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:3:70c, CCHS, CACRW:A:30:doc70c, Farmington
DICK, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, M881, FC:2:672, Pomfret
DICK, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, Wethersfield
DICK, African American (“Negro”), FC:2:671, Brooklyn
DICK, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CTM, died in service in 1778, no residence given
DICK, BENONI, Indian, CACRW, CCHS:8:263, CTM, MID:1:121, seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, DRM:170
DICK, CATO, African American, M881, CTM, no residence given
DICK, JAMES, **, FC&W, no residence given
DINNAH/DINER/DINOR/DINAH, JAMES, African American, S37891, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), FPPV [died August 5, 1843 leaving no widow or children], res. New Haven
DOLPHIN, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, Woodbury
DOOLITTLE, CEASAR, **, M881, Pvt. Corps of Sappers & Miners, CTM, CCHS, Cheshire
DORUS/DORAS, POMP, African American, WAL, CTM, FC&W, Guilford?

DOUGLAS, CATO, **, FC:2:672, Plainfield

DUPLEX, PRINCE, African American, W16963, CBS, CACRW, CTM, FC&W, WAL, AJA:1-35 (enslaved man of James Chapman), Southington

DYER, JUBE/JUBA, African American, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR, CCHS (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Windham

EARD, DOMINE, African American, S16776, SECT:118, Colchester

EASTON/EASON, JULIN/JUAN, **, FC&W (fifer, 8th Conn. Regiment), no residence given

EDOR, ANTHONY/TONY, African American, W7073, BLWt 19813-160-55, SECT:118, Colchester

EDORE, POMP/POMPY, African American, CBS, CACRW:3:5, PRCT:7:198, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Branford

EDWARD/NED, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:48a, CCHS, FC&W, M881, ISWSR, M246, Windsor

EDWARDS, CAESAR/CESAR, African American, CBS, CTM, CCHS, FC&W, WAL, Stratford

ELLIS, JONAS, African American, SECT:119, CCHS, CTM, Norwich

EPHRAIM, JOSHUA, Nipmuc Indian, MSS, DRM:172, Union

FARCHILD, LONDON, **, FC&W, no residence given

FEGRO, PETER, **, CRWR, no residence given

FERNANDO, TAGNIER, Iberian, Azorean, or African? MID:1:36, marine on Schooner Spy, no residence given

FIDDLER, CAESAR – see BLACK, CAESAR

FIELDS, NED, African American, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), no residence given

FLAGG, DIAMON, **, M881, no residence given

FLETCHER, OZIAS, **, FC:2:671, Ashford

FORD, BOSTON, African American, M881, CTM, died in service, no residence given

FORTUNE/FORTIN, DICK, African American, CBS, CTM, FC&W, M881, WAL [same as Richard Fortune?], no residence given

FORTUNE, JACOB, **, CTM, FC&W, M881, CSP, no residence given

FORTUNE, RICHARD, aka RICHARD PUTNAM, African American, S37933, CTM, FPPV [died April 7, 1835; widow Diana Fortune], Suffield

FOSTER, PETER, African American, W14745 [wife Tammy], GREE, Glastonbury

FOSTER, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given

FOWLER, CAESAR, **, M881, no residence given

FOX, BACHUS/BACCHUS, African American (“a free Negro”), BLWt 5764-100, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, SECT:129, WAL, Norwich

FOX, CRISPUS, **, CTM, no residence given

FRAMIS, NATHAN, Indian, deserted (Continental Journal (Boston), October 31, 1776, issue 23, p. 3; deserted from the Brigantine Independence), Sandwich


FRANK, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:33:116ef, CCHS, M881, IRWSR, M246, Connecticut

FRANK, ASHER, **, M881, no residence given

FRE, ARCHELAUS, African American, CBS, SECT:133, Colchester

FRE, NERO, African American, SECT:133, CTM, FC&W, M881, CSP, East Haddam

FRE, POMPEY/POMP, African American, SECT:133, CTM, FC&W, M881, CSP, Lyme

FRE, PRINCE, African American, SECT:133, CTM, FC&W, M881, CSP, Lyme

FREBODY/FREBODY, LONDON, **, M881, CCHS (paid substitute), Glastonbury

FREEDOM, CASTER/CASTOR, African American, FC&W, no residence given

FREEDOM, CATO, ("Man of color"), S44849, CTM, CCHS, M881, Woodstock

FREEDOM/FREEMAN, CHATHAM, African American, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, Wallingford

FREEDOM, CUFF, African American, LTDH, CTM, AJA:1-35 (enslaved man of Joseph Coe), Middleton

FREEDOM.FREEDUM, DICK, African American, BLWt 590-100, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, CPAR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, CRWR, Wallingford
FREEDOM/FREEDOM, JACK, African American (“Free Black”), BLWt 5795-100, CBS, CTM, CCHS, M881, MPWR, Stratford
FREEDOM, JONAS/JONES, African American, CTM, FC&W, M881
FREEDOM/FREEDOM, JOSEPH, African American, CTM, CRWR, FC&W, M881, no residence given
FREEDOM/FREEMAN, NED, African American, S37946, LTDH, CTM, CBS, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, CRWR, FFPV, [died January 24, 1839; children: Charles Freedom, Harcy Hubbell, Nancy Hawley, Rebecca Monroe, Orvilla Freedom, Charles Freedom, Alton Freedom; no widow]. Fairfield
FREEDOM/FREEMAN, NED/EDMUND, African American (“Free Black”), S18825, BLWt 5766-100, SSVT:196, JHN, Lebanon
FREEDOM, PRINCE, **, S39549, FC:2:672, Windham
FREEMAN, ABRAHAM, African American, SECT:133, Colchester
FREEMAN, CAESAR, African American, S43567, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, M881, Wethersfield
FREEMAN, CHATHAM, African American, S36524, CBS, CTM, CCHS, FFPV [died February 13, 1834 in Wallingford; widow Mariah Freeman], Wallingford
FREEMAN, COLL, African American? CTM, Kent
FREEMAN, CUFF, African American, LCRS, WAL, CTM, CCHS, M881, Kent
FREEMAN, CUFF, African American, M881, no residence given
FREEMAN, CUFF, **, CRWR, no residence given
FREEMAN, DAVID, **, CRWR, no residence given
FREEMAN, DEVONSHIRE, African American, S36519, CTM, Huntington
FREEMAN, DICK, African American, CTM, no residence given
FREEMAN, EDWARD, African American, CCHS, CACRWA:v30:doc78b, SECT:138, CTM, Groton/Plainfield
FREEMAN, EDWARD/NED, African American, SECT:137-138, CCHS, Colchester
FREEMAN, GIFT, **, CSP, no residence given
FREEMAN, JACOB, African American, CTM, CCHS, M881, Colchester
FREEMAN, JACOB, African American, CTM, Stratford
FREEMAN, JACOB, African American, SECT:140, CTM, CCHS, M881, Groton/Preston
FREEMAN, JACOB, **, CRWR, no residence given
FREEMAN, JACOB, aka JACOB RATHBUN, African American, SECT:142, Colchester
FREEMAN, JAMES, African American, CTM, CCHS, Grotton
FREEMAN, JAMES, African American, SECT:143, CTM, CCHS, FC&W, Colchester
FREEMAN, JETHRO, African American, S36520, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, Derby
FREEMAN, JOHN, African American, SECT:144, FC&W, Colchester
FREEMAN, JORDAN, African American (“colored”), CBS, CTM, SECT:144, CPAR, MAT (died at Fort Griswold, 1781), BJH:29, BGH, Grotton
FREEMAN, JUBE, **, CRWR, no residence given
FREEMAN, JUBE/JUBA, African American, BLWt 5785-100, M881, CBS, CTM, BAR:68, CPAR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), FAS, Milford
FREEMAN, JUBE/JUBAL, African American, CTM, Stamford
FREEMAN, MICAEL, African American, CCHS, CACRWA:v30:doc78B, Groton
FREEMAN, PAUL, African American, SECT:145, Colchester
FREEMAN, PETER, **, CRWR, CHS97556, no residence given, [These records are likely for one of the men listed below.]
FREEMAN, PETER, African American, AJA:1:35 (enslaved man of Isaac Miller; “Negro Governor” of Connecticut in 1780)
FREEMAN, PETER, African American, S36521, CACRW, CTM, Cont. Line & RI, CPAR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), FFPV [died October 17, 1826 in Burlington intestate], Lyme
FREEMAN, PETER, aka PETER 2ND, African American, S36521, CTM, SECT:145, FFPV [died on Sunday February 21, 1830 at the home of Benjamin Wilson in Norwich “leaving no widow or children”], Norwich
FREEMAN, PETER, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Windsor
FREEMAN, PHIL, **, CRWR, no residence given
FREEMAN, PHILEMON/PHILO, African American, S36523, CBS, CTM, CCHS, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Middletown
FREEMAN, PHILLOMON, **, CRWR, no residence given
FREEMAN, PRIMAS/PRIMUS/PRINNIS, African American, CBS, CTM, BLWt 5802, CCHS, LTDH, M881, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CHS70106, Derby
FREEMAN, PRINCE, African American, S39549, BLWt 5807, CTM, CCHS, FC&W, Groton/Preston (moved to Grafton, Vt.)
FREEMAN, PROVIDENCE, African American, W739 [married Azuba Ran on February 22, 1808 in Bozrah], BLWt 31307-160-55, CTM, FPPV [died March 1, 1824 in Colchester], New London & Waterford, d. Colchester
FREEMAN, ROBIN, African American (“Free Black”), deserted, CTM, no residence given
FREEMAN, RUSSELL, **, SECT:148, Colchester
FREEMAN, SAMPSON, **, CTM, Glastonbury
FREEMAN, SIFAX/SYPHAX/CYPHAX, alias MOSELEY, African American, CCHS, Glastonbury
FREEMAN, SKIFF, African American, CTM, M881, no residence given
FREEMAN, THOMAS/TOM, African American (“Free Black”), BLWt 5765, CBS, CPAR, CTM, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CHS97556, Saybrook
FREEMAN, TONEY/TONA, African American, CCHS, M881, Stratford
FREEMAN/FREEMEN, PLYMOUTH, African American, CTM, CCHS, M881, no residence given
FREEMAN/FREEMON/FREEMEN, CUFF, African American, W19298 [wife Amelia; he d. July 12, 1800], CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, CPAR, M881, Kent
FREEMAN/FREEMON/FREEMON, CUFF, African American, S36522, 1790CT, M881, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Bristol
FREEMAN/FREEMON/FREMON, CASTER/COSTOR, **, CRWR, CTM, CCHS (waiter to Capt. Sill), M881, no residence given
FREEMAN/FREEMON/FREMON, ROMAN, African American, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, Windham
FREEMAN/FREMON, CAESAR/CESOR/CAESOR, African American, CTM, M881, Preston
FREEMAN/FREMON, CUFFEE, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, M881, Middletown
FREEMAN/FREMON, GAGER, **, CTM, CCHS, Preston
FREEMAN/FREMON, GIFT, African American, CTM, M881, CBS, CRWR, Saybrook
FREEMAN/FREMON, FRANK, **, CTM, CCHS, M881, Derby
FREEMAN/FREMON/FREMON, GUY, Indian, M881, SECT:140, CTM, CCHS, CACRWA:v30:doc79a, FC&W, Groton
FREEMAN/FREMON, EXETER/EXTER/EXETRA, African American, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, M881, Middletown
FREEMAN/FREMON, ROBERT, African American (“Negro”), CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, FC&W, Stratford
FREEMAN/FREMON/FREMON, SAMPSON/SAMSON, African American, CTM, CCHS, FC&W, Glastonbury
FREEMAN/FREMAN/FREMON/FREMON, CALL/COLL, African American, LCRS, S36513, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, WAL, FC&W, M881, Kent/Sharon
FREEMAN/TREEMAN, CATO, African American, SECT:136, M881, CTM, CCHS, Chatham
FREEMEN, ROMAN, African American (“Free Black”), CTM, no residence given
FREEMAN, CORODON, African American (“Black”), M881 (cook for the Teamsters in Conn.), no residence given
GAD, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:70c, CCHS, CACRWA:v30:doc70c, Farmington
GAD, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:75b, CCHS, CACRWA:v30:doc75b, Guilford
GALLOWAY, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, Woodbury
GALLOWAY, PETER, **, BLWt 6284, no residence given
GEORGE, African American (“Negro”), LCRS, CACRW, CCHS, Litchfield
GEORGE, African American, CACRW:9:80, MID:1:71, seaman on the Brig Defence, no residence given
GEORGE, BENJAMIN, **, CCHS, Stonington
GEORGE, GEORGE, African American, MID:1:122, seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
GEORGE, ISAAC, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, CTM, M73, no residence given
GEORGE, JACOB, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, SECT:160, CTM, M73, JA:148, Ledyard/Groton/Stonington
GEORGE, JOHN, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, CTM, CCHS, SECT:160, LMI82 ("son of said Betty, in ye army");
HARRISON, New London & Hebron
GEORGE, JOSHUA, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, SECT:160, MI73, JA:283, Groton and New London
GEORGE, MOSES, Groton Indian, SECT:160, JA:283, Ledyard
GEORGE, PRINCE, African American ("Free Black"), S43594, BLWt 5883, CBS, CRWR, CTM, CPAR, LTDH
(Served in Capt. David Humphrey's Company of Colored Troops), M881, CHS97556, Branford
GIBBS, PETER, African American, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR, BLWt 5869-100 (Served in Capt. David Humphrey's
Company of Colored Troops), FAS, Milford
GIFT/GIST, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:34A, CCHS, MID:1:26, marine on the Brigantine Minerva,
Saybrook
GILES/JILES, MINGO, Indian, CCHS, CRWR, FC&W, Danbury
GIST, African American, MID:1:27, marine on the Brigantine Minerva, no residence given
GLASCOW/GLASGOW/GLASCO, SILAS/SILUS, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, WAL, FC&W,
Stratford
GLASS/GLASGOW, SILAS, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, CTM, Canterbury
GOGOING, JAMES, **, MID:1:114, boy on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
GOLDSMITH, CAESAR, African American, SECT:164, WAL, M881, CTM, FC&W, Lyme
GOLDSMITH, JOHN P., see MCGOLDSMITH, JOHN P.
GOMER, PHAORAH, Indian?, CTM, no residence given
GOMER, QUASH, Indian, CTM, Wethersfield
GOMER, SAUL, Indian?, CTM, no residence given
GOODLUCK, LONDON, African American ("Free Black"), CTM, WAL, CCHS, FC&W, Stratford
GORDE, CONGO, African American ("Black"), CTM, no residence given
GRACE, MATTHIAS, African American, CHS97556, no residence given
GRANGER, ASHER, **, M881, no residence given
GRANT, JEHU, African American ("Negro"), waiter, wagon master, R4197, Danbury
GRATIS, JESSE, LCRS, **, CCHS, New Milford
GRATIS, PRINCE, African American, LCRS, CCHS, New Milford
GRAYHAM/GRAHAM, NARCISSUS, **, M881 drummer & fifer, no residence given
GREEN, JACK, African American, S43631, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, PRCT 7:346, M881, FC&W, Killingly
GREEN, TOM, **, FC&W, no residence given
GRIME, African American ("Negro"), CTM, no residence given
GRISWOLD, CESAR, **, M881, no residence given
GROSVENOR, ASABA, African American ("Negro"), QUIN, Pomfret [Note: Not to be confused with DAR
established patriot Captain Asa Grosvenor.]
GROTO, ELEAZAR, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), CBS, CACRW, CCHS, SECT:166, Norwich
GROVER, CATO, African American, CCHS, Norwich
HALE, NEWPORT, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, IRWSR, M881, Norwich; also cited as
NEGRO, NEWPORT
HALL, CATO, African American, Seaman, RAP3, no residence given
HALL, ISAAC, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, Farmington
HALLEY, MANCHESTER, African American, SECT:170, Preston
HAM, African American ("Negro"), MID:2:157 sailor on the Brigantine Marshall, no residence given
HAM, African American, seaman on Brig Marshall, BHMC 2:157, no residence given
HAMMOND, JAPHET, African American, SECT:171, Colchester
HAMOND, African American, HOWC:73, no residence given
HANIBAL, JOSEPH, **, CACRW:a:30:doc78b, Groton
HANNIBAL, JOB, **, MID:1:107, deserted, seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
HARRIS, BRISTOR/BRUSTER, **, M881, CTM, Tolland
HARRISON, CZAR [CAESAR?], African American, LCRS, Canaan
HARRISON, REUBEN, African American, CPAR, CTM, M881, 3rd CT Regt., no residence given
HARRY, African American ("Negro"), CTM, sailor, no residence given
HARRY, AMMON, African American, SECT:174, CTM, Stonington
HARRY, EPHRAIM, African American, SECT:175, CTM, CCHS, Stonington
HARRY, GEORGE, African American, SECT:175, CTM, Stonington
HART, PHARAOH/PHARO, African American, S34392, CBS, CACRW, CTM, WAL, M881, FC&W, AJA:1-35 (enslaved man of Selah Hart), AJA:2-6 (moved to New Jersey after the Revolution), Farmington
HARY, DANIEL, African American, CTM, Stonington
HASCOOT, SAMUEL, **, MID:2:157 [See also John Horsecoat/Hoscott below.], sailor on the Brigantine Marshall, no residence given
HATCHETT, JOHN, African American, CHS97556, no residence given
HAWLE/HAULEY, NERO, African American (“Negro”), S20784 [died January 30, 1817], CBS, CCHS, CTM, 1790CT, WAL, FC&W, EMB, Stratford
HAZARD, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:31:19b, CTM, CCHS, Hartford Co./East Windsor
HAZZARD/HARZARD/HAZZARD, JEFFREY/JEFFRY, **, M881, CTM, CCHS, BOAS, deserted, Stonington
HELMES/HUDDLE, HULCROFT, RICHARD, African American (“negro”), CBS, CACRW:1:37, CTM, MID:1:120, marine on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
HEM, ** (“a slave of Mr. Wadsworth”), LCRS, Cornwall
HEWETT/HEWTON, FRANCIS, Indian?, CTM, no residence given
HIGGINS, ISAAC, African American, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), no residence given
HILL, PRIMUS/EBENEZER, African American, S43677, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CPAR, BOAS, Stonington; d. Vienna, N. Y.
HILL, TONEY/TONY, **, CTM, CCHS, MPRWR, Fairfield
HOBART, SIMON, Indian, CACRW:II:3:4, CTM, New London
HOLCOMB, PLIN, **, M881, no residence given
HOLDRIDGE, RUFUS, **, M881, no residence given
HOLMES/HELMS/HELMS, HULCROFT, RICHARD, African American, SECT:186, M881, CTM, CCHS, Stonington/Preston
HOMER, FLIAS, **, M881, no residence given
HORN, SAMUEL, Indian, RA92 (seaman on the Connecticut privateer American Revenue; possibly a prisoner of war on the prison ship Jersey in New York harbor)
HORSECOAT/HOSCOOT/HOISCOND, JOHN, Mohegan Indian, SECT:187. [See also Samuel Hascoot above.], CHSJS, Montville?
HOTCHKISS/HODGKISS, PRINCE, African American, BLWT 5909, CBS, CACRW, CCHS, CRWR, FC&W, Wallingford
HUBBARD, BENJAMIN, Indian, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, East Windsor
HUBBARD/HOBART, SIMON/SIMEON, Indian, SECT:190, CCHS, CTM, New London & Lyme
HUBBELL, PRIME/PRIMUS/PRIPE, African American, LCRS, WAL, CTM, CCHS, Kent/New Milford
HUBBELL, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given
HUBBELL, SIP/SEP, LCRS, **, M881, CTM, New Milford
HULL, JOB, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, WAL, Wallingford
HULL, PRIME, **, M881, no residence given
HULL, PRINCE, African American, S36596, CBS, 1790CT, CTM, Hartford
HULL, PRINCE, **, CTM, died in service, no residence given
HUNT, CATO, **, M881, CCHS, FC&W, Killingly
HUNTINGTON, SAMUEL, African American, SECT:192, Norwich
HURLEBURT/HURLBURT, CUFF, African American, CTM, CCHS, Groton
INDIAN, GIZZE, Indian, M881 [died in service of pleurisy in 1775], no residence given
INDIAN, JAMES, Indian, CCHS, Pomfret
INDIAN, JOHN, Indian, CCHS, East Windsor
INDIAN, JONA, Indian, CCHS, no residence given
INDIAN, JOSEPH, Indian, CHS, Hebron
INDIAN, PETER, Indian, MID:1:74, sailor on the Brig Defence, no residence given
INDIAN, SAMPSON, Indian, CCHS, Canterbury
INDIAN, TOM, Indian, LCRS, CCHS, Woodbury
INDIAN, Unknown Indian, CCHS (indented Indian servant of Simeon Chittenden), Guilford
IVES, CESAR/CAESAR, **, M881, CSP, no residence given
[These entries may have been for one of the men listed below.] no residence given
JACK, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, FC:2:671, Killingly
JACK, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Newtown
JACK, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Redding
JACK, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:18, CCHS, Goshen
JACK, African American ("Negro"), CACRW, CCHS, WAL, Danbury
JACK, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:17&79a, CTM, CCHS, Groton
JACK, ANDREW, African American, CBS, CPAR, CTM, CCHS, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey's Company of Colored Troops), CH70106, CHS97556, New Haven
JACK, JOHN, African American, CTM, CCHS, Plainfield
JACK, JOHN, African American, SECT:196, CTM, CCHS, East Haddam
JACKLIN, EBENEZER, African American, S32891, CCHS Ridgefield, 1800MA, WAL, Berkshire Co.
JACKLIN, LEWIS, African American, CCHS, CTM, Ridgefield
JACKLIN, NED, African American, CTM, no residence given
JACKLIN, THADDEUS, African American, Private, CPAR, 1790CT, CCHS, New Milford
JACKLIN, THOMAS, African American, CCHS, Stratford
JACOB/JACK, African American ("Negro"), IRWSR, M881 [This may have been one of the men listed above.]
JAMBERS, JAMES, **, CCHS, Fairfield
JAMES, African American ("Negro"), FC:2:671, Pomfret
JAMES, African American ("Negro"), LCRS, CACRW:33:201ab, CACRW:30:135A, CCHS, M881, ISWSR, Woodbury
JANG/JANY, MARLIC/MALICK/MARLICK/MOLICK, African American, SECT:207, M881, CTM, MPRWR, Lebanon
JAQUOI, JOSEPH BARD, Mohegan Indian, JJB, Montville
JAVAN, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Canterbury
JEACOCKS/JECOCKS/JECOX/GEEOCKS, GRESHAM, **, M881, CCHS, FC&W, Fairfield
JEACOCKS/GEEOCKS/JECOCKS, JOSHUA/JOSHUAH, **, M881, FC&W, no residence given
JEACOCKS/JECOCKS/GEACOCKS, JESSE, **, M881, CCHS, MID:1:70, 2nd mate on the Brig Defence, Fairfield
JED, African American, CACRW:7:327, no residence given
JEM, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Woodbury
JESSUP, CATO, **, CCHS, Stonington
JETHRO, MARTIN, African American, CPAR, CTM, 1840CT, New Haven
JETHRO/JETHROW, LUKE, **, M881, no residence given
JOB, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:143d, CCHS, Wallingford
JOHN, African American ("Negro"), CACRW, CCHS, Norwich
JOHN, JEREMY, African American, CPAR, no residence given
JOHNS, PETER, Indian, deserted (Connecticut Courant (Hartford), May 23, 1777, issue 644, p. 3)
JOHNSON, JOSEPH, Indian, CACRW, CTM, Connecticut
JOHNSON, PRINCE, African American (“Free Black”), CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, no residence given

JOHNSON, SHUBAEL, African American, BLWt 6018-100, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Stratford

JOHNSON/JOHNSTON, BRISTOL/BRISTON/BRISTER/BRISTO, African American, CTM, W20207, CCHS, Colchester

JOICE, CAESAR, African American, CTM, no residence given

JONAH, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, Connecticut

JONES, JASPER, **, CHS70106, [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot Corporal Jasper Jones.]

JOSEPH, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Stratford

JOSEPHUS, African American (“Negro”), MID:2:156, sailor on the Briggantine Marshall, no residence given

JOSEPHUS, African American, seaman on the Brigg Marshall, BHMC 2:156, no residence given

JOSHUA, BRISTOL, African American, SECT:212, Colchester

JOSIAH, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, FC:2:672, Plainfield

JOSMAN, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Stratford

JOVAN, African American (“Negro” FC:2:671, Canterbury

Jowler/Jouzlar, Caesars/Seasar, African American, WAL, BOM, CTM, Died in service at Battle of Monmouth, 1778, FC&W, New London?

JUBA, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR, M881 [This may have been one of the men listed below.], no residence given

JUBE, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:26, CCHS, Milford

JUBE, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, Danbury

JUBITER, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:17:39, CCHS, Norwich

JUBITER, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR, M881, CRWR:s2:v38:p70a (Served in Col. John Durkees Company), no residence given

JUDD, ALEXANDER/ALEX, African American, BLWt 6029-100, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Watertown

JUDD, ANDREW, African American, CTM, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), no residence given


JUPITER, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, Connecticut

KEDAR, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, Norwich

KELLOGG, DOLPHIN, African American, SECT:218, CCHS, Colchester

KENT, CATO, African American, W21619 [wife Beulah; he d. June 1829 in Hartford], CTM, Hartford

KENT, TITUS, African American, BLWt 1665-100 [slave of Samuel & Elihu Kent], CACRW, CTM, CCHS, Suffield

KEYES, AARON, African American, CBS, CCHS, Ashford

KEYHOLE, PETER, African American, CTM, Judd’s Co., no residence given

KINGBURY, TILLY, **, CTM, no residence given

LANDING, CAZAR, **, CCHS, Guilford

LANE, AMOS, Indian, CACRW, CCHS, Somers

LANKTON, JONATHAN, African American, CBS, CACRW, CCHS, Farmington

LANKTON, NATHANIEL, African American, AJA-2:11 (Makes a statement that the records are unclear as to whether this man was Nathaniel Lankton or one of Lankton’s enslaved men.), Farmington

LATHAM, LAMBERT/LAMBO/SAMBO, African American, CBS, CTM, SECT:221-222, CPAR, Groton

LATHROP, JOB, African American, aka PRIMUS, JOB, W10256 [married Keturah Michael November 10, 1816; he died March 8, 1822], SECT:123, Norwich

LATHROP/LATHAM, LAMBO, African American (“colored”), BGH, MAT (died at Fort Griswold, 1781)

LATHROP, NEAL, African American (“negro”), CBS, CACRW, CCHS, CTM, MID:1:119, marine on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given

LEAMING, POMP, African American (“Negro”), Patriotic Service (sufferer), PRCT 7:455, Norwalk

LEATHERCOAT, JONATHAN, Indian, CACRW, CCHS, DRM:172, Windham

LEBBEUS, aka QUY, African American (“Negro”), S36249, CACRW, CCHS, Norwich

LEET, RICHARD, African American, S38908, New London
LEW/LUE, PETER, **, FC&W, no residence given
LEWES/LEWIS, MINGO, **, M881, CTM, FC&W, CSP, no residence given
LEWIS, PETER, African American (“Free Negro”), W17463 [m. Patience Brooks], CBS, CACRW, CCHS, Stratford
LEWIS, PHILO, **, M881, no residence given
LEWIS/LUIS, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, FC:2:672, Pomfret
LIBERTY, CUFF, African American, BLWt 6110-100, M881, CBS, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Middletown
LIBERTY/LIBERTY, JAMES, African American, CBS, CCHS, CRWR, WAL, M881, FC&W, Woodbury
LIBERTY, JEFF/JEFFREY, African American (“slave of Jonathan Farrand”), LCRS, CBS, HAWC, CTM, SJW, CCHS, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CHS84476, FAS, Washington/Woodbury
LIBERTY, JEFFERY/ZEPHANIAH, **, M881, no residence given
LIBERTY, JOSEPH, African American, CTM, no residence given
LIBERTY, PERO, African American?, M881, CTM, CCHS, Haddam
LIBERTY, POMP, African American, BLWt 1761-100, M881, CBS, CRWR, CTM, CCHS CPAR, CHS70106, CHS97556, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Branford
LIBERTY, SHARP, African American, R7286, CBS, CACRW, CTM, M881, CRWR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Wallingford
LILEY/LILLE/LILLEY, PRINCE, **, M881, CCHS FC:2:671, Canterbury
LIMBO, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:34b, CCHS Saybrook
LINES, JOHN, African American, W26775 [wife Judith; he d. 1828], SECT:233-234, waiter to Col. Sherman, Windham and Colchester
LITTLE, JACK, African American, CBS, CTM, CCHS, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), New Haven
LITTLE, PRINCE, **, CCHS no residence given
LIVELY, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Stratford
LIVY, African American (“Negro”), MID:2:70, seaman on the Brigantine Delight, no residence given
LIVY, African American, seaman on Brig Delight, BHMC 2:70, no residence given
LOGIN, CATO, African American, CCHS, Danbury
LONDON/LONDON, POMP, African American, M881, CCHS, CRWR:35:209b, Woodbury
LOOMIS, DICK, African American, BLWt 6088-100, CACRW, CTM, M881, Wethersfield
LYON, MOSES, African American, CACRW, East Haddam
LYON, TONY, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CCHS, Fairfield
LYON/LION, PETER, African American, SECT:236, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Lyme [Also known as Peter Freeman], Branford
MAGIRA/MEGIRA/MAJIRA/BEGIRA/MCGURLEY, PETER, African American, R6830, SECT:238, CBS, CTM, CCHS Colchester
MAKENS, DICK, **, M881, no residence given
MALLORY, DAN, African American (“colored”), W25678 [wife Alice], BLWt 57646-160-55, GREE, Woodbury
MAQUA/MCWAY/MAJUS, SILAS, Indian, RAP2 (seaman on the Connecticut privateer American Revenue), Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.
MARBLE, Sampson, African American, CTM, no residence given
MARK, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Coventry
MARS, JUPITER, African American, LCRS (possibly as a servant of an officer), Norfolk
MARTIN, JETHRO, African American (“colored”), SO:789 (servant to General Hughmiphurs)
MARTIN, LEWIS, African American, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CHS97556, New Haven
MASON/MEASON, JOSEPH, Indian, SECT:244, FC:2:672, DRM:172, Groton/Windham
MAZARENE, EZEKIEL, Indian?, CTM, no residence given
McCLean, John, African American, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), no town given
MCCUFF, POMP/POMPEY, African American, S36084, LTDH, CBS, CPAR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Windham
MCGOLDSMITH/GOLDSMITH, JOHN P., **, FC:2:672, Voluntown
MEAD/MEADS/MEDES, CATO, **, M881, FC&W, no residence given
MEASON/MEASOM, ELIAS, Indian, CTM, CCHS Preston
MEASON/MEAZON, JOHN JR., Indian, CHHS, FC:2:671, Killingly
MEASON/MEAZON/MEAZONS, JOHN, Indian, CTM, CCHS, FC:2:671, Killingly
MEAZONS/MESON/MEASON, JOHN, Indian, CTM, Enfield
MEECH, JOSHUA, Mohegan Indian, DRM:175, Norwich or Preston
MEED, CATO, African American, CTM, no residence given
MERRANDA/MORANDO, PETER, African American, CBS, WAL, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), no residence given
MICHA, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Norwich
MIDDLETON, KIT, **, M881, no residence given
MINGO, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CHHS, Farmington
MINGO, ROYAL, Indian, CTM, no residence given
MINOR, TITUS, African American, S36133, Litchfield Co.
MITCHELL, OLIVER, African American, W1632 [m. Anna Wright], BLWt 26683-160-55, CBS, HOWC, Windsor
MIX, BRISTER, African American, CHHS New Haven
MIX, PETER, African American, BLWt 6214-100, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Branford
MOHAWK, PETER, Indian, MPRWR, Pomfret
MOHAWK/MOWHAWK, PETER, Indian, CHHS, CTM, Wethersfield
MOHOCK, PETER, **, CRWR, no residence given
MOLATTO, ADAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CCHS, Wallingford
MOLATTO, EPHRAIM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CACRW, CHHS, Stratford
MOLATTO, NEWPORT, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CACRW, CHHS, Tolland
MOLATTO/MULATTO, ADAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CACRW, CHHS, Fairfield
MOLATTO/MULATTO, CYRUS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CACRW, waiter, Milford
MOLATTO/MULATTO, DICK/DICK P., Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CTM, IRWSR, M881, CSP, Middletown
MOLATTO/MULATTO, JOB, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), LCRS, CHHS, Woodbury
MOLATTO/MULATTO, MICHAEL, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), LCRS, CHHS, Woodbury
MOMOSUCH/MONOSSUK/ MOSSACK/MOSSOCK/ MOSSUCK, DANIEL, Indian, CHHS, CTM, Farmington
MONGO, JONATHAN, **, CHHS, CACRWA:v30:doc79a, Groton
MONJO, JOSEPH, **, CTM, no residence given
MOODY, PERO, African American, SECT:255, Preston
MOODY, PICHOL/PICO, African American, SECT:255, CTM, Preston
MORDOCK/MOREDOCK, PRINCE, African American, CHHS, CRWR, CTM, Norwich
MORSE, POMP, African American?, CTM, CSP, no residence given
MORTIMER, PRINCE, African American, CARON, no residence given
MOSELEY/MOSEL/MOSELY/NEGRO, SIFAX/SYFAC/CYPHAX, alias FREEMAN, African American (“Free Black”), CCHS, BLWt 6146-100, M881, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CHHS, IRWSR, Glastonbury
MOSS/MORSE, POMP, **, M881, CTM, CHHS, FC&W, Stratford
MOSSUCK/MOSSOCK, DANIEL, Tunxis Indian, BIC:serB:box7:file79, Farmington
MULET, PHINEHAS, African American, CCHS, Plainfield
MUNG, BILLA/BILLY, **, M881, no residence given
MUNG, PETER, African American (“reported a Negro”), MSS, Seabrook
MUNRO/MANROW, NEHEMIAH, **, FC&W (drummer 4th Connecticut Regiment), no residence given
MUNSON, LENT, African American, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), no residence given
MURRY, WARP, Indian, CCHS, Durham
NAILS, JOHN, **, CH570106, no residence given
NASH, PETER, African American, R7558 [wife Lydia], waiter to Capt. Thomas Nash, Fairfield
NEAGUS, JOHN, **, M881, no residence given
NED, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Norwich
NED, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Plainfield
NED, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, WAL, Norwalk
NED, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, Redding
NED, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, Hartford
NED, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, RWBL (“Conn. Sufferer”), Fairfield
NED, African American (“Negro”), HOWC, no residence given
NED, African American (“Free Negro”), Patriotic Service (sufferer), FLS:1:156, PRCT 7:458, Fairfield
NED P., African American (“Negro”), CSP, no residence given
NEDSON, EDWARD, African American/and/or Pequot Indian, CCHS, DRM:172, Stonington
NEDSON, JOHN, African American/and/or Pequot Indian, CTM, Lebanon
NEDSON, ROBBIN, African American/and/or Pequot Indian, CCHS, BOAS, DRM:172, Stonington
NEDSON/NODSON, ROBERT, African American/and/or Pequot Indian, CCHS, no residence given
NEDSON/NODSON, JAMES, African American/and/or Pequot Indian, SECT:265, North Stonington
NEEGRO, JUBE/JUBA, African American, IRWRS, [This may have been one of the men listed below.]
NEGER/NGERO, CUFF, African American, IRWRS [This may have been one of the men listed below.]
NEGRO, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Sharon
NEGRO MAN OF DANIEL HAWLEY, African American, CCHS, Stratford
NEGRO MAN OF GEN’LL PUTNAM, African American, CCHS, Pomfret
NEGRO MAN OF JOHN BEACH, African American, CCHS, Stratford
NEGRO MAN OF JOHN TURNERY, African American, CCHS, Stratford
NELSON, ISAAC, African American, AJA-2:7, CCHS:12:347, no residence given
NERO, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, M881, Stratford
NERO/NERON, CORODON, **, M881, FC&W, CACRW:2C:53c, no residence given
NEWPORT, see HALE, NEWPORT
NEWPORT/NEWPORT, RUFUS, **, FC&W, M881, no residence given
NICHOLS/NICHOLLS, BRISTOL/BRISTER, **, M881, CTM, CSP, Saybrook
NIGAR/NIGER, CUFF, African American, WAL, M881, FC&W, CRWR, Guilford
NIGAR/NIGER, PHILIP, **, CCHS, CRWR, M881, Guilford
NIGAR/NIGER/NEGRO, CAESOR, African American, M881, no residence given
NIGER, JOFFE/TOFFE, African American, M881, CRWR, no residence given
NIGER, THEOS, African American, M881, no residence given
NIMHAM, Indian, M881, no residence given
NONSUCK, JOHN, Indian, CTM, no residence given
NONSUCH/NONSEUCH/NONSUCK, JONATHAN, Indian, CTM, CCHS, Guilford
NOTT, PELEG, African American, 1800CT, BJB:36 (Nott was an enslaved man of Jeremiah Wadsworth of West Hartford, “who drove a provision cart in the American Revolution.” He was one of the “Negro Governors” of Connecticut.)
NUBB, PETER, aka PETER CHESEBOROUGH, African American, BOAS, SECT:273, Stonington
OCCUM, DAVID, Indian, CTM, no residence given
OCCUM, JONATHAN, Indian, SECT:276, QVIN, LMI82, Mohegan/New London
ONKSHUN, JOHN, Indian, LCRS, CCHS, Canaan
OTIS, JESSE/JOSHUA, African American, CBS, CTM, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Branford
OTIS, JOSEPH/JO, African American, S27276, CPAR, Branford
PAGAN/PEGAN, IOSIAH, Indian, CCHS, DRM:172, Woodstock
PAGAN/PAYON/PIYON/PEGAN, ELEAZER, Indian, CCHS, CTM, DRM:172, Union
PAGAN/PEAGAN/PEGAN, JOSEPH, Indian, CTM, CCHS, DRM:172, MSS, Woodstock
PALENTINE/PALLATINE/PALINGTINE, CASH, African American, SECT:283, CCHS, FC&W, Lebanon
PALMER, Bristow, African American, CCHS:8:264, landsman on the Oliver Cromwell, deserted, no residence
PARALA, JOHN, Portuguese, deserted (Continental Journal (Boston), October 31, 1776, issue 23, p. 3; deserted from the Brigantine Independence)
PARKHURST, CEASAR, African American, CTM, no residence given
PARKIS, CAESAR, **, FC:2:672, Plainfield
PARO, JOSEPH, alias LIBERTY, African American, CCHS, Haddam
PAUL, JOHN, Indian, SECT:291, CCHS, New London
PAUL, LODEWICK, Indian, CCHS, Stonington
PAUL, PETER, Indian, CCHS, Colchester
PAUL, WILLIAM, Indian, CCHS, Groton
PAWHEG, SEAS, Indian, CTM, no residence given
PEEPEON [PEQUON?], BENJAMIN, Indian?, CTM, no residence given
PEGAN, ELEAZER, Nipmuc Indian, MSS, Woodstock
PEGAN, JOSEPH, JR., Nipmuc Indian, NAT, CTM, Woodstock
PEGUN, JOSIAH, Nipmuc Indian, FC:2:673, Woodstock
PELHAM/PELLOM/PELLON, EDWARD, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), S36216, SECT:295, CCHS, CTM, Coventry/Preston
PENDALL, TOBY, African American ("Free Negro"), CBS, CTM, CCHS, New Haven/Norwich
PEPOON, TIMOTHY, Indian?, CTM, Lebanon
PERKINS, YORK, **, M881, no residence given
PERKINS/PURKINS, CUDJO/CUGJO, African American, SECT:298, M881, Windham
PERO, JOSEPH, aka LIBERTY or PERO LIBERTY, African American, CCHS, CTM, Haddam
PERO, PETER, African American, CCHS, CTM, Enfield
PERO, TOBIAS, African American, CBS, Derby
PETE, LEMUEL, African American, CBS, WAL, Waterbury
PETER, 2ND, see FREEMAN, PETER
PETER, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, AJA:2-8, Farmington
PETER, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Hebron
PETER, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, CACRW:30:26, Milford
PETER, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, CACRW:30:143d, Wallingford
PETER, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:7q, no residence given
PETER, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:16c, CCHS, Fairfield
PETER, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:68b, East Windsor
PETER, African American ("Negro"), IRWSR, M881 [These entries are likely for the men listed below.]
PETER, African American ("Negro"), LCRS, CCHS, Woodbury
PETER, African American, MID:1:26, marine on the Brigantine Minerva, no residence given
PETER, African American, CACRW:6:157a, MID:1:152, seaman on the Galley Trumbull, no residence given
PETER, Indian, MID:1:74, sailor on the Brig Defense, no residence given
PETER, African American ("Negro"), MID:v:1:152, seaman on the Galley Trumbull, no residence given
PETERS, GALLOWAY, "Colored," W18736 [m. Nancy Comer; he d. July 20, 1848], BLWt 6284, Southbury
PETERS, PETER, African American ("Free Black"), S36210, BLWt 6273-100, SECT:307, BOAS, CTM, CCHS, Stonington
PETERSON, DANIEL, African American, CBS, CTM, CCHS, New Haven
PHAROAH, African American ("Negro"), (servant of Selah Hurt), CRWR:S1:v:37:p:239, GEL, Farmington
PHAROAH/PHAROAH/PHAROW, ABRAHAM/ABIAH, Indian, SECT:309, CCHS, CTM, M881, CACRW:30:doc:79a, FC&W, CSP, Groton
PHELIX, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:43, CCHS, FC:2:673, Woodstock
PHILIP, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:3b, CACRW:30:7r, CACRW:35:21, CACRW:37:59b [These entries are likely for one or more of the men listed below.] no residence given
PHILIP, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, CACRW:30:75a, FC&W, Guilford
PHILIP, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Simsbury
PHILIP, African American ("Negro"), CRWR:s2:v:38:p:90a-93a (Served in Col. John Durkees Company)
PHILL/PHILIP, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Norwich

PHILLIPS, JERUEL, African American ("Free Black"), W17440 [wife Prudence], CTM, FPPV [died December 16, 1828; sons James Phillips and Jarvis Phillips], New Milford

PHILLIPS, PHILIP, African American, W5532 [wife Elizabeth], Windham

PHILLIPS/PHILIPS, REUBEN, African American ("Free Black"), W15214, CTM, Hebron

PHILLIPS/PHILIPS, SAMUEL, African American, W21965 [wife Lydia], CTM, WAL, New Milford

PIGAN, ELEAZAR, Indian?, CTM, no residence given

PINTNOGTE, JORGE, Indian?, CTM, no residence given

PINTO, ABRAHAM, **, CTM, PRF, East Haven

PITKIN, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given

PLACEY, WILLIAM, Indian, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, WAL, DRM:172, Windham

PLYMOUTH, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:36h&7q, FC&W, Hartford

PLYMOUTH, African American ("Negro"), CTM, CCHS, WAL, Windsor

PLYMOUTH, African American ("Negro"), IRWSR, M881, MPRWR, CRWR:v3:2:v38:p90a-91a (Served in Col. John Durkee Company), no residence given

PLYMOUTH, African American, HOWC:74 (May be the same man as Plymouth Negro, above), Windsor

POHEAGUE/PAWHIG/PAUGHHEAGE/PAUCHEAGE/PONEAGUE, JONAS/JOSIAS/JOSIAH/SEAS, Indian, SECT:312, SJW, CTM, BOAS ("Reported killed at the Siege of Yorktown, VA, in 1781), CCHS, CRWR, FC&W, CH599190, CSP, Stonington

POHEEGH, THOMAS, Indian, CTM, no residence given

POLLOCK, MINGO, African American ("Free Black"), W17469 [wife Molly], CTM, FC:2:672, Thompson

POMEROY, PLYNY, **, M881, no residence given

POMEROY/POMOROY/POMROY/PUMROY, PHEBUS, **, M881, no residence given

POMIT, JOSEPH, Indian, RAP (seaman on the Connecticut privateers Oliver Cromwell and American Revenue)

POMP, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, Stratford

POMP, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:17:39, CCHS, Norwich

POMP, African American ("Negro"), IRWSR, M881, CRWR (Served in Col. John Durkee Company), no residence given

POMP, African American ("Negro"), PRF, East Haven

POMP, African American, CTM, CSP, no residence given

POMP, EBENEZER, **, IRWSR, M881, CTM, Stanford

POMP, ELISHA/ELUS, **, IRWSR, M881, WAL, CTM Colchester

POMP, JACOB, African American, CCHS, CTM, CACRW:v30:doc78b, Groton

POMP, JOHN, African American, CCHS, CACRW:v30:doc79a, Groton

POMP/POMPEY/POMPY, DAVID, African American, IRWSR, M881, SECT:313, CTM, FC&W, CSP, Groton

POMPEY, ELISHA, African American, SECT:313, FC&W, Colchester

POMPEY, LEMUEL, African American, SECT:314, Groton

POMPEY/POMPY, JOHN, African American, CBS, SECT:314, IRWSR, M881, FC&W, CSP, Groton & Stonington

POMPEY/POMPY/POMPY, SAMUEL, African American, SECT:314, IRWSR, M881, WAL, CACRW:v30:doc779a, FC&W, CH591553, Groton

POMPY, African American ("Negro"), CACRW:30:75b, CCHS, CACRW:v30:doc75b, Guilford

POMPY, African American ("Negro"), IRWSR, M881 [This may have been one of the men listed below.]

POPENAH, SOLOMON, **, CCHS, seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given

PORTER, African American ("Negro"), CCHS, East Windsor

POST, BRISTOL/AUGUSTUS, African American, SECT:315, CTM, CCHS, Hebron

POTTAGE, JAMES, Indian, CTM, no residence given

POTTAGE, SAMUEL, Indian, CTM, no residence given

POTTAGE/POTAGE, JABEZ, Indian, S36241, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, WAL, DRM:172, Windham

POTWAY, GEORGE, Indian? CTM, no residence given

POUKEEG/POUHEEG, THOMAS, Indian, M881, no residence given

PRESCOT, TITUS, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, Ashford

PRIME, African American ("Negro"), CACRW, Fairfield

PRIME, African American ("Negro"), CACRW, Fairfield
PRIME, ASA, African American, CTM, crossed “River Delaware to Trenton in 1776”, no residence given
PRIMOS/PRIMUS/PRIMAS, JEFFREY/JEFFRY/JESSE/JEFFERY, **, M881, CCHS, CTM, Stratford
PRIMUS, DR, African American, HOWC:74, no residence given
PRIMUS, JESSE, African American, FC&W, no residence given
PRIMUS, JOB, see LATHROP, JOB
PRINCE, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:3c, CSP [This entry is likely for one of the men listed below.]
   No residence given.
PRINCE, African American (“Negro”) (“a free Negro”), CACRW:III:5, CCHS, PRCT 7:529, Norwich
PRINCE, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, FC:2:671, Canterbury
PRINCE, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, AJA-2:8, Farmington
PRINCE, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:143d, CCHS, Wallingford
PRINCE, African American (“Negro”). LCRS, CACRW:30:47&139b, CCHS, PRCT 7:461, Winchester
PRINCE, African American (“Negro”), WAL, IRWSR, M881, CRWR (Served in Col. John Durkees Company), no
   residence given
PRINCE, African American (“Negro”), WAL, Windsor
PRINCE, CHARLES, African American (“Negro”), deserted, (Connecticut Gazette (New London), October 11,
   1776), v. 13, issue 674, p. 4.
PRINCE, PHILIP, African American, S35580, CTM, CCHS, 1810CT, Stonington
PRINCE, TIMOTHY, African American, S41079, CTM, CCHS, 1810VT, VH3:417, Stonington
PRINCE, WILLIAM, African American, CBS, CACRW, CCHS, Preston
PRINCE, ZACHARY/ZACKERY/TUKRY, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CHS (died; received his
   freedom for service prior to his death?), CSP, Simsbury
PROVIDENCE, African American, HOWC:74, Windsor
PUFFER/PUFFOR, **, FC&W, no residence given
PUMHAM, EPHRAIM, Indian, CCHS, landsman on the Oliver Cromwell, prisoner of war on prison ship Jersey
PUMHAM, JOSEPH, Indian, CCHS, CTM, Lyme
PUTNAM, RICHARD, see FORTUNE, RICHARD
QUACHEATS/QUOCHET/CHEATS/COCKUTTS, CYRUS, Indian, SECT:325, CTM, Preston
QUACHEATS/COCHETS/SHEETS/CHEETS, ISAAC, Indian, CCHS, CTM, Groton
QUACHEATS/QUOCHETTS/CHOCHEATS, JACOB, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, SECT:325, CTM, CCHS,
   CHS7, JA:281, DRM:175, Preston/Gorton
QUACHEATS/QUOCHETTS/COCHETS/QUEKEETS, JOSEPH, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, SECT:326,
   CCHS, CACRW:30:v:doc79a, M173, Groton
QUACHEATS/QUOCHETTS/QUOCHECKS/QUOCHETS, PETER, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, SECT:326,
   M881, CCHS, M173, DRM:175, Ledyard/Groton
QUACHEATS/COCHETS, THOMAS, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, JA:281, SECT:326, Ledyard
QUAMENY, CHARLES P., Mashantucket Pequot Indian? CSP, no residence given
QUAME/QUANNE/QUOM, JOHN, Mohegan Indian, CACRW, CTM, DOU, CHS:JS, Glastonbury/Norwich
QUAMINO, HUMPHREY, African American (“mixed blood, Spanish and negro”), BC 2:46, CBN:32, LCRS,
   Barkhamsted
QUAMONO, FONTAIN, Indian, CTM, no residence given
QUAMPS, MOSES, Indian, CTM, Stonington
QUAQUIUMPS, JOHN, Indian, SECT:327, North Stonington
QUASH/QUASH/QUAS/TUAS, GIDEON, Indian, R8539, CBS, SECT:329, CCHS, CHS93535A, Colchester
QUASH/QUASHA/QUASHY/CUSH, CATO/CATOE, African American, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, CRWR,
   SECT:328, M881, FC&W, Colchester
QUASH/QUOOSH, EPHRAIM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CBS, CCHS, Stratford
QUI/QUI/QUI/QUIE/QUIG, LEBB(EUS)/LIBEUS, alias NEGRO, African American, S36249, BLWt 6355-100,
   CBS, CTM, CSSR, BC Franklin, CCHS, M881, FC&W, MID:1:73, seaman on the Brig Defence, Norwich
QUIBA, THOMAS, Indian, M881, Saybrook
QUOCO, JAMES, Indian, M881, no residence given
QUOCOTO, FORTUNO, Indian?, CTM, no residence given
QUOMANY/QUOMINY/QUAMENY, CHARLES, African American, SECT:331, CCHS, FC&W, Norwich
RANN/RAN, CRISP, **, FC&W, no residence given
RANN/RANNE, JACOB, **, FC&W (drummer 4th Connecticut Regiment), no residence given
RATHBUN, JACOB, see FREEMAN, JACOB
RAY, WARWICK/WARRICK, African American, S35602, SECT:337, CTM, East Haddam, Warwick?
RAYMOND, POMP, African American, WAL, FC&W, Norwich?
RAYMOND, SCIPIO, African American, SECT:338, New London
RAYMOND/RAIMOND, EBO/EBER, African American, S36250, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, SECT:337, WAL, Norwich
READ/REED, DICK, African American, M881, no residence given
READ/REED, JOSEPH, Indian, CACRW, CCHS, WAL, Fairfield
RICH/RITCH, CAESAR, **, M881, CTM, no residence given
RICHARD/DICK, African American (“Negro”), CRWR, M860, no residence given
RICHARD/RICHARDS, DICK, African American (“Negro”), CBS, CRWR, M860, M881, CSP, no residence given
RICHARSON/RICHESON, JUBA/JABE, African American, M881, no residence given
ROBBINS, JOSEPH, Indian, Dragoon, CCHS, W17567 [m. Elizabeth/Betsy Grant; he d. May 10, 1817 in Brookfield, NY], WAL, CTM, enl. Killingly, Windham/Voluntown
ROBEN/ROBIN, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, RWBL (“Conn. Sufferer”), Danbury
ROBERS, HEMAN, African American, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), no residence given
ROBERSON/ROBINSON/ROBERTSON/ROBISON, CATO, African American, SECT:346-347, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CCHS, CACRW:a:30:doc79a, Groton
ROBERTS, BENJAMIN, see SIMMONS, BENJAMIN
ROBIN, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:63, Danbury
ROBIN/ROBBIN, African American (“Negro”), LCRS, CACRW:30:135b, CCHS, Woodbury
ROBINS/ROBBINS, JOSHUA, Indian, CTM, DRM:172, Windham
ROBINSON, AMOS, African American, SECT:346, CTM, no residence given
ROBINSON, CATO, **, FC:2:671, BLWT 6406-100, LTDH CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CHS70106, Plainfield
ROGER, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:8:382b, Danbury
ROGER, African American, Patriotic Service (sufferer), FLS:1:157, PRCT 7:461, Danbury
ROGER, JOHN, African American, CBS, Norwalk
ROGERS, CUGGO, **, FC:2:671, Plainfield
ROGERS, CUGGO, African American, CCHS, New London
ROGERS, JOHN, **, CTM, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops)
ROGERS, JOSIAH, African American, SECT:351, no residence given
ROGERS, SHARP/SHARPER, African American, BLWt 6384, CBS, CTM, CCHS, LTDH, CPAR, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), New Haven
ROMAN, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:17:77a, no residence given
ROSE, SIMON, African American, CBS, CTM, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Washington
ROWLAND, JACk, African American, S17058, FC&W, no residence given
SABIN/SABINS, BILLIN, **, FC&W, no residence given
SABUCK, WILLIAM, Indian, CTM, deserted, Mansfield
SACKETT, THOMAS, African American (“native of Africa”), CBS, CACRW:III:5, WAL, Cornwall
SAM, African American (“a Negro”), HP, M881, CTM, Norwich
SAMPSON, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Newtown
SAMPSON/SAMSON, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:50c, CCHS, Wallingford
SAMPSON, African American (“Negro”), FC:2:671, Canterbury
SAMPSON, BRISTOL, see BUDD, BRISTOL
SAMPSON, JOHN AMOS, Indian, CACRW, CCHS, Canterbury
SAMUEL, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:2C:44c, no residence given
SANFORD, FORTUNE, African American, CCHS, Fairfield
SAUNDERS, CUFF, see WELLS, CUFF
SAURMOG/SERMUG/SOURMUGG, JETHRO, Indian, RAP2 (private on the Connecticut armed sloop *American Revenue*), MSS, Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.
SAWYER, LONDON, African American, CBS, CTM, CCHS, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Haddam
SAWYER, SOLOMON, aka LONDON SAWYER, African American, SECT:363, Haddam & Bolton
SCEHASUCKS/SKESPICKS, REUBEN, Indian, CTM, no residence given
SCEHASUCKS/SKESPICKS, THOMAS, Indian, CTM, no residence given
SCIOPE/CIPEO/SIPPEO, CEASAR, African American, M881, CTM, FC&W, Hebron
SCIOPE/SIPIO/SCIOPE, ABEL, African American, CBS, CCHS:12:50&348, M881, CRWR, CTM, CACRWA:30:70c, AJA-2:9, Farmington
SCIOPE, African American (“Negro”), FC:2:671, Ashford
SCIOPE, CALEB, Indian, SECT:364, Stonington
SCIOPE/SIPIO, African American (“Negro”) (“a Negro”), M881, CCHS, Plainfield
SCODAUB/SHANDAUP/CHARLEY, CHARLES, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, SECT:73, MI73, JA:148, Groton/Ledyard
SCEPHEL, CEASAR, African American?, CTM, no residence given
SEARS, CUFF, African American, MID:2:77, prisoner of the British from the *Eagle* privateer, no residence given
SEEP, AMMON, **, CCHS, marine on the *Oliver Cromwell*, no residence given
SEKESUCKS, TOBY, Indian CTM, Stonington
SERVANT OF SILUS NICKOLS, **, CCHS, Stratford
SERVANT OF SIMON CHITTENDEN, Indian (“INDENTED INDIAN”), CCHS, Guilford
SHARP, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:13a, CCHS, Durham
SHARP, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:143d, CCHS, Wallingford
SHARPER, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:49a, Windham
SHARPER, PHAROH, African American, CBS, CCHS, MID:1:125, landsman on the *Oliver Cromwell*, no residence given
SHARPER, TUIS/TUISH/FEEVISH, Indian/Mullatto, SECT:368, CTM, CCHS, CACRWA:v30:doc78b, Stonington/Groton
SHAWONE, CHARLES, **, FC:2:671, Brooklyn
SHELDING, CAESAR, **, MSS, 1st Rhode Island Regt., no residence given
SHELLEY, SAMUEL, (“Free Person of Color”), S36306, BLWt 1287-100, CTM, CCHS, BOAS, FPPV [died August 22, 1826], Stonington/Stratford
SHELTON, CAESAR/CESAR, aka CAESAR or CAESAR NEGRO, African American, S19764, Bridgeport
SHEM, African American (“Negro”), LCRS, CCHS, New Milford
SHEPARD/SHEPERD/SHEPHERD/SHEPPARD/SHEPPORD, CUDJO/CUDGE/CHUDGE/CUDGO, African American, SECT:372, M881, CTM, FC&W, Voluntown
SHON, FELIX, African American, SECT:372, CTM, Stonington
SHON, JONAS, African American, SECT:372, CTM, Stonington
SHON, SIMEON, African American, SECT:372-373, CTM, CCHS, Stonington/Colchester
SHORAM, African American, Patriotic Service (sufferer), FLs:1:161, RWBL (“Conn. Sufferer”), Groton
SHORT, JOHN, alias JOHN SMITH, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), SECT:373, CTM, deserted, sailor, no residence given
SHOTT/SHOTE/SHOOT/JAMES, Indian, SECT:373, CTM, CCHS, Colchester
SILL/SILLS/STILES, JEFF/JEFFREY/JEFFERY, African American, CBS, CTM, CACRW:37, M881, LTDH (Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CHS95395, New Haven [See also Jeffrey Brace.]
SIMBO/SIMBOR/SIMBER/TIMBO/SAMBO, PRINCE, **, CCHS, CTM, M881 (Also a private in the Corps of Invalids in Continental Troops), FC&W, CRWR, Glastonbury
SIMMONDS/SIMMONS, PRINCE, **, M881, CTM, no residence given
SIMMONS, BENJAMIN, aka BEN ROBERTS or BENJAMIN BLACK, African American (“a colored man”), see pension of Patty Oviatt W24974, no residence given
SIMON, CUMMY/COMMA/CUMNEY, African American, S36315, CTM, CCHS, Woodbury
SIMON/SIMONS, JOHN, Indian, RAP2 (seaman on the Connecticut privateer *American Revenue*), Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.
SIMONDS/SIMONS, POMP, African American, M881, no residence given
SIMONS, HEWITT, Indian, SECT:375, New London
SIMONS, HUNT, Indian, CCHS, no residence given
SIMONS, HUNT, Indian, CACRW, CCHS, Norwich
SIMONS/SIMONDS, JONATHAN, Indian, CTM, CCHS, SECT:378 (unnamed brother of Hewitt and Lycus), New London/ Norwich
SIMPSON, ZEPHANIAH, Indian, SECT:379-380, Windham
SIP, JESSE, African American (“Black man”), S36316, CTM, sailor, New London
SIPPIO/SIPAO/SIPEO/SIPES/SIPPO/CIPAO/CIPAS/CIPIO/CIPO/CIPIO, CEASAR/CESAR, African American, IRWSR:1:497, WAL, M881, CRWR, Hebron
SKEETER, MOSES, **, CTM, Colchester
SKESUCK/SKEERICKS, WILLIAM, Indian, CCHS, Stonington
SMITH, CAESAR1, **, M881, CTM, no residence given
SMITH, CAESAR2, **, M881, CTM, no residence given
SMITH, CEASAR3, **, M881, no residence given
SMITH, CUFF/CUFFEE, African American (“Other Free”), S36321, CBS, SECT:383, M881, CTM, 1800 CT, VS (son of Venture Smith), FPPV [died January 13, 1822]. Middletown/East Haddam
SMITH, CUFF3, **, M881, CTM, CCHS, no residence given
SMITH, JAMES/SHARPER, African American, CCHS, Windham
SMITH, JOHN, alias JOHN SHORT, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), deserted, SECT:373, sailor, no residence given
SMITH, Sampson, African American (“Negro”), CBS, CACRW, CCHS, Wallingford
SMITH, SOLOMON, African American, CTM, VS (possibly a son of Venture Smith)
SMITH, TONE, African American, CBS, CACRW, CCHS, Ashford
SOLOMON, AMOS, **, CACRW:v30:doc78b, Groton
SOLOMON, JOHN, Indian, DRM:174, Dartmouth
SORVERS/SOWERS, WILLIAM, African American/and/or Pequot Indian, CBS, CTM, BLWt 6494-100, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), FAS, P1776, Milford
SOWERS/SOWAS, DICK/RICHARD, African American/and/or Pequot Indian, CPAR CTM, CCHS, BOAS (killed at Fort Mifflin, PA in 1777), (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), P1776, Stonington/Norwich
SOWTRICE/SOUTHREE/SOWTICE/SOUTREE/SOUTICE, SOLOMON, African American/and/or Pequot Indian, CBS, CTM, LTDH, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), P1776, Wilton/Norwalk
SPENCOR, CEASOR, African American?, CTM, no residence given
SPIAT, SOLOMON, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, JA:281, Ledyard
SPRING, CATO, African American, CTM, no residence given
SPRY, JACK, **, CTM, CCHS, no residence given
SQUADOB, BENAJMIN, Mohegan Indian, CTM, DRM:175, Norwich or Preston
SQUIB, CHRISTOPHER, **, FC:2:672, LHF, Pomfret
SQUIB/SQUEBB/SQUIBBLE/SQUIP, JOSEPH, Mohegan Indian, CCHS:8:263, CTM, MID:1:123, landsman on the Oliver Cromwell, DRM:170, no residence given
SQUINTOP, JEREMIAH, **, FC:2:672, Plainfield
ST. JOHN, DOVER, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Patriotic Service (sufferer), Norwalk
ST. LUKE, LONDON, African American, CTM, no residence given
STANNARD, LIMBO, **, CTM, no residence given
STANTON, CUFF, African American, CBS, CTM, BOAS, Stonington
STARKWEATHER, PRINCE, see WILLIAMS, PRINCE
STARR, ROBIN, African American, S36810, CBS, CACRW, CCHS, CTM, WAL, FPPV [died April 3, 1832; Abel C. Starr only child; “left no widow”], Danbury
STEDMAN, CATO, African American, BLWt 6434-100, CBS, CTM, no residence given
STEPHENS/STEVENS, JUPITER, African American, CTM, CCHS, Hartford
STEWARD/STEWART, CAESAR/CEASOR/CEASER, African American (“free Negro”), CBS, CACRW, CCHS, WAL, M881, CSP, Norwich
STILL, JOSEPHI, African American, CACRW, CTM, New Haven
STRONG, PHINEAS, African American, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), no residence given
SUCCAMUX/SUCKNUCK, DANIEL, Indian, LCRS, CTM, CCHS, Kent
SUMMIT/SUMMITS/SUMMIT, PRINCE, **, CTM, CCHS, FC:2:672, Voluntown
SUNCIMON/SINEMON, BENJAMIN, Pequot Indian, MID:1:110 seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, P1776, no residence given
SUNCIMON/CINNAMON, JOSHUA, Pequot Indian, CCHS, P1776, no residence given
SUNCIMON/CYNAMON/SINEMON, THOMAS, Pequot Indian, CCHS, MID:1:110, seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, CTM (died in service in 1778) P1776, Stonington
SUNCIMON/SUNCIMEN/CUNSAMON/SUNSCIMON/SUNSIMAN/SUNSIMON/SANSIMON, MOSES, Pequot Indian, M881, CTM, FC&W, P1776, no residence given
SUNCIMON/SUNSAMON/SUNSEMAN/SUNSOMON/SUNSIMON/SANSIMON/SUNCHEMANTUNCHEMAN, NATHANIEL, Pequot Indian, SECT:399, BOAS, M881, CTM, CCHS, FC&W, P1776 (died in service July 31, 1778), CISP, Stonington/North Stonington
SUNCIMON/SUNTSEMAN/SUNSOMON/SUNSEMAN/SUNSEMUN, AARON, Pequot Indian, SECT:398, CCHS, CACRW:co:doc79a, P1776, Groton
SUNCIMON/SUNTSEMAN/SUNSOMON/SUNSEMAN/SUNSEMUN, JONAS, Pequot Indian, SECT:398, CCHS, M881, FC&W, P1776, Groton
SUNSEMAN/SANSIMON, JOSEPH, Pequot Indian, CTM, P1776, DRM:1:75, CSP, Norwich or Preston
SUNSAMAN, JOSIAH, Pequot Indian, FC:2:672, P1776, Brooklyn
SUNSAMAN/SUNSAMON/SUNSEMAN/SUNSAMON/SANSHANG/SANSHEN/SANSHEN/ SANSIMON, JOHN, Pequot Indian, QUIN, M881, CTM, CCHS, FC&W, P1776, Woodstock
SUTNUX, JOHN, Narragansett Indian, DRM:1:71
SYPHAX, African American, Patriotic Service (sufferer), FLS:1, PRCT:7:454, RWBL (“Conn. Sufferer”), Norwalk
TALOR, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given
TANNER, AMOS, Mohegan, Indian, QUIN, CTM, CHSJS, Montville/Norwich
TANNER, EBENEZER, Mohegan Indian, CHSJS, Montville
TANNER, JOHN, Mohegan Indian, CHSJS, Montville
TANNER, JOSEPH, Mohegan, Indian, QUIN, CHSJS, Montville
TANTEQUIGEON/DANQUEGEN/DANQUENEN/DANTIQUEG_U, JOHN/JONATHAN, Mohegan Indian, Mariner, SECT:401, CTM, CCHS, ZLMI, CHSJS, New London/Lebanon
TATSON, SOLOMON, Indian, SECT:402, New London
TATSON, THOMAS, Indian, SECT:402, CTM, Salem & Lyme
TATSON/TALSSEN, REUBEN, Indian, CTM, CCHS, Lebanon
TATTOON, JOHN, Indian, SECT:404, Norwich
TATTOON, SAMUEL, Indian, SECT:404, CTM, East Haddam
TECOMAWS/TECOMWEAS, ISSAC, Indian, CTM, CHS, DRM:1:75, Norwich or Preston
TECOMAWS/TECOMWEAS, JACOB, Indian, CTM, DRM:1:75, Norwich or Preston
TECOMAWS/TOCOMWUS/TOCOMWORSE/TOCOMWAS/TOCOMWASE/TOCOMWAUS, PETER, Mohegan Indian, QUIN, CTM, CCHS, M881, New London/Norwich
TEMPLE, AMOS, Indian, CTM, CCHS, Woodbury
TERRY, GAMILO, African American, Sergeant, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M246, no residence given [Note: DAR established patriot.]
THEOS/THEODORI, African American (“Negro”), CTM, Guilford
THOMAS, SECON, Indian, SECT:407, JA:148, Ledyard
TIKINS/TYKINS/TICKENS/TICKER/TICKINGS, TITUS/TIAS, Indian, SECT:409, CCHS, CTM, Stonington
TIMON, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:2B:14c, CTM, Wethersfield
TITE/TITUS, African American (“Negro”), LCRS, CACRW:30:135b, CCHS, Woodbury
TITUS, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Ashford
TITUS, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:2C:12c, CTM, Suffield
TITUS/TYJURA, **, FC&W, no residence given
TOBE/TOBY, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Newtown
TOBY, DAN, African American, M881, no residence given
TOBY/TOBEY, JACK/JOHN, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, CTM, M881, MI73, JA:283, Saybrook/Ledyard
TOCAS/TOCUS, AMOS, **, M881, CTM, no residence given
TOFFE/POFFE, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CTM, CCHS, M246, M881, Guilford
TOM, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, CACRW: v30:doc70c, Farmington
TOM, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, FC:2:671, Killingly
TOM, NERO, African American, CCHS, Lebanon
TONE, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Ashford
TONEY, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Stratford
TONEY, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:50b&143b, CCHS, Wallingford
TONEY/TONY/TONA, JETHRO, Indian, BLW: 6580, CTM CCHS, M881, FC&W, Woodbury
TONY, African American (“Negro”), LCRS, CCHS, Woodbury
TRACY, WILLIAM, African American (“man of colour” and “black man”), S35362, FPPV [died January 11, 1836; widow Bethia Tracy], 1820CT, Norwich
TREAT/TREET/TREET, MINGO, African American, LCRS, WAL, M881, CTM, CCHS, FC&W, New Milford
TREDWELL/TREADWELL, CATO, African American, S35358, CBS, CTM, CCHS, Fairfield
TUUS, DENNIS, Indian, SECT:416, New London
TUPHAM/TUPHAND/TOPHAND, EZEKIEL, African American, CBS, CPAR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CHS97556, New Haven
TURKINS, TYRUS/TYRAS, **, FC&W, IRWSR, 1774RI (Charlestown)
TWOMIWOIS, JACOB, Indian, CTM, no residence given
TYACK, WILLIAM, Indian? Seaman on the *Oliver Cromwell*, CCHS:8:263
TYKINS, TITUS, Indian, CACRW, CCHS, Canterbury
TYNG, CATO, African American, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, MID:1:120, marine on the *Oliver Cromwell*, no residence given
UNCAS/UNCHUS, DANIEL, Mohegan Indian, CTM, CHSJS, Mohegan
UNCAS/UNCOS/UNENCES/UNIUS, JOHN, Mohegan Indian, W26610 [m. Martha Shantup; died December 19, 1842], M881, CTM, ZLM, LM174, Montville
UNCAS/UNKAR, NOAH, Mohegan Indian, QUIN, CTM, New London
UNKUS, ABRAHAM, Indian, M881, no residence given
UPAUB, DAPPO, **, CSP, no residence given
URIAH/VARIAH, African American (“Negro”), CACRW, CCHS, Danbury
USURP, JOSEPH, African American (“Negro to David Wilcockson”), CACRW, CCHS, WAL, Stratford
VARIAH, African American (“Negro”), CACRW:30:63
VERGSON?/NERGSON, JNO., African American, CHS97556
VINCENT, LEWIS, Huron Indian, scout and interpreter, HDC:1:390, Dartmouth
VIOLET, DICK, African American, CBS, CPAR, CCHS, CTM, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CHS570106, CHS97556, Branford
VIRGINIA, JEREMIAH, African American (“colored man”), former slave, S19141; VNR:270, JHN, SSVT, Pomfret
VOSE, JESSE, African American, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops)
WADSWORTH, LIVERPOOL/LIVERPOLE, African American (“Negro”), CBS, CACRW, CCHS:12:348, AJA:2:10, Farmington
WAGGS/WOOGS, SAMUEL, Indian, MID:1:110, seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
WAHLEE, MEL, Indian, MID:1:151, sailor on Schooner Royal Savage, no residence given
WALLACE, LONDON, African American, W18290, CCHS, CTM, Simsbury
WALLAS, LONDON, JR., African American, CCHS, Simsbury
WALLEY, PRINCE, **, CTM, no residence given
WAMPEE, JOSH, **, FC:2:672, Pomfret
WAMPEE/WAMPER/WOMPEE, JOHN, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, CCHS, CACRW, CTM, QUIN, M881, MID:1:148, marine on the Galley Shark, M1173, DRM:170&172, Pomfret/Norwich
WAMPEY, SAMUEL, Indian, CCHS, Simsbury
WAMPY, Mashantucket Pequot Indian, SECT:419, JA:283, Ledyard [same as following?]
WAMPY, SOLOMON, Mohegan Indian, SECT:419, M1173, DRM:175, Ledyard [same as preceding?]
WAMSLEY, JOSEPH, Indian, R2P (private on the Connecticut armed sloop American Revenue; prisoner of war on the ship Jersey in New York harbor), Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.
WAMSLEY, POWERS, Indian, R2P (private on the Connecticut armed sloop American Revenue; prisoner of war on the ship Jersey in New York harbor), Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.
WANSEC, TOM/THOMAS, Pequot Indian, SECT:420, CTM, Groton
WANEY/WINER/WAINER, SOLOMON, Indian, R2P (private on the Connecticut armed sloop American Revenue), Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.
WARRUPS/WARROWS/WORROWS/WORRUPS, TOM/THOMAS, Indian, LCRS, CCHS, M881, CTM, FC&W, Kent & redding/Cornwall
WASHUNKS/WASHUAKS/ WASHUNKS/ WASSONK/ WAWSHUNKS/ WOSHUNKS/WOUSHUNKS, ABEL, Indian, SECT:425, M881, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, BOAS, CACRWA:v30:doc79a, FC&W, Groton/Stonington
WATERMAN, AMASA, African American (“negro”), CBS, CACRW, CCHS, CTM, MID:1:118, marine on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
WATSON, SPE/SIPEO/SIP/ZIP, African American (“colored”), W18240, CTM, CBS, CACRW, CTM, CCHS, SECT:429, WAL, Lisbon/Plainfield/Voluntown
WATSON, THOMAS, African American, W22505, BLWt 10221-160-55, M881, enlisted at Stonington
WAUBY, ROGER, African American/Brotherton Indian, SECT:430, BIC:s2lserB:box10:file137, Norwich & Stonington
WAUCUS, BENJAMIN, Indian, BIC:s2lserB:box10:file138, from Connecticut; lived in Stockbridge during the Revolution.
WAUGS, JOHN, Indian, deserted (Connecticut Gazette (New London), November 29, 1776), v. 14, issue 681, p. 2
WEAX, RICHARD, **, CCHS, Pomfret
WELLS/WELLES, CUFF, aka DR. CUFF/CUFF SAUNDERS, African American, W18103, WAL, M881, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, SECT:362, Colchester/Lebanon
WHAPLES, JACK, **, CTM, no residence given
WHITE, FORTUNE/FORTIN, African American, CBS, CTM, CCHS, WAL, M881, Danbury
WIGGIN(S)/WIGGON, COKER/COKO/COOKER, **, M881, no residence given
WILBROW/WILBOUR/WILBOROW/WILLIAMS, CATO, African American, CBS, CPAR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), M881, CTM, CCHS, CRWR, Durham
WILLIAM, African American (“Negro”), CCHS, Danbury
WILLIAM, PRINCE, aka PRINCE STARKWEATHER, African American (“Negro”), R10076, Windham
WILLIAMS, HARRY, African American, CBS, CPAR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), Ridgefield
WILLIAMS, HECTOR, Free African American, BLWt 6621, CBS, CPAR, LTDH (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of Colored Troops), CHS97556, New Haven
WILLIAMS, PRINCE, African American, SECT:445, M881, CCHS, CTM, Stonington/Lebanon
WILSON, JAVAN, African American (“colored”), LCRC, New Milford
WIMPNEY, ELIJAH, Indian, possibly the same man as the following; Patriotic Service: paid for service in assisting with Treaty with the Oneida Indians, CRWR:Sers2:4:2a, Framingham
WIMPUSS, ELIJAH, Indian, CACRW:II:4, MACC:I:182, no residence given
WOOD, SCIPEO/SIFO, African American, M881, CTM, Coventry
WRIGHT, ALPHEUS, African American, SECT:450, Colchester
WRIGHT, DANIEL, African American, SECT:450-451, Colchester
WRIGHT/WRITE, CUFF, African American, SECT:450, WAL, M881, CTM, FC&W, CSP, Colchester
WRIGHT, FREEDOM, African American, CTM, Norfolk
WYAMPY, CHARLES, Indian, CTM, CSP, no residence given
WYAX/WYAUGE/WYYAUNG, GURDON/GUARDIN, Indian, SECT:453, MID:1:125, CCHS:8:264, seaman on the Oliver Cromwell, no residence given
YALE, SHARP/SHARPE, African American, CBS, CACRW, CCHS, Wallingford
YAPPON/YAWPON/YOUPON, JASON, African American, CBS, CTM, CCHS, Lebanon
YORK, African American ("Negro"), CACRW, CCHS, CACRWA:30:73&74, Goshen
YORK, SAWNEY, see CROSLEY, SAWNEY
YOUNG, CLUFF/CUFF, **, M881, no residence given
ZADO, CONGO, African American, CBS, FAS, Milford
ZADO/ZADA/FADO, CONGO, African American, BLW't 6721-100, CPAR, M881, CTM, CCHS, CRWR (Served in Capt. David Humphrey's Company of Colored Troops), Middletown
ZIBARRE, BRISTO, African American, R11986, SECT:456, Preston
Selected Revolutionary War Documents Relating to Connecticut Soldiers

Service slips for Cash and Ruel Africa,
RG 93, Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers, (M881, Roll 255) “Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army during the Revolutionary War: Cash Affrica and Ruel Affrica,”
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

Compiled service record cards often report variations in the spelling of a soldier’s name. Taken from regimental muster and payrolls, they may reflect a phonetic rather than standard spelling of names.
Published listing of troops in the Fourth Regiment, Connecticut Line, 1781-1783 showing many African American participants in this unit whose Captain was David Humphreys.

African-born Jeffrey Brace was an ex-slave who exchanged service for freedom. Blind when he applied for a pension, Brace had difficulty proving his service under Captain Humphrey in the 6th Connecticut Battalion. Depositions in his pension file identified him as Benjamin Stiles’ former slave and explained that he changed his surname from Stiles to Brace when freed. Subsequently pensioned, the file notes explain that his name appeared as Jeff Sills rather than Stiles on the muster rolls.
Native Americans who possessed communal tribal lands also acquired non-tribal property by serving in the military. John Uncas and his wife Martha, Mohegan Indians, both received bounty land for his service. Samuel Atwell, a non-Indian resident of Mohegan, witnessed the division of tribal lands in 1790, tying those transactions to John Uncas' tribal status, family, and service.
Service record slips for Abimileck Uncas of Connecticut
RG 93, Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers, (M881, Roll 185) “Compiled Service Records of Soldiers
Who Served in the American Army during the Revolutionary War.”
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Deposition from the pension file of Prince Crosley of Connecticut.
Pension W24833, page 24, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 701) National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Connecticut

History of Patriot from the Bounty Land Warrant file of
Jack Anthony of Connecticut, BLWt 297-100, page 6, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 68)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

Bounty Land Warrant Application files reveal details on the service and personal history of a veteran. In this example, we learn that Jack Anthony gained his freedom in exchange for serving as a substitute for his master and his master’s son. We also discover details about his bounty warrant and residency following the end of the war.
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Series I, 1763-1789, index vols. 41-48. Includes:
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  v. 6, part 1. “Soldiers and Accounts: 1775-1777.”
  v. 9. “Vessels, 1776-7-8.”
  v. 17, part 1. “Pay Table, Soldiers and Accounts.”
  v. 25, part 1. “Pay Table, Soldiers and Accounts.”
  v. 31. “Soldiers, Vessels, Prisoners, Letters.”
  v. 32. “1771-1788.”
  v. 33. “1777-1788.”
  v. 37. “Slaves: 1764-1789.”

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“Families of the Tribe of Moheagans, and Number of Each Family [1799].” Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Series 1, 9 (1808), 76. [Includes heads of families.]


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Mashantucket, Mullen, Mandell, 306 Mather, 243a. 

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The State of New York played a strategic role during the American Revolution serving as headquarters for several diverse groups. At various times during the Revolution, General George Washington’s army was encamped in the Hudson River Valley. The Northern American Army was headquartered at Albany and for most of the war British occupation forces were in control of New York City and Long Island.

The struggle for control of the Colony between the Americans and British had a serious impact on African Americans and the Indians of Six Nations of the Iroquois League. As a result of the struggle, the allegiances of both African Americans and Indians were divided between the Americans and the British causing both minority groups to be split asunder. By the end of the War, many African Americans had left America and the Iroquois League had been destroyed.

William Nell’s mid-nineteenth century study *The Colored Patriots of the American Revolution* was among the first to bring the role of African American Revolutionary War Patriots to the attention of the general public. Over a century later, Benjamin Quarles wrote his definitive study *The Negro in the American Revolution*. Most modern day students of the role played by African Americans during the Revolutionary War still rely heavily on both works.

Scholars of the Revolutionary War era also owe a great debt of gratitude to Colin Calloway for his works on early Indians particularly his study *The American Revolution in Indian Country*. No publication on the role of New York Indian Revolutionary War Patriots would be complete without reference to Barbara Graymont’s masterful monograph *The Iroquois in the American Revolution*.

This publication would have been much more difficult to complete had the pioneering works of William Nell, Benjamin Quarles, Colin Calloway and Barbara Graymont not been available for consultation. Deep appreciation is expressed to all past and present.

At the outbreak of the American Revolution, New York had a population of approximately 200,000 residents. Nearly 20,000 of those residents were African American. The majority of them lived in New York City, on Long Island and in the Hudson River Valley. In 1776, just over 9,000 Native Americans, most of them members of the Six Nations of the Iroquois League were also living in New York.

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During the course of the War, 17,781 New York men served in five battalions of the Regular Army. In addition, numerous others served for short periods of time in the militia or The Levies. The Levies were men called at various times from different militia regiments to serve outside the state.³

Between 1775 and 1782, the New York Legislature passed several acts relating to military obligations. Most of the acts exempted slaves and Indians from military service. Legislative acts relating specifically to African Americans or Indians will be addressed in the following two sections of this publication. It should be noted that throughout the war all men between the ages of sixteen and fifty were required to enlist in the militia. Free African Americans appear to have been included in that requirement as no mention of their having been exempted is made in any of the legislation.⁴

**African American Patriots from New York**

A large majority of the African American population of New York State lived in Manhattan and vicinity, an area occupied by the British for the most of the years of the Revolution. Many of those enslaved people who did not live on Manhattan escaped their owners, going over to the British in hopes of securing their freedom. A large number of these “Black Loyalists” left with the British in late November 1783 on the fleet evacuating New York City. Identifying those of African descent who participated in the struggle on the American side is, therefore, very difficult considering that the majority of the African American population lived under British control throughout most of the war or escaped to British-controlled areas to gain their freedom from enslavement. This is not to say, however, that some African Americans did not support the Revolution, but their numbers in this state were small.

Groups of New York free African Americans and slaves supported the cause of American Independence in a variety of ways. Some served in organized military units, others in the Quartermaster Department, some were waiters to officers, and a few were held as prisoners of war.

In July 1775, George Washington issued his first instructions to recruiting officers. The enlistment of any “negroes” was forbidden. Officers also were forbidden to enlist “any person who is not an American born, unless such person has a wife and family and is a settled resident in this country.” Those recruiting instructions would be changed several times during the war. The first change was made on November 12, 1775 when Washington issued an order that read, “Neither negroes, boys unable to bear arms, nor old men unfit to endure the fatigues of the campaign, are to be enlisted.”

When it was called to Washington’s attention that free Negroes who had already served in the army were dissatisfied, a new order was issued on December 12, 1775. That order stated, “As the General is informed that numbers of free Negroes are desirous of enlisting, he gives leave to recruiting officers to entertain them . . .” In addition, Washington agreed to put the question before Congress. On January 15, 1776, Congress determined, “That the free negroes who have served faithfully in the army at Cambridge may be re-enlisted therein, but no others.”⁵

Even before Washington and Congress had issued their orders, New York had, on April 1, 1775, passed an Act for regulating the militia. That Act stated that, “… all bought servants during their servitude shall be free from being listed in any Troop or Company within this Colony.” The Act remained in effect until April 1778.⁶

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African American men served in the American Army throughout the war. This illustration depicts an African American soldier with General Henry Knox’s forces as they approached Fort Ticonderoga.
In the interim, the Dutchess County Committee in charge of the barracks at Fishkill issued a resolution dated October 1776 that resolved that any man drafted to assist in the erection of the barracks could “furnish an able bodied man or Negro in his stead.”

The British commanders, in contrast to the Americans, encouraged African Americans to join their forces. As early as November 1775, John Murray, Lord Dunmore, the last Royal governor of Virginia issued a proclamation that offered freedom to all indentured servants and Negroes who were willing to serve in “His Majesty’s forces.” The first enlistments in what came to be known as Dunmore’s “Ethiopian Regiment” were from Virginia, Maryland and North and South Carolina. After Dunmore was defeated at Norfolk, Virginia in 1776, he sailed to Staten Island, New York. Upon his arrival there, he was joined by additional African Americans and formed a force that ultimately numbered more than eight hundred men.

As the British moved their campaign southward, they once again hoped to recruit African Americans. In late spring of 1779, two orders were issued in quick succession to accomplish that goal. The first order, issued by David Jones, British commandant of New York, on June 7, 1779, read in part, “All Negroes that fly from the Enemy’s Country are Free…” Jones’ order was followed on June 30 by one issued by General Henry Clinton at British Headquarters, Philipsburgh, New York. Clinton forbade any person to claim or sell any captured Negro. In addition he promised full security to every Negro who deserted the “Rebel Standard.”

In spite of British attempts to encourage the enlistment of African Americans, the Colony of New York continued to resist the enlistment of slaves. They once more were exempted from service when, on March 11, 1780, the colonial legislature passed “An Act to raise troops for the defence of the frontiers.”

Only toward the end of the Revolution, as New York became more desperate to raise additional troops, did the State finally decide to permit the enlistment of male slaves. An Act of March 20, 1781 permitted an individual to deliver his or her slave for service. In return the individual would receive a grant of land from the State. The slave who was enlisted by his or her owner and served for a term of three years or until discharged was “…declared to be a free man of this state.”

Mackey, a slave of Captain William Chamberlain of Amenia, was granted his freedom and given a small house in payment for his services during the Revolution. The number of other slaves who received their freedom is not currently known.

What is known is that many African Americans did serve the American cause during the Revolutionary War. For example, thirty-nine “Negroes” were enumerated in General Clinton’s New York Brigade of the Continental Army in August 1778 even though the April 1 Act of the same year remained in effect and continued to “except” slaves from militia duty. Thus, it would appear that the men who were counted in that enumeration were free Blacks.

A number of free African Americans and/or their widows were awarded pensions for military service. One pensioner, Jack Green, served for three years with Connecticut forces and then re-enlisted in Captain Benjamin Stevenson’s Company of the New York Continental line for an unspecified amount of time. When he applied for a pension in

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7 Calendar of Historical Manuscripts, Relating to the War of the Revolution in the Office of the Secretary of State (Albany: Weed, Parsons and Co., Printers, 1868), l:489 (Hereafter: Calendar of Historical Manuscripts)
10 Vollmer, Military Obligation, 232.
13 Vollmer, Military Obligation, 271; Moore, Historical Notes, 17.
1820, he had a wife and three young children.14 “Gabriel, a Negro” also served in Stevenson’s Company. Because Benjamin Stevenson’s payroll has suffered severe damage, it is not possible to determine exactly how much Gabriel was paid.15

Benjamin Lattimore of Albany, New York was another Revolutionary War pensioner. Lattimore enlisted in the 5th New York Regiment in 1776 at Ulster County where he resided. The 5th New York was under the command of Colonel Lewis Dubois. In the spring of 1777, Lattimore was taken prisoner and compelled to serve as a waiter to several British officers. He was later released, returned to DuBois’ Regiment and went on to serve in General John Sullivan’s New York Campaign in 1779. Benjamin Lattimore moved to Albany after the conclusion of the War where he established a trucking business and became a prominent member of the community.16

Three pensioners served in Colonel Philip Van Cortland’s Regiment. James Weeks, also known, as James Green, served two tours of duty. He first enlisted in 1778 in Colonel Robert B. R. Livingston’s Regiment. During his second tour in 1782, he served under Van Cortland. 17

The second pensioner who served under Van Cortland was Peter Green who enlisted in 1779 and served until 1783. Green moved to Colrain, Massachusetts after the War and was awarded a pension in 1818. He was still living in Colrain in 1835 at which time he was 84 years of age.18

The third man who served under Colonel Philip Van Cortland was John Patterson or Peterson. Patterson/Peterson enlisted about 1777 and was discharged at Morristown, New Jersey in 1780. He was a resident of Westchester County when he applied for a pension in 1818 at which time he stated that he had a wife and eleven children. During several interviews in the mid-1840s, he recalled a skirmish in which he took part in 1781. Not only did he provide the details of the skirmish, he recalled the name of his Captain, Richard Sackett, and the names of most of the other men in the Company. He remembered that three other “colored” men also served in the Company. They were Prince Sackett and two others whose names he could not recall. He did remember that two Indians from Long Island, Peter Sokaday and Mayhew, were also in Sackett’s Company. John Patterson/Peterson died in Peekskill on October 2, 1850 at the age of 103.19

The widows of two African American soldiers also were awarded pensions. Rachel Jackson of Woodstock, Ulster County was the mother of eight children. Her husband, Hannibal, who died in 1806, was paid in 1780 for seven months service under Captain Henry Pawling in Lt. Colonel Albert Pawling’s Regiment.20

Flora Basset, widow of Caesar, also received a pension for service performed by her husband during the Revolution. In 1838, Solomon Schutt of Saugerties, testified that he served in the same company as a “black Man by the name of Cesa Basset.” “Ceser” Basset also was among the Levies raised at Fishkill in June 1780.21

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14 Revolutionary War Pension File, S43631. Record Group 15. National Archives and Records Administration. (Hereafter cited as RWPF).
15 Miscellaneous Numbered Records (The Manuscript File) in the War Department collection of Revolutionary War Records, 1775-1790s. National Archives and Records Administration, (microfilm), M859 reel 112, item 32219. (Hereafter cited as M859).
17 RWPF, S33269
21 RWPF, W16827; GCP, 1901, 5:825.
Not all African American men who applied for pensions were fortunate enough to be awarded them. Slaves who served during the Revolution were determined to be ineligible for pensions. Marlin, a slave of John Rooback, served as a waiter to John Fisher of the Quartermaster Department. Marlin was declared ineligible for a pension because, “He was a slave and not subject to military duty.”

Among those who also were denied pensions were Nicholas Siscow, or Bogart, who served from Orange County as a substitute for his master, David Bogart and Hercules Schureman of Yonkers, a slave of Jonathan Archer, a Tory, who served in Colonel Samuel Drake’s Regiment. After the war, Schureman purchased freedom for himself, his wife and a child from Francis Price.

Another slave who was declared ineligible for a pension was Francis DeWitt. DeWitt was a ranger who assisted in defending Jacob DeWitt’s fort on the western frontier of Ulster County from Indian attacks.

Other free African Americans and slaves also assisted the Americans during the Revolution. For example, a group of twelve slaves from New York City under the command of Captain Benjamin Egbert built fortifications in the City in March 1776. Among the men in Egbert’s Company were Cubitt, Peter and Simms, slaves of Captain Lighburn and Peter and Sam, slaves of Benjamin Moore. Tom, a slave belonging to Frederick Bassett, was the company drummer.

“Free Jack” of Orange County, the slave of Sarah Carpenter and her two sons, served under Captain Cait and Colonel John Hathorn. Mrs. Carpenter’s two sons granted “Free Jack” his freedom. However, after the war, Sarah Carpenter claimed that she had not freed Jack and requested repayment for her portion of his service in Captain Cait’s Company.

Jack Thompson, alias Jack Swartwout, one of several men who served in The Levies under Colonel Frederick Weissenfels, was equally unfortunate. His pay was granted to his master, Henry Newkirk. The same was true of Tunis Brown and Cato, Negroes belonging to William Rockafeller who served in Colonel Marinus Willett’s “Levies” in 1781. Rockafeller was paid nineteen pounds, sixteen shillings and five pence for the military service of Tunis Brown and twenty pounds sixteen shillings for the service of Cato.

Prince and Jack who also served in Colonel Willett’s Levies were more fortunate than their fellow soldiers. Prince made his own mark on two payment certificates. He was paid twenty pounds seven shillings for serving under Willett in 1781 and had previously received an unspecified amount for serving in Colonel Lewis Dubois’ Regiment in 1780. Jack was mustered in August 1781 for three years by Captain Joel Gillett of Colonel Willett’s Levies and was paid two pounds for his actual time of service. He was fortunate to also be awarded bounty land by the State of New York.

Several other African American patriots also were awarded bounty land from New York. Among them was “Black Walter” who served in The Levies under the command of Colonel Frederick Weissenfels. In September 1790, “Black Walter” sold his bounty land to James Reynolds.

22 RWPF, R6978.
23 RWPF, R9621.
24 RWPF, R9275.
25 RWPF, R2919.
26 Calendar of Historical Manuscripts, 267.

Printing Co., 1898, 2nd ed.), 164 (Hereafter cited as Roberts 2nd ed.); M859, reel 43, item 13876.
28 Roberts, 2nd ed., 73; M859, reel 43, item 14303, and reel 24, item 7782.
29 M859, reel 21, item 6637; reel 40, item 13006; and reel 41, item 13536.
30 M859, reel 42, item 13838, and reel 16, item 5312.
African American men also provided logistical support for the American cause. In July 1776, two teamsters, both named Stephen, transported artillery stores to Stillwater. In September of the same year, Hector and two men named Tom were teamsters who carried doctors’ supplies and officers’ baggage to the same place.33 In October 1776, two other African American men were paid for transporting stock from Long Island to New London, Connecticut. Romeo was paid five pounds, sixteen shillings for twenty-nine days work and Pharaoh was paid one pound, twelve shillings for sixteen days work.34

In December 1781, another teamster, Darby, was attached to the Quartermaster’s Department under the command of Deputy Quarter Master General Hugh Hughes. Jupiter Lee was an express rider in the same organization. Lee’s service in various other capacities such as laborer and fatiguelan continued until late June 1783. Jack, a fatiguelan; Cesar, an African American smith and Tom, a cook for tent makers, also were in Hughes’ command.35

Andrew is the only African American man found to date who enlisted in the New York Naval Service. In 1776, Andrew was a cook on the sloop Montgomery commanded by Captain William Rogers.36

Garret Van Schaick who died at the age of sixty-five in Monroe County, New York on May 16, 1829 was a waiter to Colonel Goose Van Schaick during expeditions to Fort Schuyler and Fort Stanwick. A second man, Jack, a waiter to Lieutenant Hunt, was a prisoner of war in 1778.37

Several other African American men were captured as prisoners of war. Jacobus Blood, a Negro boy, and Jacob Divendor, Jr., the son of a white settler, were captured during an attack by five hundred Indians and Tories on Currytown in the Mohawk Valley in July 1781. In the same month, twelve Indians attacked the Palatine district. In the course of the attack, a Negro slave, Joseph, was captured along with four White men, three sons of John Shults and a young man named Felder Wolfe. The latter five men were held as prisoners in Canada until the end of the war.38

Another African American patriot was London, one of the “New York poor” refugees, who removed from New York City to Dutchess County in 1776 when the British took control of the city.39

Some African American patriots of the American Revolution are not identified by name. Negro slaves belonging to Cornelius Glen and Peter DeWandelaers are only partially identified. Both men delivered supplies to Fort George in 1775.40 Many other African Americans who supported the American cause and are mentioned in contemporary records are not further identified. General Philip Schuyler wrote to Congress in a letter dated August 9, 1777, “.... I am very certain we have not above four thousand Continental troops...one third of which are negroes, boys and men too aged for field, or indeed any other service....”41 One does find references to African Americans who were killed or captured, but who there were has not been determined.42 The name of only one African American man from New York who died during the American Revolution has been found. He was Philip Field, a slave of Colonel Field of South East, Dutchess County, who died at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania in August 1778.43

By the conclusion of the Revolution, the status of some African Americans had changed. In return for

33 M859, reel 9, item 2622.
35 M859, reel 94 item 27343, 5-7, 9, 11; reel 94, items 27450-1, 27460-79, 27483-9; and reel 92, item 26686.
36 Roberts, 2nd ed., 269; NYSA reel 61.1 box 2, vol. 1, part 2, item 00094.
37 Death Records from Monroe County, New York, 1818-1841, p.2; GCP, 3:224.
39 Knight, op. cit., 118-125.
their military service, some had been awarded bounty land and a few slaves had been granted their freedom. In addition, more than 3000 Black Loyalists migrated from New York to Nova Scotia and London in 1783.44

Unfortunately, the status of many other African Americans remained much the same as before the war. Although the New York Manumission Society had been formed in 1785 and the Quakers had totally given up slave ownership by 1787, when the first federal census was taken in 1790, there were more slaves living in the State of New York than before the Revolutionary War. It was not until 1827 that slavery was totally abolished in the State.45

American Indian Patriots from New York

The majority of Indian residents of New York supported the British during the American Revolution in an attempt to maintain their own native territorial rights and cultures during an extremely difficult situation in which they were caught between both sides of the struggle. Others attempted to stay neutral in the conflict, and still others supported the American cause.

Pro-American Indians from New York, primarily members of the Oneida and Tuscarora Nations, provided significant assistance to the cause of American Independence. New York Indians served both as officers and as enlisted men in the American Army, and a few of them received pensions and/or bounty land after the war. They also provided invaluable services as intelligence gatherers and messengers.

As early as July 1775, the Continental Congress realized that it was important to earn the friendship of American Indians to ensure that they did not become enemies of the colonies. Consequently, in that month, Congress established three Indian

departments. New York Indians were placed under the jurisdiction of the northern department. That department extended south to include the Indians known as the Six Nations as well as all other Indians north of the Six Nations. Three commissioners were appointed to superintend the northern department.46 Realizing the importance of the northern Indians, the Colony of New York appointed its own Indian commissioners in 1779, 1783, 1784 and 1788.47

In 1776, there were an estimated 1,810 Indian warriors living in New York. Of them, 230 were friendly to the Americans, the remaining 1,580 had chosen to side with the British.48 The Continental Congress welcomed the support of the northern Indians and on May 25, 1776 passed a resolve encouraging their enlistment and authorized the Commander-in-Chief to employ some of them in the Continental Army. In addition, the Congress encouraged the commissioners at Albany to enlist the assistance of Indians to act against the enemy and to diminish the threat from Fort Niagara, which was, then under British control. In return for their assistance, the Indians were to be paid fifty pounds Pennsylvania currency for every prisoner whom they captured and brought to headquarters.49

In contrast to the federal government, New York exempted Indians from service in the Colony’s militia by legislative acts passed in 1778 and 1782. These were the same acts that also exempted slaves from militia service.50


48 Pomroy Jones, Annals and Recollections of Oneida County (Rome, N. Y.: published by the author, 1851), 835.

JCC, 4:394-395.

Although many Indians served in the American army, only a few were pensioned. Among them were Honyere Tewahangaraken, an Oneida Indian also known as Honyere Doxtator, and Nicholas Kaghnatsto, a Tuscarora Indian known as Nicholas Cusick.

Honyere Tewahangaraken was injured at the Battle of Oriskany in 1777. He later served for fifteen months as a Captain in the First New York Regiment under the command of Colonel Jacob Klock. One of his descendants is a member of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.\(^5\)

Nicholas Kaghnatsto, another pensioner, served as a Lieutenant under Lieutenant Colonel Louis Atayataroughta, also simply known as Colonel Louis, in Colonel Goose Van Schaick’s Regiment. He signed his English name, Nicholas Cusick, when he applied for a federal pension. Cusick died sometime before March 1841 as attested to by his son who was then living in Rochester, New York.\(^6\)

Honyere Tewahangaraken and Nicholas Kaghnatsto were among a group of twelve Oneida and Tuscarora Indians whose commissions were authorized by the Continental Congress on April 3, 1779. One of the twelve, Hanyost Thaosagwat, was killed September 13, 1779 while acting as a scout under Lieutenant Thomas Boyd during General John Sullivan’s expedition against the Iroquois. Aghsariigowa, a Tuscarora, and Teheaniyoghewat, an Oneida, also took part in Sullivan’s expedition in 1779. During the same expedition, Blue Blek, another Oneida, carried messages from General Sullivan to the Oneida nation.\(^7\)

Another of the officers commissioned in 1779, Lieutenant John Sagoharasie, died sometime in 1781 in an Oneida refugee camp behind American lines near Schenectady. His widow and the widow of Hanyost Thaosagwat both received depreciation pay after the War. Two other Indian men, Segigoteyota and John Wounkounguta also were killed during the Revolutionary War.\(^8\)

Three of the men commissioned as officers in April 1779, Christian Thonigwenghsoharie, Joseph Banaghsatirhon and Totyanehahni deserted to the British Army.\(^9\) The officers who remained faithful to the United States were among the Revolutionary War soldiers who were awarded bounty land after the War by the State of New York. The bounty land was located in central New York in an area set aside as the Onondaga Military Tract. Among the other men who received bounty land in the same tract was Honyost Tewahangaraken also known as Honyost Doxtator. Honyost Doxtator served as a Lieutenant under the command of his brother, the aforementioned Honyere Doxtator.\(^10\)

Another man who received bounty land was Joseph Lewis, known as Indian Joe. Lewis was a soldier in Colonel Goose Van Schaick’s Regiment. In 1793, Joseph Lewis sold his bounty land. In 1798, Douw Van Antwerp, attested to the latter’s service and recalled that during the Revolutionary War; they were both encamped near Schenectady for about six months.\(^11\)

William Notonksion, one of several Indians who first enlisted in 1775 and re-enlisted in 1776 from Stockbridge, Massachusetts, was awarded bounty land in New York. In 1781, Lieutenant Rial Bingham recruited Notonksion for service in the New York Levies under the command of Colonel

\(^{51}\) RWPF, S23019.
\(^{52}\) RWPF, S18788.

\(^{55}\) Bowling, et. al., \textit{Doc. His.}, 380.
\(^{56}\) \textit{The Balloting Book and Other Documents Relating to Military Bounty Lands in the State of New York} (Albany, printed by Packard and Van Benthuyens, 1825), pp. 76, 140, 180. (Hereafter cited as Balloting Book); RWPF R3065.
Marinus Willett. In 1783, William Notonksion was still in Willett’s Levies serving under Captain Simeon Newell. Jacob Nanoatock, Isaac Wampee, John Wantucyant and Cornelius Yannakie were also in Newell’s Company in 1783.  

Some Indians who did not receive either pensions or bounty land were paid in goods. In 1792, twenty-two Oneida Indians who also had served under Colonel Marinus Willett made their marks on behalf of fifty warriors of the Oneida nation. In return, they received fifty blankets and two suits of Indian clothes as reimbursement for their Revolutionary War service. The items had been promised to the fifty warriors by Willett as payment for their services in an expedition under his command.

Anthony, who served in 1781 as a Private in Captain Joseph Harrison’s Company in Colonel Willett’s Levies, was paid nine pounds, eight shillings and five pence for his service. Serving at the same time in Harrison’s company was Nicholas who was paid nine pounds, one shilling and four pence.

Nicholas also served as a gatherer of intelligence, one of the most valuable services that the northern Indians provided to the American Army. On August 23, 1777, he and Johannes Oosterhout, Jr. submitted a lengthy intelligence report concerning the activities of various enemy Indians groups. The report was made available to the New York Council of Safety a few days later.

As early as September 1775, Cornelius Sauquayunk provided intelligence that he had brought from Canada. Cornelius, as he came to be known, remained a loyal friend of the colonies throughout the War. In one report, he expressed his great love for “my country.” After the War, his request for a federal pension was rejected because “he did not serve in a regularly organized corps.”

Thomas and Cassaweto both Oneida Indians, went on an intelligence mission to Canada with Thomas Spencer in July 1777. Their report to Major General Philip Schuyler, Commander of the Northern Army was forwarded to George Washington, Commander in Chief of the Army.

Thomas Spencer was a blacksmith who lived in upstate New York near the Reverend Samuel Kirkland’s Christian Indian mission at Oneida. Spencer had the trust of the Indians who provided him with intelligence that he relayed to the American commanding officers. Several of his reports may be found in the Papers of the Continental Congress. In addition, many of his activities and those of Reverend Kirkland are described in the published Court Martial proceedings of Major General Philip Schuyler. In one of his last reports, dated July 29, 1778, Spencer tried to warn the Americans of an impending attack on Tryon County. He was killed August 6, 1778 in that attack, the Battle of Oriskany.

John, a Tuscarora Indian, also tried to warn the Americans of an impending attack. In February 1778, he warned of a possible attack on the Wyoming Valley of Pennsylvania. In a deposition dated April 19, 1778, several citizens advised Governor Clinton of the intelligence which they had obtained from John. The detailed deposition

62 PCC, reel 189, item 170, l:123; PCC, reel 71, item 58, 379; RWPF R9222.  

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58 Secretary of the Commonwealth, Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War (Boston, Wright & Potter Printing Co., 1903), 11:539-40; M853, reel 17, 161:52; NARA, Combined Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army During the Revolution War (microfilm), RG 93, M881, reel 774 (Hereafter cited as M881); Roberts, 2nd ed., p. 95.

59 Records of the State Comptroller. Selected Audited Accounts of State Civil and Military Officers. New York State Archives, RG A0802, 15: folio 70.

60 M881, reel 773; M859, reel 29, item 9379; M859, reel 43, item 13961.

61 GCP, 2:271.
warned Clinton about British plans for a strike along the Susquehanna River near Wyoming. Had John’s intelligence been taken more seriously, the tragic Wyoming Valley Massacre of July 1778 might have been averted. John died of wounds received at the Battle of Minisink in July 1779.66

In addition to providing intelligence, northern Indians also carried messages. Oneynya Egat and Theugeveyndack brought a message of friendship to the Albany Committee of Correspondence from the Oneida Nation in July 1775.67

Eagles Tail and Rattletrap carried messages from the Onondaga Indians to the northern Indian Commissioners in 1777.68 The Onondagas were the most deeply divided of the Six Nations. In another message to the commissioners dated August 1778, they explained that fifteen of their warriors, four of whom were killed, had joined the British. The other unnamed members of the Nation referred to in the message declared “the strictest friendship with the United States.”69

Louis Atayataroughta, (Colonel Louis, previously mentioned) enlisted as a volunteer for the United States at the beginning of the War and was commissioned a Lieutenant Colonel by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1779. Colonel Louis, a Caughnawaga Indian from near Montreal, Canada, was the highest-ranking Indian officer in the American Army. He was discharged at the end of December 1781 but held his commission for several more years. He was awarded bounty land by the State of New York and in 1785, received final payment from the federal government for his Revolutionary War service. Colonel Louis whose English name was Louis Cook, re-enlisted in the American Army during the War of 1812 and died near Buffalo, New York in 1814.70

James Wakarontharane, or James Powlis, first enlisted at Oneida in 1777 and was one of the twelve officers commissioned by Congress in 1779. He served under the command of Colonel Louis until the end of the war. Reverend Kirkland at Oneida married him and his wife Sally Sagohorse in 1788. Like the other officers, he was awarded bounty land in New York after the war. After the death of his wife in 1828, he moved from Oneida to Green Bay, Wisconsin where he died on March 15, 1849, aged 99 years, leaving a son Henry Powlis.71

John Kenneda, like Colonel Louis, was a Caughnawaga Indian. When Kenneda applied for a pension, he remembered that he was serving under Colonel Louis when an Oneida Indian under the command of Colonel Marinus Willett killed Captain Walter Butler in November 1781 near Canada Creek. Butler was the commander of the British Troops who committed the brutal massacre at Cherry Valley in November 1778. However, John Kenneda’s application for a pension was rejected because he could not remember the names of his immediate commanding officers.72

John Kenneda was one of those who attested to the Revolutionary War service of Tall William, an Oneida Indian, when the latter’s wife, Betsey and his two daughters Betsey Cooper and Catherine Doxtader made an application for a pension in May 1834. Tall William served under the command of Major General Philip Schuyler with whom he had once gone to Philadelphia. Tall William was also at Canada Creek when Captain Butler was killed. He died in Madison County, New York on October 12, 1833. That pension application also was rejected because the soldier had not served in a regularly organized corps.73

In the spring of 1778, the Marquis de Lafayette had sent a French engineer, Jean Baptiste Gouvion, to New York to construct a fort for the Oneida and Tuscarora Indians whom Lafayette had invited to join his command. The Indians agreed to do so as soon as the fort was completed. Many of them would continue to serve with Lafayette throughout the War. Before joining the French, the Indian warriors were addressed by Ojistatle, alias

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66 GCP, 3:92-194.
68 PCC, reel 183, item 166, 379, 391.
69 PCC, reel 183, item 166, 387-91.
70 JCC, 28:131-133; Balloting Book, 75-140; Frederick J. Seaver, Historical Sketches of Franklin County (Albany: J. B. Lyon Co., 1918), 580-582.
71 RWPF, R11007; Bowling et. al. Doc. His., 378-80; Balloting Book, 75, 116, 140.
72 RWPF, R5866; GCP, 7:473.
73 RWPF, R21851.
Grasshopper, and a Tuscarora chief, who outlined a proper code of behavior to them. True to their agreement, fifty warriors went to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania serving under a French officer, Captain Louis de Tousard. Among those who were sent to join Captain DeTousard in July 1778 were Augur, Daniel and Jacob Reed. While there, they engaged in a skirmish at Barren Hill, a few miles from the Valley Forge encampment. In a report concerning his command, Captain DeTousard credited two Indians and two Frenchmen with saving his life. However, due to the loss of his right arm, DeTousard was forced to retire from military duty.74

The Oneida, Tuscarora and Caughnawaga Indians would continue their close ties to the French throughout the war. A delegation of nineteen men from those Nations was sent in late August 1780 to greet French General Rochambeau who had arrived at Newport, Rhode Island earlier that summer. So impressive was the event that it was recorded in the journals of several French officers. Among those records is an entry made August 30, 1780 by Armand Charles Augustin, Comte de Castrics de Charlus, who wrote, "The chief of these nations seemed intelligent. He was a colonel [Col. Louis] and speaks French fairly well, and even without an accent."75

Ojistaté, who addressed the Oneidas and Tuscarorá on a proper code of behavior, was a faithful ally of the United States throughout the war. He and Sughnàgaháah, alias White Skin, along with other friendly Indians were among those who treated the Third New Jersey Regiment with great kindness while they were encamped at Fort Dayton in German Flats during the summer of 1776. During that summer the Indians taught the New Jersey soldiers to play an Indian game which we know today as lacrosse. In 1778, Ojistaté adopted a young American who mistakenly had been captured by the Indians at Butter Nuts. That young man, William Lull, went on to serve in the American Army in Peter Gansevoort’s New York Regiment. In 1786, Ojistaté petitioned Congress for a reward in repayment for losses sustained during the Revolutionary War due to his attachment to the "Cause of America."76 No evidence has been found as to whether or not his petition was granted.

The names of Ojistaté and Sughnàgaháah appear with those of eleven other Indian men who sent a letter to General Schuyler dated January 1777 congratulating Schuyler on America’s successes.77

Not all of the Indians who supported American Independence can be identified with a specific Indian Nation. As mentioned in the previous section on African American Patriots, Mayhew and Sokaday who fought in Captain Richard Sackett’s Company were from Long Island. Two other Long Island Indians, Jonathan and William, were refugees from the Island to Connecticut.78

Joseph Newman is the only New York minority patriot who has been identified to date as having taken an Oath of Allegiance to the United States. Newman, who was “an Indian brought up in the Christian Religion,” took the Oath of Allegiance on October 12, 1777.79

The names of many of the New York Indians who served the American cause as officers, soldiers, intelligence gatherers and messengers still remain unknown today.

Shortly after the end of the war, the United States executed treaties with all of the Indian nations, both

77 PCC, M247, reel 173, item 153, 3:55-57.
78 Hadaway, op. cit., 67; Knight, op. cit., 132-133.
79 “Minutes of the Committee and of the First Commission for Detecting and Defeating Conspiracies in the State of New York,” Collections of the New York Historical Society, 58 (1925), 400.
friend and foe. However, the final chapter of the New York Indian patriots of the American Revolution was not written until December 2, 1794, when Timothy Pickering acting as agent for the United States, signed a treaty with the Oneida, Tuscarora and Stockbridge Indians. In repayment for their assistance during the Revolutionary War, the United States agreed to pay $5,000 to be equally distributed among the members of the three nations and one Caughnawaga Indian who were living in the Oneida territory. Under the terms of the treaty, the United States also agreed to build at least one gristmill and one sawmill and to build a church to replace the one which had been burned by the enemy.81

**Thoughts on Research in the Records of New York**

In 1911, a fire in the New York State Capitol Building in Albany destroyed a huge quantity of the State’s colonial, Revolutionary, and nineteenth-century records. Work by historians and genealogists prior to this fire had resulted in some information being gleaned from these sources, but many other documents have been lost. Because of this event, one of the worst record losses at the state level in United States history, identification of Indian and African American patriots is all the more difficult in New York. Few of the published lists of soldiers provide any descriptions of the men in terms of color or ethnic origin unfortunately, and the records from which these lists were created are now destroyed.

Information at the local level in New York counties and towns helps to supplement the lost state-level sources, but again this is sparse depending on the locality.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


BLWt Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).

“Officers and Privates of Different Beats in New York City, at work 10 March 1776.” Calendar of Historical Manuscripts Relating to the War of the Revolution in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, New York (Albany, N. Y.: Weed Parsons and Company, 1868), 1:267. The list includes several African Americans working with the militia whose names are included below.


HAMI  
*The History and Archaeology of the Montauk Indians* (Readings in Long Island Archaeology and Ethnohistory, v. 3) Stony Brook, N. Y.: Suffolk County Archaeological Association, 1979.

HBD  
Henry B. Dawson. “Slaves in the Revolutionary Army.” *Historical Magazine and Notes and Queries Concerning the Antiquities, History, and Biography of America*, Series I, 2:1 (v. 12) (January 1867), 44. [The brief query relates to an enslaved man of one David Belknap, who enlisted in the Revolutionary Army and was killed. The man’s name is not given.]

HMV  

HSBW  

IB  

IRWSR  

JER  

JVB  

JWD  
Joseph W. Dooley. “Two Black Men Introduced as New Members at Congress.” *SAR Magazine*, 102:1 (Summer 2007), 6. [Two new SAR members, descendants of Henry Bakeman of New York, and of Isaac Brown of Charles City County, Virginia, are featured in this article.]

KRU  

M246  

M247  

M847  

M853  

M859  


REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE
NEW YORK, 1775-1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

AFRICA, CASK, African American, NYR1898, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), Patriotic Service, enslaved man of Peter Wandelaers, MACC:1:996, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), Patriotic Service, enslaved man of slave of Cornelius Glen, MACC:1:997, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (enslaved man of David Belknap [name not given], African American, HBD, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Petrus Oosterhoudt, PGC:3:298, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), waggoner, enslaved man of William Kunn, no residence given
AGETHYHUNKE, Indian, AANY, no residence given
AGHSARIGOWA, Indian, NHHS:15:138, no residence given
ALGOYER, BASTIAN, **, NYR1898, no residence given
ANAQUANDAHONSIGH/ANEQWHTAONTSI, JOHANNES CRINE/SCHRINE [aka White Hans], Mohawk Indian (Bear Clan Chief), DKF
ANDREW, African American, sailor, NYR1898:269, no residence given
ANN, African American, Patriotic service [prisoner of war], enslaved man of James Gordon, WATT, Albany
ANTHONY, Indian, NYR1898:90, no residence given
ARONS, JOMPEO, **, NYR1898:1:256, no residence given
ASPENNO, ANTHONY, **, NYR1898:1:82, no residence given
ATAYATAROUGHTA/ATAYATAGHRONGHTA, LEWIS/LOUIS, Indian, Lt. Colonel, DHFC 7:378-380, NYCIN, A3123, A0893; also listed as COLONEL LOUIS, no residence given
AUGUR, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r95:i78:v9:157, no residence given
BAER, ADAM, African American, AJWM1:26, Dutchess Co.
BAER, CUFFY, African American, AJWM1:26, Dutchess Co.
BAKEMAN, HENRY, African American ("a colored man"), R400, IRWSR, JWD, Stone Arabia, Montgomery Co.
BASSET, CAESAR/CESA, African American, Private, W16827, no residence given
BEAMAN, SAM, Montauk Indian, “commander” on the privateer Ranger, HAMI:109, Montauk/Easthampton
BEAR/BAER, COFFEE/COFFEE/CUFFY, **, NYR1898:1:187, UCR, no residence given
BEECH TREE, Indian, AANY, no residence given
BIG BEAR, KLINUS, Indian, AANY, no residence given
BLACK, CATO, African American, NYR1898:94; A0893, no residence given
BLACK, CESAR/CEASAR, African American, NYR1898:94; A0893, no residence given
BLACK, JACk, **, NYR1898:74, M881, no residence given
BLACK, PRIMAS, African American, NYR1898: 61, no residence given
BLACK, TOM, African American, Private, DCH:15:490, no residence given
BLACK, WALTER, African American, NYR1898:71, 94, no residence given
BLACK JACK, African American, NYR1898:79, no residence given
BLATCOP, Indian, IB:25, no residence given
BLOOD, JACOBUS, African American, Patriotic Service, HMV: 1060-1, no residence given
BLUE BLEK, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r170:i152:v8:113, no residence given
BOGART, see NICHOLAS SISOW
BOSTON, NEGRO, African American, Private, NYR1898:328, M881, no residence given
BRADLEY, LEWIS, African American, AJWM, Dutchess Co., no residence given
BRAVE BOY, African American, drummer, NYR1898:71, no residence given
BRIANT, PRINCE, African American, UCR, AJWM1:26, Ulster Co.
BROWN, JOHN, African American (“Molato”), Private, M246, Westchester Co.
BROWN, MARLIN, see MARLIN
BROWN, TUNIS, African American (“colored”), M859:r40:i13006, no residence given
BUN, African American, enslaved man of General William Floyd, local defense, GBM:63, no residence given
BURLING, LEWIS, (“coloured”), NYR1898, BOLT, Westchester Co.
CAESAR B, **, A0893, no residence given
CAESAR, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of Mr. Laight), New York City
CAESAR, Indian, MAT, no residence given
CAIN, ABLE, **, CSP, no residence given
CALONDODA, Indian, AANY, no residence given
CASQUALAGUAY, Indian, AANY, no residence given
CASSAWETO, Indian, GWPC4:i879, no residence given
CATO, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of Mr. Fine), New York City
CATO, African American, M847, M859:r40:i13006, no residence given
CATO, African American, M859:r40:i13006, no residence given
CATO, PRINCE, African American, A4008, A0893, no residence given
CESAR, African American, M859:r94:i27343:p6, no residence given
CESAR, Indian, NYR1898:212, no residence given
CESAR/SEASOR, African American (“Negro”), fifer, IRWSR, M881, no residence given
CESAR, JULIUS, African American (“man of color”), R1822, no residence given
CESER, INDIAN, Indian, CHM:v1:496, no residence given
CHEEASTAWALIOSOTTEE, see OJISTATALE
CHRISTIAN, Indian, AANY, no residence given
CHRISTIAN, Indian, AANY, no residence given
CLOSE, CESER, African American, M859:r112:i32140, KRU:644, no residence given
COLLORD, EDWARD, African American, WALL, no residence given
COLONEL LOUIS, see ATAYATAROUGHTA, LEWIS
CONE, BENJAMIN, African American, NYR1898:145, no residence given
CONGO, DAVID, **, M881, no residence given
CONSOLE, MANUEL, **, NYR1898:98, no residence given
COOK, LEWIS, see ATAYATAROUGHTA, LEWIS
CORNELIUS, HENRY, Indian, IB:26, no residence given
CORNWELL, **, A0893, no residence given
CRANDLE, HENRY, African American, AJWM, NYR1898, Dutchess Co.
CUBITT, BLACK, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (slave of Cn Lighburn) New York City
CUFF, African American, Private, DCH:v15:353, no residence given
CUFF, African American (“a Negro”), NYR1898:173, no residence given
CUFF, WILLIAM, **, NYR1898:145, M881, no residence given
CUMBO, JOHN, **, A0892, no residence given
CUSICK, NICHOLAS, Indian, Lieutenant, S18788, NYCIN, A3123, NYR1898: 270; aka NICHOLAS KAGHNATSHON/KAGHAASTKO, no residence given
DANFORD/DANFORTH, PRINCE, African American, BLWt 7044-100, NYR 1904, UCR, AJWM1:26, Ulster Co./Orange Co.


DARBY, African American, M859:r49:i27343:p9, no residence given

DEDERICK, CATO, African American (slave of Gilbert Dederick), UCR, AJWM1:26, Ulster Co.

DENNY, LEWIS, Indian, Patriotic Service, WIS:64, no residence given

DEPUY, JAMES, African American, RWPF, R2895, no residence given

DEWITT, FRANCIS, African American, R2919, no residence given

DICK, African American, (enslaved man of General William Floyd), local defense, GBM:63, no residence given

DICK, African American, NYR1898:161, no residence given

DICK, African American, NYR1898:215, no residence given

DICK, African American, PGC:v6:70, no residence given

DICK, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), NYR1898:94, A0893, no residence given

DOXTATOR, HONYERE, see TEWAHANGAHKEN, HONYERE

DOXTATOR, HONYOST, see TEWAHANGAHKEN, HONYOST

DUNBAR, SAMUEL, African American, S15106, no residence given

DUNMORE, CESAR, **, NYR1898:49, RUB:NY: 4th Reg:9, no residence given

EAGLES TAIL, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r183:i166:p379, 391, no residence given

EBO, African American, (enslaved man of General William Floyd), local defense, GBM:63, no residence given


FIFFER, WILLIAM, African American, NYR1898:196, MSS:v5:658, no residence given

FISHER, THOMAS, African American, W21121, no residence given

FOWLER, WILLIAM, Montauk Indian, served on the American privateer William the Conqueror, HAMI:109, Montauk/Easthampton

FRANCE, SONTUCK, **, NYR1898: 95, no residence given

FRANK, Indian, NYGWM (“an Indian slave;” deserted), no residence given

FRANK, ASHER, **, M881, no residence given

FREE JACK, African American, M859:r43:i13876, NYR1898:164, no residence given

FRIDAY, JO, Indian, MA:v 2:no1:69-71, no residence given

FROST, EPHRAIM, Indian, NYJ (deserted from the army 1776), no residence given

FURMAN, CATO, **, NYR1898:146, no residence given

GABRIEL, African American (“Negro”), Private, M859:r112:i32219, no residence given


GAUL, JACK, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), UCR, AJWM1:26, Ulster Co.

GRAHAM, PHASSO (PHARO?), **, M881, no residence given

GRASSHOPPER, see OJISTATALE

GREEN, JACK, African American, S43631, also Connecticut service (see Chapter 5)

GREEN, JAMES, see WEEKS, JAMES

GREEN, PETER, African American, Private, S32772, res. Colrain, Mass. [Note: His grave was marked by The Mary Mattoon Chapter of DAR]

HALL, BOSTON, **, M881, private in Pawling’s Regiment, no residence given

HALLEY, ROBIN, **, NYR1898:72, no residence given

HANYERRY, Indian (“Indian guide”), CSP, no residence given

HARRY, African American (enslaved man of General William Floyd), local defense, GBM:63, no residence given

HECTOR, African American, teamster, M859:r9:i2622:p 1, no residence given

HENRICK, see SHAHNEGHTORES


HOYT, CEASAR, **, M881, no residence given

HUBBARD, PRIME, African American, M881, no residence given

HUBBARD, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given

HUNT, LUE, African American, PGC:v6:70, no residence given

HUNT, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given

INDIAN BEN, Indian, scout, see pension of Samuel Sutphin of New Jersey, R10321, no residence given
INDIAN JOE see LEWIS, JOSEPH
INDIAN, NICHOLAS, Indian, M881, no residence given
INDIAN, STEPNY, Indian, M881, no residence given
INDIAN, THOMAS, Indian, M881, no residence given
JACK, African American ("Negro"), A0893, no residence given
JACK, African American ("Negro"), IRWSR, M881, NYR1904:209, no residence given
JACK, African American, Patriotic Service, PGC:v3:224, no residence given
JACK, African American, M853:r17:v.161:46, no residence given
JACK, African American, M859:r94i27343: p. 7, no residence given
JACKSON, HANNIBAL, African American, Private, W21441, no residence given
JACOB, African American, Patriotic service [prisoner of war], slave of James Gordon, WATT, Albany
JEFFRIE, Indian, NYR1898:95, no residence given
JO, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of Mr. Drake), New York City
JO, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of Mr. Walton), New York City
JOHAN, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man), New York City
JOHN, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of Mr. Lamb, New York City)
JOHN, African American, Private, M859:r35:i11233, no residence given
JOHN, Indian, PGC, vol. 3:192-3, no residence given
JOHNSON, BENJAMIN, African American, NYR1898:84, no residence given
JOHNSON, BRISTOL, African American, ORSB, Albany
JOHNSON, JOSEPH, aka THOMAS ROSEKRANS, African American ("coloured"), R5636, JVB, no residence given
JOHNSON, PETER, ("man of colour"), Private, S36643, BLWt 1263-100, Col. Dubois Regt., living Franlin, Conn.
JOHNSON/JOHNSTON, PRINCE, **, M881, no residence given
JOHNSON, SAMUEL, African American, S23280, no residence given
JONATHAN, Indian, Patriotic Service, S21481, no residence given
JOSEPH, African American, Patriotic Service, HMV:1066, no residence given
JUBB, African American, NYR1898:113, M881, no residence given
JUPITER/JUBERTER/JUPITER/JUBTER/JUPETER, SILAS, **, NYR1898, M881, RUB:NY:2nd Reg.:19, no residence given
KAGHNATSHON/KAGHAATSKO/KAGHNATSTO/KAGHNATSHONAN, NICHOLAS, see CUSICK, NICHOLAS
KAHIKTOTOW/KAHEKTOTOW, CORNELIUS, Indian, Lieutenant, DHFC 7:379-80, NYCIN, A3123, NYR1898 P. 270, no residence given, also listed as RAKIKOWTOW, CORNELIUS
KANAONTHY, Indian, AANY, no residence given
KANOUGH, Indian, AANY, no residence given
KANTWH, NICHOLAS, Indian, NYR1898:270, no residence given
KARUNDAWA, Indian, AANY, no residence given
KAYATSHE, NICHOLAS, Indian, NYR1898: 270, no residence given
KAYDOTHE, Indian, AANY, no residence given
KENNEDA, JOHN, Oneida Indian, R5866, no residence given
LAMB, POMP/POMPY, African American, soldier and spy, NYR1898:34, 159; M881, BHAM, DLO, AJWM1:27, Orange Co.
LATTIMORE/LATIMER, BENJAMIN, African American, S13683, ORSB, Ulster County/Albany
LEE, JUPITER, African American, M859:r94i27343:p 11, no residence given
LEWIS, JOSEPH, Indian, NYR1897:7, no residence given; also listed as INDIAN JOE
LONDON, African American, NYR1898:62, no residence given
LONDON, African American, PGC:6:70, no residence given
LONDON, Indian, Patriotic Service, NYR1904:123, no residence given
LONDON, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man, negro), New York City and later Dutchess Co.
LODWICK, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man), New York City
LUDWIG, Indian, AANY, no residence given
LUTTER, CUFF, African American? NYR1898:57, no residence given
MACKEY, African American, Patriotic Service, EHA, p 69, no residence given
MARLIN, African American (“coloured”), waiter, R6978, no residence given; also listed as BROWN, MARLIN and MARLIN, ROORBACK
MAYHEW, Indian, McDp, Pt:2:67, Long Island
McVANDOORE, MINK, African American, NYR1898:95, no residence given
MINGA, MORRIS, **, M881, no residence given
MINGO, JOSEPH, Indian, M881, no residence given
MINGO, MARTING, Indian, M881, no residence given
MINGO, WILLIAM, Indian, M881, no residence given
MOULTON, CATO, African America (“Negro”), M881, RUB:NY:4th Reg.:21 (drummer, deserted 1780), no residence given
MURRAY, JACK, African American (“Negro”), NYR1898:95, no residence given
MUTTONEONEM/MATANCOMIN, BENJAMIN, Indian, A0893, NYR1898:95, no residence given
NANAOTOCO, JACOB, Indian, Private, M881:r774, no residence given
NAUNAUNEKNAUK, DAVID, Indian, NYR1898:95, M246, no residence given
NAUNAUNONTONE, JACOB, Indian, NYR1898:95, A0893, no residence given
NAUNAWSHAN, DAVID, Indian, M881, no residence given
NERO, African American, Patriotic service [prisoner of war], WATT, Albany
NEWMAN, JOSEPH, Indian, Patriotic Service, NYH5:58:400, M246, no residence given
NIMHAM, AARON, Indian, M853:r17:i161:p52; M881, no residence given
NIMHAM, DANIEL, Indian, NYR1898:95; A4008, M881, no residence given
NIMHAM, ISAAC, Indian, M881, M246, no residence given
NIMHAM, JOHN, Indian, Private, M881:r774, A0893, no residence given
NONEKOM, BENJAMIN, Indian, M881, no residence given
NOTONKSON/NOTONSION/NONTONSHAM, WILLIAM, Indian, Private, M853:r17:v161:52; A0893, M881, no residence given
OJISTATALE, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:189:i170:v2: 279; also listed as GRASSHOPPER or CHEEASTAWALIOSOTTEE
OKENYOTA/OKNOYATA, CORNELIUS, Indian, Lieutenant, DHFC 7:379-80, NYCIN, A3123, A0893
OLAAVIGHTON, JOHN, Indian, NYR1898:270, no residence given
ONEYNYA EGAT, Indian, Patriotic Service, MACC:1:167, no residence given
OTAAYIGHTON/OTTAWIGHTOW, JOHN, Indian, Captain, DHFC 7:379-380, NYCIN, IB: 25, A3123, no residence given
PALMER, AARON, African American, NYR1898:209, no residence given
PATTERSON, JOHN, African American, S43783, no residence given; also listed as JOHN PETERSON
PETER, African American, (enslaved man of General William Floyd), local defense, GBM:63, no residence given
PETER, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of Benj. Moore), New York City
PETER, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of C® Lighburn), New York City
PETER, Indian, AANY, no residence given
PETERS, POMPEY, African American? MPRWR, no residence given
PETERSON, JACOB, African American, AJWM1:27, Cortland, Westchester Co.
PETERSON, JOHN, see PATTERSON, JOHN
PHARAOH, African American, Patriotic Service, MAT:797, no residence given
PHILIP, African American (enslaved man of General William Floyd), local defense, GBM:63, no residence given
PLATTO, THOMAS, **, MPRWR, no residence given
POCKNETH/POCKNOTT, JOHN, Indian, M881, no residence given
POLES, Indian, AANY, no residence given
POMP, African American (“negro,” servant in Freer’s Regt. of NY Mil.”), IRWSR 3:2154, M881, no residence given
POMP, African American (enslaved man of Benjamin Sawyer of Southold, Suffolk Co.), GBM:63, no residence given
POMP, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of Mr. Lott), New York City
POWLIS, JAMES, see WAKARANTHARAUS/WARONTHARANE, JAMES
PRINCE, NEGRO, African American, Private (“Negro”), NYR1898, M859:r42:i13838, M881, no residence given
PUMSHIN, DANIEL, **, RUB:NY:2nd Reg.:28 (died at Valley Forge), M246, no residence given
QAVNO, GEORGE, **, A4008, no residence given
RAKIKOTOW, CORNELIUS, see KAHIKTOW, CORNELIUS, no residence given
RATTLETRAP, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r183:i166:p 379, 391, no residence given
REDWOOD, PRINCE, **, NYR1898, A0893, M881, no residence given
REED, JACOB, **, M247:r95:i78:v9:p157, no residence given
REN, WREN, SOLOMON, African American, MAT, no residence given
RIPLEY, JOHN, African American, AJWM, Albany Co.
ROBIN, African American, A0893, no residence given
ROBIN, African American, NYR1898:166, no residence given
ROBIN, African American, NYR1898:73, no residence given
ROBINSON, WILLIAM, African American, S11320, no residence given
ROMEO, African American, Patriotic Service, MAT: 797, no residence given
ROOBACK, MARLIN, see MARLIN
ROOSA/ROSA, JACK, African American (“Negro of Guysbert Roosa), UCR, AJWM1:26, Ulster Co.
SACKET/SACKETT, PRINCE, African American, Private, McDP:Pt.2:67, M246, M881, no residence given
SACKNUTT, JOHN, **, RUB:NY:4th Reg.:26, no residence given
SADERYKROS, Indian, AANY, no residence given
SAGOHARASIE/SAGOHARASE, JOHN, Indian, Lieutenant, DHFC:7:378-380, NYCIN, A3123, no residence given
SAM, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of Benj. Moore), New York City
SAMPSON, JOSHUA, Montauk Indian, W16953 [wife Hannah], Corporal & Private, Suffolk Co.
SANAWAGAINT, Indian, NYSL, no residence given
SAUQUAYUNK, CORNELIUS, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r189:i170:v. 1:123, no residence given
SCHUREMAN, HERCULES, African American, R9275, no residence given
SCOFFIELD, CEAZAR, **, NYR1898:86, no residence given
SEGIGOTUYOTA, Indian, NYR1904:46, no residence given
SEMANS, SAMUEL, African American, NYR1898:167, no residence given
SHACANUNGIVAS, Indian, AANY, no residence given
SHAUKENKELOCK/SHAHNENHEKUK/SKANHANHAW, MOSES, Indian, A0893, M881 private in Willett’s New York Regiment, no residence given
SHAWNEE JOHN, Indian, scout, see pension (R10321) of Samuel Sutphin of New Jersey, no residence given
SHELEY, CYRUS, Indian, S36313, BLWt 7811, no residence given
SHELOGADOF, Indian, AANY, no residence given
SHIPPENCATPONT/SHIPPENCON, JOSEPH, Indian? M881 Joseph Willett’s New York Regiment, no residence given
SIAH, Indian, NYR1898:194, M881, Ulster Co.
SIMMS, African American, Patriotic Service, CHM:v1:267(enslaved man of Cn Lighburn), New York City
SISCOW, NICHOLAS, African American, R9621, no residence given, also listed as BOGART
SMITH, HENRY, African American, AJWM, NYR1898, Dutchess Co.
SOGOHARASE, JOHN, **, M881 lieutenant New York troops, no residence given
SOKADAY, Indian, MCDP:Pt.2:67, no residence given
SOPUGE, LATEN, **, Private in Ludington’s New York Regiment, M881, no residence given
SPENCER, THOMAS, Indian, Captain, IB:25, 94, no residence given
STEPHEN, African American, teamster, (slave of Jno. Wincoop), M859:r9:i2622:p 1, no residence given
STEPHEN, African American, teamster, (slave of Peter Burgardas), M859:r9:i2622:p 1, no residence given
STEPNY, Indian, NYR1898: 22, M881, no residence given
STORUM/STOURMAN/STOURNAN, CHARLES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), R10240, [Note: DAR established patriot.]
SUCANOX, PETER, Indian? NYR1898:38, no residence given
SUCKANUCK/SUCHANUT/SUCKINUT/SUCKANUT, JOHN, Indian, M881, RUB:NY:4th Reg.:29, no residence given
SUCKINUT, JOHN, Indian? NYR1898, no residence given
SUGHNAGEARAH, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r173:i153:v3:55-57, no residence given, also listed as WHITE SKIN
SWARTWOUT, JACK, see THOMPSON, JACK
T’HEAOUDIATHA, Indian, M247, r173, i153, v. 3:55-7, no residence given
TAUNAKU, CORNELIUS, Indian, A0893, NYR1898:96, no residence given
TEHEANIYOGLIHAT, Indian, NHHS:15:138, no residence given
TEWAGHTAHKOTTE, Indian, Captain, DHFC:7:379, no residence given
TEWAHANGARAHKEN/TEWAWANGARAHKEN/TEWAHANGARAH/TEWAHONGARHKIN, HONYERE/HANYERE/HANYOST, Indian, Captain, S23019, NYCIN, IB: 26, A3123; M881, no residence given, also listed as DOXTATOR, HONYERE [Note: DAR established patriot.]
TEWAWANGARAHKEN, HONYOST, Indian, Lieutenant, R3065, NYCIN, A3123, no residence given
THAOIQAQWAT/THASAGWAT, HANYOST/HANYOST, Indian, Lieutenant, DHFC:7:378-380, no residence given
THEOTHAY, Indian, AANY, no residence given
THEOWANSKY, Indian, AANY, no residence given
THERAADAS, Indian, AANY, no residence given
THEUGHVEYNACK, Indian, Patriotic Service, MACC, vol. 1:167, no residence given
THOMAS, Indian, NYR1898:51, no residence given
THOMPSON, JACK, African American (“colored”), M859:r43:i14303, NYR1898:73, no residence given; also listed as SWARTWOUT, JACK
THOMPSON/ROBERS, PRIME, **, M881, no residence given
TILLO, African American (“black man”), NG&S:93, Westchester Co.
TITUS, African American (“Negro”), A4008, no residence given
TITUS, African American, NYR1898:96, no residence given
TOBY, SETH, **, M881, no residence given
TOM, African American, cook, M859:r94:i27343:p 5, no residence given
TOM, African American, drummer, CHM:v1:267 (enslaved man of Fredk Bassett; drummer), New York City
TOM, African American, Patriotic Service, M859:r16:i5204, no residence given
TOM, African American, Private, DCH:15:542, no residence given
TOM, African American, sledge man, (slave of Mr. Pyke), M859:r78:i22623:p424, no residence given
TOM, African American, (slave of John Lefever), NYR1898:167, no residence given
TOM, African American, A0893, no residence given
TOM, African American, NYR1898:174, no residence given
TOM, African American, teamster, (enslaved man of Derish Wincoop), M859:r9:i2622:p1, no residence given
TOM, African American, teamster, (enslaved man of Peter Smedus), M859:r9:i2622:p1, no residence given
TOM1, African American (“Negro”), drummer, (enslaved man of Fredrick Bassett), M881, NYR1898:88, FER, AJWM, Orange Co.
TOM2, African American (“Negro”), M881, NYR1898, no residence given
TOM3, African American (“Negro”), M881, no residence given
TOM, African American, (enslaved man of Adam Zielie), DFHAAS, HSBW, Schoharie Co.
TONEY, African American, NYR1898: 210, no residence given
TONEY, ANTHONY, African American, NYR1898:134, no residence given
TYORHANSERA, LITTLE ABRAHAM, Mohawk Indian (Wolf Clan Chief), DKF
VAN AKEN, CATO, African American, UCR, AJWM:1:26, Ulster Co.
VAN SCHAICK, GARRET, African American, waiter, DRMC:2, no residence given [Note: Not the same as DAR established patriot.]
WAKARANTHROW/WARONTHARANE, JAMES, Indian, Captain, R1107, NYCIN, A3123, no residence given; also listed as JAMES POWLIS
WAMPEE/WAMPIE, ISAAC, Indian, Private, M881:r774, Willett’s Regiment, no residence given
WANTUCYANT, JOHN, Indian, Private, M881:r774, no residence given
WANUTE/VANUTE, CHA’S/CHARLES, Indian? A0892, M881, no residence given
WARREN, MORDECAI, African American, Private, NYR1898: 73, no residence given
WAUTUHYUNNIAUT/WANTERHYUNN, JOHN, Indian, NYR1898:96, A0893, no residence given
WEEKS, JAMES, African American, S33269, New York City; also listed as JAMES GREEN. [Note: Pension transferred to Sussex Co., N.J., but not the DAR established patriot of the same name.]
WELLS, PRINCE, **, M881, private, Albert Pawling’s Regiment New York Militia, no residence given
WENOMPEE, ISAAC, Indian, NYR1898:96; A0893, no residence given
WHITE SKIN, see SUGHNAGEARAH
WHITE, SOLOMON, African American (“colored”), NYR1898:73, no residence given
WHITE, WILLIAM, African American, AJWM, NYR1898, no residence given
WHITCUFF/WHITCUFF, ____ (brother of Loyalist Benjamin Whitecuff), African American, KRU:661 (killed in war), COLDAM, no residence given
WHITCUFF/WHITCUFF, ____ (father of Loyalist Benjamin Whitecuff), African American, KRU:661 (killed in war), COLDAM, no residence given
WILEY, PRIMUS, **, NRY:107, no residence given
WILLIAM, African American (“Negro”), IRWSR, M881, no residence given
WILLIAM, African American, NYR1898:58, no residence given
WILLIAM, Indian, Patriotic Service, NYR1904:133, no residence given
WILLIAM, JAMES’ SON, Indian, AANY, no residence given
WILLIAM, TALL, Oneida Indian, R21851, no residence given
WILLIAMS, PUMP, **, M881, no residence given
WOODMORE, CORNELIUS, African American, AJWM, NYR1898:39, no residence given
WOUNKOUNGUTA, JOHN, Indian, NYR1904:46, no residence given
WOUT/ WOUTMY, African American (“Negro”), M246, IRWSR, M881, res. Schenectady
YANNAKIE, CORNELIUS, Indian, Private, M881:r774, no residence given
YORK, African American (enslaved man of Thomas Betts), KRU wagon driver in the army, no residence given
OTHER NOTABLE MINORITY PERSONS FROM NEW YORK IN THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA

For the general purposes of identifying the military service of all patriots in the American Revolution for membership purposes, the Daughters of the American Revolution has set the dates of the conflict to be April 19, 1775 ( Battles of Lexington and Concord) through November 23, 1783 (evacuation of British troops from New York City). Because of this focus on military service and other patriotic activities during the armed conflict, individuals involved in other events and activities before or after these dates are not in the general list of soldiers and sailors above. Included in this situation are involvement in the Boston Massacre (1770), the Boston Tea Party (December 16, 1773) and other similar protests, and the Battle of Point Pleasant (1774, Dunmore’s War).

The following individuals from the Revolutionary Era are well-known in history and appear in many accounts of the period. They appear in this section based on activities outside of the beginning and ending dates of the Revolution or on the fact that no documentary proof of Revolutionary War service can be found despite extensive research to discover it.

POLLY COOPER

The story of Polly Cooper relates that she was among the Oneida Indians, who brought relief supplies to Washington’s army at Valley Forge, and that in return for her assistance Martha Washington gave Cooper a shawl. The shawl remains a prized possession of the Oneida Indian Nation of New York. Unfortunately, there is no documentary evidence yet discovered to verify this story. See: <www.oneida-nation.net/polly-cooper.html> for more information on the story of Polly Cooper. See also:


SAMUEL AND PHOEBE FRAUNCES

Little is known about Fraunce's life and heritage before his arrival in New York City, apparently sometime in the mid-1750’s. Most have assumed he was born in the West Indies, perhaps of French or African descent, and others believed he was born in Portugal. There are no 18th century references to his having African descent. Despite historical references to Fraunce having been called “Black Sam”, the 1790 New York census lists him in the white column rather than in the column for “other free persons.” Additional documentation to clarify this situation would be most welcome.

Washington wrote of Fraunces in 1785:

He has been considered (tho’ confined within the british lines) as a friend to our cause. It is said he was remarkably attentive to our prisoners in the City of New York, supporting them, as far as his means would allow, in the hour of their greatest distress. This is which lead both Governor Clinton & myself to countenance & support him...82

Upon George Washington’s inauguration to the presidency in May 1789, Washington hired Fraunces as a household steward in New York City. He returned to this post later in the year after Washington and the federal government relocated to Philadelphia. Fraunces remained with the presidential household until 1794 when he left on good terms and reestablished himself as a tavern keeper in Philadelphia. He would pass away less than a year later in 1795.

Fraunces Tavern still stands in lower Manhattan as a museum and a restaurant and is owned by the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York. Their website does not provide any information on Samuel Fraunces’ origins. See: <http://www.frauncestavernmuseum.org/>.

In addition to Samuel Fraunces himself, a story revolves around his daughter Phoebe, who legend says saved George Washington’s life by warning him of poison added to food that he was about to eat. The story was made popular in the children’s book by Judith Griffin listed below.

For more on Samuel Fraunces, see:
Gloria A. Harris. African Americans in New York State, 1626-1865. Cooperstown, N. Y.: New York State Historical Association, 1992. Harris states that Fraunces was “man of color” and that he enlisted in the Revolution as a private, but she does not provide any references to original sources to document these statements.

SKENANDOAH

Skenandoah, Oneida war chief, was, according to tradition, of Conestoga (Susquehannock) birth and adopted into the Wolf Clan of the Oneida. His parents’ names and birth place are unknown. The birth date assigned for Skenandoah is based on estimates of his age late in his life and may have well been inaccurate, possibly by a decade or more. He provided intelligence to the American garrison at Fort Stanwix of motives and actions of the British and their allies. Skenandoah was one of the four pro-American emissaries who traveled on snowshoes carrying a message to the Iroquois refugee population at Fort Niagara in February 1780 urging the pro-British Iroquois to cooperate and in return refused to accept the wampum belts brought by Skenandoah and other emissaries. Skenandoah and the others were kept in jail until they agreed to serve the British cause in July 1780.

For more on Skenandoah, see:
“Evacuation Day’ and Washington’s Triumphant Entry in New York City, Nov. 25th, 1783.”
Chromolithograph by Edmund P. Restein and Ludwig Restein, Philadelphia, 1879.
Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D. C.
Note the American Indians in the lower left corner of the picture.
Men Held as Prisoners on the British Prison Ship Jersey

During the American Revolution, the British kept thousands of American and allied prisoners on board the infamous prison ships in Wallabout Bay, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. A very large number of these men died in the miserable conditions on those ships. Unfortunately, only the records for the Jersey survive. A list of some 8,000 men's names has been published and reprinted several times over the years, and this list serves as the basis for the extracted list that follows.83

In reading through the names of these prisoners on the Jersey, it was very clear that men of many nationalities were included. Many French, Spanish and Portuguese names appear in the list. In addition, there are very few indications among the names as to the color of any of the men of any nationality, so it is entirely possible and likely that many others of the individuals appearing as prisoners were of African descent or partial African descent.

Many of the men were mostly likely sailors that the British captured from American, French, Spanish or Portuguese ships and sent to New York harbor for imprisonment. An interesting analysis of the possible origins of the Jersey's captives is available at the New York State Library in Albany and perhaps elsewhere: Joseph J. Palisi. “Ethnic Factors in the Episode of the Prison-Ship Martyrs in the War for American Independence.”84

The following names are listed because of the likelihood that they were of African or partial African descent. This inclusion is based solely on their names (with a few obvious exceptions noted as “Negro”), and it is open to interpretation. Given that many of the sailors of this period were of African origin, many others surely appear on the list, but their names are so “English” that it is impossible to differentiate them from others of European descent. There are few other sources to compare this roster with for further personal identification, and the strong possibility that many of these men were sailors from around the Atlantic makes identification even more difficult.

ADAMS, PISCO, JER
ANDREWS, PISCO, JER
CASE, SCRANTO, JER
CUFFEY, WILLIAM, JER
DELACE, DOMINGO, JER
DOWNES, PRINCE, JER
FOSTER, BOSTON, JER
GILLMAY, TOBY, JER
HUNTER, TURTLE, JER
HUSON, NEGRO, African American, JER
ILLUMBE, IVIDESOUSIS, JER
JACK, BLACK, African American, JER
JACK, JOHN, African American, JER
JACK, NEGRO, African American, JER
JARVIS, RETUNA, JER
JUCBA, RANDON, JER
LOUDEN, NEGRO, African American, JER
MARINER, HURCULES, JER
MOSES, NEGRO, African American, JER
MUSQUI, ANTONIO, JER
NACK, DIPPEN, JER
NEPROE, FRANK, African American, JER
NEPROE, JAMES, African American, JER
PRINCE (Negro), African American, JER
RUTLEY, POMPEY, JER
SAYERS, CUFFE, JER
SIMONS, NERO, JER
WILLIAMS, CATO, JER

84 Joseph J. Palisi. “Ethnic Factors in the Episode of the Prison-Ship Martyrs in the War for American Independence.” (Developed from a paper presented at the School of Liberal Arts and Science of the Bernard M. Baruch College of the City University of New York on April 23, 1975). Mr. Palisi was Borough Historian for Brooklyn, New York at the time he wrote this study.
“Interior of the Old Jersey Prison Ship in the Revolutionary War.”

Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D. C.
Rejected pensions can reveal evidence of non-military service and other personal information. Ex-slave Marlin Brown’s applications claimed that he served as a waiter for Colonel John Fisher and that his former owner was John Roorback of Ulster County, New York. Although the details did not help him gain a pension, they do provide key data for further research.
Letter from the pension file of John Patterson/Peterson of New York
Pension 543783, page 18, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, roll 1887)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

Pension files contain a variety of documents. In the above example, a private citizen wrote the
pension office seeking verification of information on African American patriot John Patterson
in order to erect a monument in his honor in Peekskill, New York.
“Payroll of Capt. Samuel Watkins of Militia under the Command of Maj. Jacob Newkirk in Col. James McClaughrey’s Regmt of Ulster County Forces.”

RG 93, Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783 (M246, roll 75).

National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

Indian Siah was a member of the Ulster County Militia and paid for his service in 1777.
“Muster Roll of Captain Jonathan Willet’s Company in the 2nd New York Regt. of Foot M246, Jacket 27, Roll 68, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C. Although this list contains the names of men identified in other sources as Indian (i.e. Joseph Newman and Daniel Pumshin), it does not identify their color, a common problem with many eighteenth century documents.
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Throughout the entire Revolutionary War, the minority population of New Jersey shared the same turmoil as their white neighbors. New Jersey, often called the “cockpit of the Revolution,” was one of the colonies that bore the brunt of British incursions by land and sea. Trying to protect the vast miles of open coastal areas and attempting to provide the quota of men that was demanded by the new Congress was difficult.

Before the Revolutionary military action moved through New Jersey and became concentrated on the Southern Campaign, additional sacrifices were demanded. The New Jersey Continentals served in the Canadian Campaign and formed strong defenses in the actions near Philadelphia and at the Battle of Monmouth. Some regiments served as far south as Yorktown.

The British often seized food and military supplies. The state troops and local militias that remained at home were essential to the deterrence of such loses. They also guarded against and repelled coastal incursions by the British Navy. Very little organized naval activity is recorded for New Jersey, but with the few ships, barges and small vessels available, residents did manage to thwart British attempts to establish blockades.

New Jersey African Americans in the Revolution

New Jersey, often called the “Cockpit of the Revolution” because of its strategic location between Philadelphia and New York, was the northern most of the Middle Colonies. The state was formed in 1702 when the provinces of East and West Jersey were combined. At this time, East Jersey included the counties of Bergen, Essex, Middlesex and Monmouth, while West Jersey contained Burlington, Gloucester, Salem and Cape May counties.

During the Revolution, the New Jersey’s population numbering between 135,000 and 140,000 persons was composed of many diverse groups. Among them were slave-owning Dutch farmers; rich merchants and crown officers, many of whom were members of the Church of England; Congregationalists who had migrated from New England; poor miners and smiths who were employed by wealthy iron-masters; and Swedes. In addition there were large landowners near Princeton whose holdings, on which many African Americans labored, resembled Virginia plantations.1

Among that population were approximately 19,000 free men who were available for military service. Not included in this number were 6,000 Quakers who refused to enlist for religious reasons, over 1,000 loyalists, who sided with the British, 1,000 exempts who were excused and 7,600 slaves2 who

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2 Cornelius C. Vermeule, “Service of the New Jersey Militia in the Revolutionary War,” Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society, IX (July 1924), 235. (Hereafter cited as Vermeule); George W. Williams,
were excluded from service by law. New Jersey’s diverse population had a significant impact on her ability to defend herself and meet military quotas imposed by the federal government.

By June 1775, New Jersey passed an Act to raise a State army. This was to be organized into twenty-one regiments and nine battalions. By this time, three thousand New Jersey residents were already serving in the Continental Army. In 1777, faced New Jersey with declining enlistments and needing to defend her own territory, New Jersey was ordered by the Continental Congress to supply a quota of four regiments comprised of over 2,700 men. In order to meet all of her obligations, the state passed “An Act for the better regulating of the Militia on March 15, 1777.” The Act required that each Captain or commanding officer “…take a list of all able-bodied Men, not being Slaves …between the Ages of sixteen and fifty Years, who reside in his district, and are capable of bearing Arms.” Among the provisions that each man was to bring for himself were: a good musket, a knapsack, a canteen, twelve flints, and twenty-three pounds of cartridges. In place of a musket, with all of its necessary equipment, the recruit was allowed to substitute a sword, cutlass or tomahawk.

Because the colony was an active theatre of war, recruitment for the Continental army was met with opposition from some New Jersey residents who argued that the colony’s men should serve close to home in order to protect her from human and financial losses. It was also argued that men who were already being paid to serve as substitutes would be reluctant to join the Continental Army. Aware of recruitment problems, New Jersey Governor, William Livingston, writing under the pseudonym “Adolphus” submitted a letter to the New Jersey Gazette on the subject of an effective draft. He followed that letter, published on January 21, 1778, with another one written under the pseudonym “Persius” which was published on February 18. Acting on Livingston’s letters to the editor, the New Jersey Assembly legislated a draft in April 1778.

A supplemental act to the one of March 1777 was passed in June 1779. This act required the enrollment in the State’s militia of only “Male Free Inhabitants of twenty-one Years and upward…” On January 8, 1781, the New Jersey legislature passed its final Act relative to the regulating of the State’s militia during the Revolution. The act required the enrollment of “all effective Men between New Jersey the Ages of sixteen and fifty Years.” Among the groups who were specifically exempted from service were “slaves.”

The Quaker meeting in West Jersey resolved in 1776 to read out of its meetings any Friends who continued to hold slaves. Governor Livingston asked the New Jersey legislature to consider the manumission of slaves in the summer of 1778. The Assembly requested that the Governor quietly withdraw his suggestion. New Jersey did not address the subject of slavery until after the Revolution and was the last northern state to abolish slavery. Thus, New Jersey slaves were never legally permitted to enlist in the colony’s Revolutionary War Militia or Continental Line, and this may help account for the short list of names of African Americans from New Jersey that follows.

Some New Jersey slaves did, however, serve in the Continental Army. One such man was Jack Cudjo who served in place of his master, Benjamin Coe who was too old to fight. Coe rewarded Cudjo with his freedom and an acre of land for serving in his place.

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7 Vollmer, op. cit., 59-63.
8 Ibid., 67-70.
10 William S. Stryker, Documents Relating to the Revolutionary History of the State of New Jersey,
In spite of New Jersey's position on slavery, two slaves who had Loyalist masters were manumitted for their service in the American Revolution. The first was Peter Williams who was taken by his master, John Heard into the enemy lines. He came back from the enemy in 1780, joined the New Jersey State troops, later enlisted into the Continental Army and served until the end of the War. The New Jersey Legislature granted Williams his freedom in September 1784.

The New Jersey Legislature freed a second slave, "Cato," in November 1789. The Legislature discovered that his master, David Fitz Randolph, had joined the enemy and found "...by sundry Vouchers, that the said Cato has rendered essential Services both to this State and the United States in the Time of the late War...." 11

Although New Jersey steadfastly refused to allow slaves to serve in the colony's armed forces, the British encouraged them to join the Royal forces. On the 7th of November 1775, Lord Dunmore, the Royal Governor of Virginia issued a proclamation which offered freedom to "...all indentured servants, negroes, or others, ...that are able and willing to bear arms, ..." if they joined the British troops. His offer attracted many New Jersey African Americans who fled the State in order to join "Dunmore's Ethiopian Regiment." Others escaped through the British lines into New York City that remained under British control throughout most of the Revolution.

Dunmore's proclamation was reinforced by another issued by Henry Clinton, Commander of the British forces in North America. In 1779, Clinton "...proclaimed a general emancipation of all slaves who escaped to his lines. ..." In addition, he declared "...that each runaway could choose any occupation which he shall think proper."

The proclamations of Dunmore and Clinton apparently appealed to many slaves from New Jersey because among those who fled to New York City were at least 31 from Monmouth County and about 100 from Bergen County. In spite of the inducements offered by Dunmore and Clinton, some New Jersey African Americans, both free men and slaves enlisted in the American army or provided other services to the Americans.12

Several New Jersey African Americans were pensioned for their Revolutionary War service. Among those minority participants was Adam Pierce, a native of Cumberland County, New Jersey, who enlisted in the New Jersey line in the spring of 1778 and served for nine months. During his enlistment, Adam Pierce saw action at the battles of Crosswicks and Monmouth. Some of Pierce's descendants have joined the Daughters of the American Revolution.13

Jacob Francis, a “colored” man born in New Jersey on January 15, 1754, enlisted in 1777 and served under several captains in the New Jersey troops. Francis' widow, Mary, whom he married in 1789 and purchased her freedom, was awarded a pension for her husband's Revolutionary War service in 1836.14

Thomas Martin was another New Jersey pensioner. Martin, age 15, born in Piscataway, enlisted in 1775 in a volunteer regiment known as “The New Jersey Blues” under Captain Asher Fitz Randolph. In 1806, Martin moved to Lebanon, Maine where he resided in 1850.15

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14 RWPF, W459.
15 RWPF, S18964; 1850 U. S. Census, Lebanon, York Co., Maine, 33, family 214, dwelling 211, National Archives Microfilm M432, Roll 275.
Six “Negroes,” Andrew, Ceasar (sic), Dick, Jack, Pomp, and Will, served as teamsters. Each of them drove a four-horse team for the Army. Those six men were paid at Monmouth on March 1, 1780 for Continental service in the Quartermaster Corps.  

In addition to those minority participants who saw military duty during the Revolution, there were others, who made significant contributions to the American cause. One such man was Cyrus Bustill, a free man and a baker, who supplied bread to the Continental army.  

In spite of New Jersey’s legislation which prohibited the enlistment of slaves, and Britain’s overtures to them, some slaves, along with free Blacks, chose to fight side by side with whites to protect their home colony and to ensure American Independence.  

**Native Americans of New Jersey in the Revolution**

During the American Revolution, small groups of Indians resided in New Jersey, particularly the Brotherton Indians in Burlington County. Unfortunately, no clear information has been found as to whether these groups supported the American cause, although there is evidence that the Brothertons worked at nearby iron works at Ation.

William Cuffey, William Holmes and Oliver Cromwell were among the few Native Americans who served in the American forces from New Jersey. All three men served in the 2nd New Jersey Regiment.

Cuffey was a resident of Stafford, Monmouth County, when he enlisted in June 1778. He was twenty-two years of age at that time, served nine months as a private in Captain Phillips’ Company, and was honorably discharged March 1, 1779. Although Cuffey’s pension states that he was an “Indian,” there is some evidence to support the idea that he was also partially of African descent.

William Holmes, a native of Pennsylvania, was twenty-one years of age when he enlisted at Cumberland County, New Jersey in 1778. Holmes had an interesting military career. Having deserted in June 1778, he was captured and imprisoned at Trenton. In October 1778, he and a comrade escaped from prison. Later he re-enlisted for the duration of the war and served as a private in Captain Jonathan Holmes’ Company. The name of William Holmes remained on the rolls as late as May 20, 1783.

Oliver Cromwell while in his mid twenties enlisted at the beginning of the war. He served in the 2nd Regiment of the New Jersey Continental Line and in the New Jersey Militia under Captains James Lawrie, Nathaniel Bowman, Jonathan Dayton and Absalom Martin. A look at Cromwell’s pension application reveals the soldier’s clear recall of events in his Revolutionary service. He states he was serving under Captain Lawrie at the Battle of Short Hills on June 26, 1777 when Lawrie was wounded and taken prisoner. (Captain Lawrie was a Quaker who was disowned by the Chesterfield Monthly Meeting for entering military service. He died as a prisoner of war in New York on July 10, 1777.) A copy of Cromwell’s discharge, signed by George Washington, is in his pension file. Cromwell was awarded both a federal pension and bounty land for his six years of service. Oliver Cromwell, a lifetime resident of Burlington County, was born in the Indian village of Black Horse, now Columbus. When the 1850 Federal Census for Burlington City and County was taken, Cromwell’s

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16 Stewart, 9.
17 New Jersey, Dept. of Defense, Revolutionary War Index, New Jersey State Archives, Genealogical Society of Utah microfilm no.0568699, rolls 2, 8, 11, 16, 23, 30.
18 Pingeon, 7.
20 New Jersey, Dept. of Defense, *Adjutant General’s Office (Revolutionary War) Abstracts of Service Records [Slides], ca. 1776-ca.1783*. New Jersey State Archives, Roll 10. A compilation of materials on Oliver Cromwell once appeared on the shelf in the New Jersey State Library, but it has been missing for the past several years. Perhaps this is also available in another library: *Collected Information on Oliver Cromwell, Black Revolutionary Soldier Manuscript*. Trenton: New Jersey State Library. New Jersey Reference Services, 1988.
21 Ibid; Roll 15.
personal memories of his Revolutionary service were apparently as vivid as ever. In this census he gives his occupation as “Drummer in Revolution.” Cromwell died in Burlington County, January 4, 1853 at the age of ninety-nine years and 10 months.22

**Naval Activity in New Jersey during the Revolution**

The Middle Colonies bordering the Delaware Capes, the Chesapeake Bay and the New Jersey shore were not well-equipped to defend themselves from British maritime intrusions during the American Revolution. Pennsylvania defended the Delaware Capes because neither Delaware nor New Jersey had a navy.23 In order to keep north-south communications open, the Continental Congress reimbursed New Jersey for operating ferries on the Hudson River between that state and New York.24

Recognizing the necessity of defending her own coastline, New Jersey did employ a fleet of whaleboats, barges and other small craft which carried on maritime warfare in her harbors, inlets and bays. In addition, four privateers operating out of New Jersey received letters of marque (permission to confiscate or capture British ships) from the Continental Congress.25 There was considerable privateering along the New Jersey coast between Raritan Bay and Cape May during the war. Little Egg Harbor and Toms River were the chief bases for this activity.26 While the possibility exists that some New Jersey African Americans and Indians did see naval action, none have been identified. Given the active of many minority men as watermen under normal circumstances, many surely used their skills as sailors and boatmen in military activities during the Revolution.

**Thoughts on Research in the Records of New Jersey**

New Jersey’s military records for the Revolution are extensive, but they are not very informative as to the color of the men enlisted in the state’s units. The major published compilations are particularly lacking in this detail, but the original sources housed in the New Jersey State Archives in Trenton (from which these publications drew their content) are unfortunately no more informative. In addition, the lack of federal censuses for New Jersey prior to the 1830 census complications the search for additional sources of information on veterans.

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**ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES**

**USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE**

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


BLWt Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).

CGW Carter G. Woodson. “An Important Revolutionary Record of a Negro Soldier.” *Journal of Negro History,* 17 (1932), 379-381. [Jacob Francis]


REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE
NEW JERSEY, 1775 - 1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

ANDREW, African American, Teamster, ROMN:858, PIN:20, no residence given
ARRAY, JAMES, African American, Soldier, PIN, PIN:21-21, Hunterdon Co.
BARD, CUFFY, African American, Soldier, FIS:119:n, no residence given
BLACK, POMPEY, African American, Soldier, M881, WAL, no residence given
BROTHERTON INDIANS (number unknown) working at the Atsion Company’s milling and foundry works, in Atsion, Burlington Co. near their reservation. IRON, CIM
CASAR/CAESAR/SEASER/CAESAR, JAMES, African American, Soldier, ROMN:165, HO5, WAL, M881, no residence given
CASAR/CASOR/CAESAR/CAEZR/CAER/CEZAR/CAESAR/CAESOR/COESAR, JOHN, African American, ROMN:165, WAL, M881, MPRWR, JLB-2, no residence given
CATO, African American (“Negro”), MTW:173, Woodbridge, Middlesex Co.
CATO, HENRY, Indian, Soldier, ROMN, R1815, no residence given
CATO, JOHN, African American, Soldier, ROMN:165, WAL, MPRWR, JLB-2, no residence given
CEASAR, African American, Teamster, ROMN:860, no residence given
CEZAR/SEZAR, THOMAS, African American?, JLB-2:21, CSP, no residence given
CHARLTON, SAMUEL, African American, Soldier, MCO:13, 19; CPAR, WAL, BHAM, no residence given
CHEEKS, JOHN, **, MPRWR, no residence given
CROMWELL, OLIVER, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”/Indian), soldier/drummer, ROMN:176, S34613, WAL, CPAR, PIN:20, TMJ, BHAM, WRIOC, JLB-2, Burlington Co. [It is possible that Cromwell was of part Indian and part African descent. The 1850 federal census for Burlington Co., N. J., lists Cromwell with some of his family as a mulatto age 97 and as “Drummer in the Revolution” in the occupation column. New Jersey state military records list Cromwell as an Indian.]
CUDGO/CUDJO, African American, Soldier, STRY:1:352; substitute for his master Benjamin Coe, WAR, FIS:119:n, ATK, no residence given
CUDGO, JACK, African American, Soldier, ROMN:177, no residence given
CUFF, NEGRO, African American, Soldier, M881, M246, JLB-2 no residence given
CUFF, NEGRO, African American, fifer, WAL, no residence given
CUFFEE, AMOS, African American, ROMN, Middlesex Co.
CUFFEE/CUFFEY, WILLIAM, Indian, Soldier, ROMN:177, S34613, WAL, M881, ES, JLB-2, Monmouth Co.
CUGO, JOHN, **, ROMN:177, no residence given
CUGO, THOMAS, **, ROMN:177, no residence given
DELENS, PERO, **, JLB-2 (deserted)
DICK, African American, Teamster, WSS:861, ROMN: 861, PIN:20, no residence given
DILLAP, JAMES, Indian, ROMN:183, 574, Cumberland Co.
EDWARDS, LUCRETIA, African American, officer’s servant, FIS, no residence given
EVANS, JOHN, African American, Soldier, NRE: 5:18, no residence given [Note: Not the same man as DAR established patriot.]
FORTUNE, THOMAS, African American, spy, FIS, no residence given
FRANK, African American (“Negro”), patriotic service, CRRNJ:263, Salem Co.
FRANCIS, WILLIAM JOSEPH, African American, Soldier, FIS:119:n.59, no residence given
GIZZE, Indian, Private, M246, no residence given
GUY, JOHN, African American (“coloured man”), Soldier, ATP:204, Hunterdon Co.
HILL, HENRY, African American, Soldier, FIS:119:n.59, no residence given
HOLMES, WILLIAM, Indian, Soldier; ROMN:2:214, 634; NRE:5:18, Reading/Monmouth Co. [Note: Not the same as DAR established patriot pensioned under W429.]
JACK, African American, Teamster, ROMN:863, PIN:20, no residence given
JACOB, FRANCIS, African American, ATP:181, Hunterdon Co.
JOHNSON/JONSON, CATO, African American, Soldier, ROMN:221, WAR, JLB-2, no residence given
MARTIN, THOMAS, African American, Soldier, S18964, Woodbridge
MOLAT, GIDEON, **, ES, ROMN, Monmouth Co.
MURRAY, MARK, Mixed descent (Swedish and Lenape or Siconesse Indian), WSG:62&154, Gouldtown, Cumberland Co.
NED, African American (“Negro”), patriotic service, CRRNJ:263, (enslaved man of ___ Abbot), Salem Co.
NEGRO, CATO, African American, FNFD:72-73, no residence given
NEGRO, DICK, African American, WAL, no residence given
PEACOCK, ADJOIYAK, **, CSP, no residence given
POMP, CAESAR, African American, Teamster, ROMN:866, PIN:20, no residence given
PRIME, African American (enslaved man of Loyalist Absalom Bainbridge), PPM, Somerset Co.
PRIME, African American (“Negro”), patriotic service, CRRNJ:263, Salem Co.
PRIME, BLACK, African American, WAL, WRI, FIS:119:n.59, M881, no residence given
QUASH, African American (“Negro”), patriotic service, CRRNJ:262&263, Salem Co.
RAY, JAMES, African American, Soldier, ROMN:271, no residence given
SEASAR/SEASOR, JAMES, African American, M881, no residence given
SIMONSON, SAMUEL (aka SAMBO, NEGRO), African American, Soldier, WAL, M881, PIN:21, Somerset Co.
SUTPHIN, SAMUEL, African American, Soldier, R10321, SCH, WAL, JVB, R&B, Somerset Co.
SWANSON/SIMONSON, SAMUEL (or NEGRO SAMBO), African American, Soldier, FIS, PIN, JLB-2, no residence given
TITUS, NEGRO, African American, WAL, M881, no residence given
TOBY, ISAAC, **, M881 (drummer in Dayton’s New Jersey Battalion and in 3rd New Jersey Regiment)
TOM, Indian, M881, no residence given
TOMSON, AMOS, African American, WAL, no residence given
WARNER, CUFF, African American, M881, JLB-2, no residence given
WILL, African American, Teamster, ROMN:869, PIN:20, no residence given
WILLIAMS, PETER, African American, Soldier, ROMN:312, WAL, WRI, FNFD:72, MTW:173, Woodbridge, Middlesex Co.
**OTHER NOTABLE MINORITY PERSONS FROM NEW JERSEY FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA**

For the general purposes of identifying the military service of all patriots in the American Revolution for membership purposes, the Daughters of the American Revolution has set the dates of the conflict to be April 19, 1775 (Battles of Lexington and Concord) through November 23, 1783 (evacuation of British troops from New York City). Because of this focus on military service and other patriotic activities during the armed conflict, individuals involved in other events and activities before or after these dates are not in the general list of soldiers and sailors above. Included in this situation are involvement in the Boston Massacre (1770), the Boston Tea Party (December 16, 1773) (and other similar protests), and the Battle of Point Pleasant (1774, Dunmore’s War).

The following individuals from the Revolutionary Era are well-known in history and appear in many accounts of the period. They appear in this section based on activities outside of the beginning and ending dates of the Revolution or on the fact that no documentary proof of Revolutionary War service can be found despite extensive research to discover it.

**GRAVES, JOCKO**

Information appears in a few books and online about the story of Jocko Graves, the supposed model for lawn jockeys. No documentary evidence to support this story is apparently available. The concept of a young boy standing out in the freezing weather to hold a horse overnight and dying as a result seems rather absurd. See the following for the basics of the story of Jocko and for commentary on the story in general:

<www.jockobook.com>


Cover document from the pension record (S34613) of Oliver Cromwell of Burlington, New Jersey
RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 695)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Application of Oliver Cromwell for a pension taken from his pension file.

RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 695)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Document from the Application of Oliver Cromwell for a pension.
RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 695)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.
Oliver Cromwell’s discharge papers signed by George Washington.
Document from his pension file.
RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 695)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Obituary notice for Oliver Cromwell from The Burlington Gazette taken from his pension file.

RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 695)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Deposition from the pension file (R10321) of Samuel Sutphin of New Jersey.
RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 2324)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
June 15, 1936,

Brigadier General,
Frederick Gilkerson,
Office of the Adjutant General,
Trenton, New Jersey.

SIR:

I advise you from the paper. In the Revolutionary War pension claim, R10321, it appears that Samuel Sutphin or Sutphan was a colored man and at the beginning of the Revolution belonged to Culsebert Bogart, who sold him to Casper or Casper (the name does not appear as Cooper) Bergen, Ber- sun, Berchen or Bayner, for whom he served as a substitute in the war of the Revolution, with the New Jersey Troops.

Respectfully,

KLINFIELD SCOTT,
Commissioner.

Document from the pension file (R10321) of Samuel Sutphin of New Jersey.
RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 2324)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.
BIBLIOGRAPHY
OF NEW JERSEY AFRICAN AMERICANS
AND AMERICAN INDIANS
IN THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA


Atkinson, Joseph. The History of Newark, New Jersey. Newark: William G. Guild, 1878. [Tells of the Revolutionary War service of Cudjo, slave of Benjamin Coe (117) and discusses the history of slavery in New Jersey in general (169-172).]


Heczkewelder, John Gottlieb Ernestus. *Names Which the Lenni Lenape or Delaware Indians, Who Once Inhabited This Country, Had Given to Rivers, Streams, Places, etc., etc., Within the Now States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia; and Also Names of Chiefmen and Distinguished Men of the Nation; With the Significations of Those Names and Biographical Sketches of Some of Those Men.* (Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, v. 4). Philadelphia: The American Philosophical Society, 1833.


Hodges, Graham Russell. *Slavery, Freedom & Culture among Early American Workers*. Armonk, N. Y.:


Magyar, Mark J. “Ensuring Historical Accuracy in Refighting the Battle of Trenton.” *New Jersey Heritage Magazine*, 1:1 (Winter 2002), 45-46. [Discusses an African-American re-enactment regiment in New Jersey.]


Price, Clement Alexander, ed. *Freedom Not Far Distant: A Documentary History of Afro Ameri-
cans in New Jersey: A Joint Project of the New Jersey Historical Society and the New Jersey
Price, Clement Alexander; M. M. Pernot, ed. Freedom Papers, 1776-1781. Burlington:
Westervelt, Frances A. Indians of Bergen County, New Jersey. Hackensack: [s. n.], 1923
Woodson, Carter G. “An Important Revolutionary Record of a Negro Soldier.” Journal of Negro History, 17 (1932), 379-381. [Contains information on the life and service of Jacob Francis (1754-1836) of Amwell Township, New Jersey.]


Pennsylvania, situated midway between the northern and southern colonies, played a major role in the American Revolution. The colony with its large population in and around Philadelphia served for most of the Revolutionary War as the seat of government for the fledgling country and a major source of supplies and materials for the war effort. Philadelphia, as the largest city in the colonies, was naturally a focal point of interest for both sides in the conflict. During the British occupation of Philadelphia, York served as the nation’s capital.

Pennsylvania’s thirteen military regiments saw action in their home state, Canada, New Jersey, and New York and in engagements against the Iroquois nation. In 1779, in order to support those military forces, Pennsylvania began imposing a supply tax on all freemen, and payment of this tax to bolster the war effort is patriotic service for membership in the DAR.

Because of her strategic location and substantial population, Pennsylvania had one of the largest navies of the thirteen colonies. John W. Jackson’s, The Pennsylvania Navy, 1775-1781 presents an excellent picture of the Pennsylvania State Navy’s participation in the Revolutionary War effort. Many African American men served in this naval force.

African Americans in Philadelphia and the surrounding counties and Indians on the Pennsylvania-Ohio border, separated by vast expanses of land, were, like all residents of the colony, affected by the events of the American Revolution. A number of individuals from both minority groups chose to support the cause of American independence, but the total figures appear to be smaller than in other states because of demographic differences.

Pennsylvania’s African American Patriots

African American residents of Pennsylvania were given few incentives to support the cause of American Independence, but many willingly chose to do so. They voluntarily enlisted in the military and served on naval ships and privateers. Others demonstrated their patriotism by paying Oaths of Allegiance and paying supply taxes. They contributed in many significant and important ways to the war effort.

The State of Pennsylvania had an African American population of approximately 10,000 individuals during the American Revolution. Just over 2400 of them were living in Philadelphia and Philadelphia County at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War in 1775. In 1780, the year in which the colony passed a Gradual Abolition Act, one estimate put the number of slaves in the state at 6,000. The “Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery” became law on March 1, 1780. It “provided that thereafter no child

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born in Pennsylvania should be a slave; but that such children, if negroes or mulattoes born of a slave mother, should be servants until they were twenty-eight years of age; that all present slaves should be registered by their masters before November 1, 1780; and that such as were not then registered should be free."4

Even prior to the passage of the 1780 act, Philadelphia Quakers slowly had begun emancipating their slaves in response to a 1774 decision of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting which prohibited the ownership of slaves. In the years between 1774 and 1780, only a handful of non-Quaker Philadelphians manumitted their slaves. Slave ownership decreased among Philadelphia's Angilcans. However, there was a substantial increase among other Protestant groups and Jews. In Chester County, the number of slave owners remained approximately the same in the years between 1765 and 1780.5 And as late as 1782, 443 residents of southwestern Pennsylvania were registered as slaves in Washington County.6 Such was the status of Pennsylvania African Americans during the Revolutionary era.

Military Service

In late April 1775, immediately after the outbreak of the Revolution, nearly 8,000 Philadelphians agreed to associate “for the Purpose of defending with Arms, their Property, Liberty, and Lives against all Attempts to deprive them of them.”7 By early June, three battalions comprised of 2,000 men had been organized. On June 30, the Pennsylvania General Assembly agreed to pay the militia and to supply arms. In addition, it appointed a Provincial Council of Safety and made provision for the manufacture of saltpeter.8

On December 2, 1776, a group known as the “Real Whigs” recommended to the Pennsylvania Council of Safety that “...every Person between the age of sixteen and fifty years, be ordered out under Arms for the defence of this State.”9 Perhaps as a result of that recommendation, the Pennsylvania General Assembly on March 17, 1777 passed “An Act to regulate the Militia of the Common-Wealth of Pennsylvania.” The Act required all lieutenants and sub-lieutenants to compile lists of all white males between the ages of eighteen and fifty-three capable of bearing arms. Among those excepted from the compiled lists were “servants purchased bona fide.” The March 1777 Act was strengthened by a similar Act passed on March 20, 1780 which again exempted “servants purchased bona fide.”10

In addition to the legislative acts relating to the regulation of the militia passed by the General Assembly, the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council issued a Proclamation on July 9, 1777 that strictly forbade “... all Recruiting Officers in the Continental Service, and all others, from enlisting Servants or Apprentices within this State, on pain of being prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the Law.”11 These three government actions effectively prohibited most of Pennsylvania’s African American residents from enlisting into the military.

Another factor, which surely influenced the role played by Pennsylvania African Americans during the American Revolution, was a proclamation issued on November 7, 1775, by John Murray, Lord Dunmore, the Royal Governor of Virginia. Lord Dunmore offered freedom to “indentured servants and negroes” who were “willing to serve His Majesty’s forces to end the present rebellion.” Initially, African Americans from Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina responded to

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4 Turner, NPA, 78.
8 Ibid., 49-53.
Dunmore’s call to form an “Ethiopian Regiment.” After Dunmore was defeated at Norfolk, Virginia in 1776, he, along with his “Ethiopian Regiment” moved north to British controlled Staten Island, New York. African Americans from other Colonies, hoping to earn their freedom, continued to join the Regiment as it moved along the east coast from New York to Georgia.12

The British occupation of Philadelphia for nine months in 1777-1778 presented an excellent opportunity for African Americans to leave their masters, cross the lines and go over to the side of the enemy in order to earn their freedom.13 At least seventy-one Pennsylvania African Americans who took advantage of Dunmore’s offer of freedom left the United States with the British in 1783.14

In spite of the actions of Pennsylvania’s governing bodies and British offers of freedom, some African Americans did find ways to express their support of the American cause. It is virtually impossible to identify all of the African American men from Pennsylvania who fought on the side of the Americans because muster rolls for every military unit are not extant. Many of the rolls that do exist do not identify the participants by race. In addition, an individual’s race cannot be determined solely by his or her name. Nonetheless, it is still possible to locate the names of a number of African American Pennsylvanians who supported the American cause.

The only exact count of “Negroes” who served with the Pennsylvania units is a return taken at White Plains, New York in late August 1778 which shows two African Americans in Wayne’s Pennsylvania Regiment and thirty-five in the Second Pennsylvania Regiment. The return does not account for African Americans who may have been serving in other Pennsylvania Regiments in 1778.15

One African American who was not included in the White Plains count was Stacey Williams. He enlisted in Captain Jacob Humphrey’s Company, 6th Pennsylvania Regiment, in April 1777 and was wounded at Brandywine, Pennsylvania in September of the same year. Williams also served at the Battle of Monmouth in 1778 and was discharged at Philadelphia in November 1783. He was awarded a federal pension and bounty land for his service in the Revolution.16

Another, John Francis, was among the first Revolutionary War veterans to be pensioned. Francis, whose legs were shattered by grapeshot while serving at the Battle of Brandywine under Captain Henry Epple in Colonel Thomas Craig’s 3rd Pennsylvania Regiment, was awarded an Invalid pension in 1789.17

John Leoman and Jacob Shelly served together as Privates in Captain Thomas Robinson’s Lancaster County Militia Company.18 Two other African American men served as musicians. Polydore Redman was a drummer in Captain John Richardson’s company, and Bob served both as a drummer and fifer in Captain William Semple’s Company.19

Other African Americans served in a variety of ways. Two served as waiters. Levi Burns was a

14 Records of Pennsylvania’s Revolutionary Governments 1775-1790 in the Pennsylvania State Archives, Executive Correspondence File, RG 27, (microfilm), reel 23, 17ff.
16 Revolutionary War Pension File (RPWF), S40688; BLWt 10587-100-28; PA:5:3:187.
18 PA:5:7:197, 209, 688.
19 PA:5:2:186; PA:6:1;324, 326.
waiter in Colonel Richard Humpton’s Regiment in 1778. William Lukens, a waiter in the Flying Camp, was taken prisoner at Fort Washington in 1776 along with his battalion commander, Colonel Michael Swope.

Abraham Moore, “a free man of colour,” was drafted in what became Fayette County, Pennsylvania as a substitute for Augustine Moore. He was required to serve in an expedition against the Indians in 1781.

In addition, two African Americans who had fines remitted had military service. In August 1780, Colonel Lewis Nicola asked Jack, “a negro,” and several White men who were imprisoned in the Philadelphia jail, to join his Invalid Regiment. After receiving their acceptance of his offer, Nicola convinced the Philadelphia authorities that the fines should be remitted and that the men should be released from jail on condition that they enlist.

In September of the same year, Daniel Stevens, a free African American, was tried and convicted of larceny. Stevens pleaded that he was too poor to pay the fine. At the suggestion of the court his fine was remitted under condition that he also agrees to serve under Colonel Nicola.

**Naval Service**

African Americans served in a variety of naval related positions. Among them were John Pompey, who was a seaman on the Pennsylvania Armed Boat Burke, and Caesar, a “negro boy”, who was a drummer on the Armed Boat Warren. Both men were in service in 1776.

Several African Americans served as Marines. John Bristol was a Marine on the Armed Boat Franklin in 1776 and Prince served in the same capacity on the Armed Boat Ranger in 1777. Isaac Walker and Orange were also Marines. The names of both men appear on a payroll of a company of Marines found in the minutes of a Masonic Lodge which met at the Tun Tavern on Water Street in Philadelphia. Robert Mullan, Captain of the company of Marines, was the proprietor of the Tavern.

The Navy also called African Americans with special skills into service. On April 25, 1777, the Continental Navy Board requested that Bristol, a ropemaker, who was already serving in the fleet, be sent up by the Pennsylvania Navy Board. Some served on privateers. The name of Luke Hanson, a resident of Pennsylvania, appears on the crew list of the ship Deane commanded by Elisha Hinman of Connecticut. The crew listed is dated “Boston, Nov., 1780.”

Another African American Pennsylvania privateer, James Forten, who in later life became a renowned sailmaker in Philadelphia, told William Nell, an early African American historian, the story of his enlistment on the Pennsylvania ship, Royal Louis, under the command of Captain Stephen Decatur. Sr. Forten recalled the capture of the Royal Louis by the British and went on to say that he “...was confined on board the old Jersey Prison Ship,...” Although no crew rosters for the Royal Louis have been located, Forten’s imprisonment is confirmed in a March 15, 1837 affidavit signed by Daniel Brewton who attested that the two men were held on “...the prison ship, ‘Old Jersey’...” in 1781.

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22 RWPF, S2855.
23 Colonial Records of Pennsylvania, Minutes of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania (Harrisburg, 1853), XII:450.
Patriotic Service

Many African Americans provided patriotic support to the American cause, Cato and Mingo, enslaved men of John Dickinson, a lawyer and writer of Revolutionary pamphlets, carried messages between Philadelphia, New Jersey and Delaware.31 In 1781, six Negro slaves, Cato, George, Grace, Judith, Mary and Sharp, along with one white servant, Patrick Lemon, were in the service of Robert R. Livingston, United States Secretary of Foreign Affairs.32

Many free African Americans also provided patriotic support for the American cause. On April 3, 1779, the Pennsylvania Legislature enacted a law that required all freemen to pay a tax for supplying the army of the United States.33 All but one of the African Americans who paid supply taxes were residents of Philadelphia. The single exception, Cato Johnston, a resident of Strasburg Township, Lancaster County, paid twenty-seven pounds, the largest supply tax paid by any African American resident of Pennsylvania.34

In 1777, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed an Act requiring an Oath of Allegiance to the State. Even though only white men over the age of eighteen were required to take the Oath, Joe Caesar, “negro” and Robert Morris, “mulatto” both exhibited their support of American Independence by subscribing to the Oath of Allegiance and Fidelity.35


31 Nash, Forging Freedom, 50.
34 Records of the Controller General of Pennsylvania, RG 4, reel 328.

The names of other African American patriots who supported the American cause remain undiscovered. Who were the “free Negroes” who paid the supply tax in Philadelphia’s North Ward in 1782?36 And what was the name of Nicholas Spencer’s “cook, a negro man” who served in Captain Benjamin Loxley’s Company in 1776?37

The obituary of Edward Hector, an African American soldier, published in the Free Express, Norristown, Pennsylvania, poignantly expresses the manner in which many Revolutionary War veterans were remembered. Hector, who died on January 3, 1834, at the age of about 90, appears on a 1777 muster roll of Captain Hercules Courtenay’s Company where he served as a bombardier. His obituary reads in part, “Obscurity in life and oblivion is too often the lot of the worthy – they pass away, and no ‘storied stone’ perpetuates the remembrance of their noble actions.”38

Indian Patriots of Pennsylvania

During the Revolutionary War era, Pennsylvanians were often in conflict with Native American Indian nations to the west and north of the European settled areas of the Commonwealth. Most Native Americans in the area of Pennsylvania sided with the British during the war or remained as neutral as possible. A very large number had moved before the war from the eastern and southern areas of Pennsylvania into New York or west into modern Ohio. Remnant groups remained east of the Alleghenies, but they were very small in number and continued to shrink in size as the Revolution approached and progressed. In spite of this situation, some individual Native Americans Indian chose to support the American cause. They served in the military, assisted the American forces as guides, spies and messengers, and provided material support to the war effort.

American Indian Military Service in Pennsylvania

In early 1777, William Dunn and Abel Reese of Northumberland County made the following appeal to Congress:

“Philadelphia, January 10th, 1777
To the Honorable the Continental Congress:
The petition of William and Dunn and Abel Reese Humbly Sheweth:

That your petitioners lives [sic] in Northumberland County, and has been a long time intimate with the several Nations of Indians inhabiting on the Frontiers of these States, who is willing to enter into the Continental Service.

That the Indians are of such a Temper that they will not readily engage against an Army in which any of their Nation are engaged.

That your Petitioners is persuaded that they would, at this season, enlist a Company out of the Different Nation as, as they are now Trapping for Beaver in the Neighborhood. That if the next Campaign should be in or near this State, the Indians on the Frontiers would be kept quiet by means of their People in our Camps, Which would enable the Inhabitants to turn out in Defence of their Country, but which they will not dare to do unless the Indians are perfectly secured. Your Petitioners is well acquainted with Job Gillaway, who, we understand, has received a Commission from your Honorable Body, and should your House grant your Petitioners Commissions, Viz’:\nWilliam Dunn as Captain and Abel Reese as first Lieutenant, to raise a Company, also, they apprehend that the two Companys would effectually secure the Neighboring Nations in our Favour.

Your Petitioners having come to Philadelphia on this Call of their Country, and finding that the Campaign may open early in the Spring, Offers their Services, and doubts not but if your Honours will grant them Commissions, they will be able to bring down a Company to join the Army early in the Spring. They, therefore, prays your Honorable House to grant tem a Commission to raise a Company of Indians to serve during the War; and your Petitioners, as in Duty bound, shall ever pray.”

This interesting and revealing petition illustrates the views of two frontiersmen. They wanted to enlist the local Native American men into the American side of the conflict as a preventative measure. No record of any action by Congress can be found relating to this petition, and the two petitioners consequently did not raise an Indian company for Pennsylvania. A year earlier, Dunn had been a member of the Committee of Safety from Bald Eagle Township in Northumberland County, and later he may have served in the Revolution as a private. Some Pennsylvania Indians did, however, provided military service to the United States forces during the Revolution.

A Shawnee Indian, known as John Shawnee or Shawnese, served in Captain John Lowdon’s Company, Colonel William Thompson’s Battalion of Riflemen. A diary entry written at Sunbury, Pennsylvania, June 28, 1775 by Reverend Philip V. Fithian, a Presbyterian missionary, says that on that day thirty young men under the command of Captain Lowdon, all expert riflemen, marched into Northumberland County from Great Island or Indian land, fifty miles up river. The company continued its march through northeastern Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Massachusetts and arrived at Prospect Hill, Massachusetts, where the Continental Army was headquartered, in September of the same year. In 1778, Shawnee served under Major Jeremiah Talbot in the 6th Pennsylvania Regiment. John Shawnee died after the Revolution at Bald Eagle’s Nest, an Indian town, near Milesbury in Centre County.

Pennsylvania. He never received his depreciation pay which reverted to the State.41

Montour's Company of Delaware Indians

In addition to Chief Killbuck, Captain John Montour was a Delaware Indian ally of the United States. He acted as a messenger for White Eyes and continued his close cooperation with the Americans throughout the War.42 Montour was the captain of a company of Delaware Indians under Colonel Daniel Brodhead. Colonel Brodhead was the commander, from February 1777 to January 1781, of the 8th Pennsylvania Regiment headquartered at Fort Pitt. In 1786, Captain John Montour was paid $240 by the United States for services performed between 1780 and 1782.43 [See Chapter 15 for more information on the Lenape/Delaware Indians in Ohio and the service of some of these men in Pennsylvania units stationed at Fort Pitt.]

In addition to Montour’s formally organized Indian company which supported the American cause, some Indians acted individually. One such man was Isaac Woolsey, “Mohack”, who on August 11, 1778 enlisted for three years at Philadelphia. Woolsey served as a dragoon in Captain Bartholomew von Heer’s Company.44

Patriotic Service

While most Lenape/Delaware Indians moved to modern Ohio in the 1760s, some remained in Pennsylvania. Several provided patriotic support to the American cause. Among them was Job Chilhoway.

Chilhoway stayed in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania when most other members of the Delaware Nation moved to Ohio. In October 1777, he went out with a party of fifty men under the command of Colonel John Kelly who were sent to reconnoiter for enemy Indians within fifty miles of Great Island. Job Chilhoway died of smallpox at Fort Pitt while on his way from the Susquehanna Valley to the Delaware Nation where he was to act as an interpreter. He left five destitute children at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. On April 27, 1779, the United States Board of War appointed Colonel George Morgan responsible for the care and education of Chilhoway’s children because, “he was a firm and steady friend,” and because “the catastrophe happened to him and his family while he was in their service,...”45

Thoughts on Research in the Records of Pennsylvania

Although Pennsylvania has voluminous records for the Revolutionary War, they are very limited in the descriptive content for the men that appear in them. Rarely does a color appear for a man. In addition, there was a decided lack of “classical” [i.e. Roman or Greek] names like in New England or names of clear African or Native American derivation to give a clue as to the ethnic background of a specific individual. Page after page in the military records for Pennsylvania is like this. The presence of so many German names in the lists adds to the confusion of identifying people of non-British origin because often English writers spelled German names phonetically resulting in some very unusual interpretations.

Most American Indians in the area of modern Pennsylvania did not support the American side in the Revolutionary War, and documenting their participation is especially difficult because of this fact.


“Valley Forge, 1777. Gen. Washington and Lafayette visiting the suffering part of the army,” by A. Gilbert
Published: Washington, D. C.: P. Haas, 1843
Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division
Washington, D. C.

This image of an encampment of the Continental Army at Valley Forge in 1777 illustrates the diversity of those present. Note the American Indian man leaning on a tree to the right and the African American man tending the camp fire in the front center.
ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


BLWt Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).

C00253M “Minutes of the Council of War, 1776-1784,” 4 manuscript volumes. Rhode Island State Archives Record Group C00253M. [“...lately redeemed from captivity to be paid six dollars out of the General Treasury in order to enable him to go to Philadelphia, the place of his abode (October 1777).]


**PEP**  
*Philadelphia Evening Post, III* (April 26, 1777), 236: Desertion notice from the *Dickinson* armed boat under command of Capt. Alexander Henderson for “Cuff Warner, ‘a Negro man,’ yellowish complexion, this country born, his right leg very lame, and plays on the fife.”

**PG**  
*Pennsylvania Gazette* (date and issues as noted in list below)

**RCG**  
*Records of Comptroller General*, Record Group 7, Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg

**RPRG**  

**RSWOR**  

**RWMAC**  
“Revolutionary War Military Abstract Card File,” Pennsylvania State Archives. Online at: <http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/archive>. This index provides digital images of the cards from the original index at the Pennsylvania State Archives and gives some information about each soldier’s service.

**RWPI**  
*Revolutionary War Pensioners Index*, Record Group 2, Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg

**SEC**  

**SOE**  

**SUMM**  

**WAL**  

**WINCH**  
Revoluntary War Service
Pennsylvania, 1775-1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

ABRAHAM, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3:XV:238
ADAMS, PITT, African American, Soldier, PA:5, IV: 8
BLACK, OXFORD, African American? PA:2:1:269 (marine on the armed boat Congress)
BLACK WILLIAM, African American, PA:2:1:288 (carpenter on the armed boat Experiment, 1775)
BOB, African American, musician, PA:6:I:324, 326
BOSTON/BOSTOL, PHILIP, **, PAWR:1:122
BRISTO, SAMUEL, **, PAWR:1:656 (private, 8th Pennsylvania Regiment)
BRISTOL, African American, Navy, NDOCS:8:429
BRISTOL, JOHN, African American, Marine, PA:2:1:296
BROWN, BLACK, African American? PAWR:1:15
BROWN, JOHN, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3:XV:301
BROWN, SYLVANUS, **, PAWR:1:495 (fifer 4th Pennsylvania Regiment)
CAESAR, African American ("Negro boy"), drummer, PA:2:1:353
CAESAR, JOE, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:2:III:18
CATO, African American, Patriotic Service, FF:50
CATO, African American, Soldier, PA:5:I:91
CEZAR/CIZAR, African American ("Negro"), RWMAC (4th Cavalry Regiment)
CHARLES, African American ("Negro"), RWMAC (ranger, 1777, servant to John Phillips)
CHILLOWAY, JOB, Indian, Patriotic Service, JCC:XIV:646
CYRUS, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3:XV:301
DAY, SEBASTIAN, African American, Soldier, PA:2:XI:740
DENNIS, PATRICK, African American ("Negroe man"), crewman on the Continental armed brig Andrew Doria; PG (July 9, 1777) (deserted).
EXERTER, JOHN, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3:XV:239
FISH, JOHN, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r183:i166:p457
FORTEN, JAMES, African American, sailor, CPAR:1:71, WINCH, BHAM
FOSTER, CATO, African American, PA:3:XV:198
FREEMAN, CATO, **, Soldier, PA:5:IV:91
GILCHRIST, JOHN, African American, Patriotic Service, OATH:71
GRAY, WILLIAM, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3: XV:205
GREEN, JOSEPH, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r183:i166:p457
GRENADES, FRANCIS, **, PAWR:1:98 (fifer, Captain Samuel Watson’s Company, Second Pennsylvania Battalion)
GROVE, JAMES, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3: XV:337
HANSON, LUKE, African American, Mariner, MSS:VII:241
ISAAC, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3: XV:270
ISRAEL, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3: XVI:312
JACK, African American, Soldier, SEC:XII:45
JOE, African American, Patriotic Soldier, PA:3: XV:239
JOHN/JOHN “THE NEGRO”, African American, RWMAC, PAWR:1:499 (4th Pennsylvania Regiment) [This entry may be for one of the following men.]
JOHN, African American, Soldier, PA:2: XII:172
JOHN, African American, Soldier, PA:2: X: 499
JOHNSTON, African American, Patriotic Soldier, PACG RG-4:r328
JOHNSTON, CATO, **, M881, PAWR:1:359
JONES, ABRAHAM, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3: XV: 753
JONES, JAMES, African American, Patriotic Service, Paid supply tax, PA:3: XV:228
JORDAN, JOHN, African American (“Negro”), HKJN (seaman on the Bon Homme Richard)
JOSHUA, Indian, spy, PA:1: XII:196
LEOMAN, JOHN, African American, Soldier, PA:5: VII:197
LUKENS, WILLIAM, African American, (“Negro”), waiter, PA:6:II:604, (taken prisoner at Fort Washington November 16, 1776), York Co. [Note: Not the same man as DAR established patriot of the same name who served from Horsham township under Captain John Sheives.]
MARTIN, QUOCKO, African American (“Colored”), Patriotic Service, SOE
MICHAEL, Indian, Patriotic Service, M853:r17:i156:p31-32
MILLER, ISMAEL, African American, Patriotic Service, Paid supply tax, PA:3: XV: 724
MINGO, African American, Patriotic Service, FF: 50
MOHACK, see ISAAC WOOLSEY
MONTOUR, JOHN, (“Indian”), Captain, M246:r129:i183
MOORE, ABRHAM, African American, Soldier, S2855, JMO:8:4:156
MUSICIAN, ANTHONY, African American? PAWR:1:367 (1st Pennsylvania Regiment)
NED, BLACK, African American, M881
NOTIEO, MICHAEL, **, PAWR:2:54 (private, deserted, “New” 11th Pennsylvania Regiment)
OMCHETERS, GABRIEL, African American? PA:2:1:269 (marine on the armed boat Congress)
ORMOND, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3: XV:312
PEKELAND, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r183:i 166:p457
PETER, African American (“Negro”), RWMAC (militiaman), York Co.
POLYDORE, African American ("Negro"), PAWR:1:158 (drummer, 5th Pennsylvania Battalion)
POMENAY, FRANCIS, African American? PA:2:1:269 (marine on the armed boat Congress; discharged, “taken by his master, May 22, 1776)
POMPEY, JOHN, African American, Seaman, PA:2:I:257
9 (on the armed boat Burke)
PRINCE, GARSOM/GERSHOM, African American, EIM, Wyoming Valley
PRINCE, GARSHOM/GERSHOM, African American, EIM, Wyoming Valley
PRINCE, AFRICAN AMERICAN, Marine, PA:2:I:336 (on the armed boat Ranger)
PROVIDENCE, ROBERT, African American ("a Black"), Patriotic Service, PA:3:XXV:193
SABLE, SAMUEL, African American, Soldier, PA:3:XXV:316
SHAWNEE/SHAWNESSE/SHINAWASE/SHANNISE/SHANY/SHAWANY/SHAWNESE, JOHN, Indian, M881
STACY, WILLIAM, African American, Soldier, PA:2:I:465
STEVENS, DANIEL, African American, Soldier, PA:1:IX:465
TILL, HANNAH, African American, Patriotic Service, cook, GWPR5
TITTERMARY, LONDON, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3:XXV:782
WAGONER, BOSTIAN, African American? PAWR:1:246
WOOLSEY, ISAAC, Indian, dragoon, PA:5:III:924; also listed as MOHACK
YORK, African American, Patriotic Service, PA:3:XXVI:326
Native American Isaac Woolsey was a member of Captain Von Heer’s Troop of Light Dragoons.
Bounty-Land Warrant file of Captain John Montour/Mountour (an Indian).
BLWt 1572-300 and BLWt 301-300
RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration, (M804 Roll 1750)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Pursuant to an Act of Congress authorizing the Secretary of War to issue Land Warrants, and for other purposes, passed the 15th day of April, 1806, Montgomery Montour, heir at law to John Montour, a captain in the late revolution army, is entitled to

\[\text{remaining text is not legible}\]

GIVEN at the War Office, this \[\text{remaining text is not legible}\] day of \[\text{remaining text is not legible}\] in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and \[\text{remaining text is not legible}\]

Registered,

\[\text{remaining text is not legible}\]

\[\text{remaining text is not legible}\]

Document from the pension application of Abraham Moore of Pennsylvania
Detailing his service during the Revolution.
Pension S2855, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 1753)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Document from the pension application of Abraham Moore of Pennsylvania
Detailing his service during the Revolution.
Pension S2855, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 1753)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
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Trussell, John B. B., Jr. The Pennsylvania Line, Regimen


the University Center for International Studies, 1981.
Williamson, James R. “Westmoreland County, Connecticut: Bloodiest Battle of the Revolu-
Delaware was so small and lightly populated in the 1770s that only one regiment was required of this colony for its quota of troops. The regiment's engagements did, however, range from New York City to the Carolinas. The British often seized food and military supplies from the middle colonies, and Delaware was physically in a very vulnerable location. The state troops and local militias that remained at home were essential to the deterrence of such losses. They also guarded against and repelled coastal incursions by the British Navy.

Very little organized naval activity is recorded for Delaware, but with the few ships, barges and small vessels available, Delawareans managed to thwart British attempts to establish blockades. Pennsylvania's naval forces served as the major deterrent to the British in Delaware Bay. While the possibility exists that some Delaware African Americans and Indians did see naval action, none have been identified. Given the activities of many minority men as watermen under normal circumstances, many surely used their skills as sailors and boatmen in military activities during the Revolution.

Throughout the entire Revolutionary War, the African American population of Delaware shared the same turmoil as did their white neighbor. The records have not, however, revealed any Native Americans from Delaware who participated in the Revolutionary War, but this is not surprising given the very small Native American population of the state by this time. Some men may be hidden in the records with English names that disguise their being Indian.

**Delaware African Americans in the Revolution**

The year 1775 was an historic one for the colony of Delaware. Not only was the American Revolution a focal point for political activity, but the three lower counties of Delaware had, at last, achieved an identity. Long considered an appendage of Pennsylvania and geographically attached to eastern Maryland, the small counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex had existed in the shadows of their larger neighbors.

Within the structure of the British Empire, the position of Delaware was difficult to define. While the citizens escaped a great deal of the pressures involved in the oversight of other colonies, they shared an appointed Royal Governor with Pennsylvania. The larger colony was the governor's residence and was the subject of his primary attention. For many years, the western borders of the lower counties had been a subject of legal contests between the powerful Penn family of Pennsylvania and the Calverts of Maryland. This controversy had involved the Governor because the land in question was important to all three colonies. In 1763, the services of a team of British surveyors had been sought to settle the boundary question. Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon established the Mason-Dixon Line, which influenced United States history for the next hundred years. When the western boundary of Delaware was established, a number of adjustments were faced by the residents of an area formerly in Maryland but now part of Delaware. The final labors of Mason and Dixon were accepted by the Royal Governor of Pennsylvania just as the struggle for independence from Britain.
offered additional challenges to the newly formed Colony of Delaware.

The mood of the Delaware General Assembly was inclined towards moderation on all levels of the revolutionary confrontation. Yet the members of the Assembly agreed that Delaware could not remain neutral and on June 15, 1775, the break with England was officially declared. The Delaware representatives to the Continental Congress were allowed to consider independence in place of reconciliation. This body met in August 1776 and produced the first state constitution that was developed by elected citizens solely placed in office for this purpose. Despite embracing the direction of the Continental Congress, Delaware was torn by divided sympathies that hindered many aspects of the revolutionary experience.

The Continental Congress charged the Committees of Safety of the three counties were charged with raising a battalion. Directions were given that each company would consist of a captain, three lieutenants, four sergeants, four corporals, a drummer or trumpeter and sixty-eight privates. With eight companies to organize, a daunting assignment faced recruiters. By March 22, 1776, rules and regulations concerning enlistments contained the following restrictions, “Young, healthy, robust men who are tied by Birth, or Family Connections, or Property, to this country are much to be preferred.” In addition, the recruits should be examined with “great regard to Moral Character: Sobriety in particular” and enlistment would not be considered for any servant or apprentice.1

Immediate resistance took place even among those loyal to the American cause. Families, farms and businesses could not be left unprotected while young men marched off to war. Seven of the battalion companies requested by the Continental Congress were scheduled to go to New Jersey leaving only one company to defend the long Delaware coast and control the active loyalist population of the area. By October of 1776, the Delaware Regiment of Foot in the service of the United Colonies was fully staffed with officers but not up to strength among the rank and file. Following the lead of other colonies, free African Americans and slaves were not welcome as recruits.

As late as 1777, there was still no thought of expanding the number of available men by the inclusion of minorities. Lieutenant Hugh Roe was given instructions to only enlist freemen above the age of seventeen and under the age of fifty who were able to withstand the fatigues of a camp.2 There is evidence that the rule did not always hold by a notation on the rolls of the company of Captain Enoch Anderson for March 1777. Isaac Connelly served for 22 days and was listed as a “servant, taken away by his master.”3 Nothing further is found about Isaac Connelly acting in a military capacity. By May of 1777, the Assembly relaxed the rules somewhat. Allowed were “indentured Servants, and Apprentices, not having more than two years to serve.”4 It is assumed that many minorities blended into the ranks as substitutes and to fill quotas at the behest of anxious recruiting officers. However, it is extremely difficult to identify them by race from available from the information recorded in rosters and militia lists.

The Assembly implemented, in 1777, a “Scheme for Raising 600 Militia in the Delaware State for the Protection and Defence thereof, to be called the Battalion of Delaware Whigs.”5 Two months service was the general rule. While militia units were mainly defenders of home areas, Delaware enjoyed the support of militia units from Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania that responded to the threat of General Howe and his attack on New Castle. As a result, it was implied that the Delaware Militia would respond in kind. An examination of the rosters of the militia does provide a glimpse of minority service. In the company of Captain Quenouilt was George Laha. He was “discharged February 14, 1782 being a slave for life and claimed.”6

Additional evidence of minority participation appears in the Miscellaneous Records of Isaac Carty, the Receiver of Supplies for Kent County, 1780-1781. Negro men were paid for riding express, for measuring in and measuring out public grain, and

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1 Delaware Archives (New York: AMS Press, rpt. 1974) 1:33. (Hereafter cited as DA.)

2 DA, 1:543.

3 DA, 1:315.


5 DA, III: 1049.

6 DA, III: 1150.
for superintending state property horses. In 1780, George Berry was paid by Philip Barret, Esq., for services rendered. William Dycus supplied public wheat for the military in August, 1781. The 1790 reconstructed census of Delaware names William Dycus as a “Free Negro” in Dover Hundred of Kent County. A number of other Free Blacks also were donors of public wheat. The records for these men, who performed patriotic duty with their white neighbors, are awaiting publication. While a sixth volume of the Delaware Archives is arranged for publication, the volume has not been issued. At present, these records are available only at the Delaware State Archives in Dover, Delaware.

Slavery was not an addition to the lifestyle of Delaware that was attractive to the general population. During the deliberations leading to the State Constitution, slavery was the subject of impassioned discussion. The influence of Quakers and Methodists resulted in a moderate approach to bondage. John Dickinson and Richard Basset led the way for public men to free their slaves. Repressive laws, enacted before the revolution, required owners to post a heavy bond for all persons freed. Not until 1787 was action taken to repeal these restrictions. Contrary to the dictates of the law, manumission was popular in Delaware. Free Blacks are listed in every hundred in the reconstructed census of 1790 for Kent County. Families such as the Durhams, the Everstons and the Siscos formed an important part of the stability of Little Creek Hundred before, during and after the American Revolution. Despite the fact that military service did not provide a path to freedom for Delaware minorities, they gave all that they could to the formation of our emerging nation and their contributions must be a part of future histories of the War for Independence.

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8 DA, III: 1091.
ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


BLWt Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


HEI-2 Paul Heinegg. “Free African Americans of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mary-land, and Delaware: The history of the free African American community as told through the family history of most African Americans who were free in the Southeast during the colonial period.” Online at: <http://www.freeafricanamericans.com/>


REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE
DELAWARE, 1775 - 1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization's requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

ABRAM, African American (“Negro”), Patriotic Service, RPD:200, no residence given
BELL, CATO, **, JBJ, no residence given
BENNET, GILE, African American, Soldier, DA 3:1343, no residence given
BENNET/BENNELL, WILLIAM, African American, Soldier, RPD:17, JBJ, no residence given
BERRY, GEORGE, African American, Soldier, RPD:18, no residence given
BLACK, OLIVER, African American, Patriotic Service, RPD:20, no residence given
BUTCHER, THOMAS, African American, Patriotic Service, RPD:35, no residence given
CONNELLY, ISAAC, African American, Soldier, RPD:54, no residence given
DAVIDS/DAVIS, BAPTIST, **, M881, JBJ, no residence given
DEAN, THOMAS, African American, Soldier, RPD:71, no residence given
DENNIS, NIMROD, African American, Patriotic Service, RPD:72, no residence given
DERRY, BOB, African American, Patriotic Service, RPD:73, no residence given
DURHAM, ISIAH, African American, Patriotic Service, RPD:81, no residence given
DURHAM, WILLIAM, African American, Patriotic Service, RPD:81, no residence given
DYCUS, WILLIAM, African American, Soldier, Patriotic Service, RPD:82, no residence given
FEIGIN/FAGAN, CATO, African American, Soldier, RPD:90, RUB:DE:9 (deserted 1778), no residence given
HARMAN, EDWARD, **, Private, S36000, 1820DE, HEI-2, res. of Lewes and Rehoboth Hundred, Sussex Co.
HARMAN, JAMES, African American, Soldier, RPD:115, no residence given
HURLEY, PHARAOH, African American, JBJ, no residence given
JACK, African American (“Negro”), Soldier, M881, no residence given
LAHA/LAHEA, GEORGE, African American, Private, RPD:151, no residence given
MARRINOR, CONSTANTINE, African American, JBJ, no residence given
PETRE, African American (“Negro”), Patriotic Service, RPD:200, no residence given
SAM, African American (“Negro”), Patriotic Service, RPD:200, no residence given
SONGO, JAMES, **, M881, no residence given
OTHER NOTABLE MINORITY PERSONS
FROM DELAWARE FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA

For the general purposes of identifying the military service of all patriots in the American Revolution for membership purposes, the Daughters of the American Revolution has set the dates of the conflict to be April 19, 1775 (Battles of Lexington and Concord) through November 23, 1783 (evacuation of British troops from New York City). Because of this focus on military service and other patriotic activities during the armed conflict, individuals involved in other events and activities before or after these dates are not in the general list of soldiers and sailors above. Included in this situation are involvement in the Boston Massacre (1770), the Boston Tea Party (December 16, 1773) (and other similar protests), and the Battle of Point Pleasant (1774, Dunmore’s War).

The following individuals from the Revolutionary Era are well-known in history and appear in many accounts of the period. They appear in this section based on activities outside of the beginning and ending dates of the Revolution or on the fact that no documentary proof of Revolutionary War service can be found despite extensive research to discover it.

RICHARD ALLEN

Allen became a well-known minister after the Revolution. He states that during the Revolution he “hauled salt” and did other work, but none of it appears to have been in a capacity related to military supplies. According to historian Gary B. Nash, this was work he was doing to raise enough money to complete an agreement leading to freedom from his master. See: Gary B. Nash “New Light on Richard Allen: The Early Years of Freedom.” William and Mary Quarterly, 3rd Series, 46:2 (April 1989), 332-340. Perhaps the work of future historians will reveal more on Allen’s life and activities during the Revolutionary War.

For more on Richard Allen, see:


“Account Stated for the Recruits Enlisted by Mr. Tilton in 1781,”
RG 93, Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, (M246 Roll 131)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

African American patriot George Laha, listed as a recruit in 1781, without his race or slave status noted.
“Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army during the Revolutionary War: George Laha,” RG93, Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers, (M881, Roll 388) National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

Although accepted as a recruit, George Laha was discharged on February 14, 1782 after his slave status was revealed when his owner claimed him.
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Newman, Richard S. “‘We Participate in Common’: Richard Allen’s Eulogy of Washington and the
Challenge of Interracial Appeals.” William and Mary Quarterly, 64:1 (January 2007), 117-128.


The identification of African American and American Indian soldiers and patriots in the Southern states is much more difficult than in the states to the north, particularly those in New England. The same types of records, such as vital records, do not often exist in the South as they do elsewhere during this period. Censuses are less complete in this part of the country, and there are some major losses of census records particularly in Virginia and Georgia.

The majority of African Americans in the Southern states were enslaved, although there were indeed significant numbers of Free Blacks throughout the region. Some enslaved men served in the American forces during the war and received their freedom as a result. Others served but were not emancipated as they had been promised. A goodly number of these men appear in military records, but there may well have been others. When they do appear, their names are not as distinct as the names of African Americans in New England – most are European names -- making identification problematic. Many of the military records of the Southern states omit color descriptors for the men, but there are some significant exceptions to this statement that do reveal the color of individuals.

American Indians on the Southern frontier, as a general rule, supported the British during the Revolutionary War. There were still pockets of small Indian groups in the Southern states, and those that were surrounded by European Americans generally provided soldiers for the American cause. These are reflected in the listings that follow.

The South Bibliography

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Corn Tassel; translated by William Tatum. “Cherokee Reply to the Commissioners of North Carolina and Virginia, 1777.” Journal of Cherokee Studies, 1 (Fall 1976), 128-129.


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Whitaker, A. P. “Spain and the Cherokee Indians, 1783-1798.” North Carolina Historical Review, 4:3 (July 1927), 252-269.
By the time of the American Revolution, Maryland had a population of over 230,000 people. Sixty-five percent were white freemen, twenty-five percent were slaves. The remainder was about equally divided between white indentured servants and free blacks.1

The most southern of the Middle Colonies, Maryland lay below the Mason-Dixon Line. Always identified with the south, the culture, economy and racial attitudes of the colony blended far more with Virginia than with her northern neighbor, Pennsylvania. There were three distinct geographical areas in Maryland. This fact often led to regional differences of approach in matters of politics and government.

The Eastern Shore, which shares a long peninsula with Delaware and Virginia, is located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay. Long stretches of sandy beach prevented development of ports for transoceanic trade. There was enough business to keep a few bay side villages busy with fishing, farming, lumbering and shipbuilding.

The Western Shore, comprising the central portion of the state, had the largest portion of Maryland’s commercial interests. The Chesapeake Bay offered water transportation to the seat of government in Annapolis and the fast growing port of Baltimore. There were social and educational advantages available to Western Shore residents that were not found elsewhere in the colony.

Western Maryland comprises the land beyond the fall line. Just as the Mason-Dixon Line was necessary to resolve border conflicts with Delaware, the surveying project was finally a source of settlement of the Maryland and Pennsylvania border questions. Farming, mining, and lumbering were the main occupations for the residents of this area. It was Maryland’s small western frontier.

The Continental Congress considered Maryland capable of filling eight regiments from the available manpower in the colony. As the notion of independence was primarily attractive to the more prosperous citizen, luring the small farmer and laborer into military units was a difficult project. These men had little to gain by separation from the British Empire and much to lose from neglecting their domestic interests while on military duty. It took an invasion of the Chesapeake Bay by the British to impress the population with the urgency to protect their homes. Military fervor, nevertheless, developed slowly and it took a good bit of prodding to achieve an increase in enlistment.

There was an accommodation by 1777 to granting inducements to recruits. Starting with a simple ten dollar cash bonus” intended to supplement the Continental bounty; the sum was soon increased to thirty dollars, then forty dollars and a final limit of two hundred fifty dollars. A pair of shoes, stockings, coat, hat, waistcoat, breeches and shirts went along with 50 acres of land to those who qualified. Exemption from taxes for four years after a regular military discharge was also offered. To be sure, there was no guarantee that cash or clothing would be on hand at enlistment and the land was only available at the end of a full period of service. Despite the blandishments brought forth, new

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recruits and hardened veterans failed to answer the call in sufficient numbers. ²

African Americans in Maryland during the Revolution

As in all of the American Colonies, minorities were not considered to be among the optional sources for filling the quotas for Continental Troops or Militia Units. Constant shortfalls in enlistment, however, did provide a gradual opportunity for some minority participation. A “Return of the Negroes in the Army, August 24, 1778” indicates that there were about ninety-five African Americans among the Maryland Troops.³ Searching for these men is difficult as they were rarely identified by race on muster rolls.

By October 1780, Maryland was ready to accept enlistments from any source when the General Assembly authorized

“That any able bodied slave between sixteen and forty years of age, who voluntarily enters the service, and is passed by the lieutenant in the presence and with the consent and agreement of his master, may be accepted as a recruit; and if any slave shall be so entered and passed by any person claiming the property who hath had him in possession above twelve months, and that hath not the property, such slave shall thereby be freed; but the person procuring such slave to be entered and passed as a recruit, shall be answerable to the person having the property in such slave, in an action for money had and received to his use, for double the value of such slave.”⁴

⁵ Revolutionary War Pension File, S35203. (Hereafter cited as RWPF); Oswald Tilghman, comp., History of Talbot County, Maryland, 1661-1861 (Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins Co., 1915), 1:312-313.
⁶ RWPF, S35119.

With the enactment of this law, more African Americans were available for recruitment. Here again, the names used for enlistment purposes offer few clues to race. The recorded experiences of the following African American men actually give an insight into the participation in the American Revolution shared by these Marylanders.

An excellent example of service rendered by an African American participant took place at the Battle of Ninety-Six in the South Carolina up country in June 1781. Thomas Carney of Caroline County, Maryland had joined the Continental Line in the spring of 1777. He served with the 5th Regiment and during the heat of Battle at Ninety-Six; Captain Perry Benson was wounded and severely injured. Thomas Carney carried him off the field with complete disregard for his own safety. The two men developed a life long bond after they both returned to the Eastern Shore following the war. Carney received pensions from both Maryland and the federal government. When he died in 1828, his obituary contained a long history of his exploits during the American Revolution.⁵

David Wilson was another African American soldier who remained to defend his country. He enlisted at Chestertown in June 1778 in the 5th Maryland Regiment. Serving at Camden, Hobkirks Hill, Eutaw Springs, Ninety-Six and Guilford, he was discharged at Annapolis at the end of the war. In 1818, Wilson applied for a pension from his home in Washington County. With a wife and a small boy listed as the only family depending on his support, he declared his few personal possessions as household items, farm animals and shoemaker tools. David Wilson received the gratitude of his country in the form of a small pension.⁶

Another soldier who served from the Eastern Shore was Saladdy Stanley who enlisted in the 4th Maryland Regiment on September 4, 1781 and was discharged at Fredericktown when the war was
over. Although a certificate found in his pension file and the testimony of John Vane and Levin McGraw proves Stanley’s Revolutionary War service, the requests of Stanley, his wife and children for monetary assistance from the federal government were not granted. They apparently did not qualify according to the Acts of 1818 and 1832 under which they applied and/or were unable to supply some required documentation. However, Stanley’s pension file does provide valuable family information. His date of marriage to Sarah Blake, December 25, 1792, and their years of death, 1831 and 1853, respectively are in the file along with the names of their children, Charles, Garretson, Sally, Joe, Mary, Priscilla and Jim.7

Edward Chambers was a resident of Anne Arundel County but lived a great distance from Annapolis where he applied for a pension in 1823. A local agent sent an urgent letter to the pension office in Washington, D.C. claiming that Chambers had vowed that he would not go home until his money arrived. Service for this soldier, who enlisted in July 1777 in Chester, included the High Hills of Santee, siege of Cornwallis and Charleston. He also had duty as a guard to General Washington before he received his discharge at Fredericktown in 1780. His occupation was a laborer and the value of his property was valued at five dollars.8

In 1837, Adam Adams was placed on the pension rolls from Charles County, Maryland where he lived near Pleasant Hill. As a free black resident of the county, he had enlisted as a private soldier in Captain Henry Gaither’s company of the 1st Maryland Regiment in 1777. Colonel William Bruce testified to Adams’ service under General William Smallwood. His young wife, Ann, and six children, Pamela, Eleanor, John, Robert, Richard and Lydia, are named in the application. Adams received a pension and fifty acres of land as a bounty for his service.9

Philip Savoy, “a man of colour” was listed as a private in the 4th Maryland Regiment serving under Captain John Sprigg Belt and Colonel William Smallwood. After participating in the battles at Monmouth, White Plains and the Siege of New York, he was taken prisoner at Elizabethtown. In 1818, when he applied for a pension, his family consisted of a wife and ten children all of whom lived in Anne Arundel County.10 Many others both free and slave appear on the rolls as substitutes.11 Marylanders gradually altered their attitude towards encouraging black enlistments during the closing years of the war. In the early summer of 1781, the legislature considered raising a Negro regiment, indicating that arming African Americans in large numbers no longer posed a threat. This gesture toward inclusion had detractors who had the economy in mind over anything else. Charles Carroll of Carrollton wrote to his father in 1781: “We shall pass a law tomorrow for raising a Negro regiment of 750 -- every person having six Negroes between fourteen and forty-five years of age may have a Negro taken from him if the Negro should be willing to enlist for the war.” The letter also added “this law appears to me to be unequal and consequently oppressive to a particular set of men-I hope that none of our Negroes will enlist. The price, if paid in ready and solid coin, is not equal to the value of healthy, strong young Negro men.”12 The fact that African Americans were an important part of the labor force is attested to by references to various skills credited in runaway slave advertisements of the revolutionary period.13

Unlike Charles Carroll who was reluctant to encourage his “Negroes” to enlist in a “Negro Regiment,” there were others who thought African Americans should be free. One such individual was Thomas Stone; a Maryland Signer of the Declaration of Independence, who stated in the 1780’s that he “had never known a single instance of a Negro being contented in slavery.”14

From White Plains, New York and Monmouth, New Jersey to Camden and Ninety-Six, South Carolina, Marylanders of all races fought side by

7 RWPF, R10057.
8 RWPF, S34684.
9 RWPF, S34623.

10 RWPF, S35057
13 MHM, 84:297ff.
side during the American Revolution. By the end of the War, Maryland began to recognize the importance of her African American residents who fought for American Independence. That recognition started a gradual trend toward freedom for all Maryland African Americans.  

**Naval Activities in Maryland during the Revolution**

In contrast to her nearby northern neighbors, Maryland authorized a state navy, and from the onset of the war until early 1777, the Maryland Committee of Safety had jurisdiction over it. After that date, this responsibility for Maryland’s navy rested with the Governor and his council. Maryland commissioned several naval vessels and, as did New Jersey, also employed a large number of galleys and barges for protection of her coastline. The Continental Congress issued over 200 letters of marque to Maryland privateers.

In addition to participating in the naval defenses of the United States, Maryland vessels were used throughout the war for moving both troops and supplies. After the fall of Charleston in June 1780, Maryland’s need to defend its portion of the Chesapeake Bay from British invasion became quite urgent. Because the Continental Navy was unable to provide Maryland with support in the Bay, Maryland activated a barge fleet to provide a limited line of defense there.  

A number of African American men assisted in Maryland’s naval defenses by serving in positions ranging from common seamen to pilots. In February 1777, Stephen Steward wrote the Maryland Council that he was sending two boats and had been obliged to “...put in two sailor negros.” He went on to state that if there was any danger of the men being lost, they should be sent back because he did not want to lose them as “...they are as fine fellows as ever crost the sea.”  

The British captured one “free Negro” named Partyfall, hired as a common sailor on the “Snow George.” Andrew Glasby, the late master of the “Snow George” petitioned for Partyfall’s release in January 1777. The 1778 crew lists of the “Mercury” and the “Baltimore” include the names of negroes Sambo and Abraham. And in May 1780, the commissary of stores was instructed to deliver to the Captain of the State boat “Plater” “2 Shirts, 2 pr of Trousers, l Linen Jacket and l pair of Shoes to be delivered over to negro Michael....”  

African Americans who were familiar with the Chesapeake Bay and the State’s inland waterways made a significant contribution to Maryland’s naval forces. They often served as pilots during the Revolution. One such man, Dick, was hired in April 1777 to pilot the “Lydia” from St. Mary’s to Alexandria. In 1781, Stephen Steward sent off a sloop skippered by a African American when “...no whit man would go....” Given the activity of many minority men as watermen under normal circumstances, many others surely used their skills as sailors and boatmen in military activities during the Revolution, but the surviving records are stingy with information on these individuals.

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18 Maryland Hall of Records Commission, *Calendar of Maryland State Papers*, 1953, No. 4, Pt. 2, 141.

19 Ibid., No 4., Pt. 1:116, 128.

20 Bernard C. Steiner, ed., *Archives of Maryland, Journal and Correspondence of the State Council of Maryland, 1779-1780* (Baltimore, Maryland Historical Society, 1924), XIII:182.


22 J. Hall Pleasants, ed., *Archives of Maryland, Journal and Correspondence of the State Council of Maryland, 1781* (Baltimore, Maryland Historical Society, 1930), 111.
Native Americans in Maryland during the Revolution

During the American Revolution, small groups of Indians resided in Maryland, particularly the Nanticoke and Piscataway. Unfortunately, little has been found to document whether these Indian Nations supported the American cause. Indian George, whose tribal identity is unknown, is the only Native American from Maryland for whom Revolutionary War service has been located. His name appears on an April 1780 roster of men from Washington County who were under the command of Lieutenant Thomas Sprigg.

Thoughts on Research in the Records of Maryland

The historical military records of Maryland for the Revolution are largely devoid of references to race and color. This has made identification of minority participants particularly difficult, and the results are very limited. Given the large population of African descent in Maryland, this is baffling and disappointing to researchers. One writer has stated that in 1781, Maryland had 750 men of African descent serving in its units, but apparently Maryland never actually authorized the creation of a unit of freed slaves despite discussions on this subject and the use of the 750 figure as a proposed estimate of its size.

In addition, a complete reading of the published lists of Maryland soldiers for possible candidates based on naming customs or name selections has proven to be equally limited. The prevalence of English names among minorities, at least insofar as these individuals appear in government sources, and the general lack of the use of classical and literary names throughout the overall population results in few pointers to help identify African Americans or Native Americans.

Using the 1790 federal census for Maryland as a tool for identifying minority heads of households, we compiled a list of all non-white free men listed in this census. Taking this list and comparing it to the military records in hopes of identifying men who also appeared in those sources produced some interesting, although not definitive, results. This list appears after the list of clearly identified minority participants at the end of this chapter. Another problem for using the 1790 census of Maryland is that there are few non-white free heads of household listed for Prince George’s County and other counties that had significant populations of African descent.

Similarly, the 1800 census proved of little value in helping to locate men with this technique. Why the records in Maryland are so “color-blind” is a mystery. Either the information was never recorded during the Revolution, or if it was reported, and the surviving records are re-recordings, then perhaps these details was left out by someone intentionally in the nineteenth century.

24 Archives of Maryland, Volume 18: Muster Rolls of Maryland Troops, 1775-1783 (Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1900), 336.
ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


BLWt Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).

CBSL “Claims Barred by the Statutes of Limitation, 11th Congress, 3d Session, No. 216” includes: “A statement of all of the claims which have been adjusted and allowed at the Treasury Department, and for which certificates of registered debt issued, in virtue of a law entitled ‘An act providing for the settlement of claims of persons under particular circumstances barred by limitations heretofore established.’ Passed on the 27th of March, 1792.” American State Papers: Documents, Legislative, and Executive of the Congress of the United States from the First Session of the First to the Second Session of the Seventeenth Congress, Inclusive: Commencing March 4, 1789, and Ending March 3, 1823. vol. 9 (Washington, D. C.: Gales and Seaton, 1834), 386-406.


FPPV Manuscript Final Pension Payment Vouchers are located at the National Archives (Record Group 217: Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Records of the Office of the Third Auditor 1775-1923, Entry 722 Selected Final Pension Payment Vouchers, National Archives, Washington, D.C.). The vouchers consist of pension agent files selected by National Archives staff for their genealogical value. The files contain details relating to the final payment to heirs of a pensioner after his death. Details in these accounts may include the name of the spouse, children, and other heirs; the date and place of death; and the date, place and amount of the final pension payment. The vouchers are filed by the state where the pensioner received payment and thereafter alphabetically by surname of the pensioner.


HEI-2 Paul Heinegg. “Free African Americans of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, and Delaware: The history of the free African American community as told through the family history of most African Americans who were free in the Southeast during the colonial period.” Online at: <http://www.freeafricanamericans.com/>


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The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

ABSOLOM, NEGRO, African American, AM:18:382, no residence given
ADAMS, JOHN, African American, Soldier, AM:18:5, HEI:14, 1800MD, Prince George’s Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN BOY, belonging to Mr. John Henry, AM:47:459, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (“Negro”) “belonging to David Weems,” AM:47:111, AM:16:130, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, crew on Brig. with supplies (“Negroes”), AM:47:40, no residence given
ANDERSON, WILLIAM, African American (“Black man”), R203, no residence given
ANTHONY, African American, Soldier, URRM2:205, Anne Arundel Co.
ANTHONY, Negro, Soldier, AM:8:317, no residence given
APPLEBY, WILLIAM, African American, GREE, Baltimore
BALLARD, DANIEL, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), OAWM:2, Worcester Co.
BALLARD, WILLIAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), OAWM:3, Worcester Co.
BALONTINO, WILLIAM, African American, Soldier, WAL, no residence given
BATTERSON, THOMAS, African American, Soldier, AM:18:369, no residence given
BEAVIN/BEVIN, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), 1790MD, CHAR, HEI:29, OACH, Charles Co.
BLAKE, EDWARD, African American, Soldier, AM:18:346, 455, AM:47:460, no residence given
BLAKE, GEORGE, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), OAWM:3, Worcester Co.
BLAKE, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), 1800MD, MDM:258, WORC, Worcester Co.
BLAKE, OLIVER, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), OAWM:3, Worcester Co.
BRISTOL, African American, Soldier, AM:18:387, no residence given
BULEY, GEORGE, African American, W27576, BLWT 38345-160-55, Prince George’s Co.
BUTLER, NACE, African American, GREE, R1549, Anne Arundel Co.
CATO, GEORGE, **, MKM:4:43
CATO, WILLIAM, African American? CBSL:392, no residence given
CHAMBERS, EDWARD, African American (“a man of colour”), Soldier, S34684, MKM:4:43, Anne Arundel Co.
CHARLES, African American (“Negro”), Patriotic Service, RB 4 pt 3:144, no residence given
COBURN, PRIMUS, African American, Private, SFPPV:32, Ward 2:47, 1820MD Baltimore
COLLESS, POMPEY, African American, Soldier, AM:18:653, no residence given
COOPER, PERRY, African American, Soldier, AM:43:216, no residence given
CRYSP, FRIDAY, **, URRM3:56, Montgomery Co.
DAVIS, ABRAHAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CHAR, OACH, 1790MD Charles Co.
DAVIS, CHARLES, African American, GREE, Baltimore
DAY, BENJAMIN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), 1790MD, CHAR, HEI:99, OACH, Charles Co.
DIAS/DICE, GEORGE, African American, GREE, S42161, BLWt 618-100, Prince George’s Co.
DICK, NEGRO, African American, M881, no residence given
DICK, African American, Soldier, AM:18:385, no residence given
DORTON, HENRY, African American, Private, S5362, Prince George’s Co.
DUE/DICE, JAMES, African American (“Negro”), Private, S34711, AM:18:394, AM18:199, SFPPV:53; 1790MD, 1810MD, MKM:5:27, FPVV [died intestate without a widow or heirs on February 3, 1832], Caroline Co.
FENTON, CHARLES, African American, Soldier, AM:18:41, no residence given
FLAMER, SOLOMON, African American, HEI:124, OAQA:8, 1800MD, Queen Anne Co.
FREEMAN, FRANCIS, African American, Private, S35951, no residence given
GATES, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), HEI:143, OACH, Charles Co.
GEORGE, Indian, Soldier, AM:18:336, no residence given
GEORGE, aka GEORGE PEMBERTON, African American (“Negro”), M881, no residence given
GIM, BLACK BOY, African American, drummer, AM:18:38, no residence given
GRINNAGE, BENJAMIN, African American, AM:48:11, 1790MD, 1820MD, HEI-2, Queen Anne Co.
GURLEY, FRANCIS, African American, MDM:254, WORC, 1800MD Worcester Co.
HALL, FREDERICK, African American, Soldier, R7569, AM:18:120, 122, 333.
HARMON, NIMROD, African American, OAQM:16, WORC, 1800MD, Worcester Co.
HILL, WILLIAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), 1790MD, CHAR, HEI:191, OACH, Charles Co.
HOLLIS, POMPEY, **, CSP, no resident given
JACKSON, ABEDNEGO, African American, Soldier, S10909, no residence given
JACKSON, BENJAMIN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), “took the Oath of Fidelity”, AM:16:559, Montgomery Co.
JACKSON, JOHN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), Private, CHAR, HEI:206, OACH, 1790MD Charles Co.
LITTLETON, STEVENS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), OAQM:3, Worcester Co.
MCFEE, MALCOLM, African American (“Other Free”), R6709, AM:18:53, 1790MD, Baltimore
MICHAEL, African American, Soldier, AM:48:7, no residence given
MINGO, JOSEPH, **, M881, no residence given
MURRAY/MURRIN, VALENTINE, African American, Private, AM:8:299, 545, no residence given
NEWMAN, BENJAMIN, African American (“yellow or black freeman”), MDM:195, 1790MD, Montgomery Co.
NORA, African American (“Negro”), Captain’s servant; Capt. Holland’s Harford Rifles, 1776. Preston:124
PARTYFALL, African American, Navy, RB 4 pt 2:141, AM:16:5, no residence given
PEARCE, ADAM, African American, Soldier, S34468, no residence given
PEROE, African American, Soldier, RB 4 pt 3:204, no residence given
PHELPS, STEPHEN, African American, Soldier, MHR R37 (1820), no residence given
PLUMMER, OBEDIAH, African American, M881, AM:18:151, 318, 550, enlisted Anne Arundel Co.
POYNOS, CHRISTOPHER, African American, Soldier, WAL, no residence given
PROCTOR, CHARLES, African American, AM:18:150 (died in service), HEI-2, Charles Co.
PROCTOR, FRANCIS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), CHAR, HEI:88, OACH, 1790MD, Charles Co.
PROCTOR, HENRY, African American, AM:48:10, HEI-2, Charles Co.
PROCTOR, LEONARD, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), 1790MD, CHAR, HEI:287, OACH, Charles Co.
PROCTOR, THOMAS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), 1790MD, HEI:287, OACH, Charles Co.
PROCTOR, WILLIAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), 1790MD, HEI:288, OACH, Charles Co.
ROADEN, RICHARD, African American, Soldier, MDM:207, no residence given
ROBINSON, JAMES, African American, IAN
SAMBO, African American, Navy, RB 4 pt 1:116, no residence given
SAVOY, ARCHIBALD, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), HEI:319, OACH, 1790MD, Charles Co.
SAVOY, PHILIP, African American (“colored man”), Soldier, S35057, AM:18:394, SFPPV:160, no residence given
SAVOY, WILLIAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), HEI:319, OACH, 1790MD Charles Co.
SKIPPER, African American (“Negro”), Navy, AM:47:111, no residence given
SORABO/SCRABBO, JEREMIAH, **, M881, no residence given
STEVENS, DANIEL, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), OAWM:2, Worcester Co.
STEVENS, MAJOR, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), OAWM:3, Worcester Co.
TURNER, LEONARD, African American, Private, AM:18:171, HEI:342, no residence given
TUSON, ROBERT, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), OACH, 1790MD, Charles Co.
WATERS, YORK, African American, Soldier, AM:43:82, no residence given
WILLIAMS, HENRY, African American (“colored”), W3638, BLWt 6767-160-55, SFPPV:198, GREE, FPPV [born in Anne Arundel Co.; died on January 5, 1850 in Baltimore, MD about 100 years old; married Easter Giles near Poplar Spring, Anne Arundel Co. on August 14, 1785; Easter died in Baltimore, MD on February 6, 1864], Baltimore/Anne Arundel Co.
YORK, African American (“Negro”), Navy, BB:57, no residence given
A Comparison of the 1790 Maryland Census and Surviving Revolutionary War Military Records

The following list is the result of a comparison of the names of all free, non-white heads of household listed in the 1790 federal census of Maryland and of the various surviving military records for the Revolution for the state. The list is arranged by county for those counties with census schedules for ease of comparison. The military records do not reveal the color of the men listed therein, so it is unclear if a man listed in the 1790 census is the same man as in the earlier military sources.

Using the 1790 census as a starting point, all of the names were compared back to the earlier military records for the war. If there were a match of a man with the same name in the same county in both records, that man's name is listed below. There are several listings for multiple men with the same name in the same county, which makes identification of which one had military service difficult. This approach also does not take into account migrations that likely occurred for which no documentation would be available.

Anne Arundel Co.
ALLY/ALBY, LOV, 1790MD, AM:18:64
ANDERSON, CAESER, 1790MD, HEI:19
ANDERSON, YORK, 1790MD, HEI:19
BADGER, CHARLES, 1790MD, HEI:22
BADGER, NAN, 1790MD, HEI:22
BOND, RICHARD, 1790MD, HEI:38, AM:18:341
CANN, GEOSS/GEORGE, 1790MD, PED, HEI:67
CHAMBERS, NED, 1790MD, PED, HEI:173
CLARKE, ISAAC, 1790MD, HEI:76, MDM:211
GROVER, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:210, 314, 327, MDM:149
HALL, WILLIAM, 1790MD, HEI, AM:18:Several, PED, MDM:148,163,170(2),182,183,190,200,201,216,220,251
HOLLAND, JACOB, 1790MD, AM:18:8, HEI:195
JONES, GEORGE, 1790MD, HEI:218, AM:18:512 , MDM:219(2), 253
MATHES, NICHOLAS, 1790MD, HEI:245
RANDEL, DAVID, 1790MD, AM:18:156, 327
WOODARD, BAZEL, 1790MD, HEI:359

Baltimore Town, Baltimore County
BLAKE, WILLIAM, 1790M, HEI:35, MDM:227,229,257
BROWN, BENJAMIN, 1790MD, HEI:45
BROWN, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, HEI:45, MDM:171,175,207
CLARKE, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:Several HEI:76
HARDIN, ABRAHAM, 1790MD, HEI:176
HILL, JAMES, 1790MD, HEI:192, AM:18:119, 214, 408, 538, MDM:220,242
PECK, NAT, 1790MD, AM:18:149, HEI:276
STEVenson, MOSES, 1790MD, HEI:332
WHITE, BENJAMIN, 1790MD, AM:18:660, Seaman
WILKINSON, JACOB, 1790MD, HEI:352

Back River Upper Hundred, Baltimore County
BROWN, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, HEI:45, MDM:Several
WOODYARD, NEPTUNE, 1790MD, HEI:360.

Calvert County (The 1790 schedules for this county are presumed to have been destroyed.)
Caroline County
BANTON, GABRIEL, 1790MD, HEI:23
DAVIS, ABRAHAM, 1790MD, HEI:98
DICK, NEGRO, 1790MD, AM:18:385
FRIEND, JOHN, 1790MD, HEI:138, MDM:243
PHILLIPS, RICHARD, 1790MD, HEI:281, MDM:166
PRICE, ISAAC, 1790MD, HEI:285

Cecil County
HARVEY, PHINEAS, 1790MD, AM:18:62,422,470
KINKEAD, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:220,587,588,590
TURNER, JESSE, 1790MD, HEI:342

Bohemia Hundred, Cecil County
HENRY, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:63,74,646,657, MDM:187
HURLEY, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:224

Bohemia Manor Hundred, Cecil County

Charles Town, Cecil County
OWINGS/OWENS, JONAS, 1790MD, HEI:269
THOMPSON, SAMUEL, 1790MD, HEI:337, MDM:172
WELSH/WELCH, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:Several for both spelling, MDM:180, 235

Elk Neck Hundred, Cecil County
CANNON, PATRICK, 1790MD, AM:18:194 HEI:68
DOYLE, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:199,352,433,431
HILL, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:119,214,408,538, MDM:220, 242, Pension in MD, man listed as born in Ireland
ROACH, RICH’D, 1790MD, HEI:360

Middle Neck Hundred, Cecil County
BLANCHFORD/BLANFORD, RICHARD, 1790MD, AM:18:32,84,357,398,444,495,524,617, MDM:160, 162, (May be Pension S10392.)

North Millford Hundred, Cecil County
BROWN, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, HEI:47, MDM:146,149,191,209,212.
HENRY, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:31,64,65,645,646, MDM:176
TURNER, ANDREW, 1790MD, HEI:342

North Sassafras Hundred, Cecil County
BRYAN, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:several, HEI:48, MDM:152,158,192,233
MACKEY, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:335

North Sasquehannah Hundred, Cecil County
MCFee, MALCOLM, 1790MD, AM:18:53, R6709
MURRY, DANIEL, 1790MD, AM:18:575, 581, HEI:255
OWENS, DAVID, 1790MD, HEI:269
Octoraro Hundred, Cecil County
FOWLER, FREEMAN, 1790MD, HEI:132
GIBBS, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:280, MDM:188, 256
HOPKINS, EDWARD, 1790MD, HEI:198, MDM:185, 192
HUNTER, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18:118, 640, HEI:204, MDM:161
MCDONALD, CHAS, 1790MD, AM:18:227, 377, 410, HEI:236
MEHONY, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:572, HEI:240
MOORE, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, HEI:249, MDM:182(2), 210, 211, 214, 240, 243, 202
Moseley, JACOB, 1790MD, HEI:253
Price, JERE, 1790MD, HEI:285
Thomas, SUREY, 1790MD, HEI:336

South Millford Hundred, Cecil County
FLECK, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:208

South Susquehannah Hundred, Cecil County
CAMPBELL, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:174,195,257
KERR, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:615.
MCCOY, ALEXANDER, 1790MD, AM:18:136,396,403,422,470,515
WILSON, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18:422,471,570, MDM:200,225,232,146,150,180,203,205

West Nottingham Hundred, Cecil County
MAXWELL, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:74,230,347,504,546, MDM:171,176,247

West Sassafras Hundred, Cecil County
CAMPBELL, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:95, 570, MDM:251, 253
COURSEY, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:398,402,462,513,530 HEI:222

Charles County
ADAMS, ADAM, 1790MD, AM:18:78,331,522, PED, Pension
ANDERSON, HENDLEY/HENSEY, 1790MD, HEI:19
BEAVIN, CHARLES, 1790MD, HEI:59, PED
BEAVIN, JAMES, 1790MD, HEI:29, PED
BEAVIN, PAUL, 1790MD, HEI:29, PED
BROWN, RICHD., 1790MD, AM:18:89, 377, PED
(TWO **) BRYAN, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:68, 186, HEI:48, MDM:213, PED
BUTLER, JACOB, 1790MD, AM:18:81, HEI:61
BUTLER, JOSIAS, 1790MD, HEI:59
BURROWS, SAMUEL, 1790MD, MDM:209, 213
Carter, CHARLES, 1790MD, HEI:71
CARTER, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:Navy, HEI:93, MDM:199, BLWT
CLARK, RICHARD, 1790MD, HEI:75, MDM:154, 196
COLLINS, GEORGE, 1790MD, HEI:79, MGM:193
CURTIS, SAMUEL, 1790MD, AM:18:407, HEI:75, MDM:221
DAY, BENJAMIN, 1790MD, HEI:99, PED
DAY, VINNEY, 1790MD, HEI:99
DAVIS, ABRAHAM, 1790MD, HEI:98, PED
DAY, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, HEI:99, PED-3
EASTEN, CLEM, 1790MD, HEI:119
EASTEN, SAMUEL, 1790MD, HEI:119
FORD, NINIAN, 1790MD, HEI:126
HALL, RICHARD, 1790MD, HEI:166, MDM:144, 251, BLWT
HAND, JOHN, 1790MD, MDM:152
HARLEY/HORLEY, HENRY, 1790MD, AM:18:121, 329, 538
HICKS, JOHN, 1790MD, HEI:190
HILL, WILLIAM, 1790MD, HEI:191, BLWT:11321-100-1, PED-2
HILL, WILLIAM, 1790MD, HEI:191
HILL, NEWPORT, 1790MD, HEI:191
JACKSON, ABEDNEGO, 1790MD, S10909, AM:18:68, 126, 329, MDM:182, 191
JACKSON, BARTON, 1790MD, HEI:206
JACKSON, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, HEI:191
JACKSON, JAMES B., 1790MD, HEI:206, BLWT, MDM:153,162,175,199,223,230,253, PED
JACKSON, JOSEPH, 1790MD, HEI:191
JACKSON, NEWPORT, 1790MD, HEI:191
JACKSON, WICKET, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, HEI:206, W7883, PED
JENKINS, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, PED
LENKIN, HENLY, 1790MD, HEI:231
LENKIN, TOWNLY, 1790MD, HEI:231
NEWMAN, WILLIAM, 1790MD, HEI:258
PROCTOR, JAMES, 1790MD, HEI:289
PROCTOR, LEONARD, 1790MD, HEI:287
PROCTOR, THOMAS, 1790MD, HEI:29
RAY, CHARLES, 1790MD, HEI:300, PED
RAY, DANIEL, 1790MD, HEI:300
RAY, JAMES, 1790MD, HEI:300, MDM:207, 237, PED
RAY, THOMAS, 1790MD, HEI:300
SAMUEL, CHARLES, 1790MD, AM:18:150, 331, PED
SAMUEL, COLLINS, 1790MD, HEI:288
SAMUEL, FRANCIS, 1790MD, PED
SAMUEL, HENRY, 1790MD, PED
SAMUEL, JOSEPH, 1790MD, R8497
SAMUEL, JULIAN, 1790MD, PED
SAMUEL, WILLIAM, 1790MD, S1711, PED
SWANN, WILLIAM, 1790MD, HEI:334, PED.
SAVY, ARCHIBALD, 1790MD, HEI:319, PED
SAVOY, WILLIAM, 1790MD, HEI:319, PED, Philip:S35057
SCOTT, JOSHUA, 1790MD, AM:18:161
SPAULDING, EDWARD, 1790MD, AM:18:30, MDM; 212
TAYLOR, WILLIAM, 1790MD, BLWT, PED
THOMPSON, HENRY, 1790MD, PED
THOMPSON, JOSEPH, 1790MD, PED
THOMPSON, THOMAS, 1790MD, PED
THOMSON, WILLIAM, 1790MD, PED-2, S30735
TOMPSON, ALEXANDER, 1790MD, MDM:144
TUSON, ROBERT, 1790MD, PED
WEBBER, THOMAS, 1790MD, BLWT, MDM:156
WILLIAMS, JOHN, 1790MD, PED-4
WISEMAN, JAMES, 1790MD, S39126, PED

Dorchester County
EWING, ROBERT, 1790MD, PED (ship owner)
FREEMAN, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:22, 204, 342, MDM:148, 151
HUGHES, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:121, 218, 416, Pension S39751 in Baltimore Co.
MERRECK, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:387, 410
TRAVERS, LEVIN, 1790MD, PED
Frederick County
DUGLASS, DANL., 1790MD, AM:18:401
GREEN, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:51,115,397,422,607,656
HAY, THOS., 1790 MD, AM:18:391
HILL, GEO., 1790MD, AM:18:45, 586, 587, 588
MCCONNELL, SAML., 1790MD, AM:18:230
ROSS, ROBT, 1790MD, AM:18:14

Kent County
BERRY/BARRY, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:180, 232
COLLINS, GEORGE, 1790MD, AM:18:96,194,298,329,370,446,530, MDM:193
CONNINGHAM/CUNNINGHAM, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:647
DERRAH/DERRACK, JOHN, 1790MD, PED:64
DUDLEY, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:66, MDM:233
EVERITT, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18:33
GALE, GEORGE, 1790MD, MDM:216 (G. Gale:AM:18:618)
JONES, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:Several
MONK, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:189, 231
MOORE, DANIEL, 1790MD, AM:18:72
MURRAY, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:227
NIGHT, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:60, PED:155
PHILLIPS, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:197, 216, 220, PED:Several
RASIN, ROBERT, 1790MD, MDM:186, PED:209
WILLIAM, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18 :Several, MDM:156, 208, 221

Montgomery County
BASH/BASHT, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:269, 516
BROWN, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:Several.
HALL, FREDERICK, 1790MD, AM:18:120, 122, 333
JONES, MICHAEL, 1790MD, AM:18:409
MURPHEY, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:43,227,230,340,383,403,410,612,661,
MDM:200,155,166,171(2),207
SMITH, JOSEPH, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:149,150(2),164,171,174,207,246
SMITH, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:Several

Prince Georges County
ADAMS, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:5, HEI:listed in 1790 as head of household of 5 slaves,
no whites enumerated)
PLUMMER, CUPID, 1790MD, AM:18:151, 318, 550

Queen Anne's County
CANADY, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18:430,496,529
CONWAY, MICHAEL, 1790MD, AM:18:606
DUNN, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:9,26,278,339,643
GREENWICH, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18:621
GRIFFITH, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18:279, 651, MDM:182, 190
GRINNAGE, BENJAMIN, 1790MD, AM:18:374, 408
HAYCOCK, SOLOMON, 1790MD, AM:18:409
HAYCOCK, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:394, 448, MDM:210, 212
JONES, DAVID, 1790MD, AM:18:46,126,313,383,541, MDM:191,224,231,246, Pension S8769 (Prince George’s Co.)
MORRIS, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:155,172,174,200,214,225,253
STEWART, CHARLES, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:191,224,231,246
VINSIN/VINCENT, JOHN JUNR., 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:155,172,174,200,214,225,253

St. Mary’s County
ADAMS, JOSEPH, 1790MD, AM:18:445
ADDAMS/ADAMS, JAMES, (two listed) 1790MD, AR 18:7,47,78,78,340,360,384,575, MDM:158,171,218
MORGAN, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:23, MDM:157

Somerset County (The 1790 schedules for this county are presumed to have been destroyed.)

Talbot County
ADAMS, SAMUEL, 1790MD, AM:18:32, 53x2, MDM:161,218,220
ALDRIDGE, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:49, MDM:197
ANDERSON, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18:46, MDM:185,192,210,230
BORDLEY, WILLIAM, 1790MD, AM:18:372, 386, MDM:222
BROWN, THOMAS, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:171,175,207
CLASH, JONATHAN, 1790MD, AM:18:371 Clash, John MDM:246
CORNISH, CHARLES, 1790MD, AM:18:385
GRANT, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:8,51,211,307,314,606,656, MDM:158(2),163,244
HUNTER, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:118,331,418,466,501,540
HUNTER, WILLIAM, (two listed) 1790MD, AM:18:64,409,426,466,502,541,653, MDM:148,149,179,186
PENNINGTON, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:615, MDM:185
PROCTOR, DANIEL, 1790MD, AM:18:237
ROACH, MOSES, 1790MD, AM:18:241

Washington County
ADAMS, JACOB, 1790MD, AM:18:Several, MDM:164,220,246
BLAKE, GEORGE, 1790MD, AM:18:86, MDM:258,159
FREEMAN, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:22,204,342, MDM:148,151
GRIMES, JOHN, 1790MD, AM:18:33, 67, MDM:181, 243(2)
HARMAN, LAZARIN, 1790MD, AM:18:356,442,493,539, Pension S34911
ROACH, CHARLES, 1790MD, AM:18:69, MDM:249,257
ROACH, JAMES, 1790MD, AM:18:241, MDM:212, 256
WILLIAMS, DANL, 1790MD, AM:18:258,395,447,508,559, MDM:171,200,206
Maryland

Selected Revolutionary War Documents Relating to Maryland Soldiers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Time of Service</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paynt, Benjamin</td>
<td>pt</td>
<td>10 Jan 80</td>
<td>discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powell, William</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>do</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purdy, John</td>
<td>Sergt</td>
<td>4 Mar 78</td>
<td>deserted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pickering, John</td>
<td>pt</td>
<td>13 Feb 78</td>
<td>present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peters, Joseph</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>18 July 78</td>
<td>dead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pritchard, James</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>15 do</td>
<td>do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parker, John</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>18 April 78</td>
<td>4 July 79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preston, And.</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>15 April 78</td>
<td>16 Aug 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillips, John</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>24 Feb 78</td>
<td>Sept 78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillips, John</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>1 May 78</td>
<td>15 April 78</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phillips, Henry</td>
<td>pt</td>
<td>16 do</td>
<td>1 Nov 80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payse, Barny</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>3 April 79</td>
<td>discharged</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purtle, Robert</td>
<td>pt</td>
<td>25 May 78</td>
<td>time out, discharged</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prather, Zach.</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>1 do</td>
<td>1 Nov 80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pagram, William</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>10 Jan 80</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Plummer, Cupid</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>1 Jan 80</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Plummer, Obe.</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>1 Apr 80</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pierce, Aquilla</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>4 do</td>
<td>do</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pierce, Danl.</td>
<td>pt</td>
<td>18 do</td>
<td>do transferred</td>
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<td>Parley, Edw.</td>
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<td>25 May 78</td>
<td>26 Dec 78</td>
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<td>Pew, Humphrey</td>
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<td>20 Sept 78</td>
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<td>Phillips, David</td>
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<td>19 Mar 77</td>
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<td>Pollard, Kinsey</td>
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<td>Patton, John</td>
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<td>Perry, Charles</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>Mar 79</td>
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<td>Purchas, Wm.</td>
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<td>15 Aug 79</td>
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<td>Penfield, Chas.</td>
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<td>31 Oct 80</td>
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<td>Penney, John</td>
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<td>2 July 79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phelps, Thomas</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>5 May 78</td>
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<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Time of Service</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pearson, Edward</td>
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<td>13 May 77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pratt, William</td>
<td>Sergt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phillips, David</td>
<td>pt</td>
<td>18 Aug 80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Price, William</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>Nov 77</td>
<td></td>
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Note the appearance of Cupid and Obe[diah] Plummer on this page. The lack of color descriptors for these men is typical of original and published sources for Maryland unfortunately.
In the third column are the names of Bristol and Spindillow, “free Negroes,” examples of the few such notations in Maryland’s Revolutionary War records.
Maryland

Deputation from the pension file of George Buley of Maryland.
Pension W27576, page 4, (M804, Roll 401)
RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
“Interrogatories Propounded by the Court” from the pension file of George Buley of Maryland.
Pension W27576, p. 5, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 401)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
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At the time of the American Revolution, the Colony of Virginia occupied a unique position among British possessions in North America. The Old Dominion was the oldest, the largest, and the most extensively populated colony on the Atlantic seaboard of the future United States. With a territory that extended from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River, Virginia was divided into regions known as the Eastern Shore, the Tidewater, the Piedmont, the Valley, and the Trans-Appalachian West.

The 500,000 residents of Virginia were as diverse as the geography. In half of the Eastern Shore and Tidewater counties and about a third of the Piedmont area, a majority of the population was made up of the enslaved and Free Persons of Color. Indians occupied small enclaves in the eastern part of the colony, but their numbers were not large. Through the years, most of the native population had been decimated by disease and war or pushed to the west where the frontier was still a source of friction between settlers and tribal members. From 1775 to 1783, however, many Virginians of all races worked together to drive the British from the Colony.

Reliable population figures for Virginia are not available until the first Federal census in 1790. The Old Dominion did have, however, in that year the largest population of African descent of any of the original states: 12,806 Free Blacks (1.7% of the total population) and 292,627 slaves (39.1% of the total).\(^1\)

Assuming a somewhat smaller population in numbers but probably about the same in percentage during the years of the American Revolution, there was a significant pool of minority residents to provide some service in support of the cause of independence. Many circumstances, however, contributed to the opposite being true.

The spark of revolution finally ignited for Virginians in the capital city, Williamsburg. The Royal Governor, Lord Dunmore, had ordered the removal of gunpowder from the public magazine early in the morning of April 21, 1775. Angry crowds gathered, tempers flared, and riders spread the alarm throughout the Colony. While negotiations ensued and actual conflict was avoided for several months, Virginia was on alert. Retreat from the goal of independence was no longer an option.

Lord Dunmore excused his precipitous action towards the gunpowder supply by claiming the necessity to protect the ammunition from capture during a possible slave uprising. The Virginians countered that the powder belonged to the Colony, and they needed to be armed in case of a slave revolt. While an impasse developed between Royal and Colonial leaders, minorities had become an issue in Virginia’s Revolutionary efforts before a shot was ever fired. Both sides used the enslaved population for their own political purposes.

The governor was affronted that his authority to remove the gunpowder was questioned, and he

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threatened retaliation by stating: "I have once fought for the Virginians and by God I will let them see that I can fight against them." There was no empty threat in this pronouncement, for, on November 10, 1775 the Virginia Gazette printed a decree issued by Dunmore that clearly showed that he knew how and where to damage the most active rebels. He admonished his opponents with the words: "And I do hereby farther declare any indentured Servants, Negroes or others (appertaining to Rebels) free, that are able and willing to bear Arms, they joining his Majesty's Troops."3

While recruiters had lured the enslaved to abandon their masters and join the Loyalists during the summer, this was the first open profession of intentions by the King's representatives. The Royal Governor would cripple the economy of the colony by removing the source of labor. Dunmore's offer of emancipation was accepted by a significantly large number of slaves, by one estimate over 800 initially,4 but the majority remained with the known condition of servitude and the familiarity of home and family rather than risk the unknown prospects with the British. In addition, many enslaved people in Virginia lived great distances from the British forces, a fact that made escape to freedom extremely difficult. Proof that the Governor sought economic revenge on the colonials is found in the fact that he did not free the fifty-seven slaves left behind when he finally abandoned Virginia, and he claimed compensation for them in later years.5

As the news of Governor Dunmore's proclamation spread throughout Virginia (especially through the eastern counties near the Chesapeake Bay) and beyond, hundreds of slaves made attempts to escape to the perceived freedom waiting behind British lines. The government of Virginia made various attempts to secure the return of these former enslaved people, but with limited success:

In Council, 13 May 1779.
Permission is hereby given to Captain Peter Bernard to go with a flag of truce on board his Britannic Majesty's ships now in Hampton Roads, and make application to the commander-in-chief of the British squadron to obtain the restitution of four negro slaves County, said to be on board one of the British ships, and belonging to William Armistead, Esquire, of Gloucester County, and run away from him. – P. Henry.

Pursuant to this authority a party of three, including, it is to be supposed, Capt. Bernard, presented themselves under a flag of truce and were admitted on board the Raisable. But Commodore Sir George Collier caused it to be signified to P. Henry that the business of this sovereign's ships in Virginia was neither to entice negro slaves on board nor to detain them if they were found there. Nevertheless, his Majesty's colors in all places afforded an asylum to the distressed and protection upon supplication.6

The primary concentration areas for fleeing slaves were Gwynn's Island in the bay off modern Mathews County (until the British withdrew in June 1776) and the British fleet in the Norfolk area.7 These havens, however, proved disastrous for many of those who reached them. Diseases were rampant and killed hundreds. Provisions were scarce, and housing was primitive. But still they came. The British neglected the escapees in many ways and were overwhelmed by the numbers. No exact statistics are available on the number of escapees who reached the British sanctuaries. Thomas Jefferson estimated the number at 30,000 in 1778 alone, but recent research calls these figures

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3 Ibid., 66.

into question. Throughout the war, British raiding parties and military expeditions removed many hundreds of enslaved people from Virginia.

Mass escapes by slaves were extremely alarming to white Virginians and threatened to undermine the economic and social structure of the colony. On September 5th, 1777, the Council of Virginia noted:

It being represented to his Excellency the Governor that many Nегoes have deserted from their Masters in the Counties of Northampton and Accomack on the Eastern Shore, & have joined the Enemy; and that there is good Reason to apprehend many more may follow their Example & be Instruments in the Hands of our Enemies of Committing Robberies & other Depredations on their former Masters, and other Inhabitants of that part of this State; ... They [the Council] are of Opinion that it is absolutely necessary, for the Safety of that Part of the State, that all person who may be justly Suspected of holding principles inimical to the freedom and Independence of America, & dangerous to the Peace & security of the well affected Inhabitants, should be removed from the Eastern shore to some Interior part of this State, and confined to such Limits as the Governor shall direct.10

The legislature of Virginia did not take long to counter the Governor with a statute proclaiming:

And be it farther ordained, That if any slave, or slaves, shall be hereafter taken in arms against this Colony, or in the possession of an enemy, through their own choice, the committee of safety shall have full power and authority to transport such slave, or slaves, to any of the foreign West India islands, there to be disposed of by sale, and the money arising from such sale to be laid out in the purchase of arms and ammunition, or otherwise applied to the use of this prepared Virginia Militia on November 15. Flush with success, Dunmore expected more Colony, as the committee of safety shall judge most proper; and in case such slaves, so taken in arms, or in the possession of an enemy, cannot be transported with convenience to this Colony, the same shall be disposed of for the use of this Colony, or returned to the owner or owners of such slaves, or otherwise dealt with according to an act of assembly for punishing slaves committing capital offenses, as the committee of safety may judge most proper.11

With the British and the Virginians each committed to their own policy of trying to keep the enslaved population under control, the conflict entered a new stage. Negotiation gave way to confrontation at Kemps Landing in Princess Anne County when a British foraging party roundly defeated an ill-prepared Virginia Militia on November 15. Flush with success, Dunmore expected more Loyalists and slaves to rally to his cause. He was confident that British reinforcements would arrive soon. A second encounter took place at Great Bridge in December, and this time the Virginians were ready. Among those noted for bravery at this battle was


10 Journals of the Council of the State of Virginia (Richmond: The Virginia State Library, 1932), 1:483. (Hereafter cited as JCV.)

William Flora, a Free Black who became a property owner and businessman in Portsmouth after the war was over. His bounty land warrant was issued in 1806 and is on file at the Library of Virginia, Archives Division, in Richmond.

Very quickly, Virginia leaders realized that the time for rhetoric was over. Forming an army was, of course, a priority. The Virginia Convention devised three kinds of military service. Fifteen districts would be formed in the State. Each would raise one company of sixty-eight men, enlisted for one year and they would form two regular regiments. The Eastern Shore was excluded because the exposed shoreline of the area required the attention of every possible resident. There would be fifteen battalions of minutemen, who would train for twenty consecutive days and then keep their proficiency with twenty-four days of drill annually. Finally, a militia would be formed of all males between sixteen and fifty who would be obliged to muster at least eleven times a year. Articles of War adopted by Congress would apply to Virginia except for a detail of the court martial system. Of course there were qualifications for the recruits and in December 1775 certain rules were set. Enlistment of slaves was prohibited and the master of an apprentice had to give his consent in writing. Also, a recruit was to be at least five feet four inches tall, healthy, strongly made and well limbed, not deaf or "subject to fits."

Very soon, adjustments were made so that slaves could substitute for their masters and Free Blacks could serve with the troops. In May 1777 the General Assembly authorized that all free male persons, hired servants, and apprentices between the ages of sixteen and fifty years ... shall, by the commanding officer of the county which they reside, be enrolled or formed into companies of not less than thirty-two, nor more than sixty-eight, rank and file. The free mulattoes in the said companies or battalions shall be employed as drummers, fifers or pioneers.

That same year the Assembly emphasized their negative view on the recruitment of some African Americans by instructing that "no recruiting officer shall enlist any Negro or mulatto until such Negro shall produce a certificate from a justice of the peace that he is a free man."

By 1779, the British military threat grew as the war switched to the southern front, and Virginia increased its efforts to expand its armed forces. Still, there was no movement to permit the arming of slaves, and thereby the pool of African American manpower was limited. Luther Jackson made the following observation in his 1942 article "Virginia Negro Soldiers and Seamen in the American Revolution":

At the time of the Revolution there were not more than one thousand free Negro males of military age in Virginia. This was the group who had the least restrictions placed on their enlistment, although some of this number were handicapped for service because they were "bound out" as apprentices and were therefore not strictly free men. The exact number of Virginia Negroes who fought in the Revolution cannot be determined, but there is reason to believe that five hundred free Negroes participated in this event with a smaller number of slaves.

Jackson’s study lists the names of only 150 of these men that he had been able to identify using the State’s military and other civil records.

In October 1780, the Virginia General Assembly passed an act designed to encourage enlistment of white Virginians: "An Act recruiting this State’s quota of Troops to serve in the Continental Army."

The act revised earlier ones "which increased the bounty to soldiers for the war, who had enlisted, or

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14 Selby, The Revolution in Virginia, 51-52
15 Statutes, IX: 81.
16 Statutes, IX: 267-268.
17 Statutes, IX: 280.
18 Luther P. Jackson, “Virginia Negro Soldiers and Sailors in the American Revolution,” 257.
should enlist before the 1st of April, 1781, to 300 acres of land and a healthy, sound negro between the ages of 10 and 30 years, of £60 in gold or silver in lieu of all such bounties given by any former laws." It illustrates the continued use of slaves by the state as payment for service in the armed forces.

By 1781 the need for additional manpower for Virginia's forces was acute. The Marquis de Lafayette made the following unsuccessful request of the Governor of Virginia:

I beg leave to suggest to your excellency the propriety of Raising a corps of 150 Negro pioneers to march with army, and also a corps of Hundred Negro waggoners, they might be easily got and would afford great services. 20

By the end of the American Revolution, it became clear to the government of Virginia that a goodly number of African Americans had contributed in major ways to the war effort. In October 1783, the General Assembly passed and act entitled, "An act directing the emancipation of certain slaves who have served as soldiers in this state, and for the emancipation of the enslaved man, Aberdeen [see his story below.] The text of the act is as follows and seems to indicate that this was either a blanket manumission or that the records of such emancipations may be found in county records. Few references have surfaced however.

I. Whereas it hath been represented to the present general assembly, that during the course of the war, many persons in this state had caused their slaves to enlist in certain regiments or corps raised within the same, having tendered such slaves to the officers appointed to recruit forces within the state, as substitutes for free persons, who lot or duty it was to serve in such regiments or corps, at the same time representing to such recruiting officers that the slaves so enlisted by their direction and concurrence were freemen; and it appearing further to this assembly, that on the expiration of the term of enlistment of such slaves that the former owners have attempted again to force them to return to a state of servitude, contrary to the principles of justice, and to their own solemn promise.

II. And whereas it appears just and reasonable that all persons enlisted as aforesaid [sic], who have faithfully served agreeable to the terms of their enlistment, and have thereby of course contributed towards the establishment of American liberty and independence, should enjoy the blessings of freedom as a reward for their toils and labours; Be it therefore enacted, That each and every slave, who by the appointment and direction of his owner, hath enlisted in any regiment or corps raised within this state, either on continental or state establishment, and hath been received as a substitute for any free person whose duty or lot it was to serve in such regiment or corps, and hath served faithfully during the term of such enlistment, or hath been discharged from such service by some officer duly authorized to grant such discharge, shall from and after the passing of this act, be fully and completely emancipated, and shall be held and deemed free in all and ample a manner as if each and every of them were specially named in this act; and the attorney-general for the commonwealth, is hereby required to commence an action, in forma pauperis, in behalf of any of the persons above described who shall after the passing of this act be detained in servitude by any person whatsoever; and if upon such prosecution it shall appear that the pauper is entitled to his freedom in consequence of this act, a jury shall be

19 Statutes, X: 326; H. W. Flournoy, Secretary of the Commonwealth and State Librarian. Calendar of Virginia State Papers and Other Manuscripts (Richmond: Virginia State Library, 1892), 596.
20 Marquis de Lafayette to the Governor of Virginia, letter dated Williamsburg, March the 17th 178[1].” Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, 5 (1898), 377.
empanelled to assess the damages for his detention.21

The Use of “Public Slaves” by the Government of Virginia during the Revolution

A supply system would have to be implemented to provide men to fight the war and to develop a source of provisions to support the military effort. The planter economy of the colony had not encouraged manufacturing, shipbuilding or mining. With imports ruled out by blockades along the Atlantic Coast, resources within the colony became of vital importance. Creating a dependable work force was a difficult task for the new Virginia government. A solution was found in the purchase and rental of able-bodied slaves by the State in order to find labor for various vital activities. These “public slaves” were African American men who had been purchased by the state from their owners or who had been convicted of some crime in a county court whose sentence was commuted into labor in particular mining or manufacturing operations. In 1776, the Council of Virginia ordered: “that the Managers of the Lead mines, be empowered to purchase such and so many slaves as they shall judge may be beneficially employed in working the said mines for the use of the Public, it being found impracticable to hire a sufficient number for that purpose.”22 In addition, Virginia law directed that captured run-away slaves were to join the labor force of the mines as well.

The mines of Colonel John Chiswell, in Fincastle County, were the only significant sources of lead in the colonies. In August 1777, the Council of Virginia urged the Governor to hire “twelve Negro Men Slaves for the purpose of working the said Chiswells mines to the greatest advantage.”23 Legislative records contain many references to slaves and masters in connection with lead mine labor. Robin, slave of the late Arthur Upshaw, and Ned, owned by Douglas Willet, had been reclaimed after they had joined the enemy. By a decree of the Court of Admiralty they were sent to the lead mines.24 Peter, a slave of Mrs. Elizabeth Read, had been rented and then purchased for the lead mines.25 Enslaved men who were purchased or rented by the State for work in the mines and who are specifically named are included in the list of service at the end of this chapter. There were doubtless many others whose names are not recorded in the records of the period.

There were also various acts of the Virginia General Assembly that rewarded meritorious service in the mines by the emancipation of particular slaves. For example, one man named Aberdeen was awarded his freedom in October 1783 as a result of his service in the mines.26 Names of additional men who worked in the mines, salt works, Public Rope Walk and Tannery at Warwick in Chesterfield County are found in the records of the Auditor of Public Accounts.27 The following statement in the Journals of the Council of the State of Virginia suggests that there may be additional records relating to these men:

It is the opinion of the member present that all managers of public works and others who had in their employ any negroes belonging to the State, should be called on to make immediate returns to the Executive specifying the names, ages and sizes of such as are still with them, of those that have run away or been taken by the enemy and any other Descriptions or circumstances that may facilitate their recovery: And the Clerk is desired to write to the said managers & others requiring such returns.28

Work on fortifications and various other State-sponsored public works projects were usually conducted with slave labor. In July 1777, the Council of Virginia noted that because there appeared to be too few troops at the Yorktown garrison to finish construction of fortifications, “Resolved that the Governor be advised the direct Mr. William Mitchell to hire twenty five Negro Labourers to finish the said Works that the hire do

21 Statutes, XI: 308-309.
22 JCV, 1:372.
23 JCV, 1:477.
24 JCV, 2:222.
25 Ibid., 214.
26 Statutes, XI: 309.
28 JCV, 2:388.
not exceed two shillings & six pence per Diem the Public finding the Negroes.”

The production of salt, sulphur, salt peter and firearms also required slave labor. In 1776 the Council of Virginia made the following order: “…that a Warrant issue to Mr Miles King for Two pounds twelve shillings & six pence for the use of John Jones for hire of Negroes at the Salt Works in Elizabeth City County…” Note that payment for the work went to the owner of the slaves.

The following vague account, giving no name for the man involved, comes from the Journals of the Council of the State of Virginia and provides some interesting insight towards some Virginians attitudes toward “public slaves.”

Mr. James Buchanan who was applied to as one of the Directors of the Town of Richmond, to procure a place for the reception of a Negro fellow, hired by the public, who has broke out with the Small Pox at the State house, having reported that he hath procured a Log house of a Mrs. Miller which She now occupies some Miles from Town provided that a few repairs be made to her Dwelling house to make it fit for her reception. Whereupon the members present desired the State Quarter Master immediately to have the repairs done and to send a proper person to take care of the said negro. Wednesday, November 28th, 1781.

The success of the American Revolution was in no small part the result of these workers who produced the necessities for a military force.

The Experiences of Some Virginians of African Descent during the Revolution

Free Men of Color and enslaved men gave depositions for their pension applications that indicated varied experiences in their army duty. Their records provide interesting accounts.

John Harris enlisted in the 5th Virginia and went to Valley Forge. He was transferred to the 15th Regiment during the reorganization in New Jersey. At this point, he was taken from the ranks and assigned to be a servant to Major James Monroe, a future President of the United States. John had several other enlistments but in 1780 he offered a substitute to serve in his place.

Ephraim Hearn not only endured the winter at Valley Forge but also was a captive of the British for nine months after the fall of Charleston. With other prisoners, he was marched to New York where he managed to escape and return to Gloucester County.

John Roe enlisted in 1778 in the Virginia Line in New Jersey and was with this unit at the Battle of Monmouth, the storming of Stony Point and the siege of York. He applied for a pension in Botetourt County and stated that he was old, infirm and could no longer follow his occupation as a clothes washer.

Absalom Ailstock joined the Louisa County Militia and after several enlistments, he was present at Yorktown. One of his contributions during the siege was to dig trenches, make sand baskets and create fascines. Without the contraries to move the sandy soil and the long bundles of sticks that enabled the troops to fill ditches and erect parapets, the American forces would not have been protected during the siege. Ailstock appears in the Rockingham County Register of Free Blacks in the early 1800’s and was counted in the 1850 census of that county.

Aaron Brister had quite a saga to tell in his pension application. He enlisted in Prince William County under Captain Thomas Helms, in the 3rd Virginia Regiment. After serving in the northern campaigns, he returned to Virginia where he married Betsey Tolibel. When William Helms brought seventy slaves to New York, about 1796, the Bristers were...

29 JCV, 1:455.
30 JCV, 1:125
31 JCV, 2:403-404.
32 Revolutionary War Pension File, S37997. Record Group 15. (Hereafter cited as RWPF.)
33 RWPF, S38020.
34 RWPF, 39045.
35 RWPF, S6475. Ailstock’s pension application has been abstracted in: Angela M. Ruley. Revolutionary Pension Applications, Rockbridge County, VA, transcribed from the Original Court Records (Natural Bridge, Va.: A. M. Ruley, 1998), 92-95.
among the group. After Aaron Brister died in 1821, his widow Betsey was granted a pension.\(^{36}\)

Edward Sorrell enlisted from Northumberland County in the 2nd Regiment of the Virginia line, under Colonel Charles Porterfield. After the fall of Charleston, the colonel was wounded. The British pursued the retreating Americans so closely that Sorrell had to abandon an attempt to carry the colonel off the field, and Porterfield was captured. Some time later, Sorrell was ordered to Camden, South Carolina, to attend the colonel who was gravely ill and on parole. The colonel soon died, and Sorrell returned Porterfield’s baggage to Richmond in the fall of 1781.\(^{37}\)

Andrew Ferguson was only about fifteen years old when he was drafted in Dinwiddie County. Before his military service, Andrew and his father had been taken prisoner by the British. After these enslaved men suffered a series of whippings by their captors, they escaped. Later on, Ferguson was wounded at Guilford Court House in North Carolina. His master sent one of his sons to bring him home in November 1781. By 1838, Ferguson was in Monroe County, Indiana, and he claimed that he had been previously told that a “colored man” could not apply for a pension. Among those making a deposition for Ferguson’s pension application was a fellow soldier, Daniel Strother.\(^{38}\) The graves of both Ferguson and Strother have been marked by NSDAR in honor of the service offered by these men.

Substitutes had some interesting experiences to relate when they sought compensation for their services in later years. Tim Jones was a substitute for his master, Rolling Jones, who had enlisted during a drunken frolic, and then sent his slave to serve in his place.\(^{39}\) Thomas Camel enlisted in Culpeper County, in September 1776. He was an enslaved man of Colonel Martin Pickett, who gave him the choice of remaining a slave, or going into the army. Camel was overcome by heat and fatigue during the Battle of Monmouth and recovered at the home of a nearby family. His pension application was made in 1832 in Madison County, New York, and he died in Michigan in 1849.\(^{40}\) William Guy of Brunswick County substituted for Jack Goode under Captain Reuben Vaughan. In various capacities he served from the spring of 1779 to the end of the Revolution and applied for a pension in Granville County, North Carolina.\(^{41}\)

Another well-known enslaved Virginian was William Lee, who served George Washington in war and peace. When our first President wrote his will, he showed his gratitude to Lee “for his faithful services during the Revolutionary War.” Lee received an annuity for life and his immediate freedom from Washington’s estate.\(^{42}\)

William Clark of Culpeper County was a free black who served his country well. He provided future generations with a family history that connects old Virginia to Ohio. Clark’s pension tells of his participation in the battles of Germantown and Monmouth and his duties as a soldier-servant to his neighbor, Colonel John Jameson.\(^{43}\) A great deal of additional information about his descendants can be found in the published records of Ross County, Ohio.\(^{44}\)

James, an enslaved man of William Armistead of New Kent County, joined the army with the consent of his master. He was assigned to the Marquis de Lafayette. At the risk of his life, he entered British camps and brought information to the Marquis. In 1786, a petition was offered to set James free and compensate his master.\(^{45}\) James took the patronymic of Lafayette for his new life as a free man. His heroic service and eventual reunion with the Marquis is discussed in an article in the \textit{DAR Magazine} of November 1917 entitled, “A Soldier of the Revolution.” A portrait of James Lafayette is


\(^{37}\) RWPF, W26492.

\(^{38}\) RWPF, S32243.

\(^{39}\) RWPF, S18063.

\(^{40}\) RWPF, R1609

\(^{41}\) RWPF, W17969.

\(^{42}\) Fairfax County, Virginia. Will Book H (1799-1801), 1

\(^{43}\) RWPF, W6687.


\(^{45}\) \textit{Statutes}, XII: 380-381.
among the collections of the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond.

There were various families whose participation in Revolutionary service also deserves notice. The Goff family, Abraham, Daniel, Moses, and Zachariah, told their history in Federal pension records. The Hartless men, Peter and William, of Caroline County, made their pension applications in Amherst County in 1832. The Read family of Nansemond County, Abram, Amariah and Amos, all served as substitutes during their tour of duty. These men always included the prefix “of” before their surname (Abram of Read).

Another account comes from the Journal of the Council of the State of Virginia in April 1777 and offers only the beginning of what was surely an interesting story:

Noel Roagemon Gaulon, a native of St. Domingo having enlisted himself as a soldier in the service of this state under Captain Delaporte Crome, presented a petition to the Board setting forth that he was unjustly claimed as a slave by Goulon his father, who has demanded him of his captain; and praying the protection of the Government in declaring him a free man. On Consideration whereof it is ordered that it be signified to the petitioner that this Board have no authority to declare his Right of freedom, but that it must be determined in a due course of Law to which end it is further ordered that Jno. Tazewell esquire be desired to apply to James City court in Behalf of the petitioner for Leave to sue in that court for his freedom, and that the said petitioner in the mean time continue to do duty as a soldier.46

The records of James City County are now destroyed, and Gaulon does not appear in Virginia’s published military records. One wonders what the outcome of this was.

**African American’s in Virginia’s State Navy during the Revolution**

Throughout the American Revolution, Virginia’s interest in the naval activities was very high because of its extensive coastline. Coastal waterways and river inlets were an open invitation to the British for plundering and raiding. It took skill, competence and a great deal of good luck for the Virginia Navy to compete with the strength and scope of the British fleet. Much of the effort to repel British incursions was made by men of African descent, who as watermen on the Chesapeake and its tributaries had tremendous knowledge of naval practices and of the local waterways. Some examples of their activities follow.

Joseph Harris, an enslaved man from Hampton, had been hired by the British to pilot HMS Otter. When a hurricane struck in September 1775, one of the Otter’s tenders became stranded off Hampton and was seized by Virginians, crew and all. Captain Squire of the Otter demanded reparations, but the Virginians refused to comply until Joseph Harris was returned. The impasse resulted in a tight blockade of Hampton Roads by the British.47

When the British Navy started raiding and pillaging the expansive coastal areas of Virginia, colonial supply routes were threatened. The only ships quickly available to Virginians were privately owned merchant ships. Many of these vessels had pilots and crew who were African American. Shipyards went into action in such places as Gosport and Fredericksburg to provide a navy for the Old Dominion. There were also shipyards located along the James, the Appomattox, the Nansemond, and the Chickahominy Rivers that constructed ships of various sizes for the navy. The result of this effort was that Virginia had the largest of all the state navies.

The Dragon was constructed in the Fredericksburg shipyard in the autumn of 1776. Her crew of one hundred sixty men included ten African Americans. One of these men was John DeBaptist. After the Revolution, DeBaptist ran a ferry between Falmouth and Fredericksburg. When he died in

46 JCV, 1: 400.

47 Selby. The Revolution in Virginia, 58.
1804, he left a family of prosperous builders and businessmen.\textsuperscript{48}

David Baker of Isle of Wight County was an enslaved man who entered the naval service as a substitute for his master, Lawrence Baker. He claimed to be a free man at his enlistment. After he served aboard the warship Patriot, he should have been emancipated based on Virginia law. In 1794, Baker petitioned the Legislature for his freedom, because his master had returned him to servitude.\textsuperscript{49}

Caesar Tarrant was a slave of Carter and Mary Tarrant of Elizabeth City County. He served as a pilot for the armed vessels of the state during the entire war. A legislative act of October 19, 1789 manumitted Tarrant and compensated his widow, Mary.\textsuperscript{50} Tarrant became a property owner, and his will, signed February 19, 1797, directed that his property be sold to purchase the freedom of his daughter, Liddy.

The legislative petitions to the Virginia General Assembly reveal the story of another Virginian of African descent: William Jones of Fredericksburg. Jones’ petition in 1824 details his naval career on the galley Protector for three years. He also served on the Tartar and the Tempest and was discharged at the Chickahominy River Navy Yard in 1780.\textsuperscript{51}

A noteworthy family in the history of the Virginia State Navy were the Nickens, who seemed to have always been free. Due to the research of their descendant and member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Karen Sutton, the family has been given proper recognition for their Revolutionary service. Amos Nickens did not seek benefits for himself but gave depositions for others, both African American and white, to support their claims of service.\textsuperscript{52} This Northumberland County resident served aboard the sloop Congress and was the ancestor of a large family. Edward Nickens was an able seaman. Hezekiah died a prisoner after him and his brother, James, served as members of the crew of the warship Gloucester. John, Nathaniel, Richard, Robert and William all served with distinction during the Revolution.\textsuperscript{53} James Nickens lived in Falmouth when he applied for a Federal pension in 1818.\textsuperscript{54} Richard Nickens applied for his Federal pension in 1832 in Lancaster County.\textsuperscript{55}

\textbf{African Americans in the Illinois Campaign of George Rogers Clark}

Virginia’s attempt to assert her authority over the vast territory north of the Ohio River lead to George Rogers Clark’s well-known Illinois Campaign. The index to the “George Rogers Clark Papers” in the archives collection of the Library of Virginia contains references to several slaves and perhaps Free Blacks who participated in this military effort.\textsuperscript{56} Yet another study of the Clark expedition contains the following discussion of slaves present at Fort Jefferson, Kentucky:

> Slaves represent another category of person present at the post. Too few slaves at Fort Jefferson were recorded by name; several are known only by their owner’s name or by a racist-reference to their presence; the majority of slaves left no written documentation whatsoever, a reflection of 18\textsuperscript{th} century life as well as social position within a highly stratified society. One black man, Cesar, was a


\textsuperscript{49} Robert Armistead Stewart. The History of Virginia’s Navy Of the Revolution (Richmond: Mitchell & Hotchkiss, Printers, 1933), 143. (Hereafter cited as Navy).

\textsuperscript{50} Statutes, XIII:102.


\textsuperscript{52} Margie G. Brown. Genealogical Abstracts Revolutionary War Veterans Scrip Act 1852 (Decorah, Iowa: Amundsen Publishing Co. 1990; reprinted); 63.

\textsuperscript{53} Navy, 231, 232.

\textsuperscript{54} RWPF, S38262.

\textsuperscript{55} RWPF, S5830.

“Conclusion de la campagne de 1781 en Virginie.” Noël Le Mire, engraver. Paris, 178?
Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D. C.

Note that the African American man on the right of Lafayette was possibly James Armistead Lafayette of Virginia.
considerably-skilled artisan, who served as an artificer and who helped build the fort. Because of his skills, it is not surprising a record of his presence at the fort remains. Yet, the number of slaves at Fort Jefferson is unknown.\textsuperscript{57}

\textbf{Virginia’s American Indians during the Revolution}

Virginia’s relations with the Native tribes within and without her boundaries during the Revolution were usually tense or hostile. History books are full of the story of the frontier conflicts during this period. But not all Native Americans were fighting Virginians, and some were indeed contributors to the cause of American Independence. They are, however, difficult to identify because of the unusual situation of the Virginia Tribes.

In the eastern part of the State, small enclaves such as the Gingaskin, Nansemond, Monacan, Mattaponi, Pamunkey, Rappahannock, and Chickahominy Tribes remained in their native counties. They did not flee to the west to join other Algonquians during the difficult years of white expansion and settlement on their ancestral lands in the century and a half prior to the outbreak of the Revolution. These tribes did not come under the control of the Federal Government in later years but remained under State supervision. The surviving records at the state level relating to Virginia’s Native population are extremely sparse, and the records for many of the counties in which the reservations were located have often suffered major losses. In the western part of the state there are clusters of Cherokee-related Native Americans whose Revolutionary connections are still under investigation. Only a few Virginia Native Americans have been identified through their Federal pension applications.

Being constantly aware of the threat facing the colony and state from hostile Native Americans on its frontiers, the government of Virginia maintained a watchful eye on “Indian affairs.” In the early years of the war both the Congress and the state of Virginia made attempts to secure the neutrality of the native groups in the western country, but with little success. In May 1776 the Fifth Virginia Convention passed a proposal that would have “engag[ed] such Indian Warriors of the neighbouring Tribes as are willing to march to the Assistance of the Colony...” but, again, if this resulted in any concrete action on the part of the State’s agents in contact with the Indians, there is little evidence that any “warriors” were actually enlisted in a military capacity.\textsuperscript{58}

Ambrose Month was a Federal pensioner of mixed ancestry. He was born and enlisted in Spotsylvania County and was a Free Man who was part Shawnee and part Negro. Month and his family lived in Knox County, Tennessee by 1834.\textsuperscript{59}

Robin Loyd of Dinwiddie County was known as “Indian Robin” to his fellow soldiers in the 5th Virginia Regiment. He fought at the Battle of Cowpens but could not prove the duration of his service when he filed a pension application in 1834, in Jennings County, Indiana.\textsuperscript{60}

John Pinn claimed descent from the Algonquians. He said that his father was a “mustee,” his mother was a Cherokee, and they lived in Lancaster County at Indian Town near Carter’s Creek. John Pinn, his father, Robert and his brothers, Billy and Jim, all served at Yorktown. John was a seaman after the Revolution and lived in Boston, Danvers and Salem, Massachusetts. Ill-fortune followed Pinn as his house in Salem burned and his investments were lost in the failure of Aaron Ordway’s firm. His pension application was rejected because he could not find anyone to support his claim.\textsuperscript{61}

\textsuperscript{57} Kenneth Charles Carstens, \textit{The Personnel of George Rogers Clark’s Fort Jefferson and the Civilian Community of Clarksville, Kentucky, 1780-1781} (Based on the Lost Vouchers of George Rogers Clark (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, Inc., 1999), v.


\textsuperscript{59} RWPF, W7477.

\textsuperscript{60} RWPF, R6501.

\textsuperscript{61} RWPF, R6264.
John Redcross received a Bounty Land Warrant from Virginia for his army service. His identity has not been determined as there were men of this name in both Amherst and York Counties in 1787. Future research by historians and genealogists may reveal more about the Buffalo Ridge Cherokees and their possible York County origins.\textsuperscript{62}

Robert Mush/Mursh is clearly identified by statements in his Federal pension application made in York District, South Carolina in 1818. He was a native of Virginia and was born in King William County of the Pamunkey Tribe. In 1776, he enlisted in the 15th Regiment of Virginia Continental Troops and served at Brandywine and Germantown. His second enlistment resulted in a fourteen-month period as a prisoner of war. After he was released in Jamestown, he re-enlisted and marched to Ebenezer, Georgia. Mursh returned to King William County and became a Baptist Minister. His missionary duties took him to live among the Catawba Tribe in York District, South Carolina, where he and his widow were pensioned. Robert Mush was an unusual man as he had been a student at the Indian School connected with The College of William and Mary. Elizabeth Mursh had a great deal of difficulty establishing the validity of her marriage, which was questioned by the Federal bureaucracy. The pension file reveals much about the life of Native Americans who lived away from their tribal affiliations.\textsuperscript{63}

In her pioneering study of Virginia’s Native residents, \textit{Pocahontas’s People}, Dr. Helen C. Rountree offers further information on Robert Mush and his descendants and sheds light on other Pamunkey's like him who participated in the American Revolution.\textsuperscript{64} In particular, Rountree points to a 1779 legislative petition to the Virginia General Assembly by residents of King William County where the Pamunkey and Mattiponi Reservations are located. The petition sought payments to wives, widows, and children of various residents of the county including some likely Pamunkeys. Rountree writes:

...probable Indian wives include Nancy Cooke [sic], Lucy Langton [sic], Sarah Mush, Nancy Sampson, nancy Major and Saraj Major (a fringe name). Various Cooks, Langstons, Sampsons, Gunns and Majorses show up in Virginia regiments, with only William Langston and John, Richard, and George Sampson being combinations that actually appear on Pamunkey documents.\textsuperscript{65}

Among the Native American groups that supported the American cause during the Revolution were the Catawbas of Georgia and South Carolina. Unfortunately, the following entry in the \textit{Journals of the Council} from September 17, 1782 does not give any specific names on individuals but does illustrate the long-standing support the Americans received from the Catawba:

Some Indian Chiefs of the Catawba Nation having required & obtained an Aud[i]e[ne]ce of his Excellency the Governor in the Council Chamber and after making a representation of some Matters, with which they were informed the Executive of this State have not concern, requested to be supplied with some necessities for themselves; Whereupon the members present, in consideration of their antient & faithful attachment to the interest of America as well as to preserve & cultivate the good wishes & friendship of the Indian tribes advise his Excellency to Order the Commissioner of War to furnish them with 20 lb. Powder 40 lb. Lead & 50 flints; and the Commercial Agent to


\textsuperscript{63} RWPFW8416.

\textsuperscript{64} Helen C. Rountree, \textit{Pocahontas’s People: The Powhatan Indians of Virginia through Four Centuries} (Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1990), 165, note 260 (on page 335), and 170, 171, 175. This petition has been abstracted by Jean Pickett Hall in “Legislative Petitions from Virginia Counties with Significant Record Losses, 2. King County,” \textit{Magazine of Virginia Genealogy}, 28:4 (November 1990), 307-308.

\textsuperscript{65}\textit{Ibid.}, 335, note 260.
furnish to each a Hat, a Coat or Cloth
sufficient to make one.66

Virginia’s legislative petitions to the General Assembly reveal one more fascinating story. In a plea dated November 25, 1795, Lewis Denry states that he was born in Canada during the period of French rule, was of Indian extraction, and had been a domestic for General Lafayette in the service of the United States. At some point he met Indians of the Pamunkey tribe and married a Pamunkey named Susanna67. The Denrys were living in Hanover County at the time of the petition, but the petition was filed by the white trustees of the Pamunkey Indians in King William County. Unfortunately, Hanover is a burned-record county. The land tax records for the county do, however, list a Susanna Denton with 40 acres during the period but do not give any information on her color or her husband.

Some Foreign “Persons of Color” in Virginia during the Revolution

In the Revolutionary War “size rolls” (lists of men which give physical descriptions, age, birthplace, etc.) which have survived, some interesting and surprising enlistments appear. A Mathew Heward or Howard, the surname is not clear in the original record, lists his birthplace as Jamaica and his residence in 1780 as Caroline County. The clerk describes him as “black” in complexion.68 Thomas Crew, another man described by the army clerk as “black,” gives his birthplace as “Hispaniola” (modern Haiti and the Dominican Republic) and his residence as Northampton County.69 Finally, and clearly the most surprising find, was a man named George Brumma, “yellow” in complexion and with a birthplace of “Austatia,” (i.e. St. Eustatius).70 A George Brumgam is listed in the 1787 tax list of Frederick County, Virginia, but because his name appears in the column of free taxpayers, his color is not given.

Thoughts on Research in the Records of Virginia

Identifying the names of Virginia African American and Indian participants in the American Revolution is fraught with difficulties. Many Virginia records, including those of a good many of the older counties in the eastern part of the state, have been destroyed. When records of military or patriotic service do exist they are remarkably, even surprisingly, “color-blind,” that is, they do not include many references to a person’s color. One may read such records and discover names that could be for African Americans or Indians, but rarely do color descriptors appear to give clear identification for inclusion in a list such as the one in this chapter.

Researchers often must check records of many years into the future, such as the 1810 or 1820 United States census for those counties with surviving population schedules, to find a clue that an individual was a person of color. Personal property tax records for Virginia’s counties and cities begin in 1782 and are crucial sources for references to a person’s color. They often, however, yield only the barest of information. County records, when they exist, may yield identifying information as well to the person who can dig through their unindexed pages.

Within the pension application files of the minority soldiers are numbers of references to other service men for whom no documented sources of enlistments are available. Recently, the indexes to printed collections of pension applications and Bounty Land Warrant Claim abstracts have provided clues to these forgotten heroes. Many a poor man of color was given incorrect advice on seeking a pension or else he was not able to provide proof for his service at the time of application. A rejected pension classification does not mean that the man did not serve. Also, lack of a Federal pension application does not indicate the absence of service. There are a multitude of other sources

66 JCV, 3:143-144.
67 “Legislative Petition: Lewis and Susanna Denry, King William County, November 25, 1795,” Legislative Petitions to the Virginia General Assembly, Library of Virginia, Richmond.
68 “Register & description of Noncommissioned Officers & Privates at Chesterfield Court House, Powhatan Court House, Carter’s Ferry, Albemarle Old Court House, Cumberland Old Court House & at Winchester Barracks. Enlisted at different times from 1777 to 1783,” spine title: Revolutionary Army, vol. 1, Register 1777 to 1783. Manuscript accession number 24296, Library of Virginia, Richmond.
69 Ibid.
70 Ibid.
available to researchers seeking proof that their Virginia minority ancestor participated in the American Revolution. Virginia awarded state pensions. Petitions seeking compensation were placed before the State Legislature and Bounty Land Warrants were sought. The Revolutionary War Scrip Act of 1852 brought forth a great number of benefit claims by descendants of Revolutionary War participants. County records such as Court Order Books contain many references to men who served in the army and navy. Proof for militia duty is often a difficult research project. Records for these soldiers may be found in the Library of Virginia, unless they have been retained in private and local collections.
ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR MILITARY SERVICE

 Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.

1785JC 1785 James City County, Virginia Personal Property Tax List. Library of Virginia, Richmond.

1786JC 1786 James City County, Virginia Personal Property Tax List. Library of Virginia, Richmond.


1793GC 1793 Goochland County, Virginia Personal Property Tax List. Library of Virginia, Richmond.


ACML “Amherst County Militia List,” Special Collections Department, Swem Library, The College of William and Mary.


BJC  “Bible of Joseph Cheuvront” [containing handwritten annotations from the late eighteenth century of Revolutionary War service of various men and women at Hinkle’s Fort.] A copy of the Bible is in the file collection of the DAR Library, Washington.

BLWt  Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


CCC4  Charles City County Historical Society. “Blacks in Blue – Charles City County’s Free Black Revolutionary War Soldiers,” Charles City County Historical Society Newsletter, No. 4 (September 1995), 8-11.
Virginia

CCC6 Charles City County Historical Society. “More Blacks in Blue – Charles City County’s Free Black Revolutionary War Soldiers,” Charles City County Historical Society Newsletter, No. 6 (March 1996), 10-14.


CS Virginia Genealogical Society. “The Chesterfield Supplement” or “Size Roll of Troops joined at Chesterfield Court House since September 1st, 1780, Captn Joseph Scott.” On title page: “This book is a supplement to Papers concerning the Army of the Revolution, vol. 1 [Revolutionary Army, vol. 1, Register 1777-1783; RAR below], Executive Department and in order precedes Benjamin Harrison’s mission to Philadelphia by Assembly, 1781.” Manuscript accession number 40 (original) and 23816 (photostat), Library of Virginia, Richmond.


DEPVA “Betsy, a servant in the American Camp during the Revolution, died in Petersburg, Aged 104.” Daily Express (Petersburg, Va.,) June 28, 1858, p. 1, col. 4. Citation from: “A Proper Name and Subject Index Covering More Than 40 Newspaper Titles Primarily Published in Petersburg, VA, 1797-1877.” W. P. A. Project, Petersburg Public Library. Available online on the Library of Virginia’s website: <www.lva.lib.va.us>.


FPPV Manuscript Final Pension Payment Vouchers are located at the National Archives (Record Group 217: Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Records of the Office of the Third Auditor 1775-1923, Entry 722 Selected Final Pension Payment Vouchers, National Archives, Washington, D.C.). The vouchers consist of pension agent files selected by National Archives staff for their genealogical value. The files contain details relating to the final payment to heirs of a pensioner after his death. Details in these accounts may include the name of the spouse, children, and other heirs; the date and place of death; and the date, place
and amount of the final pension payment. The vouchers are filed by the state where the pensioner received payment and thereafter alphabetically by surname of the pensioner.

FRD


GHSK

George Harrison Sanford King letter to “Dear Martha,” 23 November 1982, “George Harrison Sanford King Collection,” Virginia Historical Society, Mss6:1 L5167, file: “Restoration of County Records.” Text: “…and I have a long account (and most interesting) of one Sidebottom of this area helping to carry wounded James Monroe, then colonel, from the field of battle. Uncle JM never forgot Sidebotto [sic], a mulatto. I have much of the story.”

GRAY1


GRAY2


GREE


GWAS


GWP:1

“Letter of George Washington to Clement Biddle, July 28, 1784.” [Letterbook 11. Image 247 or 368] The George Washington Papers at the Library of Congress, 1741-1799: <http://memory.loc.gov>. The pertinent text is: “The mulatto fellow William, who has been with me all the War is attached (married he says) to noe of his own colour a free woman, who during the War was also of my family.”

HEI


HEI-2

Paul Heinegg. “Free African Americans of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, and Delaware: The history of the free African American community as told through the family history of most African Americans who were free in the Southeast during the colonial period.” Online at: <http://www.freeafricanamericans.com/>

HERO


HRVR


JCC


JCV

Vol. 3, p. 125: “Paul Loyall esquire a Commissioner under the Act for defending & protecting the Trade of Chesapeake having represented that Hands could not be immediately procured to Man the Ship Cormorant and thereby great loss might arise to the State: The Board advise the Governor to direct that such public Slaves as were lately employed on board the Ships Cormorant & Oliver Cromwell be continued in that Service; The Commissioners paying to the State Quarter Master once in every three months the usual hire of Sailors for the said Slaves.”

JVB


JWD

Joseph W. Dooley. “Two Black Men Introduced as New Members at Congress.” SAR Magazine, 102:1 (Summer 2007), 6. [Two new SAR members, descendants of Henry Bakeman of New York, and of Isaac Brown of Charles City County, Virginia, are featured in this article.]

KWPT

“Legislative Petition: Lewis and Susanna Denry, King William County, November 25, 1795,” Legislative Petitions to the Virginia General Assembly, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

LOL


LPED


LVA31540


LVA36912


M853


M859


M881

Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army during the Revolutionary War. 1881. 1096 Rolls, National Archives and Records Administration microfilm.

MAM


MGJC

Isaac Jefferson; Rayford W. Logan, ed. *Memoirs of a Monticello Slave, As Dictated to Charles Campbell in the 1840s by Isaac, One of Thomas Jefferson’s Slaves.* Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia for the Tracy W. McGeer Library, 1951. On pages 22-23 is the story of the house servants who were with Thomas Jefferson at the governor’s residence in Richmond when the British Army approached the capital. Ten of Jefferson’s enslaved people, including five children were captured by the British and taken to Yorktown where they endured the siege of the town. Later Washington arranged to have them returned to Jefferson after the British surrender. The patriotic service of the adults is for having been held by the British as prisoners. The bracketed surname – [Jefferson] – is used only to distinguish these individuals from others with the same name in this listing.


“Register & Description of Noncommissioned Officers & Privates at Chesterfield Court House, Powhatan Court House, Carter’s Ferry, Albemarle Old Court House, Cumberland Old Court House & at Winchester Barracks. Enlisted at different times from 1777 to 1783,” spine title: Revolutionary Army, vol. 1, Register 1777 to 1783. Manuscript accession number 24296, Library of Virginia, Richmond.


*Virginia Gazette* (date and issue as not in the list)


VNSS Luther Porter Jackson, comp. Virginia Negro Soldiers and Seamen in the Revolutionary War Norfolk: Guide Quality Press, 1944. Note: supported by 1810 Census. This book is an expansion of a list with text which was originally published as L. P. Jackson, “Virginia Negro Soldiers and Seaman in the American Revolution,” The Journal of Negro History, XXVII:3 (July 1942), 247-287. The book version includes paragraphs inserted into the list which amplify the service of individual men. Page number citations in this book refer to pages in Jackson’s book version for page numbers 1-46 and from the earlier article for page numbers 247-287.


WAR2 Virginia “WAR” volumes, v. 2. [manuscript war records] Library of Virginia, Richmond

WAR25 Virginia “WAR” volumes, v. 25. [manuscript war records] Library of Virginia, Richmond

WBA W. B. Adams. “Survey Report, Campbell County Records, 1937, Aug. 16: transcription of the judgment in which Luke Valentine, a free African American, has proven to the court that he was a veteran of the Revolutionary War (1832),” Virginia W. P. A. Historical Inventory Project, computer file, Library of Virginia, Richmond. Available online at <www.lva.lib.va.us> through the online catalog.

YCO4 York Country, Virginia, Order Book 4 (1774-1784).
REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE
VIRGINIA 1775-1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

Two of the sources used to create this list for Virginia contain color descriptors for the men named therein. Those men who’s complexion is listed as “black” or “yellow” appear below with the source references “RAR” (Register & Description of Noncommissioned Officers & Privates at Chesterfield Court House, [etc]) and “CS” (“The Chesterfield Supplement,” i.e. Supplement to Papers concerning the Army of the Revolution, vol. 1 [etc.]) The category “yellow” is included because several men have the additional comment “mulatto” in the “Comments” column of the original records, and because “yellow” appears in Virginia to be a descriptor of people of mixed-color parentage or perhaps of Indian descent. Many of those with “yellow” complexions were from counties in eastern Virginia with known Indian populations. Nearly all of those listed as “yellow” in complexion in these sources also had black hair and black eyes. Persons listed with “brown” as a complexion color are not included because nearly all of them were born in Ireland, France, or Italy, indicating a different view of what “brown” meant to the writer of these sources. Many, but not all of the men with black or yellow complexions were listed as “substitutes” for those who could arrange for someone else to take their place in the army. Often substitutes were minorities, a fact that adds one more clue supporting listing here. Other sources may, however, reveal additional information about the color of these men.

AARON, African American? Lead miner, APALM
ABERDEEN, African American (“a negro man slave”), Lead miner, Statutes:XI:308-309, APALM, VHRLC:1:80,
Northampton Co.
ABRAHAM, **, Navy, VASAR:1,14, no residence given
ABRAHAM, African American (“Public Negro”), JCV:3:302, no residence given
ABRAM, African American (“a negro”), seaman, RWRV:214, VNR:34, VNSS:29, HRVR:2, WAR2:31 (“pay drawn
by Willis Wilson on 20 December 1785,” £8.0.6), no town given
ACREY/ACRE/ACRY, AMBROSE, **, drummer, HRVR, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of John Gordon), “Public Negro” at Public Ropewalk,
Warwick (1777), APARW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of Nic Giles), at Public Ropewalk, Warwick (1777), APARW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (unnamed “Negro of A. Richeson, employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight
County, 1779”), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (unnamed “Negro of Brewer Godwin”), employed at public salt works, Isle of
Wight County (1776, 1779), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (unnamed enslaved man of Elias Parker), employed at public salt works, Isle of
Wight County (1778), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (unnamed enslaved man of Joseph Chapman), employed at public salt works, Isle
of Wight County (1778, 1779), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (enslaved man of Jeremiah Outland), employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight County (1778, 1779), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of Joseph Fullgham), employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight County (1778, 1779), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of Josiah Wells/Wills/Willis), employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight Co. (1778-1779), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of Sarah Atkins), employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight County (1779) APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of Sarah Lightfoot), employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight County (1779) APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of William Dering), employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight County (1778), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of Wm. Eley), employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight County (1779), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of James Wortham), WAR25:813 (Rec’d for use of W. Maury and Sarah Roane 24 pounds for 1 year’s hire of negroes employed at the lead mines to June last, gov’t wa’nt.” 18 Feb. 1779)
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of William Keeling), lead miner (1777), APALM
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of John Henley), lead miner (1777), APALM
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of John Jinkins), lead miner (1778), APALM
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, “Public Negro,” (unnamed) worker in lead mines (1777), APALM
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed) blacksmith at the lead mines (1779), APALM
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed enslaved man of George Chamberlain), WAR25:787 (Rec’d for use of Samuel Meredith 18 pounds for his [George Chamberlain’s] negro’s piloting the Dragon from Fraziers to York.” 9 January 1779.)
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (unnamed) (free), employed in a hospital, CVSP:1:564
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, waterman (perhaps named William Payne), hired by Stephen Southall, a Continental quarter master to transport provisions for the Convention troops from Westham to Albemarle County, VG45:1
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of Robert Adams who was compensated for a public claim for “Negro man 5 days returning from Petersburgh,” VAPC 1:338, Patriot, Fairfax Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of Col. Edward Booker who was compensated for a public claim for “hire of a Negro 14 months to mind the cattle,” VAPC 1:38, Patriot, Amelia Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of Richard Booker, who was compensated for a public claim for “1781 hire of a Negro,” VAPC 1:254, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of Simon Bowling, who was compensated for a public claim for “Negro man 5 days returning from Petersburgh,” VAPC 1:338, Patriot, Fairfax Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of William Brown, who was compensated for a public claim for “27 days hire of Negro,” VAPC 2:538, Patriot, James City Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of Walter Cabble, who was compensated for a public claim for “hire of Negro 9 days,” VAPC 1:187, Patriot, Caroline Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of Archibald Cary, who was compensated for a public claim for “Oct. 1780 Negro hire 1 day,” VAPC 1:240, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of Rebecca Hubbard Cocke, who was compensated for a public claim for “12 months hire of a Negro man for state service,” VAPC 1:223, Patriot, Charles City Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of Richard Covington, who was compensated for a public claim for “1781 5 days Negro hire,” VAPC 1:241, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Edward Dance compensated for a public claim for “1781 Negro hire 4 days,” VAPC 1:241, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Capt. Wm. Davey, who was compensated for a public claim for “1 hire Negro,” VAPC 2:524, Isle of Wight Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of William Dodson, who was compensated for a public claim for “1781 6 days Negro hire,” VAPC 1:241, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of William Dunn, who was compensated for a public claim for “a Negro,” VAPC 1:336, Patriot, Essex Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of William Dunn Jr., who was compensated for a public claim for “4 days of a Negro,” VAPC 1:337, Patriot, Essex Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), enslaved man of Henry Featherston, who was compensated for a public claim for “5 days Negro hire,” VAPC 1:241, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of John Goode, who was compensated for a public claim for “12 days with one Negro,” VAPC 1:332, Patriot, Essex Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Carter Henry Harrison, who was compensated for a public claim for “147 days Negro taking care of publick horses at Carters ferry,” VAPC 1:303, Patriot, Cumberland Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Robert Harvey, who was compensated for a public claim for “hire of his Negro & horse 2 days bringing the powder from the mill,” VAPC 1:140, Patriot, Botetourt Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Randolph Jefferson, who was compensated for a public claim for “5 days service of Negro fellow removing military store to fork of Tye River,” VAPC 1:164, Patriot, Buckingham Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Phil Johnson, who was compensated for a public claim for “6 days Negro hire,” VAPC 2:535, Patriot, James City Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Rowland Jones, who was compensated for a public claim for “1 years hire of Negro in February 1781 allowed £200 paper money as pr cert.,” VAPC 2:539, Patriot, James City Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Col. John Lawrence, who was compensated for a public claim for “hire 1 Negro 7 days,” VAPC 2:530, Patriot, Isle of Wight Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Christianna Minge, who was compensated for a public claim for “hire of 1 Negro 6 days for Cont.,” VAPC 1:214, Patriot, Charles City Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Isaac Moody, who was compensated for a public claim for “1 day hire of Negro,” VAPC 2:526, Patriot, Isle of Wight Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Joseph Moore, who was compensated for a public claim for “Negro slautering beaves and smoking beef and pork,” VAPC 3:792, Patriot, Prince Edward Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of John Perkinson, who was compensated for a public claim for “Negro hire 3 days,” VAPC 1:247, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of John Pride compensated for a public claim for “Negro hire 8 days,” VAPC 1:247, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of John Powell, who was compensated for a public claim for “hire 1 Negro,” VAPC 2:527, Patriot, Isle of Wight Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of George Robertson, who was compensated for a public claim for “1780 work with Negro 1 day,” VAPC 1:248, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of David Ross, who was compensated for a public claim for “Negro hire 2 days,” VAPC 1:248, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Estate of Joseph Rowllett, which was compensated for a public claim for “Negro hire 2 days, and Negro hire 2 days [whether one or more men not specified],” VAPC 1:248, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Francis Spencer, who was compensated for a public claim for “12 Negro fellow 11 days removing military Stores from Point Fork to Albemarle [sic] Old Courthouse,” VAPC 1:171, Patriot, Buckingham Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Edward Vainer, who was compensated for a public claim for “Negro hire 6 days,” VAPC 1:250, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of John Walthall, who was compensated for a public claim for “July 1781 Negro hire 6 days,” VAPC 1:252, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of William Walthall, who was compensated for a public claim for “July 1781 Negro hire 2 days,” VAPC 1:251, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of William Watts, who was compensated for a public claim “for his Negro slaughtering beef for Joseph Moore.” VAPC 3:795, Patriot, Prince Edward Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Col. John Sck. Wells, who was compensated for a public claim for “2 days hire Negro,” VAPC 2:529, Patriot, Isle of Wight Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Joseph Wells, who was compensated for a public claim for “1781 hire Negro 3 days,” VAPC 1:251, Patriot, Chesterfield Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Richard Whittaker compensated for a public claim for “acct for Negro hire from April 17, 1781 to June 22, 1781 at 2/6 per day,” VAPC 2:540, Patriot, James City Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of Thomas Wood, who was compensated for a public claim for “Negro,” VAPC 1:337, Patriot, Essex Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN ("Negro"), enslaved man of John Wynne, who was compensated for a public claim for “a Negro fellow 8 days assisting the baggage waggons and artillery across Dan River,” VAPC 3:766, Patriot, Pittsylvania Co.


AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN ("Negroes"), enslaved men ("Negro fellows") of John Fields, who was compensated for a public claim for “slaughtering 28 beeves, collecting & delivering the hire of myself and 2 Negro fellows 8 days,” VAPC 1:328, Patriots, Elizabeth City Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, enslaved men of William Green Munford, who was compensated for a public claim for “4 Negro men for state service 49 days,” VAPC 1:223, Patriots, Charles City Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, enslaved men of William Barrett, who was compensated for a public claim for “Negroes impressed 1 day,” VAPC 2:533, James City Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, 2 enslaved men of Thomas Bridgeforth, who was compensated for a public claim for “2 Negroes impressed 2 days,” VAPC 1:330, Patriots, Essex Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, 2 enslaved men of Col. John Lewis, who was compensated for a public claim “for 2 Negroes 3 days,” VAPC 3:771, Pittsylvania Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, 4 enslaved men of Christiana Minge, who was compensated for a public claim for “hire 4 Negroes for state,” VAPC 1:214, Patriots, Charles City Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, 4 enslaved men of [?] Purdie, Gent., who was compensated for a public claim for “hire of 4 Negroes,” VAPC 2:530, Patriots, Isle of Wight Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, 2 enslaved men of William Royall compensated for a public claim for “2 Negroes driving beeves for Cont. 17 miles,” VAPC 1:221, Patriots, Charles City Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, 2 enslaved men of George Thompson compensated for a public claim for “2 Negroes & canoe 28 days,” VAPC 1:362, Patriots, Fluvanna Co.


AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, 9 enslaved men of George Purdie compensated for a public claim for “hire 9 Negroes,” VAPC 2:527, Isle of Wight Co.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN ("5 Negroes"; unnamed) at Fort Hood from Charles City County, CVSP:1:587


AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN ("Negro fellows of Col. Robert Goode"; unnamed), JCV:3:301AF

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN ("Negro fellows, "Public Negroes"; unnamed), Hanover Co., APASR:17

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN ("Negroes at the arsenal at Point of Forks) (Does not give any names or numbers of men.), CVSP:2:347
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (Negroes (2) at the Quartermaster’s Department in Staunton), CVSP:2:600 (Does not give their names.)
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (Negroes (28) at the Public Ropewalk) (inoculation record) (1778), APARW (Does not give their names.)
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (Negroes at the lead mines) (Does not give any names or numbers of men), CVSP:8:173, 193
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (Negroes at the Chickahominy Shipyard, VCNJ:15
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (“100 Negro waggoners” to march with Lafayette’s Army), (Does not give any names.), LOL:5:377 [It is unclear as to whether or not Lafayette’s request was granted, but this document does illustrate the various roles of many African American men during the war.]
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “15 male Negroes and 2 female Negroes”), Chickahominy Shipyard in Richmond, VCNJ:15
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, (unnamed “2 Negroes of Ann Godwin employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight Co., 1778”), APASW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (“5 [unnamed] Negroes on boats in the State fleet on craft belonging to Jno. Cooke of Petersburg), CVSP:1:588
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unspecified number of enslaved people), African Americans, Col. Edward Booker compensated for a public claim “for self & slaves driving public beeves,” VAPC 1:38, Amelia Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (“Negroes hired for Lancaster District Minute Men”) (Does not give any names or number of men.), CVSP:8:111
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (“Negroes hired for the 2nd Regiment”) (Does not give any names or number of men.), CVSP:8:216
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (“Negroes hired to work at the Gun Factory in Fredericksburg”), CVSP:1:542 (Does not give any names or number of men.)
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes of George Harmer”), “Public Negroes,” JCV 2:393
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes of John Chapman”), “Public Negroes employed in the public shop,” APASR:8
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes of Mary Elligood”), “Public Negroes,” JCV 2:47
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (six unnamed “negro men”) WAR2:86 (John Hudson, who was paid for their services in the state navy on 15 June 1784, £55.7.0)
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes of Mary Jones”), lead miners (1777, 1778), APALM
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes of Rich’d Donald”), transporting hemp to Public Ropewalk, Warwick (1776), APARW
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes of Sam: Hyde Saunders”) (no number given) African Americans (“Many of these were waggoners and canoe-men, negro slaves who could not write and of course could not sign receipts [sic].”) CVSP:3:285
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes of Warner Lewis, Esq.”), “Public Negroes,” “employed at the shipyard.” VCNJ:11
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes of William Murray”), lead miner (1780, 1781, 1782, 1783), APALM
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes with the French Troops in Charlotte Co.”) (number not given) CVSP:3:107
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (unnamed “Negroes at the Manufactory of Arms”) (number not stated), Fredericksburg, FRD
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, (unnamed “public Slaves” on the Ship Cormorant), JCV:3:125 (no number given)
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, (unnamed “public Slaves” on the Ship Oliver Cromwell), JCV:3:125 (no number given)
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, “Negro Pioneers” (40 Able Negroes, at Wind Mill Hill to construct a battery near Fort Hood near Richmond), African Americans, CVSP:1:470. (Does not give any names.)
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, Pioneers (150) TO MARCH WITH LAFAYETTE’S ARMY (Does not give any names.), LOL:5:377, LVA36912, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, watermen on the \textit{James} (Does not give any names or numbers of men.)
CVSP:2:362, Buckingham Co.
AILSTOCK, ABSALOM, Mixed descent (“freeborn mulatto”), S6475, VNNS:29, HRVR, HEI-2, Louisa Co. and Rockbridge Co.
AJORING/AGOING, PETER, **, seaman Navy, deserted from the \textit{Dragon}, August 19, 1778, HRVR, VNR, no residence given
ALLEN, STOAKER, **, HRVR, no residence given
ALVIS, EMMANUEL, African American, VNNS:29; YCO4:163, 219; HEI-2, (1810 VA York Co.) – All with this surname are listed as “Other Free,” York Co.
AMBROSE, African American (“Public Negro”), JCV3:131, no residence given
ANDERSON, DEMPSEY, African American (“a free negro”), patriotic service, HEI-2, Princess Anne Co.
ANDERSON, ISAAC, African American, patriotic service, HEI-2, Norfolk Co.
ANDERSON, NATHANIEL, African American (“a free negro”), seaman, VNSS:29, HEI-2, Princess Anne Co.
ANDREW, African American (“a slave”), M881, no residence given
ANGEL/ANGLE, BAKER, **, seaman on the \textit{Tempest}, HRVR, VNR, no residence given
ANGEL/ANGELA/ANGLE, JAMES/ROBERT, **, drummer, HRVR, no residence given
ANGEL, JOSEPH, **, seaman on the \textit{Dragon}, deserted, VNR, no residence given
ANGEL, WILLIAM, **, seaman on the \textit{Dragon}, deserted, VNR, Lancaster Co./Northumberland Co.
ANTHONY, African American, slave in the Virginia Battalion, no residence given
ARBADO, FRANCIS, African American (“a black Frenchman”), seaman, VNSS:29, deserted from the \textit{Manley} galley (\textit{Virginia Gazette}, May 16, 1777), VNR:141, no residence given
ARCHER, EVANS, African American, S41415 [lived with daughter Margaret Archer in Hertford Co., NC in 1823], 1790 NC, enl. Portsmouth
ARMSTRONG, ADAM, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, HEI-2, Henrico Co.
ARTIS/ARTIST, BURWELL/BURREL, African American, CS, VNNS:29, 1787 VA, HEI-2, Southampton Co.
ASH, GEM/JAMES, African American, CS, HEI-2, Isle of Wight Co.
ASHBY, JOHN, Mixed descent (“free mulatto”), YCO4:127, 163, 219, 273; HEI-2, York Co.
ASHER/ACHER, ANTHONY, **, HRVR, no residence given
BACHUS, African American (“a Negro”), Navy, HRVR, VASAR:1:14, RWRV:17, 70, VNOM:10:29, no residence given
BACHUS/BACKUS, CHARLES, **, seaman on the galley \textit{Hero}, Navy, HRVR, VNR, no residence given
BACKUS, JOHN, **, seaman on the galley \textit{Hero}, VNR, no residence given [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name.]
BAILEY/BAYLEY/BAYLY, SACKER, **, HRVR, VASAR, Accomack Co.
BAINE/BINE, HUMPHREY, African American, Soldier, VNNS:29, HRVR, VASAR, HEI-2, Henrico Co.
BAKER, DAVID, African American, VNNS:29, Isle of Wight Co.
BAKER, DAVIS, **, Army, VASAR:1:29, no residence given
BAKER, DAVIS, African American (“a NEGOR”), Navy seaman, HRVR:33, VNR, no residence given
BAKER, THOMAS, Indian, VNNS, HRVR, VASAR, Northampton Co.
BANKS, JACOB, African American (“Free man of color”), waggoner, S8056 [born in Goochland Co. in August 1754; died January 5, 1835; last pension payment to three of four unnamed children], VNNS:29, HEI-2, Goochland Co.
BANKS, JOHN, African American (“Free Negro”), W5763 [wife Sally; he died March 24, 1842], Dragoon, VNNS:29, HEI-2, Goochland Co.
BARBER, WILLIAM, African American, HEI-2, Halifax Co.
BARKING, African American (“Black”), Navy seaman, SRSV8no.2:8, no residence given
BARNETT, DAVID, African American, Soldier, VNNS, HRVR, Albemarle Co. [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name.]
BARNETT/BARNY/BARRETT, CHARLES, African American (“yellow”), S8048, VNNS:30, CS, CWW, FFPV [later resided in Granville Co., NC], HEI-2, Albemarle Co.
BASS, JAMES, African American, Private, S1745, 1820 VA, Norfolk Co., res. in Bedford Co., Tenn. in 1820 HEI-2, [Note: DAR established patriot]
BATTLE/BATTLES, SHADRACK, African American, S37713, VNNS:30, WAL, BHAM, CWW, (1810 VA Albemarle Co.), Amherst Co.
BEASLEY, LARKIN, African American, VABW:1784, VNSS:30, Spotsylvania Co.
BECK, WILLIAM, African American, MAM:338, no residence given
BECKETT, GEORGE, African American ("Other Free"), Navy seaman, ESVA:47, VNSS:30, (1800VA all Becketts listed as "Other free"), Accomack Co.
BERRY, HARRY, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), JCV 1:449, no residence given
BERRY, JAMES, Mixed descent ("mulatto"), M881, deserted from Capt. Joseph Spencer’s 7th Virginia Regt. (Virginia Gazette, August 8, 1777), HEI-2, enlisted in Fredericksburg.
BETSY, African American ("a servant in the American camp during the Revolution"), DEPVA. The 1850 census for Petersburg and vicinity does not reveal an African American woman of this age living in the community unfortunately, but early census takers missed many people.
BEVERLY, SYLVESTER, African American, VNSS:30, WAL, HEI-2, Franklin Co.
BIRD, JOHN, Indian? ("yellow complexion"), MPRWR, Southampton Co.
BISHOP, BILLY, **, CCC4, Charles City Co.
BLACK, CESAR, **, M881, drummer 6th and 10th Virginia Regiments, HRVR, no residence given
BLACK MAN [name blank on original], African American, RAR, b. King George Co., living Essex Co.
BOB, African American, slave of Edmund Pendleton Jr., LPED:402, 406, ran way to join the French army in 1782, no residence given
BONSER, JAMES, ("yellow"), substitute, RAR, Nansemond Co.
BOON, JACOB, ("yellow"), CS, Isle of Wight Co.
BOSTON, African American ("Negro"), HRVR, Navy orderly/seaman on the Hero galley, RWRV:17, 70, 214, VNOM:10, VNSS:30, SRSV8, VNR, WAR2:43 ("pay drawn by Mr. Wilson on 28 Jan. 1786, £7.13.6"), no residence given
BOUSH, JACK, **, seaman State Navy, HRVR, no residence given
BOWLES, STEPHEN, African American ("Other Free"), AJC:54, VNSS:31, CWW, 1810VA Albemarle Co.
BOWLES, ZACHARIAH, African American ("Other Free"), CWW, VNSS:31, 1810 & 1830VA, Albemarle Co., [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name, pensioned under S3920.]
BOWSER, JAMES, African American ("yellow") ("Free Negro"), BLWt 2001-100, CS, VNSS:31, (born Charles City Co.), HEI-2, living Nansemond Co.
BOY/BOYD, GUSTIAN/AUGUSTIN ("Gus"), African American ("yellow"), Navy seaman, drafted, sailor, RAR, deserted, VNSS:31, SUT-1, SUT-2, VNR, HEI-2, Northumberland Co.
BRINSTONE, JOHN, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), CS, Princess Anne Co.
BRISTER, AARON, African American, W17341 VA, Prince William Co.
BRISTOL, African American, Lead miner, former slave of William Montague (1777-1779), JCV:363, 364, 447, APALM, no residence given
BROADY, JOHN, African American ("Colored"), Patriot, body servant to Gen. William Campbell, SCHT:64:261, later lived in Smyth Co.
BROWN, ABRAHAM, African American, Patriot, furnished supplies, VAPC 1:218, Charles City Co., HEI-2, [Note: DAR established patriot]
BROWN, ABRAM, African American, VNSS:31, CCC6 says he deserted after 21 days service, 1810VA, Charles City Co.
BROWN, DIXON, African American ("Other Free"), Charles City Co., Patriot, VAPC:V3:222, 1820VA (Charles City Co. Senr & Jr listed as "Other Free")
BROWN, EDWARD, **, CCC6, HEI-2, Charles City Co.
BROWN, FREEMAN, African American ("Free Negro"), Charles City Co., VNSS:31, CCC6, HEI-2, 1810VA
BROWN, ISAAC, African American ("Free Negro"), S39214, CCC4, CCC6, CS, VNSS:31, 1810VA, JWD, Charles City Co. [Note: DAR established patriot]
BROWN, JAMES, Indian? ("yellow"), substitute, RAR, Dinwiddie Co.
BROWN, SYFAX, African American, ELY, Patriotic Service, servant of St. George Tucker, Prince Edward Co.
BROWN, WILLIAM, Indian? (“yellow complexion”), Southampton Co
BRUMMA, GEORGE [also listed as Brumma Gee], (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, born “Austatia,” [i.e. St. Eustatus], living Fairfax Co.
BUNDY, FRANCIS, Mixed descent (“Free Mulatto”), S37799, VNNS:32, HEI-2, Culpeper Co.
BUNDY, WILLIAM, Mixed descent (“Free Mulatto”), VNNS:32, HEI-2, Caroline and Culpeper Cos.
BUTLER/BUTLERS, JOE, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), Soldier, deserted after being drafted out of Prince George Co., (Virginia Gazette, November 28, 1777), HEI-2.
CABBAGE, COURAL, **, CSP, no residence given
CAESAR, African American (“Public Negro”), Lead miner, JCV:2:42, APALM, no residence given
CAESAR, African American, Navy pilot, Statutes:XIII:102, FNV:62n, no residence given
CAESAR, African American, (enslaved man of Thomas Pemberton), M859:r92:i26677:p285, no residence given
CAINE, ABEDNEGO, **, VNR:160, no residence given
CAINE, JNO., (“yellow”), CS, Fairfax Co.
CAMEL, THOMAS, African American, R1609, Culpeper Co.
CANNADY/KENNEDY, WILLIAM, African American (free negro?), HEI-2, York Co.
CANONBRIG(?), WILLIAM, African American, drafted, RAR, born Fluvanna Co., living Bedford Co.
CARTER, FRANCIS, African American, Seaman, VNNS, HRVR, Northampton Co.
CARTER, JAMES, African American, Soldier, VNNS, HRVR, HEI-2, Northampton Co.
CARTER, WILLIAM, (“yellow”), Sawyer, CS, CCC6, Charles City Co.
CASE, JOHN, African American, HRVR:137, See William Case’s file BLWt 1826-100 for info, Accomack Co.
CASE, WILLIAM, African American, Accomack Co., HRVR:137, BLWt 1826-100, no residence given
CASER, TERRANCE, **, seaman State Navy, HRVR, no residence given
CASEY/KERSEY, WILLIAM, (“Free Colored”), W29906 ½, enl. Southampton Co., also served in NC
CASTLE, SOWEGO GILDING SWAM, Shawnee Indian, “scout, lookout, tracker, made ammunition,” (wife of Jacob Castle), BJ, Augusta/ Rockingham Counties
CAUSEY, JAMES, African American., seaman, VNNS, HRVR, VNR, SUT-1, SUT-2, HEI-2, Northumberland Co.
CHAPIN, PLATO, **, seaman on the Safeguard, HRVR, VNR, no residence given
CHARITY/CHARRETY/CHORRETY, CHARLES, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, CWW, CS, (born Surry Co., living Cumberland Co.), CS, HEI-2, Dinwiddie Co.
CHARLES, African American, Lead miner, JCV:1:295, APALM, no residence given
CHARES, African American (“Negro”), Navy seaman, HRVR, WAR25:841 (“Rec’d £34.19.0 for hire of negro Charles on board the Caswell,” to 12th Jan’y last, [Charles] Citty). [Charles]
CHARES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), Navy seaman, RWRV:19, 32, 70, BLWt, VNOM:15, no residence given
CHAVER/CHAVERS/CHAVIS/CHAVIS/CHAVOS, ANTHONY, African American, R1889-1/2VA, VNNS:32, WAL, Mecklenburg Co.
CHAVER, WILLIAM, African American? HRVR:145
CHAVERS/CHAVANS/CHAVIOUS, JAMES, African American? HRVR:145
CHAVERS, ROBERT W., **, HRVR:145
CHAVERS/CHAVOURS/CHAVES/CHAVIS/CHAVORS, SAMUEL, **, HRVR:145
CHAVIS, ALLEN, **, HRVR:145
CHAVIS, ANTHONY, **, HRVR:145, Chesterfield Co.
CHAVIS, JOHN, **, HRVR:145, Chesterfield Co.
CHAVIS, JOHN, African American, M881, 1810VA (Charlotte Co)
CHAVIS/SHIVERS, JOHN, African American (“Other Free”), HEI-2, 1810VA Southampton Co.
CHAVIS/CHAVOS, SHADRACH, **, HRVR:145
CHAVOS, JOSHUA, **, HRVR:145
CHAUVOUR, GEORGE, **, HRVR:145
CHICKEN, PETER, **, HRVR, VASAR, no residence given
CHRIS, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), seaman, VNR:169, VN55:33, no residence given
CHRISTIAN, ROBERT, African American ("free person of color"), SUT-2, Lancaster Co.
CHUBB, JOHN, African American, RAR, born and residing in Montgomery Co., Md., enlisted in Loudoun Co.
CLARK/CLARKE, WILLIAM, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), W6687, GRAY1, ASCC:27, TURP, HEI-2, Culpeper Co.
COFF, WILLIAM, **, Army, S39347 VA, no residence given
COLLINS, CUMBO/CUMBER, African American, waiter of Lt. Col. William Washington, BGMMS:62, HERO:49, (COLLINS is the name authors have referred to him as, but his real name is unknown.)
COLLINS, MASON, African American ("yellow"), sailor, S39355 (born and living in King William Co.), CS, VN55:33, HEI-2, King and Queen Co.
COOPER, JAMES, African American, S39362, VN55:33, FPPV [died December 25, 1828 in Augusta Co.,] HEI-2, Goochland Co.
COOPER, JOHN, African American, Waggoner, substitute, RAR, Albemarle Co.
CORNELIUS, SAMUEL, African American ("free person of color"), substitute, SUT-2, Lancaster Co.
CORNELIUS, WILLIAM, African American ("free person of color"), substitute, SUT-2, Lancaster Co.
COTMAN, JAMES, **, CCC6, Charles City Co.
COTTILLER/CUTTILLO, ABRAHAM, **, VLC:58, HEI-2, York Co.
Cousins, Francis, African American, Soldier, VN55, HRVR, VASAR, HEI-2, Goochland Co.
Cousins, MOROCO, **, M881, no residence given
COUZINS, JAMES, African American, substitute, RAR, Goochland Co.
COWIGG, JOHN, African American, VN55:33, 1793GC, HEI-2, Goochland Co.
CREDIT/CREDIK, MOSES, African American, Soldier, VN55, HRVR, VASAR, SUT-1, SUT-2, HEI-2, Northumberland Co.
CREW, THOMAS, African American, born Hispaniola, enlisted, RAR, living Northampton Co.
CUFF, JOHN, **, M881, no residence given
CUFFEY, CHARLES, African American, W9402, VN55:33, HEI-2, Princess Anne Co.
CUFFY, WILLIAM, African American, CS, HEI-2, Norfolk
CUMBO, **, HRVR:198, Halifax Co.
CUMBO, DANIEL, African American, HRVR:198, VN55:34, WAL, MPRWR, HEI-2, Charles City Co.
CUMBO, MICHAEL, African American, HRVR:198, CCC6, VN55:34, HEI-2, Charles City Co.
CUMBO, RICHARD, **, HRVR:198, Charles City Co.
CUMBO/CUMBER, STEPHEN, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), HRVR:198, VN55:34, 1785JC, HEI-2, James City Co.
CUMBO/CUMBOE, JOHN, African American ("Other Free"), VN55:34, CCC6, 1810VA (listed as "Other Free"), Charles City Co.
CUMBO/CUMBOE/CUMBER, PETER, **, HRVR:198, HEI-2, Charles City Co.
CUMBO/GIMBO, THOMAS, African American, HEI-2, Halifax Co.
CUPID, African American [enslaved man of Mr. William Ballard: "stood forth on all occasions as the champion of liberty, and discharged all his duties with a fidelity that made him a favority of all the officers." ] VHRLC:180, no residence given
CUSTER, WILLIAM, ("yellow"), Soldier, CS, Charles City Co.
DAILEY, WILLIAM, African American, GRAY2, ASCC:41, no residence given
DANIEL, African American ("Public Negro") at Public Ropewalk, former slave of Alexander Banks (1777), APARW, Warwick
DANIEL, African American, Navy seaman, RWRV:215, HRVR:206, VN55:34, VNR, WAR:262 ("pay drawn by Willis Wilson" on 21 January 1786, 26.0.0), no residence given
DAVENPORT, STEVEN, African American, Soldier, VNR, HRVR, VASAR, HEI-2, York Co. [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot of the same name from Berkeley Co.]
DAVID, African American, Lead miner, APALM, no residence given
DAVID, African American ("Negro"), enslaved man of Henry Brown, naval service, NDAR:11:136
DAVIS, DANIEL, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), deserted from the ship Gloucester (Virginia Gazette, July 19, 1780), b. Lancaster Co., HEI-2
DAVIS, JOHN, Mixed Descent (“Part Indian”), Seaman, VNR:179, RWRV:8, no residence given
DAY, GEORGE, African American (“Other Free”), Seaman, VNNS:34, SUT-1, SUT-2, 1810VA (listed as “Other Free”), HEI-2, Northumberland
DE BAPTIST, JOHN, African American, Navy seaman, VNNS:34, Spotsylvania Co.
DEAMWOD/DUMWOD/DAMEWOOD, BOSTON, **, Clark’s Illinois Regiment, HRVR, M881, no residence
DEBRIX/DEWBREE, JOHN, African American (“a Negro man”), VNNS:35, 1786JC, HEI-2, James City Co.
DENDY, LEWIS, Indian, servant to Lafayette in Revolution, KWPT, born Canada, lived Hanover Co.
DICK, African American (“Public Negro”), JCV:1:429, no residence given
DICK, African American (“Public Negro”) at Public Ropewalk, Warwick, former slave of T. Thornton (1777), APARW, no residence given
DICK, African American, Navy seaman, VCNJ:4, no residence given
DICKS, HENRY, **, seaman State Navy, HRVR, no residence given
DOBINS, CHARLES, (“yellow”), born Prince Edward Co., substitute, RAR, living Dinwiddie Co., HEI-2
DOGGED, CLEM, **, Navy, VASAR, HRVR, no residence given
DORTON, HENRY, African American, Private, S5362, [also served in Md.] resided in Md. during war, EMS:333-334, VASAR, HRVR, 1820VA, 1830VA, FFPV, [wife Eleanor Dorton; he died June 11, 1838 in Monongalia], living Monongalia Co. [Note: DAR established patriot]
DRIVER, EMANUEL, **, Soldier, VNNS, HRVR, HEI-2, Gloucester Co.
DRIVER, JOHN, **, seaman, VNNS, HRVR, Gloucester Co.
DROW, GAN, **, HRVR, VASAR, no residence given
DUNCAN, LUKER, African American, RAR, HEI-2, Norfolk
DUNCAN, SOLOMON, (“yellow”), blacksmith, CS, born Pasquotank Co., North Carolina, living Princess Anne Co., HEI-2
DUNSTAN, WALLACE, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), deserted from Capt. Shem Cook’s company of the 2nd Georgia State Battalion (Virginia Gazette, Nov 28, 1777), HEI-2, Halifax County
DUNSTON, JOSEPH, (“yellow”), CS, James City Co.
EEL/EAL, GASOER/GASPER, **, HRVR, VASAR, no residence given
EMANUEL, African American, Navy seaman on the Tempest, RWRV:32, 70, BLWt, VNR, no residence given
EVANS, CHARLES, (“yellow”), RAR, born Petersburg, living Mecklenburg Co., HEI-2
EVANS, PHIL., Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), Soldier, deserted after being drafted out of Prince George Co. (Virginia Gazette, November 28, 1777).
EVANS, THOMAS, African American (“a free Negro”), Navy, VASAR, HRVR, no residence given
FARGUS, DAVID, (“yellow”), RAR, born Amelia Co., living Chesterfield Co.
FARRAR/FARROW, JOHN, (“yellow”), RAR, Goochland Co., HEI-2
FERGUSON, ANDREW, African American, S32243, LVA31540 [b. 1765, Dinwiddie Co., d. 1855, Monroe Co., Indiana], 1850IN Monroe Co., Dinwiddie Co. [Note: Grave marked by DAR; not known to have descendants]
FERGUSON, WILLIAM, see TOBY
FIELDING, African American, Lead miner, APALM, no residence given
FIELDS, JOHN, African American, substitute (enlisted at Amherst), RAR, Charles City Co., HEI-2
FIGGIN, JAMES, (“yellow”), RAR, James Figgins listed in VASAR, Prince William Co. [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot from Westmoreland Co.]
FLOOD, MICHAEL, (“yellow”), RAR, Sussex Co.
FLORA, WILLIAM/BILLY, African American, VABW:1806, BHAM, VNNS:16, 18, 19; 1810VA (listed as “Other Free”), VHRLC:6:1-6, Norfolk Co., HEI-2
FORTUNE, GABRIEL, **, able seaman on the Tempest, VNR, no residence given
FORTUNE, GORDONER, **, able seaman State Navy, HRVR, no residence given
FORTUNE, JAMES, **, seaman State Navy, HRVR, VNR, no residence given
FORTUNE, JOHN, African American, substitute, RAR, Amherst Co., HEI-2
FORTUNE, LEWIS, African American, CS, born Caroline Co., living Essex Co., HEI-2
FORTUNE, SAMUEL, African American, enlisted, RAR, born Caroline Co., living Powhatan Co., HEI-2
FORTUNE, SHADRACK, African American, substitute, RAR, Accomack Co.
FRANCIS, CHRISTOPHER, African American, Soldier, VNNS, HRVR, York Co., HEI-2
FRANCIS, GEORGE, African American, enlisted, RAR, born South Carolina and living there
FRANK, African American, Lead miner, slave of John Henley (1781), JCV:3:191, APALM, no residence given
FRANK, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), Navy seaman, RWRV:19, VNNS:35, VNR, no residence given
FRANK, African American (“Negro”), Seaman on the Liberty, HRVR, no residence given
FREEMAN/FREEMAN/FREEMON, COLSUP/COLDRUP, **, HRVR, no residence given
FREEMAN, CHARLES, African American, CS, Amelia Co., HEI-2
FREEMAN, EDWARD, **, Seaman, Navy, HRVR, no residence given
FREEMAN, ISAAC, **, Drummer and matross, HRVR, no residence given
FREEMAN, JOHN, **, Seaman, Navy, HRVR, no residence given
FREEMAN, JOHN, “free man of colour,” Army, SA:189, no residence given
FRY, NATHAN, African American (“man of color”), S39545, Henrico Co. [also served in Georgia]
GARNER, DENNIS, (“yellow”), CS, Isle of Wight Co., HEI-2
GEORGE, African American, Lead miner, APALM, no residence given
GEORGE, African American, Lead miner, APALM (two men with this name listed)
GEORGE, African American (“Negro”), Navy seaman on the Hero galley, RWRV:17, 32, 70, BLWt, VNOM:10, 15, VNNS:35, SR5V8, HRVR, VNR, no residence given
GEORGE, African American (“Negro”), MAM:417, Brunswick Co.
GEORGE, BENJAMIN, **, Seaman State Navy, HRVR, no residence given
GEORGE, BRISTER, **, Seaman State Navy, HRVR, VNR, no residence given
GEORGE, DANIEL, **, Seaman State Navy, HRVR, no residence given
GEORGE, DUKE, **, Navy, HRVR, VASAR, VNR, no residence given
GEORGE, RICHARD, **, Seaman Navy, HRVR, no residence given
GEORGE, SAMUEL, African American, Seaman, VNNS, HRVR, James City Co., HEI-2
GEORGE, WILLIAM, **, Seaman State Navy, HRVR, no residence given
GLASGOW, African American, Lead miner, APALM, no residence given
GODFREY, African American (“Negro Peter”), arsenal worker, APAPF, no residence given
GOENS/GOWEN, FREDERICK, African American (“free man of color”), R4167, HEI-2, Brunswick Co.
GOFF, ABRAHAM, African American, S39596, VNNS:35, HEI-2, Cumberland Co.
GOFF, DANIEL, African American, S15586, Chesterfield Co., moved to Kentucky, HEI-2
GOFF, MOSES, African American, VNNS, HRVR, CWW, Cumberland Co.
GOFF, SAMUEL, African American (brother of Abraham Goff), HEI-2, Cumberland Co.
GOIN/GOWIN, JOHN, **, HRVR, no residence given
GOING, DRURY, **, HEI-2, Greensville Co.
GOING/GOWIN, JOSUA, (“yellow”), drafted, RAR, HRVR, VASAR, HEI-2, Louisa Co.
GOING/GOWING, RAYERLY, African American, CCC6, VNNS:35, Charles City Co.
GOING, ROB, **, HRVR, no residence given
GOING/GOWIN/GOWING, WILLIAM, African American, Soldier, VNNS, HRVR, VASAR, Halifax
GOOCH, PRIMY, **, HRVR, VASAR, no residence given
GOWEN, JACOB, African American, S32273, HEI-2, enl. Lunenburg Co., res. Shelby Co., Indiana in 1834
GOWENS, CHARLES, African American, S31072, BLWt 26106-160-55, HEI-2, Henry Co.
GOWENS, ZEPHANIAH, African American, R4165, HEI-2, Henry Co.
GRIFFIN, OLIVER, Indian (“yellow – Indian”), Sailor, substitute, RAR, Northampton Co.
GUANA/GUANCE, ABRAHAM, **, HRVR, no residence given
GUINEA/GUNNIA, ABRAHAM, **, HRVR, VNSS, VAR, no residence given
GUMBO, WILLIAM, **, HRVR, no residence given
GUY, WILLIAM, **, W17969, HEI-2, Mecklenburg Co.
HACKETT, PETER, African American, Soldier, VNSS, VAR, Campbell Co., HEI-2. [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot who died in Madison Co., Ky.]
HALEY, PETER, York Co., African American, Seaman, VNSS, VAR, HEI-2, York Co.
HARMAN, GEORGE, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), Private, BLWt 1361-100, Bedford Co.
HARMON, CHARLES, aka GREYHORSE, Cherokee Indian, W7645, Bedford Co. [Note: DAR established patriot]
HARRIS, EDWARD, African American, Soldier, drum major, S37992, VNSS, HRVR, HEI-2, Chesterfield Co.
HARRIS, JAMES, African American, S38006, CCC4, CCC6, VNSS:36, 1810VA (listed as “Other Free”), Charles City Co., HEI-2
HARRIS, JAS. (?), African American, substitute, RAR, born Amelia Co., living Chesterfield
HARRIS, JOHN, African American ("yellow"), substitute, S37997, VNSS:36, RAR, WAL, JVB, HEI-2, born Prince George Co., living Dinwiddie Co.
HARRIS, JOHN, African American, drummer, HEI-2, enl. Petersburg, died Rowan Co., N.C.
HARRIS, WILLIAM, Mixed descent ("mulatto"), M881, deserted from Capt. Thomas Massie’s new recruits for the 6th Virginia Regt. (Virginia Gazette, November 21, 1777), enlisted in New Kent, HEI-2.
HARRY, African American (enslaved man of Captain John Cooper, Bennet’s Creek, Nansemond Co), VHRLC:1:80, Nansemond Co.
HARRY, African American ("negro man"), deserted from the Norfolk Revenge galley (Virginia Gazette, November 21, 1777, p. 3, col. 3).
HARTLESS, HENRY, **, patriotic service, HEI-2, Amherst Co.
HARTLESS, PETER, ("Other Free"), S5470, 1810VA Amherst Co., enl. Louisa Co., HEI-2
HARTLETT, WILLIAM, **, S55498, Amherst Co.
HATHCOCK, JAMES, African American, Soldier, VNSS:37, Southampton
HATHCOCK, JOHN, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, HEI-2, Southampton Co.
HAWKINS/HAWKS, JAMES, African American, S37991, CWW, FPPV [d. January 21, 1824], Fluvanna Co., HEI-2
HAWKINS, JOHN (?), ("yellow"), enlisted, RAR, Frederick Co.
HAWKS, PETER, African American, seaman, VNSS:37, 1790VA (listed as black), SUT-2, Lancaster Co., HEI-2
HAWKS, WILLIAM, African American ("free black"), seaman on the Dragon, VNSS:37, SUT-2, Lancaster, HEI-2
HEARN, EPHRAIM, ("Other Free"), S38020, VNSS:37, 1810VA Gloucester Co., HEI-2
HEMINGS, MARY, African American (enslaved woman of Thomas Jefferson), Prisoner of War, Patriotic service, MMS, Albemarle Co. [Note: DAR established patriot.]
HETCHCOCK, HOLIDAY, **, R4812, Northampton Co.
HEWARD/HOWARD (name unclear in original), MATHEW, African American, enlisted, RAR, born Jamaica, living Caroline Co.
HILL, CALEB, ("yellow"), CS, born King & Queen Co., living King William Co., HEI-2
HILL, HENRY, African American, S41639, ASCC:79, (died November 12, 1833 in Chillicothe, OH), Orange Co.
HINTON, WILLIAM, African American, Navy seaman, VNSS:254-255, no residence given
HOLMES, African American ("yellow") ("Negro"), substitute, RAR, CS, perhaps the “William Holmes listed in VNSS” from King William Co.
HOLMES, WILLIAM, African American, Soldier, VNSS:38, King William Co., HEI-2
HOMES, BARTHOLOMEW, ("yellow"), enlisted, RAR, born James City Co., living King William Co., HEI-2
HOPSON/HOBSON, JOHN, African American, VNSS, HEI-2, York Co.
HOWELL, DAVID, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, Powhatan Co., HEI-2
HUGHES, LUKE, African American ("free black"), seaman, VNSS:38, 1810VA (Culpeper Co., listed as “Other Free”), King George Co.
HUGHES, WILLIAM, ("yellow"), enlisted, RAR, Caroline Co., HEI-2
HUGHS, JOSEPH, African American, enlisted, RAR, MAM:417, born Newcastle, Pa. [probably Delaware Co], living Culpeper Co.
HUNT, GOODWYN, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, Greensville Co.
HUNT, HARDY, African American ("Negro"), CS, Southampton Co., HEI:2
HUNT, MEMUCAN/MERNEECAN/MEMEECAN/MUKE, Indian? Drummer, HRVR, VASAR
INDIAN ROBIN, see LOYD, ROBIN
JACK, African American ("Public Negro"), JCV:3:302, no residence given
JACK, African American, Navy seaman, RWRV:16, 70, VNOM:10, HRVR:411 579, SRSV8, VNR, no residence given
JACK, **, slave of Wm Gray, employed at the public salt works (1778, 1779), APASW, Isle of Wight Co.
JACKSON, WILLIAM, African American, VNSS:253-254 and note 11, Goochland Co.
JACKSON, WILLIAM, African American ("free man of colour"), W7877 [married Niecy Hill 1783/4; he died April 10, 1830], VNSS:38, Amherst Co. and Bedford Co., HEI:2
JACKSON, WILLIAM, African American, enlisted, RAR, Albemarle Co.
JACOB, **, Slave, Leadminer, JCV:3:401, no residence given
JACOB, African American, Lead miner, JCV:3:401 (former slave of Robert Clark), no residence given
JACOB, African American, Lead miner, JCV:3:449-450, 493, 554 (former slave of Hancock Jacobs), no residence given
JACOB, African American, Waggoner, VAPC:3:890, Surry Co.
JACOBS, Indian, HRVR, Pittsburgh
JAMES, aka JENKIN’S JEMMY, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), JCV:2:28, no residence given
JAMES, African American, Seaman, VNR:230, HRVR, no residence given
JAMES, African American, Lead miner, APALM (two men listed with this name), no residence given
JAMES, African American, Lead miner, JCV:1:442-443, 468, former slave of Raleigh Downman, APALM Lancaster Co.
JAMES, African American ("Negro"), Navy seaman, RWRV:33, 70, HRVR, VNR, no residence given
JAMES, African American ("Negro"), enslaved man of Henry Brown, naval service, NDAR:11:136
JAMES, THOMAS, ("yellow"), deserted, CS, Albemarle Co.
JEFFERSON, GEORGE, African American (enslaved man of Thomas Jefferson), patriotic service, MMS, Albemarle Co.
JEFFERSON, JUPITER, African American (enslaved man of Thomas Jefferson), patriotic service, MMS, Albemarle Co.
JEFFERSON, SUKEY, African American (enslaved woman of Thomas Jefferson), patriotic service, MMS, Albemarle Co.
JEFFERSON, URSULA/USLEY, African American (enslaved woman of Thomas Jefferson), patriotic service, MMS, Albemarle Co.
JEFFREYS/JEFFRIES, JOHN, African American ("free colored"), S8754, HEI:2, Brunswick Co.
JEFFRIES, GOWING/GOING/GOWIN, **, HRVR, no residence given
JOHN, African descent ("a French negro man"), seaman on the brig Northampton, VG (Purdie; July 25, 2777, p. 4, col. 2), deserted
JOHNS, JAMES, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, HEI:2, Goochland Co., HEI:2
JOHSTON, CHARLES, ("yellow"), substitute, RAR, Essex Co.
JONES, BRITON/BRITTON, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, VASAR:1:245, Greensville Co.
[JNote: DAR established patriot], HEI:2
JONES, BURWELL, **, R6750, Lunenburg Co., HEI:2
JONES, TIM, African American, S18063, FFPV [died intestate in Williamsburg "without wife or child" on February 4, 1833], Fluvanna Co.
JOYNER/JOINER, BRITTON, **, HRVR, no residence given
JUBA, African American, Lead miner, APALM, no residence given
JULIUS, African American ("Negro"), enslaved man of Henry Brown, naval service, NDAR:11:136
JUPITER, African American, (saved guns from the British in Richmond, 1781), CVSP:1:604, no residence given
KELLY, JESSE, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), Private, SVRFN:6, Surry Co., HEI-2
KINGSTON, African American (“a Negro”), Navy seaman, RWRV:70, VNM:6, HRVR, VNR:230, no residence
KITT, African American, Statutes:XIII:115, Brunswick Co.
KITT, African American, Lead miner, JCV:1:295, APALM, no residence given
KUFFIE, African American, M853, Book 102:65, no residence given
LANGSTON, [first name not given, wife received payment in King William County as a Soldier’s wife] Pamunkey Indian, ROU, King William Co.
LATCHOM, GEORGE, African American (“a Negro”), MGJC:296-297, no residence given
LATTAMORE, HENRY, (“yellow”), enlisted, RAR, Maryland, born Fairfax Co., lived “Charles City”
LATTIMORE, SEMMICO/SENLIA/SENICA, **, seaman on galley Tempest, VNR, no residence given
LAWRENCE, DRURY, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, born Prince George Co., living Dinwiddie Co.
LAWS, JOHN, African American, seaman, SUT-1, SUT-2, VNR, Northumberland Co.
LAWS, TIMOTHY, African American, seaman on the Mosquito and on the Tempest, SUT-1, SUT-2, VNR, Northumberland Co.
LAWS, WILLIAM, African American, seaman on the Defiance, VNR, Northumberland Co.
LEE, SIMON, African American, CPAR, no residence given
LEE, WILLIAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), slave of George Washington who accompanied the General during the Revolution, GWP:1, WAL, CPAR, Fairfax Co.
LEY, MORGECAL, African American (“free person of color”), SUT-2, Lancaster Co.
LEWIS, African American, Lead miner, former slave of Robert Langley (1779, 1783), JCV:1:191, APALM, JCV:3:191, no residence given
LEWIS, African American, M853:102:2, 9, 35, 53, 54, 61, 64-67, 74, 86, no residence given
LEWIS, CHARLES, African American, S36041 [See pension of brother Ambrose Lewis], RWRV, RWBL, Fredericksburg [Note: DAR established patriot.]
LIVELY, THOMAS, African American, S38114, HEI-2, Chesterfield Co.
LOCKETT/LOCKHART, THOMAS, African American, VNSS, CWW [Amherst Co. during the Revolution], Nelson Co.
LOMAINTRON, CLAUDE, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, no residence given
LONEY, DANIEL, African American, VNSS, 1810VA (listed as “Other Free”), Hanover Co.
LONGDON, JOSEPH, African American, blacksmith, CS, born Fairfax Co., living Alexandria
LOYD, ROBIN, Indian, R6501, Dinwiddie Co. also listed as INDIAN ROBIN
LUCAS, JAMES, African American (“free black”), seaman, VNNS, HRVR, SUT-2, King George Co., HEI-2
LUCAS, JOHN, African American, seaman on the Dragon, VNSS, King George Co.
LUCAS, JOHN, **, drummer, HRVR, no residence given
LUCUS, JOHN, African American (“free black”), VNNS, SUT-2, 1810VA [Most listings for “Lucus” are in Westmoreland and Stafford Counties, and most are listed as “Other Free.”], Stafford Co./King George Co.
LUCUS, JOSEPH, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, Powhatan Co., HEI-2
LUCY, African American, at the lead mines, APALM, no residence given
LUKE, African American, Lead miner, JCV:1:495, former slave of William Keeling of Princess Anne Co., APALM
MACLIN, THOMAS, Mixed descent (“free mulatto”), HEI-2, Mecklenburg Co.
MAHORNEY, THOMAS, **, S38166, Westmoreland Co., HEI-2
MAN OF MIXED DESCENT (“Mulatto”) enslaved man of Mr. Woodson of Cumberland Co. [no name given], CVSP:3:154
MAN OF MIXED DESCENT (“Mulatto”) enslaved man of Mr. Woodson of Cumberland Co. [no name given], CVSP:3:154
MAN, Mulatto, Mixed Descent, enslaved man of Mrs. Hughes of Cumberland Co. [no name given], CVSP:3:154

Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D. C.

William “Billy” Lee appears holding the reigns of George Washington’s horse. Lee, one of Washington’s enslaved men, accompanied the general throughout the Revolution.
MARK/MARKS, ANTHONY, **, Navy seaman, HRVR, VASAR, no residence given
MARQUART, BOSTON, **, drummer, HRVR, no residence given
MARRINER, JOEFFREY, **, seaman in State Navy, HRVR, no residence given
MARRINER, LABAN/LEVIN, **, seaman on the Acomack galley, State Navy, HRVR, VNR, no residence given
MARTIN, ROBERT, ("Indian"), Private, W8416, Virginia Continental Line, living York Co., SC
MARTIN, THOMAS, Mixed descent ("mulatto"), HEI-2
MASON, HENRY, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, no residence given
MCPEXON, CHRISTOPHER, American, "man of color," PWH, RL:2:1132-1134, David Ross' principal clerk, AJL:298-299
MEALY/MEALEY, JAMES, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, HEI-2, Goochland Co.
MELTON, JAMES, "free man of colour," SA:139, HRVR, HEI-2, Southampton Co.
MIMUCAN, HUNT, **, Navy pilot, HRVR, no residence given
MINGO, African American (enslaved man of Richard Booker), M859:r92:i26677:p285, no residence given
MINN, African American ("Negro"), Navy pilot, HRVR:553, VNR, no residence given
MUNROE, JAMES, African American, "yellow"), enlisted, RAR, Louisa Co.
MONOGGON/MONGHON, GEORGE, African American, seaman, VNSS,VASAR, HEI-2, Gloucester Co.
MONTH, AMBROSE, Mixed descent ("part Negro and part Shawnee Indian"), Spotsylvania Co., W7477, HRVR, HEI-2, living in Tennessee when pensioned
MOORE, ADDERSON, Mixed descent ("Mulatto," "yellow complexion"), CS, Chesterfield Co.
MOORE, LIMEFORD, **, seaman on the Dragon, HRVR, no residence given
MORRIS, BENJAMIN, African American, teamster (slave of Robert Scofield), CPAR, no town given
MORRIS, CHARLES, African American, enlisted, CCC6, RAR, CS, HEI-2, Charles City Co.
MORRIS, FRANCIS, ("yellow"), CS, born Henrico Co., HEI-2, living Petersburg
MORRISON, ANTHONY, African American ("free black"), seaman on the Gloucester, VNSS, HRVR, VASAR, SUT-2, HEI-2, Lancaster Co.
MORTON, JAMES, Indian ("yellow – Indian"), sailor, enlisted, RAR, born Boston, Massachusetts, living Loudoun Co.
MOSES, EZEKIEL, African American ("yellow"), substitute, later listed as a silver smith, enlisted, RAR, VNSS, Northampton Co., HEI-2
MOSS, HENRY, Mixed descent ("mulatto"), HEI-2, Powhatan Co.
MURRAY, MARK, "Other Free," R7523, HEI-2, Caroline Co.
MUSTEE, WILLIAM, **, M881, no residence given
MURISH/MUSH, ROBERT, Pamunkey Indian, W8416, MPRWR, ROU, SA:189, King William Co.
NED, African American ("Negro"), Lead miner, APALM, no residence given
NEGOR, BACHUS, African American, seaman Navy, HRVR, no residence given
NIELS, BENJAMIN, ("yellow"), substitute, RAR, born Gloucester Co., living Culpeper Co.
NICKEN/NICKENS, AMOS, African American ("free black"), seaman, SA:163, SUT-1, SUT-2, VNR, 1810VA (listed as "Other Free."). Northumberland Co. [Note: DAR established patriot]
NICHENS/NICKENS, JAMES, African American, seaman on the Caswell, VLC, HEI-2, res. Lancaster Co. (brother of Nathaniel Nicken/Nickens/Nickins.)

NICKEN/NICKENS/NICKING, JAMES, African American, seaman on the Gloucester and Dragon, VNR, RWRV, res. Stafford Co. (brother of Hezekiah Nicken/Nickens.)

NICKENS, JAMES, African American, seaman in the Virginia State Navy, HEI-2, (father of James Nicken/Nockens/Nicking and Hezekiah Nicken/Nickens.)

NICKENS/NICKINS, JAMES, African American, seaman on the Tempest, Revenge, and Hero, also a private in Col. Harrison’s Regiment of Artillery, 538262, HEI-2, enlisted in Lancaster Co., res. Stafford Co.

NICKENS/NICKINS, JOHN, African American (“free black”), seaman, VNSS:24-28, 41, SUT-2, VNR, 1810VA (Listed as “Other Free.”), Lancaster Co.


NICKENS/NICKINS/NICKINS, RICHARD, African American (“free Negro of Lancaster”), HRVR:585, seaman, 55830, HRVR, SA60, SUT-2, VASAR, VNR, VG23, 1810VA (Listed as “Other Free.”) FFPV [died February 21, 1835 “leaving neither widow nor child”], HEI-2, Lancaster


NORMAN, WILLIAM, African American (“free person of color – substitute”), SUT-2, Lancaster Co.

OATS, WILLIAM, African American (“free black”), seaman, drummer, VNSS, HRVR, 1810VA, SUT-1, SUT-2, VNR, HEI-2, Northumberland Co.

PARKER, ELISHA, **, S11211, Nansemond Co.

PAYNE, BENJAMIN, (“yellow”), substitute, VASAR:2:235, RAR, Buckingham Co., HEI-2

PAYNE, EVAN, Mixed descent (“mulatto”), deserted, HEI-2

PAYNE, JOSHUA, African American, substitute, RAR, born Westmoreland Co., living King George Co., HEI-2

PAYNE, WILLIAM, see NEGRO WATERMAN

PEARMAN/PEAUMAN/PIERMAN, GRIEF, **, musician, HRVR, VASAR, Charles City Co.

PEARPONT, CHARLES, Indian, VASAR:2:236, Loudoun Co.

PEBBLES, ANDREW, **, S38297, Westmoreland Co.

PENN/PINN, RALEIGH/ROLLY/RAWLEY, African American, ACML, Amherst Co. [Note: DAR established patriot.]

PERKINS/PURKINS, JOSHUA, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), VNVA, ESSA:42, 52, 61, HEI, Acomack Co., HEI-2


PETER, African American, arsenal worker, APAPF, no residence given

PETER, African American, Lead miner, former slave of Elizabeth Read, JCV:2:214, APALM, no residence given

PETER, African American, Lead miner, former slave of Robert Keeling (1775-1783), JCV:3:191, APALM, no residence given

PETER, African American (“Negro”), Navy “able” seaman State Navy, RWRV:217, HRVR:619, VNR, no residence given

PETERS, JAMES, African American, seaman, BGMM:196, VNSS, HRVR, RWBL, Culpeper Co., [Note: Not to be confused with DAR established patriot from Fauquier Co. who served aboard the Galley Henry.]

PETERS, JESSE, **, R8146, HEI-2, Surry Co.

PETTIFORD, DRURY, African American (“free person of colour”), S41854 [wife Dicey, sons Jesse and Nicholas], FFPV [died September 1838], Mecklenburg Co., res. Wake Co., NC

PHARAUGH/PHAROAH/PHAROW/PHAROH, MANUEL, **, HRVR, VASAR, M881, no residence given

PHEBE, African American, at the lead mines, APALM, no residence given

PHILLIPS, PHILIP, African American, substitute, MAM:417, Culpeper Co.

PHILLIS, African American, at the lead mines, APALM, no residence given

PIERCE, FRANCIS, African American, enlisted, R3285, HRVR (says Ky. pension), RAR, born Caroline Co., Caroline Co.

PIERPONT, CHARLES, Indian (“yellow Indian”), substitute, RAR, born in Frederick Co., Maryland, living Loudoun Co.

PINGO, CALBE/KILLING, **, drummer, HRVR, no residence given

PINN, BILLY, Indian, (“R8264, see John Pinn’s Pension”), (All people with the surname “Pin” or “Pinn” the 1810 census for Lancaster and Fauquier Counties are listed as “Other Free.”), SUT-2, Lancaster Co.

PINN, JAMES, Indian, (“R8264, see John Pinn’s Pension”), SUT-2, Lancaster Co.

PINN, JOHN, Indian, Navy, R8264, SUT-2, Lancaster Co., HEI-2

PINN, RAWLEY, Mixed descent (“mulatto”), HEI-2, Buckingham Co./Amherst Co.

PINN, ROBERT, Indian, (“R8264, see John Pinn’s Pension”), SUT-2, Lancaster Co.

PINN, THOMAS, **, HRVR, no residence given


PLUMLEY, OBADIAH, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, New Kent Co., HEI-2

PLUTO, African American, Navy seaman, VNSS:42, RRRW:16, 70, 217, VNOOM:10, HRVR:579, 629, SRSV8, VNR

WAR2:152 (“pay drawn by Major Ray on 4 June 1783,” £7.13.2), Norfolk Co.

POCENCUM, NIMROD, **, HRVR, no residence given

POINTER, RICHARD, African American (“a Negro”), HRVR:630, VNSS:42, VASAR, Greenbriar Co.

PURKINS, NIMROD, African American, VNSS, 1800VA (All “Purkins” in Accomack County in the 1800 Census are listed as “Other Free.”), Accomack Co.

QUAKER, ALEXANDER, Nottoway Indian, HRVR:644, VASAR:2:249, NIA, Southampton Co.

QUIBO, PAUL, **, M881 Clarke’s Illinois Regiment, no residence given

RALLS/ROLLS, JOHN, African American (“free man of color”), HEI-2, Culpeper Co.

RALLS, KENAZ, **, S18561, Private, Stafford Co.

RANDALL, ROBERT, **, S45165, Private, Fairfax Co.

RANGER/RANTGER, JOSEPH, African American, Sea Service & Private, S7352, VNSS:13-15, 42, RRRW, RWBL, BHAM, 1810VA Elizabeth City Co. (Listed as “Other Free.”), HEI-2, Northumberland Co.

READ, ABRAM, African American (“free man of colour”), S1364, Nansemond Co.

READ, AMARIAH, **, R8627, Private, Nansemond Co.

READ, AMOS, **, R8628, substitute for “his old master Riddick,” Nansemond Co.

REDCROSS, DANIEL, **, HRVR, no residence given

REDCROSS, JOHN, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, HEI-2, York Co.

REDCROSS, JOHN, African American, Soldier, VNSS, (“Other Free” in 1810 York Co.), York Co.

REDMAN, JOHN, African American, W5691 [wife Sarah; he died October 8, 1836], FPPV [Nimrod Redman “only surviving child of Sarah Redman;” she died November 4, 1848], 1830VA, HEI-2, Hardy County

REDMAN, JOHN, **, gunner on the Tartar, HRVR, no residence given

REDMAN/REDMOND, JOHN, **, Fifer, HRVR, no residence given

REDMAN, RICHARD, (“yellow”), CS, private, S38327, FPPV [died intestate on May 23, 1841; resided Hardy Co. 30 years before death, previously resided in Culpeper Co.; wife Rachel], 1830VA Hardy County (Listed as “Other Free”), enr. Fauquier Co., HEI-2

RICH, WILLIAM, African American (“free black”), VNSS:42, 1810VA Richmond Co. (A Wilmouth and a Winney Rich are listed as “Other Free” for Richmond County.), SUT-2, HEI-2, Lancaster Co.

RILEY, CHARLES, African American, R8824, VNSS:42, Middlesex Co.

ROB/ROBIN, African American, lead miner, APALM, no residence given

ROBER, **, slave of Mary Jones, lead miner (1781, 1783), APALM, no residence given

ROBERTS, HEZEKIAH, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, Accomack Co., HEI-2

ROBERTS, JOHN, African American, drafted, RAR, Accomack Co.

ROBERTSON, DAVID, (“yellow,” “yellow/freckled”), enlisted, Northampton Co., RAR, born Dorset [i.e. Dorchester] Co., Maryland, living Middlesex Co., CS

ROBINSON, JAMES, African American, BHAM, no residence given

ROE, JOHN, **, New Jersey, S39045, no residence given

ROGER/ROGERS, African American, Lead miner, former slave of Enoch Jones, JCV:3:191, APALM, no residence given

ROLLS, JOHN, African American, drafted, S39056, RAR, born Caroline Co., Culpeper Co.
ROSS, DAVID, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, Culpeper Co., HEI-2
ROSS, REUBEN, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, VASAR, Culpeper Co., HEI-2
ROUSE, PETER, **, S3880, HRVR:679, Dinwiddie Co.
ROUSE, PETER, African American (“Negro”), Soldier, HBCV:40, Bedford Co., HEI-2
ROWE, WM., African American, CS, born Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, living Harford Co., Maryland
RUSSEL/RUSSELL, GEORGE, African American (“Colored”), Private, S39059, HRVR, VNSS, Brunswick Co.
SAFFE, African American (escaped enslaved man from Amelia County owned by Capt. Munford but enlisted in the army; record of the court marshal of the man enlisting him as a substitute in 1781), CVSP:1:582, Amelia Co.
SAM, African American, Lead miner, APALM, no residence given
SAM, African American, Lead miner, APALM (two men with this name listed), no residence given
SAM, African American, Waggoner, VAPC:3:890, Surry Co.
SAMPSON, [first name not given; wife received payment in King William County as a Soldier’s wife] Pamunkey Indian, ROU, King William Co.
SANDERS/SAUNDERS, JOHN, African American, substitute, RAR, born Hanover Co., living Henrico Co.
SARAH, African American, at the lead mines, APALM, no residence given
SAUL, African American (“a Negro”), Soldier and spy, Statutes:XIII:619, HRVR:111n, VNSS, BHAM, SSAA:159-160, Norfolk Co., HEI-2; also listed as MATHEWS, SAUL
SCOTT, DRURY, **, S35644, Private, Powhatan Co.
SCOTT, JESSE, African American, VNSS:43, Petersburg City, HEI-2
SCOTT, JOHN, African American, Private, S46522, Prince Edward Co.
SCOTT, LITTLEBERRY, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, born Charles City Co., living Henrico Co.
SCOTT, NICHOLAS, (“yellow”), CS, born Henrico Co., living Charles City Co., HEI-2
SCOTT, WILLIAM, African American, VNSS:43, Petersburg City, HEI-2
SCOTT, WILLIAM, (“yellow”), CS, Charles City Co.
SHAVERS, SHADRACH, African American (“Other Free”), S38368, Private, 1820 Stafford Co.
SIDEBOTTOM/SYDEBOOTHAM/SIDEBOTTOM, JOHN, African American (“Mullato”), W8727, GHSK, Stafford Co.
SIMMONS, (“Yellow”), substitute, RAR, born Essex Co., living Caroline Co.
ingleton, African American, Soldier/Seaman on the Accomack galley, VNSS, VNR, no residence given
SLY, RANDOLPH, African American, CS, Caroline Co.
SMITH, ELIJAH, African American (“Black Indian”), substitute, RAR, HEI-2, Norfolk
SMITH, JAMES, African American, substitute, RAR, born Prince George Co., living Bedford Co., HEI-2
SMITH, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), deserted from Capt. Shem Cook’s company of the 2nd Georgia State Battalion (Virginia Gazette, Nov 28, 1777), no residence given
SMITH, JOHNSON, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, CWW, Albemarle Co., HEI-2
SMITH, JOSEPH, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, Dinwiddie Co., HEI-2
SMITH, LEWIS, **, S6112, substitute, RAR, born Prince George Co., living Dinwiddie Co., HEI-2
SMITH, WILLIAM, (“Creole”), deserted from the ship Gloucester (Virginia Gazette, July 19, 1780), b. in Barbadoes, no residence given
SMOTHERS, WILLIAM, African American, enlisted, RAR, S38375, b. Albemarle Co., living Powhatan Co., HEI-2
SORRELL, JAMES, African American (“free black”), VNSS:43, SUT-1, SUT-2, HEI-2, Northumberland Co.
SPRIGGS, ABEL, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), seaman, deserted from the Dragon (Virginia Gazette, July 3, 1779) VNNS, HRVR, VASAR, VNR:249, HEI-2, no residence given
STEPHENS, HUBBARD, **, drummer, HRVR, no residence given
STEPHENS, ISAAC, African American, Soldier, VNSS, HRVR, Northampton Co., HEI-2
STEPHENS, SIMON, African American, Seaman/cook, VNSS, HRVR, VASAR, Accomack Co., HEI-2
STEPHENS, STEPHEN, African American, Seaman, VNNS, VASAR, Accomack Co., HEI-2
STEVEARD, EDWARD, (“yellow”), CS, born Chesterfield Co., living in Amelia Co.
STEWART, EDWARD, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, born Chesterfield Co., living Dinwiddie Co.
STEWART, JOHN, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, Dinwiddie Co.
STEWART, JORDAN/JURDAN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), 1790VA, 1840NC, R10160, Mecklenburg Co.
STUART, JACOB, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), Soldier, deserted after being drafted out of Prince George Co.  
(\textit{Virginia Gazette}, November 28, 1777)
STROThER, DANIEL, **, R10275 VA, no residence given
SUE, African American, at the lead mines, APALM, no residence given
TANNER, NATHAN, African American, Soldier, VNNS, HRVR, VASAR, Bedford Co., HEI-2
TAR, African American, Lead miner, APALM, no residence given
TARRANT, CAESAR, African American, (“Negro”), Statutes:XIII:102, VNNS:20, 22, 23, EFL, BHAM, Elizabeth City Co.
TATE, JAMES, African American, Seaman, VNNS, HRVR, VASAR, Westmoreland Co., HEI-2
TATE, JESS, African American (“free black”), seaman on the \textit{Dragon}, VNNS, SUT-2, Richmond Co.
TEAGUE, JACOB/CAP. TEACKLES, African American, VNNS, HRVR, VASAR, HEI-2, 1800VA, St. George’s Parish (Listed as “Other Free.”), Accomack Co.
TENANT/TERRANT, CAESAR/SEASER, **, pilot Navy, HRVR, VASAR, VNR, no residence given
TESTOR, GEORGE, African American, substitute, RAR, born Louisa Co., living Goochland Co.
THOMAS, African American, M853, Book 102-9, 56, 63, no residence given
THOMAS, BUCKNER, African American (“man of culler”), S41248, Private, FPPV [died June 12, 1819 in Nottoway Co.; estate administered by Robert Thomas, no relationship noted], HEI-2, Dinwiddie Co.
THOMAS, JACK, African American (“a slave”), seaman, VNNS, HRVR, VASAR, Accomack Co./Northampton Co.
THOMAS, JAMES, African American (“free man of colour”), SA:33, VNNS:44, HEI-2, Norfolk Co.
THOMAS, JOHN, (“yellow”) enlisted, RAR, born Prince George Co., living Caroline Co., HEI-2
THOMAS, SPENCER, African American (“free black”), Soldier, VNNS, VASAR, SUT-1, SUT-2, HEI-2, Northumberland Co.
THOMAS, WILLIAM, African American (“yellow”), S38435, CCC4, CCC6, VNNS:44-45, CS, WAL, FPPV [died July 25, 1824], HEI-2, Charles City Co.
TIM, African American, M853, Book 102:5, no residence given
TOBY, aka WILLIAM FERGUSON, African American, Army, VNNS:45, VNNS:255, no residence given
TOM, African American, Lead miner, former slave of Enoch Jones, JCV:3:191, APALM, VNR, no residence given
TOM, African American, enslaved man of Joseph Wills, employed at public salt works, Isle of Wight County (1779) APASW, no residence given
TOM, African American, enslaved man of Mary Jones, hospital attendant (1776) and lead miner (1781, 1783), APALM, Williamsburg
TOYER, PETER, African American, substitute, RAR, Gloucester Co.
TULL, African American (“Negro”), MAM:417, Brunswick Co.
TYGER, MAN, **, seaman on the \textit{Dragon}, VNR, no residence given
TYLER, GEORGE, African American (“yellow”), waiter [i.e. guard], S41276, CS, VNNS:45, born Louisa Co., living Goochland Co., HEI-2
TYLER, JOSEPH, Mixed descent (“mulatto” or “Indian”), Private, HRVR, Culpeper Co.
UNO, GABRIEL, **, HRVR, VASAR, no residence given
VALENTINE, ANTHONY, African American, CCC6, CS, Charles City Co., HEI-2
VALENTINE, CHARLES, African American (“free negro”), deserter, (\textit{Virginia Gazette}, May 1, 1779), BGMMMS, Surry Co., HEI-2
VALENTINE, EDWARD, African American, Soldier, VNNS, HRVR, VASAR, Dinwiddie Co., HEI-2
VALENTINE, ISHAM, African American, Soldier, VNNS, HRVR, VASAR, Dinwiddie Co., HEI-2
VALENTINE, LUKE, African American (“Free Black” and “Free Man of Colour”), Soldier, S6299, VNSS:45, WBA, FPPV [wife Mildred; he died March 2, 1836], Bedford Co./Campbell Co.

VALENTINE, SAM(?), African American, substitute, RAR, Dinwiddie Co., HEI-2

VIERS, BENJAMIN, **, S6313, Private, Henry Co. or Botetourt Co., HEI-2

WAGNER, WILL, **, VAS:1262, APAML, Amherst Co.

WALDEN, ROB’T, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, Dinwiddie Co., HEI-2

WALLACE, JAMES, African American (“Other Free,” “man of colour”), VNSS:45, CS, (born New Kent Co., died Warwick Co. on January 13, 1833), James City Co.

WALLACE, JAMES, “free man of colour,” private & cook, S7834, FPPV [died November 23, 1832 “leaving neither wife or child], James City Co., HEI-2


WARD/WORD, CUTTY, **, HRVR, no residence given

WARWICK, ABRAHAM, African American, enlisted, RAR, born Loudoun Co., living Frederick Co. [was “able & fit for labor and the other “old and superannuated.”]

WATSON, CASTILIO, **, seaman State Navy, HRVR, no residence given

WATSON, EDWARD, (“yellow”), CS, Caroline Co.

WAUCETT/WAUCITT/WAUKETT, SAMUEL, **, M881, no residence given

WEAVER, AARON, African American (“free black”), Soldier, VNSS, SUT-2, HEI-2, Lancaster Co.

WEAVER, AARON, African American (“free black”), seaman, petitioner, VNSS, HRVR, VNR, SUT-2, 1810VA (Listed as “Other Free.”), Princess Anne Co.

WEAVER, ELIJAH/ELISHA, African American (“free black”), seaman, VNSS, VASAR, SUT-2, HEI-2, Lancaster Co.

WEAVER, JOHN, African American (“free black”), Soldier, VNSS, SUT-2, HEI-2, Lancaster Co.

WEAVER, RICHARD, African American (“Other Free”), VNSS, 1810VA

WEBB, JEPHEY, **, seaman Navy, HRVR, Lancaster Co.

WEDGROOF, WILLIAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), MAM:416, Culpeper Co.

WELCH, HENRY, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, born King George Co., living Culpeper Co., HEI-2

WEST, ALEXANDER, African American, VNSS, HEI-2, Middlesex Co.

WEST, JAMES, African American (“Other Free”), Seaman, VNSS, VASAR, HEI-2, Spotsylvania Co.

WHISLER, ALEX, African American, substitute, RAR, (“Other Free”), Middlesex Co.

WHISTLER/WHISLER, SAWNEY/SAWNWY, **, BLWt 12683, VASAR, HRVR, M881, Middlesex Co.

WHITMORE, BENJAMIN, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), RAR, born Fairfax Co., living Alexandria

WHITSON, CHAS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), RAR, Stafford Co.

WIGBORN(?), WILLIAM, (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, born Loudoun Co., living Culpeper Co.

WILKerson, EDWARD, African American? VNSS:46, HEI-2, Chesterfield Co.

WILL, African American, Lead miner, APALM, no residence given

WILL, African American, Navy seaman on the Hero galley, RWRV:17, 70, 218, VNOM:10, HRVR:579, 829, VNR, WAR2:215 (able seaman; “pay drawn by W. Wilson” on 21 Jan. 1786, £8.0.6), no residence given

WILLIAM, African American, Navy seaman, SRSV8, no residence given

WILLIAMS, DANIEL, African American, R11569, Accomack Co.

WILLIAMS, MATHEW, African American, S6414, GREE, HEI-2, Southampton Co.


WOOD, PHILLIP, African American (“Free black”), seaman, VNSS, SUT-2, Lancaster Co., HEI-2

WOOD, THOMAS, American (“Free black”), seaman, VNSS, SUT-2, Lancaster Co., HEI-2

WOOD, THOMAS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), deserted from the Dragon (Virginia Gazette, July 9, 1779), VNR:270, no residence given

YERBY, RICHARD, African American (“Free person of color”), SUT-2, Lancaster Co.

YORK, African American, Lead miner, APALM, no residence given
Gwinn’s Island in Gloucester County was one of the havens for enslaved people after reaching the relative safety of the British lines following Lord Dunmore’s Proclamation in November 1775. A distance from the mainland, the island became a trap for many as disease and hunger took their toll on the refugees because the British were not able to provide for all of them.

Map: “Carte de la Baie de Chesapeake et de la Partie navigable des Rivieres, James, York, Patowmack, Patuxen, Patapsco, North-East, Choptank, and Pokomack. 1778.”
Pensioned widows still living after the Civil War had to reapply for benefits and supply proof of loyalty to the federal government during that conflict. Catharine Cuffey provided such proof and received benefits until March 1868.
Deposition from the pension file of Henry Dorton of Virginia.
Pension S5362, page 4, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration National
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” M804, Roll 834
Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
Aged veterans like Henry Dorton, still lucid many years after the war, provided details in their
depositions of service that few histories record.
While detailing his service, Dorton’s deposition also revealed his birth date and place.
Service Summary from the pension file of Isaac Brown of Virginia.
Pension S39214, page 7, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,  
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 366)  
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

Pension files contain a variety of records. In the above example, a response letter to a query to the  
Pension Department provides a summary of the veteran Isaac Brown’s service and basic  
information on his wife and descendants.
Letter from the pension file of James Nickens of Virginia.
Pension S38262, page 12, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 1821)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

Several men named James Nickens served aboard vessels in Virginia’s Navy during the war. When heirs of these men applied for bounty land from the state, available records were unclear as to which man performed the service that made him eligible to receive the land. Correspondence from a claims agent surfaced in the pension file of the James Nickens who served in both the Navy and Army, distinguishing him from another James Nickens who died in 1818 with heirs.
Certification of Marriage from pension file of Sherard Going of Virginia.

Pension W7545, page 30, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 1087)

National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

Widows had to submit proof of marriage in order to receive a pension. Susannah Going’s proof reveals her maiden name (Simmons), date and place of marriage, and the name of the clergy who performed the ceremony.

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In North Carolina, the American Revolution interrupted a society evolving somewhat differently from its neighbors. Due to the great variety of religious and cultural origins of the settlers, there was far more toleration than in other adjoining colonies. Despite the geographic extent of North Carolina, reaching from the Outer Banks to present day Tennessee, there was an accommodation of races unique among the southern colonies. Large plantations requiring extensive slave labor were the exception. The small farmer with holdings of a few acres was much more common. Free Blacks found it possible to co-exist in such an atmosphere. American Indians in the eastern counties were slowly being absorbed, while struggling to maintain their identity. In the west, Cherokee lands offered a refuge for displaced tribes from other areas. While North Carolina was not an American Utopia for minorities, there was an accord that gave promise for the future. From this background Indian and African American North Carolinians, both slave and free, faced the challenge of the American Revolution.

In the interval between the founding of the colony and the American Revolution, North Carolina had developed a cultural and political identity quite apart from that of its neighbors, Virginia and South Carolina. Geographically, there were important differences starting on the east coast where the Outer Banks prevented development of thriving seaports. In the hurricane season, the area around Cape Hatteras was a shipping graveyard. In addition, there was a constant shifting of the inlets leading to Edenton, Bath and New Bern, so; only an experienced local pilot could be trusted to safely guide a merchant ship to harbor. The more open ports of Wilmington, Brunswick and Beaufort had yet to be developed as thriving commercial centers. North Carolina was not as “royal” as other colonies so the structure of the system of government was not as confining.

The population was predominately occupied with agricultural pursuits and African Americans had become an important part of the economy of the eastern counties by the 1770’s. Many Free Black families had achieved status in their communities by owning land and slaves. William Chavis of Granville County died early in the Revolution and left a very involved estate. When British merchants were trying to recover their mercantile losses after the Revolution, the Chavis heirs were considered entirely solvent and to be liable for the debts incurred by their deceased ancestor.1 The Chavis family was among several rather prosperous Free Black families in the eastern counties. Paul Heinegg has researched the history of many of these families in his book Free African Americans of North Carolina, Virginia, and South Carolina. Despite a number of restrictive laws, a rather comfortable life style had been established before the struggle for political independence developed into a full-scale war.

The chaos of an armed conflict, however, suddenly narrowed the gap between slaves and free African Americans. Laws were passed that had the goal of disarming all persons of color. Other laws prohibited manumission of slaves with the single exception being men who enlisted in the military forces or performed outstanding patriotic service. No longer could the free man purchase the freedom of his slave wife and children. There were attempts by Quakers and Moravians to continue the manumission process, but the North Carolina General Assembly held firmly to its discriminatory laws. The delicate balance of racial harmony seemingly faced destruction during the preparation for war.

As in other American colonies, the African American presence provided the British with a method to quickly disrupt the social and economic framework of North Carolina. When political events forced the Royal Governor, Josiah Martin, to abandon his palace in New Bern, he took refuge in Fort Johnson on the Cape Fear River. Upon his arrival at the fort in May of 1775, he made plans to encourage a slave uprising if there was an “actual and declared rebellion of the King’s subjects, and the failure of all other means to maintain the King’s Government.” Any action by the Governor toward slaves would bring the agrarian economy of the colony to a halt.

The Safety Committee at Wilmington anticipated the Governor’s plans by disarming all African Americans, setting a curfew and requiring an Oath of Allegiance to the revolutionary regime. Not only were the coastal citizens threatened by political and racial strife, but, there was a widely spread rumor, that 50,000 Russians were in His Majesty’s pay and headed for America. At a meeting of the Committee for the Counties of New Hanover, Brunswick, Bladen, Duplin and Onslow, on June 20, 1775, Governor Josiah Martin was declared “to be an enemy to the happiness of this Colony in particular and to the Freedom, Rights and Privileges of America in general.” By July 19, the Governor had retreated from Fort Johnson to the safety of HMS Crizer, standing by offshore. He fled just before Robert Howe with his 500 militia and minute men from Brunswick captured and burned the fort. North Carolina was now officially in rebellion against the King.

At Hillsborough, Delegates of the North Carolina Provincial, Congress authorized the State’s contribution to the Continental Army. These troops would be very basically supplied and dressed in hunting shirts, breeches and moccasins. The newly formed units, plus local militiamen, saw more action than they anticipated in the winter of 1775 to 1776. Lord Dunmore, the beleaguered Virginia Royal Governor, offered freedom to any male slave who would leave his rebel master and take up arms for the British King. At the Battle of Great Bridge in Virginia, Lord Dunmore’s Ethiopian Regiment gave evidence that a large number of slaves had flocked to join the British. Many others, who had escaped servitude, were assigned to Pioneer units whose labors prepared roads and built fortifications. In addition, the talents of the slaves were welcomed as geographic guides and intelligence agents for the British.

When North Carolina made plans to respond to the growing British military activity, there was already in place a militia system that had seen action when the Regulators were put down at the Battle of Alamance, May 16, 1771. These units were built on the county militias that were developed in the French and Indian War. In the early county militias, minorities were included. Colonel William Eaton’s

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5 Saunders, CRNC, X: 72.
Granville County Regiment muster roll of October 8, 1754, contained the names of the Chavis, Anderson, Harris, Davis and Gowen Free Black families. An undated roll of the same era for Captain James Fason’s Northampton County Militia listed representatives of the Allen, Artis, Byrd, Demery, Huelin, Tann and Warrick families, who were well established Free Blacks and mulattoes.9

The American Revolution was a different war and since the British had made race an immediate issue, the Colony responded with alacrity to try to seal off escape routes for slaves and to develop the various laws needed to deal with the Militia, the Continental Line and the Minutemen. The role of the State Minutemen was soon taken over by the Militia, so, after 1776 this designation disappeared. E. Milton Wheeler has written an article describing the North Carolina Militia, and Hugh F. Rankin has researched the Continental Line.10 Through the early deliberations on military preparations, North Carolina followed the lead of the Continental Congress and did not recruit or draft minorities.

In other areas of endeavor it was necessary to utilize the labor of minorities to support the military effort. The North Carolina Gazette informed its readers that a negro man named Jacob was in the public gaol in Edenton in the summer of 1777. He had belonged to Thomas McNight and had been sent to one of the back counties to the iron works, but had run away from the place.11 The emerging iron industry at David Allen’s Iron Works in Surry and the England and Wilcox Iron Works in Chatham required a large number of laborers to supply military needs. The shoe factory in Guilford was another place where manpower was needed and race was surely no barrier.

Coastal North Carolina was important as a supply conduit for the Continental Army. The British had effectively blockaded the major ports of the eastern coast, but privateers could still cross the bar at Ocracoke Inlet and proceed to ports along the rivers and sounds. The supplies obtained were sent up the waterways and land routes to South Quay, near Suffolk, Virginia. From there they were taken by wagons and boats to meet Washington’s Army. The troops at Valley Forge received support through this supply system. North Carolina did not have a maritime fleet to rely upon, so privateers provided the major sea-going strength.

The Provincial Council did authorize a few armed vessels to be constructed, outfitted and ordered to monitor shipping lanes. The armed brig Pennsylvania Farmer was one of these vessels. She spent six months off New Bern before being ordered to intercept a British merchant fleet underway from Jamaica to England. James Davis, a well respected printer of New Bern, sent the council a scathing letter about the conduct of the crew. Among other items, he mentioned that “one hundred and ten pints of rum poured out to them every morning kept them continually drunk and ready for any mischief, especially as they consist of men of all nations and conditions, English, Irish, Scotch, Indians, Man of Wars Men and the most abandoned sett (sic) of wretches ever collected together.” He referred to this “crew of Banditti” which had no ties to the local area and stated the Captain never had “...sailed in much less more commanded a square rigged vessel in his life.”12

Not all North Carolina seamen, however, fit Davis’ description. Jack, an African American slave, was manumitted by the will of his master, Caleb White of Currituck County, on the condition that he pays $100 to the executors of White’s estate. When Jack met the requirement, Samuel Jasper petitioned for Jack’s freedom in 1792. Jack’s manumission was based on the fact that he had liberated American prisoners captured by a British privateer.13

Another seacoast Revolutionary activity took place at Cape Lookout. In 1778, the French Frigate, Ferdinand, put in at the Cape for some minor repairs. Her owners, Captain de Cottineau and Monsieur le Chavalier de Cambray, intended to join the forces of General Washington and had outfitted the ship at their own expense. Finding no

12 Saunders, CRNC, X: 834-837.
fortification at Cape Lookout, the aristocrats proceeded to donate time, labor and money to build a fort. The North Carolina General Assembly cooperated by providing funds to hire local craftsmen and slaves for the labor force. The fort was completed in record time and was the only real fort built in North Carolina during the Revolution. The Frenchmen donated six guns from their ship and sailed off to meet the Continental Army. Captain John Tillman and his troops occupied the fort, now designated as Fort Hancock, in the winter of 1778. Among the men who served in Tillman’s unit were Joshua and Isaac Carter, William Dove and Isaac Perkins, Free Blacks of Craven County.

The North Carolina General Assembly had a busy time creating laws that would enable the state to supply soldiers for the Militia and the Continental line. This body initiated a draft in 1777, providing that all men within the ages of sixteen to fifty were liable to serve or find an able bodied man to take their place. No color qualifications were made in this act. It is interesting to find references to minority status in Revolutionary War Pension Applications. Nelly Tabum of Warren County sought her widow’s benefit on the record of her deceased husband, William. A document in her name certifies that:

“I, William Hill, Secretary of State in the State of North Carolina do certify that by Act of the General Assembly of this State passed or ratified the 9th of May 1777, all effective persons in this State from the ages of sixteen years to fifty years were bound to perform militia duty or service when called upon, without regard to color, and such has been the law of the State until the year 1835.”

The statement was signed October 15th, 1845. Holiday Haithcock applied for a Revolutionary War Pension and included this deposition from William Bryan of Johnston County, made May 29th, 1834:

“...that in the times of our Revolutionary War free negroes and mulattos mustered in the ranks with white men in said State --at least in that part of the State in which he then resided. This affiant has frequently mustered in company with said free negroes and mulattos.”

The fact that a group of men of mixed colors participated with North Carolina military units is evident from many sources. A descriptive list of men raised for the Granville County Militia in 1778 includes a number of minorities and their racial designation. They were, Jeffrey Games 20 (“a black man”), Abraham Jones 44 (“mulatto”), Jonathan Jones 17 (“mulatto”), Jenkins Gowen 17 (“mulatto”), David Hunt 30 (“a black man”), Gibson Harris 17 (“a black man”), David Hatcher 16 (“half Indian”), Joseph Allen 22 (“mulatto”), William Petteford 17 (“a black man”), and Lewis Simms 33 (“a black man”).

Outfitting a militia company was a concern of the State Legislature. Among many laws concerning this issue was one which directed all men to attend muster with: “a good gunshot bag and powder horn, a cutlass or tomahawk.” There would be a fine for neglect of any segment of the muster process. It was also understood that some men would lack guns so the officers were instructed to purchase guns from the company fine fund for the use of those who could not afford their own arms. When the muster ended the officers would take custody of the guns until the next muster. The possible lack of a cutlass or tomahawk was not addressed.

The North Carolina Continental Line took part in many military actions during the Revolution. The First Regiment was authorized September 1, 1775. Subsequently, there were nine other regiments organized by April 17, 1777. The men were involved in activities at Chesapeake Bay, Southern Highlands, Charleston (1775-1776), Florida, the defense of Philadelphia, Monmouth, Valley Forge, Savannah, Charleston (1780), and Greene’s Campaign. A detachment of the 2nd Regiment was

15 Walter Clark, ed., The State Records of North Carolina. 16 volumes (Winston and Goldsboro: M. I. & J. C. Stewart, Printers to the State, 1895-1907), XXIV, 3. (Hereafter, Clark, SRNC.)
17 Clark, SRNC, XXIV: 2.
in New York in 1779. When these troops encamped at Valley Forge in the summer of 1778, four regiments were reduced to cadre status and three regiments were disbanded, leaving only the 1st and 2nd Regiments in full strength. Many minority soldiers served under officers who had been attached to the 10th Regiment when it was organized in 1777. Although assigned to other regiments after Valley Forge, these men carried the 10th Regiment into their pension applications, causing some confusion in later years. The widow of Elijah Bass claimed that her husband was in the 10th Regiment when he died at Eutaw Springs in 1781. The regimental alterations caused difficulties with processing many Revolutionary Pension Applications. 18

The most distressing period of the Revolution for many North Carolinians was the fall of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780. All five active North Carolina Continental Regiments were involved, and few soldiers escaped the debacle that took place. Elisha Hunt lost his arm. Lewis Simms, Philip Pettyford, Drury Tabum, Jonathan Overton, Elisha James, Frederick James and Arthur Wiggins were prisoners of the British, paroled in 1780. 19 Cato Copeland was another Free Black taken prisoner at Charleston. Jonathan Overton told an interesting story about his Revolutionary experiences when he applied for a pension. He enlisted as a substitute for John Bateman to whom he had been bound and served a three month tour defending Charleston. When his time was up, he enlisted as a volunteer and remained in South Carolina, although his original officer returned to North Carolina. During this enlistment he was taken prisoner, but was paroled and returned to Edenton. At this point he tore up his parole, volunteered, and fought against Cornwallis at North West Bridge, Virginia.

Just a year after the fall of Charleston, the Battle of Guilford Courthouse took place. Militia units from North Carolina took to the field to support General Greene. Some of the men, reportedly about 600, were only enrolled for six weeks. During the battle the American lines broke, and General Greene placed the blame on the North Carolinians. There was a great animosity among the regular officers towards the militia and this event just increased the depth of feeling. General Greene complained so much that the General Assembly drafted the Militia into the Continental service for twelve months.

As punishment for the reputed infractions, the North Carolina men were issued no clothing, no bounty land would be given and support of their families would not be a State responsibility. 20 While future investigations relieved the North Carolina Militia of many of the charges heaped on them, glimpses of the confusion that took place at Guilford Courthouse emerge in the pension application of John Toney of Halifax County. In his narrative concerning his Revolutionary service, John said that after the battle, he ran home but was taken and made to serve to the end of the war. At the Battle of Eutaw Springs, General Greene and his Continental officers discovered the true worth of the North Carolinians. Elijah Bass died, William Lomack was wounded, and Joel Taborn served with honor at Eutaw Springs.

Many minority soldiers did their duty in North Carolina units in a variety of ways. Charles Roe lost an eye at the Battle of Stono, but continued to enlist. He ended his military duty guarding the General Assembly at Hillsborough. Solomon Bibby, Joseph Case and William Kersey were waiters to their officers. Drury Walden served the Commissary General making gun carriages for cannon, canteens for soldiers and building barracks. Mingo was an armorer, while Black Garrick, Comet Byrd, David Ivy and Brutus Johnson were musicians.

Jeffrey J. Crow’s The Black Experience in Revolutionary North Carolina provides a well-researched history of the Revolutionary era. 21 Descendants of many Free Black and enslaved Revolutionary ancestors fled the restrictive laws that North Carolina implemented in the 1830’s. Roma Jones Stewart developed a very interesting

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20 Ralls, op cit., 67.

study of Cass County, Michigan settlers.\textsuperscript{22} Her research traced the path taken from North Carolina through Ohio to Cass County, Michigan. The Cass County Library, Cassopolis, Michigan maintains a “Freedom File,” that provides information about many families that originated in North Carolina.

American Indians in North Carolina joined other minorities in Revolutionary service. William Basket, Wenecke Charbe, Joseph Essig, and James Hicks are designated as Indian in military records. Many more men may have merited this classification, but have been listed as of other minorities groups. Subsequent research should develop clues about the role of Cherokees and other tribes as they interacted with the Carolinians during the Revolution. The research projects of Paul Heinegg, Virginia Easley DeMarce, and Richard A. Colbert are revealing much new information and expanding our understanding of Native Americans in North Carolina.\textsuperscript{23}

In spite of many handicaps and the blandishments of the British to abandon the American cause, minority North Carolinians contributed all that they could and they deserve full honor. Samuel Bell, a Free Black of Sampson County, gave his greatest gift to history in his Revolutionary Pension application. He received a furlough after Charleston fell in 1780 and was told to return home, but to be ready to rejoin his company when called. In 1832 he applied for a pension and stated that he had never been recalled to duty. When asked why he had enlisted he stated that: “he enlisted in the service of the United States because he believed it to be his duty to support his countrymen in arms in the achievement of their independence.”

Thoughts on Research in the Records of North Carolina

North Carolina’s records have been reluctant to reveal the names of very many African American participants in the Revolution. Color references are largely absent in the sources from the late eighteenth century. While this situation is typical of the Southern states, one would hoope to find more names to include in this list given the state’s large population of African descent.

American Indians were even more hidden in the North Carolina sources of this period. A very small number have emerged as having supported the American cause in the war.

Many of North Carolina’s Revolutionary War records have been published, including the important Accounts that tally the financial claims by North Carolinians and the payments to them for various services and supplies during the conflict. Surely further research at the North Carolina State Archives will result in the addition to more names of African Americans and American Indians to the list patriots.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR PENSIONS

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


BLWt Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


FPPV Manuscript Final Pension Payment Vouchers are located at the National Archives (Record Group 217: Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Records of the Office of the Third Auditor 1775-1923, Entry 722 Selected Final Pension Payment Vouchers, National Archives, Washington, D.C.). The vouchers consist of pension agent files selected by National Archives staff for their genealogical value. The files contain details relating to the final payment to heirs of a pensioner after his death. Details in these accounts may include the name of the spouse, children, and other heirs; the date and place of death; and the date, place and amount of the final pension payment. The vouchers are filed by the state where the pensioner received payment and thereafter alphabetically by surname of the pensioner.


HEI-2 Paul Heinegg. “Free African Americans of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, and Delaware: The history of the free African American community as told through the family history of most African Americans who were free in the Southeast during the colonial period.” Online at: <http://www.freeafricanamericans.com/>


REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE
NORTH CAROLINA 1775-1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

ABSHIER, JOSIAH, African American, 1830NC (“Other Free”), Private, RNC:418, HEI-2, Anson Co.
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), Patriotic Service, enslaved man of Mr. Cogdell, SRNC:22:499, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), Patriotic Service, enslaved man of Mr. Ellis, SRNC:22:499, no residence given
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), Patriotic Service, enslaved man of Captain Rooke, SRNC:22:499, [1790 Northampton Co. census shows Benjamin (5 slaves), John (57 slaves), Martin (2 slaves), and Sarah (2 slaves) Rooke as slave owners]
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), Patriotic Service, enslaved man of Henry Toomer, WNH:92, [1790 New Hanover Co. census shows he owned 51 slaves]
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”), Patriotic Service, slave of Mr. Wunford, SRNC:22:499, no residence given
ALLAN, JOSEPH, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), RNC:600, GC:1:13, RJ5:34, Granville Co.
ALLEN, ARTHUR, African American, 1784-87NC (“Other Free”), RNC:74, Northampton Co.
ARTIS, ARCHIBALD, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), mentioned in R4812 Holiday Hethcock’s pension, HEI-2, Northampton Co.
BASKET/BASKETT, WILLIAM, Indian, RNC:188, no residence given
BASS, ELIJAH, African American (“Free Negro”), mentioned in W4061 Benjamin Richardson’s pension, Halifax Co.
BELL, RICHARD, Lumbee Indian, W25231 [wife Candis reported in W25231 that he died August 6, 1848], RNC:453, OLIK, Anson Co., res. Randolph Co.
DENHAM, BENJAMIN, African American ("Negroe"), Musician 2nd Regt., RNC:63, HAUN:pt9:1200, no county given
BIBBY, ABSOLEM, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), RNC:109, Bute Co.
BIBBY, SOLOMON, African American ("Free Man of Color"), Private and waiter, S6644, FFPV [died in Franklin Co. on March 6, 1846 leaving no surviving widow], Bute Co.
BIBBY, THOMAS, **, McBRIEDE:VIII:156, Burke Co.
BIRD, REUBEN, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), bowman, S37776, HEI-2, Orange Co.
BLACK, MARTIN, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S41441, HEI-2, FFPV [died October 18, 1821], Carteret Co.
BLANGO, MOSES, African American ("Free Negro"), RNC:226, Beaufort Co.
BLANGO, THOMAS, African American ("Free Negro"), RNC:404, Beaufort Co.
BRABOY/BRAVEBOY, JACOB, African American ("Mulatto"), RNC:78, HEI-2, Bertie Co.
BROOKS, JOHN, Lumbee Indian, S6732, BLWI 80030-160-55, RNC:608, HEI-2, Robeson Co.
BROWN, JOHN, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), Private, RNC:200, Northampton Co.
BRUTUS, African American ("Free Negro"), NCRRA:5:2142, RWBL, no residence given
BURNETT, DAVID, African American ("Man of color"), RNC:78, BERNC:98, HEI-2, Orange Co.
BUTLER, JOHN, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), S41463, HEI-2, Bertie Co.
[Note: DAR established patriot.]
CARTER, JOHN, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), R1749, HEI-2, Craven Co.
CARTER, JOHN EDWARD, **, R10316, Duplin Co.
CARTER, JOSHUA, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), HAUN:journ.A:140, HEI-2, Craven Co.
CARTER, MOSES, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S41470, HEI-2, Cumberland Co.
CASE, JONATHAN, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), RNC:517, McBRIEDE:VIII:213, HEI-2, Currituck Co.
CASE, JOSEPH, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S41472, HEI-2, FFPV [died August 11, 1826], Currituck Co.
CHARBE, WENECKE, Indian, HAUN:II:pt1:275, no residence given
CHAVIS, CAESAR, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), HAUN:II:pt1:248, Bertie Co.
CHAVIS, DRURY, African American ("Negro"), RNC:115&116, HEI-2, Edenton District
COPELAND, CATO, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), W17665 [married Nancy Mitchel on December 16, 1778; died in 1827], HEI-2, Halifax Co.
CORNET, BYRD, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), Private, RNC:114&514, Northampton Co.
CUMBO, GIBSON, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), HAUN:IX:v:931, Bladen Co.
CUMMINGS, THOMAS, Lumbee Indian, OLIK, no residence given
CURRITUCK JACK, African American, OBMSS, no residence given
DAVIS, RICHARD, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), BERNC:99, HEI-2, Brunswick Co.
DRING, THOMAS, African American, CRNC:16:1040, HEI-2, Currituck Co.
ELLIS, HENRY, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), HEI-2, Wake Co.
ESSIG, JOSEPH, Indian, RNC:429&575, no residence given
FREDDERICK, African American, musician, HAUN:pt15:2142, RWBL, no residence given
FREE, CHRISTIAN, **, HAUN:XI:pt10:1259, no residence given
GARNS/GARNER, ANTHONY, (“Free man of color”), S38723, Hertford Co.
GARRICK, BLACK, African American, Drummer, RNC:72, no residence given
GIBSON, CHARLES, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), McBRIEDE4:IX:222, HEI-2, Wayne Co.
GOWEN/GOINS, JENKINS, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), RNC:600, HEI-2, GC:1:11, Granville Co.
GRAVES, EZEKIEL, African American, HEI-2, Northampton Co.
HAITHCOCK, AARON, 1800NC (“Other Free”), HEI-2, Northampton Co.
HAIITHCOCK, FREDERICK, African American (“free colored”), HEI-2, Halifax Co.
HAMMOND, ISAAC, African American (“Free Negro”), W7654 [married Dicey in Fayetteville in 1787; he died 1822; she died October 10, 1825; daughter Rachel, son George], RNC:134, HEI-2, Cumberland Co.
HAMMOND, JOHN, Mixed descent (“Lumbee Indian”/“Mulatto”), S8654 [died October 1858], OLIK, 1850NC Robeson Co., Anson Co.
HARRIS, EDWARD, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), McBRIEDE4:X:111, HEI-2, Granville Co.
HARRIS, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), W11223 [married Kezia Minor in April 1801 in Rockingham Co.; he died 1842 in Patrick Co., VA], BLWt 31703-160-55, HEI-2, Orange Co., living Patrick Co., Va. in 1835
HARRIS, JESSE, African American (“Free man of color”), W1277 [Julia Taburn, 2nd wife], Orange Co.
HARRIS, SHERROD/SHERWOOD, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), W3984 [died in 1833 in Granville Co.], BLWt 1030-160-55, FPPV [wife Martha/Polly died November 25, 1859; children: Jonathan, Johnson, Haywood & Frances], Granville Co. [Note: Not the same man as DAR patriot from Anson Co.]
HAWKINS, HENRY, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), RNC:131, HEI-2, Halifax Co.
HAWLEY, BENJAMIN, African American, HEI-2 son of Joseph Hawley, Granville Co.
HEITHCOCK, FREDERICK, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), RNC:160, Halifax Co.
HERSEY, WILLIAM, (“Colored”), BERNC:100, no residence given
HETHCOCK/HATHCOCK, JOHN, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), Soldier, RNC:160, RJS:34, Northampton Co.
HICK/HICKS, JAMES, Indian, HAUN:II:pt2:587, no residence given
HICKS, MICAJAH, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), W7738 [wife Mary died June 12, 1853], HEI-2, FPPV [he died December 30, 1837; wife Mary lived in Wilkes Co.], Franklin Co.
HOOD, CHARLES, (“Free man of color”), S41659 [died November 15, 1833], HEI-2, Orange Co.

Hull, Jackson, **, JWLBRM2:1160, Halifax Co.

Hunt, Berry, Lumbee Indian, OLIK, Camden Co.


Hunt, Elisha, ("Colored Man"), S13486, Dobbs Co.

Isaac, African American (“Negro”), Patriotic Service: provided services, HAUN:Xpt8:1018, no residence given.

Ivey, David, (“Man of color”), musician and waggoner, RNC:207, HEI-2, Orange Co.


Jack, Francis, ("Colored"), BERC:100, HEI-2, RNC:137, Onslow Co.

Jacobs, Ezekiah, ("Other Free") 1800NC, HEI-2, New Hanover Co.


Jacobs, Thomas, Lumbee Indian, OLIK, no tow given.

Jacobs, Zachariah, African American (“Black”), W5304, HEI-2, Brunswick Co.; FPPV [died April 10, 1847 in New Hanover Co.; wife Sarah/Sally], [Note: DAR established patriot.]

Jacquol, Joseph Burd, Indian (“Mohegan Indian”), ARIC:28, no residence given.


James, Frederick, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), McBRIEDE:IV:150, RNC:536, Bertie Co.

James, Isaac, ("Other Free"), Private, HEI-2, 1800NC Hertford Co.

James, Jeremiah, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), W647, RNC:137, HEI-2, Bertie Co.

James, Thomas, Mixed Descent (“Free Mulattoe"), HEI-2, Halifax Co.

James, William, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), Private, RNC:136, Bertie Co.


Jeffrey, Drewry, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S7067, Orange Co.

Jeffries, John, ("Dark"), HEI-2 (Continental Line), Bute Co.


Jones, James, 1800NC ("Other Free"), S41701, Halifax Co. [Note: Not the same man as two DAR established patriots of the same name from Halifax Co. who furnished supplies.]


Jones, Philip, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), McBRIEDE:XI:118, HEI-2, Northampton Co.

Kersey, James, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S8788, HEI-2, FPPV [died March 12, 1844; wife Christian], Bladen Co.


Lassiter, Tobias, Cherokee Indian, NCHN: 8, Nash Co. [Note: DAR established patriot.]

Lewis, Morgan, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S41766 HEI-2, Halifax Co. [Note: DAR established patriot.]

Locus, Valentine, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), W20497, BERC:101, Granville Co.

Lomack, William, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S41783, CAMIN:IV:45, HEI-2, Robeson Co., res. Cumberland Co. [Note: Not the same man as DAR established patriot of the same name.]

Lott, Job, African American, BERC:101, HEI-2, no residence given.


Manley, James, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), QUERIES:XII:72, Craven Co.

Manley, Littleton, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), Private, RNC:149, Northampton Co.

Manley, Moses, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), Private, S41796, HEI-2, FPPV [died May 16, 1834, in Cumberland Co.; wife Chloe], Halifax Co.


Manuel, Christopher, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), Private, S7812, RNC:459, Duplin Co.

Manuel, Jesse, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S41808, McBRIEDE:XII:93, HEI-2, Bladen Co.

Manuel, Nicholas, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), R6887, HEI-2, Duplin Co.
MARTIN, ABSALOM, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), Private, S41800 [first wife Rachel by whom he had the following children: Absalom, Elizabeth, John, Samuel, Littleton, Francis, Penny, Sarah], HEI-2, FPPV [died September 30, 1828; second wife Phebe Thomas], Beaufort Co. [Note: DAR established patriot.]

MARTIN, JESSE, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), R6949, HEI-2, Gates Co.


MASON, PATRICK, "Free Colored," 1800NC, HEI-2, Person Co.

MASON, THOMAS, **, R6993, Caswell Co.


MINGO, African American, Armor, RNC:55, BERNC:101, no residence given

MOORE, SIMEON, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S41960, HEI-2, Craven Co.

MORGAN, ISAAC, Mixed descent, 1800NC ("Mulatto" and "Other Free"), NCN:6:752, HEI-2, Edgecombe Co. [Note: Not the same as DAR established patriot from Franklin Co.]

MORGAN, WILLIAM, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), 1800NC, S9034

NEWSOM, BOOTH/BOOHE, African American, 1784-87NC ("Other Free"), RNC:150, RJS:36, Northampton Co.


NEWSOM, MOSES, African American, 1784-87 ("Other Free"), JWLBRM2:II:45, RJS:36, Northampton Co.

NICKENS, CARTER, **, HEI-2, Hertford Co.


NICKENS, MALACHI, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), Private, S41925, HEI-2, HAUN:pt9:1202, PPV [died intestate on February 10, 1827], Hertford Co.

NOONDAY, Indian ("Half Indian"), pilot, mentioned in S15890 pension of Abram Hill, Washington Co.

NORTON, JACOB, ("Man of color"), NCG:16:2578, HEI-2, Orange Co.

NORWOOD, OBED, African American ("Mulatto"), NCN:6:728, HEI-2, Carteret Co.

NORWOOD, THEOPHILLUS, African American ("Mulatto") NCN:6:728, HEI-2, Carteret Co.

ORDER, PETER, **, McBRIEDE:XIV:114, Bladen Co.

OVERTON, JOHN, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), McBRIEDE:XIV:115, HEI-2, Cumberland Co.

OVERTON, JONATHAN, ("Of Color"), S8915, CPAR, Chowan Co.


OVERTON, SAMUEL, African American ("Mulatto"), S41928, FPPV [lived in Pasquotank Co. 40 years], HEI-2, Chowan Co., res. Pasquotank Co.


PARKER, ELISHA, ("Man of Color"), S11211, Gates Co. [Note: Not the same man as DAR established patriot from Gates Co. who died in 1793. This patriot of color applied for a pension from a Nansemond Co. courthouse in 1834.]


PEAVEY, THOMAS, African American ("Black"), RNC:56, New Hanover Co.

PENDERGRASS, RICHARD, African American, 1800NC ("Free Negro"), BGMMS:183, Person Co.

PERKINS, GEORGE, African American ("Free Negro"), 1790NC, BGMMS:182, Craven Co.

PERKINS, ISAAC, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S41953, FPPV [died May 23, 1830 in Craven Co.; wife Deborah], HEI-2, WAL, Craven Co.

PETER, JACK, **, CSP, no residence given

PETTIFORD, DRURY, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), CAMIN:XV:162, HEI-2, Stokes Co.

PETTIFORD, ELIAS, **, SRNC:16:1138; HAUN:x:2:715, no residence given


PETTIFORD, PHILIP, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S41952, CAMIN:XV:162, HEI-2, FPPV [died April 13, 1825], Granville Co.


POWELL, STEPHEN JR., Mixed descent ("Free Mulatto"), BGMMS:193, no residence given

PRIMES, RECORD, ("Free man of color"), waiter, R8486, resided in Roane Co., Tenn. in 1846

PUGH, ARTHUR, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), HEI-2, Bertie Co.
PUGH, DAVID, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), RNC:275, HEI-2, Hertford Co.
QUASH, **, Patriotic Service, New River Express service, slave of Lehnians Dekeyser, WNH:90, no residence
REED, BENJAMIN, African American, S41976, HEI-2, Gates Co.
REED, DEMPESEY, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), Soldier, BERNC:101, HEI-2, RNC:180, Mecklenburg Co.
REED, JACOB, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), McBRIE4: XV:103, HEI-2, Gates Co.
REVELL, JOHN, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), RNC:271, no residence given
REVELL/REVELS, MICHAEL, Lumbee Indian, S4077, RNC:584, OLk, no residence given
RICHARDSON, BENJAMIN, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), W4061, FPPV [died November 24, 1844; wife Mary by whom he had the following children: Jesse, Lucy Gray/Lucy Evans and Absalom], HEI-2, Halifax Co.
ROBERTS, ISHMAEL, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), McBRIE4: XV:105, HEI-2, Northampton Co.
ROBERTS, ISHMAEL, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), RNC:156&194; NCT:2:172, Dobbs Co. [Note: DAR established patriot.]
ROBERTS, JAMES, "Free Negro," RJS:36, no residence given
ROBERTS, JOHN, "Free Negro," RJS:36
ROBERTS, WILLIAM, "Free Negro," RJS:36
ROCK, JACK, ("Man of colour"), Soldier, BERNC:102, HEI-2, no residence given
ROE, JAMES, African American, HEI-2, Franklin Co.
ROGERS, PARKER, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), Fifer, slave of Robert Rayford, JWLB:RM2:1:167, no town given
SANTEE, CAESAR, African American, BLWt 12580 & 13710, BERNC:102, HEI-2, Halifax District
SCIPIO, HILL, African American, BERNC:102, Private, HEI-2, M881, no residence given
SCOTT, EXUM, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), RNC:617, Halifax Co.
SCOTT, ISAAC, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), 1790NC, RNC:19:166, RJS:34, Northampton Co.
SCOTT, ISHAM, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S42004, HEI-2, FPPV [died March 19, 1837; wife Rebecca], Halifax Co.
SCOTT, STERLING, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), RNC:161, RJS:34, Northampton Co.
SCOTT, STEVEN, African American ("Free Negro"), RJS:34
SMITH, JAMES, ("Colored"), BERNC:102, HEI-2, Hertford Co.
SPelman, AARON, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), McBRIE4: XVI:234, HEI-2, Craven Co.
SPelman/SPelmORE, ASA, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S42022, CAMIN: XVII:33, HEI-2, Craven Co.
STEWARD, DEMPESEY, African American ("Free Negro Man"), W3734 [wife Lucy; married February 10, 1786], FPPV [died January 10, 1849 in Brunswick Co.], Northampton Co.
STEWARD/STEWARD, WILLIAM, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), WAL, R10173, HEI-2, Northampton Co.
STRINGER, HEZEKIAH, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), McBRIE4: XVI:238, HEI-2, Craven Co.
STRINGER, MINGO, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), SRNC:16:1163, HEI-2, Craven Co.
SWEAT, ABRAHAM, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), RNC:2163, HEI-2, Halifax Co.
SWEAT/SWETT/SWEET, ALLEN, Pamunkey Indian, W16, HEI-2, Halifax Co. [Note: DAR established patriot.]
SWEAT, GEORGE, African American, HEI-2, Halifax Co.
SWEAT, WILLIAM, African American, HEI-2, Halifax Co.
TABORN, ALLEN, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), RNC:168, HEI-2, deserted, Northampton Co.
TABORN, BURRELL, African American, 1790NC ("Other Free"), S7694, HEI-2, FPPV [died January 9, 1842 in Nash Co.; children: Hardiman, Larkin, Caleb, Boling, Elizabeth & Beady Taborn Locust (wife of Berry Locust), all of whom lived in Nash Co. all of their lives], Nash Co.
TABORN/TABURN, JOEL, ("Person of color"), servant of an officer, S42031, FPPV [died November 29, 1835 leaving no widow or children], Nash Co.

TANN, BENJAMIN, African American, HEI-2, no residence given

TANN, DRURY, (“Free Man of Colour”), S19484, HEI-2, RJS:34, 1784-87NC, Wake Co.

TANN, EPHRAIM, African American, HEI-2, no residence given

TANN, JAMES, African American, HEI-2, no residence given

TANN, JOSEPH, African American, HEI-2, no residence given


TITUS, ISHMAEL, African American, R10623, Rowan Co.

TONEY, ARTHUR, (“Free Colored”), W4835 [married Elizabeth Edewell on December 26, 1799; he died at his home in Caswell Co.], HEI-2, PFFV [died July 19, 1847], enlisted in Halifax Co., res. Caswell Co

TONEY, JOHN, Mixed descent (“Free Mulatto”), W9859, HEI-2, Halifax Co.

TURNER, CHARLES, (“Free Colored”), CAMIN:XVII:i60, Pasquotank Co.

TYLER, BARTLET, African American, HEI-2, Granville Co.

TYNER, ASA, (“Dark”), McBRIDE1:XV:109, HEI-2, Bute Co.

VALENTINE, DANIEL, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), R10820, HEI-2, Halifax Co.

VALENTINE, PETER, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), mentioned in R10820 pension of his brother Daniel Valentine, HEI-2, Halifax Co.

WALDEN, DRURY, African American, Private and musician, 1790NC (“Other Free”), R11014 [, HEI-2, RJS:34, FPPV [died October 22, 1834; wife Elizabeth], Bute Co.

WARD, NANCY, Cherokee Indian, ATN, CVSP:1, ANB:22, Chota, Cherokee National, NC [Note: DAR established patriot.]

WEAVER, JOHN, African American, 1790NC (“Other Free”), S42061, HEI-2, Hertford Co.

WEBB, SAMUEL, African American (“Black” and “Other Free”), QRENC, Bladen Co.

WIGGINS, ABSALOM, **, RNC:65, Bertie Co.

WIGGINS, ARTHUR, (“Free Colored”), S7952, HEI-2, Hertford Co.

WIGGINS, HENRY, (“Man of Colour”), BERNC:102, no residence given


WOMBLE, JOHN, (“Other Free”), servant to a doctor, S42083, HEI-2, Halifax Co. [Note: DAR established patriot.]
Veterans applying for benefits under the Pension Law of 1820 had to submit a schedule of property and income. Absalom Martin’s schedule listed 140 acres of real property and other personal property. He also identified members of his family and their ages.
Certificate of service from the pension file of Moses Carter of North Carolina.
Pension S41470, page 12, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration,
“Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,”
(M804, Roll 486)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

Many veterans of the war found it difficult to locate officers still living who could support their claims of service. Moses Carter was fortunate in that his former captain, Joseph Rhodes, was alive in 1819 and able to provide a certificate supporting his claim.
Rejected pensions are misnomers to some extent. They may refer to the rejection of the application of a veteran, his wife, children, or other heirs, even though one of the above received a pension. The pension and pension payment records reveal the identity of the successful applicant(s). In the above example, the Ledger of Payments reveals that Drury Walden died on October 22, 1834 and that his pension payment, made in March 1835, followed his death. His widow Elizabeth Walden probably received the March 1835 payment. However, when she applied for benefits in her own right under the 1832 Pension Law, her request failed. The reason given was that she was not a widow at the time of the passage of the law. Her application file (see rejected pension R11014) contains documents that further support that Drury, and not his wife or heirs, was the successful applicant.

Pension files contain a variety of documents dating from the immediate post-Revolutionary Era to the 20th century. Response letters such as the one written by A. D. Hiller in 1933, frequently contain handwritten notes. Such notes reveal that administrative clerks often consulted contemporary histories, such as Francis B. Heitman’s 1903 publication, Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, for service-related facts.
A majority of the military muster rolls and service records lack race or color descriptors. Pension records, however, may contain depositions that identify veterans by color or race. Aaron Devaney, son of an officer, described Solomon Bibbie as a “free man of colour” in a deposition to support Bibbie’s claims of military service during the war.
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South Carolina and Georgia faced many of the same challenges in the opening days of the American Revolution. They shared, in common, an unprotected seacoast easily exposed to enemy blockades. In each Colony, only one commercial port provided an economic lifeline. The Low Country of South Carolina and Georgia had developed a culture based on slavery. Free Blacks led highly restricted lives as artisans and skilled laborers in predominantly urban settings. In contrast, smaller farmers determined to carry out an independent way of life populated the Up Country. Slavery existed on a more limited scale in the Up Country. To the west, the extensive borders were also exposed to an enemy. The foe in this area was British inspired Indian tribes poised to invade remote settlements.

The Low Country looked east to an invasion from the sea. Additional concern centered on possible slave uprisings offering a physical and economic threat. The Up Country faced a constant menace from the mountains. The two segments of the population stood back-to-back, unable to share the other’s perspective. The first obstacle facing the leaders of these southern colonies was to convince the residents that there was a common enemy who would only be defeated by a unified effort.

The minorities of South Carolina looked on in bewilderment as the revolutionary spirit gathered momentum. Yet, the contribution they ultimately made to American Independence during the conflict was unique in some ways and must be emphasized in the context of the military annals of the area.

**AFRICAN AMERICAN TROOPS IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

When the American Revolution came to South Carolina, either the Americans or the British did not consider Free Blacks and slaves suitable candidates for full military participation. To be sure, John Murray, Earl of Dunmore and the Royal Governor of Virginia had issued a proclamation on November 7, 1775. He promised freedom to all slaves of the rebels who took up arms with His Majesty’s troops. In contrast, the Continental Congress had ruled on November 12, 1775 that negroes, young boys and old men were not to be enlisted. There were some African Americans already serving and they would be allowed to fill out their terms but not be able to perform additional duty. These conflicting edicts reached the ears of the South Carolina rebel leaders as they were evaluating their abilities to withstand a military and naval offensive by the British. Manpower was a primary concern.

A typical report on officers and men able to bear arms came from the Colleton County Regiment of Foot, in September 1775. The information on the largest units, the Saltcatcher Companies, was discouraging. Including the fact that the male slaves age 16 to 60 did not exceed 125 indicated an
awareness of the possibility of negroes as a source of manpower.¹ Despite the lack of troops, the South Carolina Council of Safety continued to prepare for war. Colonel William Moultrie occupied Fort Johnson near the Charleston harbor entrance with 150 men of the 2nd South Carolina Regiment of Foot. The symbol of a free colony emerged with the first use of the crescent flag over the fort.² The Royal Governor promptly dissolved the Commons House of the Assembly and, taking the Great Seal of His Majesty’s Province of South Carolina, fled to the station ship, the Tamar. Revolutionary activity continued to concentrate in the Charleston harbor area with the erection of a fort on Sullivan’s Island. This outpost made military history as the palmetto log construction was not originally deemed strong enough to withstand a battle. Slaves and artisans labored for months to build the fort of thousands of palmetto tree trunks, as these were the only materials readily at hand. Among the cannons set in place in the fort were nineteen pieces captured from the French ship Foudroyant in 1758 and presented to South Carolina for the defense of Charleston by George II.³ The Battle of Sullivan’s Island in the spring of 1776 was a victory for the Colonials and helped gain valuable time to form plans of action for the future.

Welcomed so far only as servants and laborers, the African Americans of South Carolina reflected on their position in the scheme of independence. Along the Savannah River, at Silver Bluff, at the vast trading post owned by Indian trader, George Galphin, a religious movement was taking place. Led by George Lielé, a Baptist church was constituted by African Americans for themselves. This emergence of leadership had far reaching effects. When war came to this area, slaves followed their leader to Savannah where, in due time, many emigrated with the evacuating British. African Americans were emerging as leaders.

Unrest was widespread among the Low Country African American population. While the British encouraged laborers to abandon their masters, causing economic disaster, the Continental Congress continued to prevent any opportunity of inclusion for African Americans. The same mindset about arming African Americans that preoccupied colonial leaders in Philadelphia prevailed in South Carolina. There seemed to be no hope for mixing of troops,⁴ despite an urgent need to strengthen military units throughout the colony. Charleston did take advantage of the availability of an African American labor force. Hired blacks learned to extinguish fires and to remove lead ornaments from buildings, to be melted into bullets. Assignments were also made to place these laborers at all harbor batteries.

As the war progressed and troop replacements reached a dangerously low level, options for recruiting had to be seriously considered. It is interesting to note that some early pressure to discard color restrictions came from two South Carolina slave owners. Henry Laurens and his son, John, were advocates of slave enlistment. By 1778, John Laurens was sharing the rigors of Valley Forge and seeing the collapse of the American Army. He wrote to his father on January 14, 1778,

... I would solicit you to cede me a number of your able bodied slaves instead of leaving me a fortune. I would bring about a two fold good, first I would advance those who are unjustly deprived of the Rights of Mankind to a state which would be a proper Gradation between abject slavery and perfect Liberty—and besides, I would reinforce the Defender of Liberty with a number of gallant soldiers-men who have the habit of Subordination almost indelibly impressed upon them, would have one very essential Qualification of Soldiers.⁵

Henry Laurens reminded his son that the “kind intentions toward your negroes would be deemed by them the highest cruelty and that to escape from it they would flee into the woods.”⁶ He was concerned that African Americans removed from

² P. C. Coker, III., Charleston’s Maritime History, 1670-1865 (Charleston: CokerCraft Press, 1987), 75. (Hereafter cited as PCC.)
³ Ibid., 80, 84.
⁵ PHL, 12:395.
⁶ Ibid., 12:367.
their familiar surroundings to the field of battle might not appreciate the exchange of conditions. John Laurens, however, was inspired by the news that Rhode Island proposed to raise a battalion of Blacks. Henry Laurens felt that the Rhode Island system of freedom as a reward for slaves' military participation should be reversed and freedom should be granted before enlistment.

It became the mission of Henry Laurens to carry the message to Congress that African American troops could relieve the manpower shortages. George Washington worried that the British would respond to the arming of slaves by the Americans with an intensified effort to arm the African Americans following their troops. Slave owners resisted and grew more concerned about compensation for the loss of the labor of their property. The closest that the South Carolina legislature came to fulfilling John Laurens' hopes was to order that slaves be enrolled as pioneers, fatigues men, oarsmen or mariners.

Throughout the war in South Carolina and in many other colonies, African American men were used to build fortifications and to accompany the army in various roles. In February 1780, the Assembly passed a resolution authorizing the employment of 1,000 of a “Black Corps to be annexed to the army”:

Resolved, That it will be of publick utility to employ a number not exceeding 1,000 Negroes to act with the army as pioneers and fatigue men, or on board the galleys and other State vessels as oarsmen and mariners.

And that ample reparation be made to those sufferers who slaves acting in the publick service shall die, be maimed or disabled, or may fall into the Enemy's hands and be irrevocably lost, in consequence of their being voluntarily sent down or impressed or detained in the publick service.6

Involvement of slaves in the South Carolina military plans took a different turn by March of 1783. The South Carolina House of Representatives had devised a system to enhance white enlistments by offering a bounty of slaves to men who joined the army. The State Troops of Colonel Samuel Hammond were to receive one hundred and one grown negroes and nine small ones to be issued as bounties.7 Slavery continued to be the rule.

Despite the debate and discord there is evidence that some slaves and Free Blacks did serve in the South Carolina military units and their records are available for the interested researcher. Federal Pension files, State Pension and Annuity Claims and Legislative Acts for many years after the Revolution gave proof of African American military participation in the South Carolina Revolutionary effort.

There are not many pension applications in Federal records that show the service of South Carolina African American soldiers. What is lacking in quantity is compensated for by the varied experiences of the men involved. Jim Capers applied for a pension (R1669) in Pike County, Alabama in 1849. He had not made an application in previous years because he did not know that a free man of color was entitled to receive a pension. He was born in Christ Church Parish in South Carolina, where he enlisted about June 15, 1775 in the 4th Regiment, South Carolina line. He served over 7 years and was wounded at the Battle of Eutaw Springs, where the drummer behind him, Paul Ram Lee, was killed. Jim then marched to Virginia where he was a Principal Drummer when General O'Hara surrendered the British troops. After being taken by ship to Philadelphia, Jim was returned to Charleston and discharged. He states that he held the rank of Drum Major all of his service and was never employed in any civil pursuits. Several years after the war, Jim married Milly in Sumter District. The Capers family moved to Pike County, Alabama, where Jim died, August 1, 1853. As a drummer, Jim left a lasting impression on fellow soldier, Robert Bean, who saw him perform on the parade ground. Widow, Milly


7 Theodora J. Thompson, ed., State Records of South Carolina: Journals of the House of Representatives 1783-1784 (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1977), 214. (Hereafter cited as JHR.)
Capers, was not able to establish her claim for a Pension, but her affidavit named six children living in Alabama, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Isham Carter (S39293) made his first Federal pension application in 1818 from Beaufort District, South Carolina. He was a resident of Bamwell District and the son of an Indian woman and a negro man. As a soldier in the 4th Regiment of Artillery he served in the battles of Stono, Savannah and Charleston. With his Commanding Officer and neighbor, John Wickey, Isham was made a prisoner of war when the 4th Regiment was captured at Charleston. By 1821, Isham owned a few farm animals, but his health was so poor that he could hardly support himself. His wife and children were slaves so they could not assist with his care. The $8.00 a month pension was surely very welcome.

In 1832 in Orangeburg District, Lazarus Chavis (S9316 SC) established his claim for a Federal pension based on his service as a private. He enlisted in the area now known as Edgefield County, South Carolina, in an independent company. The battles in his record were Stono and Savannah. Lazarus was awarded a pension of $46.66 each year.

James Flanagan, Justice of the Peace in New York City prefaced the pension application of Edward Coleman (R2160 SC) by the following statement on June 20, 1829. “The application of a very deserving colored man of this city of a very peculiar and interesting nature.” The soldier’s statements provided the information that he enlisted in a company commanded by Captain Sinclair and was discharged after Yorktown. He served at Blackstocks, Guilford Court House, Camden and Valley Forge, in addition to many skirmishes. Although wounded in the right knee and bayoneted in the abdomen, he was able to participate in the surrender at Yorktown. After his discharge, Edward went to sea and traveled to the East Indies. Henry Foster of New York City affirmed the sea going adventure in a deposition made in 1829. Occasionally Henry went to sea as mate of a vessel and knew Edward as a cook aboard Manchester of the London trade. When the shipboard years were over, Edward tried to support his sickly wife, Rachel, by working as a wood sawyer and a laborer in a store. Unfortunately, Edward Coleman was not able to satisfy Federal requirements for a pension.

One of the people who testified for Edward Coleman was Joseph Francis, also of New York City. As a boy of twelve or thirteen, he had been a servant in the French Army under Rochambeau and was present at Yorktown. Joseph’s colony of origin was not stated but he was a member of the African American community of New York City, later in life. There is no record of a pension application from Joseph.

Moses Knight was an African by birth but was reared by General Alexander McIntosh on the Big Pee Dee River in South Carolina. His birth date and the names of his parents do not, unfortunately, appear in his Federal pension application (W10182 SC). Also known as Moses Sharper or Moses McIntosh, he enlisted in 1779 and served until 1782. He was a press master and delivered a boat load of corn from Culp’s Ferry to General Greene’s army. Moses traveled to many places during the Revolution mentioning Guilford Court House, in North Carolina, Princess Anne Court House, in Virginia, and Savannah in Georgia. His service was chiefly in pursuit of Tories. After the Revolution he went to Washington County, Maryland and married Mary Ann Hopewell, December 26, 1795 or 1796. The family moved to Daviess County, Indiana where Moses applied for a pension and died April 2, 1848. Mary Ann or Marian, went to Galesburg, Illinois where she died in 1863. A son, Mr. A. H. Knight, created some lively reading matter as he sought to collect various benefits for his father’s Revolutionary service.

A multitude of minority men fought for the colonial cause during the American Revolution but their names hardly emerge from the recesses of South Carolina history. Simon Fralix was a waiting boy for Henry Fralix and Tom Butler. He was armed and put into the ranks during the Battle of Charleston. Simon accompanied his master to Guilford Court House and to Yorktown.8

The Battery at Haddrell’s Point fell on April 18, 1780 and was a prelude to the defeat of the American forces at Charleston on May 12th. By November, a roster of prisoners of war showed that

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a number of African American soldiers had been assigned to various captured American officers. Bacchus was a servant to Captain John Elliott. Billy served Lieutenant William Ward. Cain went to Lieutenant William Hazzard. Charles, Hector, Jemmy, Toby and Wexford also shared the fate of the officers they served.9

The South Carolina House received a petition on February 3, 1784 that told of an unfortunate accident to the two slaves of John Calvert. On April 5, 1779 (Easter Monday) Jack and Primus were assisting the petitioner in proving some cannon belonging to the state. One of the cannon, an 18 pounder, blew up and wounded the men so severely that they died the next day. These men had been constantly employed in the public service for over four years.10

Former Governor Rutledge was strongly opposed to arming African Americans but he did give credit to slaves where he felt it was deserved. On March 29, 1782, a recommendation was presented to the House of Representatives from Rutledge concerning a slave named Antigua. His service as a spy and observer of British activities merited the freedom of Antigua, his wife Hagar and their child.11

There were also State pensions and annuities issued by South Carolina for Revolutionary service. Among the few African Americans who qualified for support were John Busby, John Chavis, and Peter Desbernays. Their files can be found at the South Carolina Department of Archives.

**African American Seamen in Revolutionary South Carolina**

The schooner *Defence* was purchased by South Carolina in October 1775 as the first action in forming a State Navy. Simon Tufts, a transplanted New Engander, was given command. Among his crew members were three Free Blacks, John Featherston, George Cooper and Stephen Bond. These men had a difficult time obtaining their pay for the services they performed. As a result, they generated records in the *South Carolina Revolutionary Audited Accounts* (#2569) which described their dealings with Captain Tufts.

That *Defence* had African Americans as crew members was not a unique item in the formation of South Carolina’s Navy. The fact that their full names are listed in documents is unusual however. Free Blacks and slaves had always been a vital part of maritime activities in South Carolina but their names were seldom listed. As the newly appointed Commissioners of the Navy set about their task to protect the coastal water ways, various documents began to emerge. They detailed the hiring of African Americans as pilots, boatmen, ships carpenters, shipyard laborers and rope walk workers. The *Journals of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina* contains numerous references to men named Lewis, Pompey and Bacchus. Even more names of owners can be gleaned from the notices of unnamed slaves being hired for various duties. Only Tower Hill, who was purchased for the State Shipyard from John Wells in 1779, emerges from these records as an identifiable person.

The *Defence* had a rather short career with the South Carolina Navy. She was converted to a brigantine and in March 1777 she was captured off the Delaware Capes. Renamed *HMS Hinchinbrook* she returned to the Charleston area in the British service.13

The Second Provincial Congress did not seem willing to rely on local sources of manpower when they passed a resolution on 27 November 1775. It stated:

That the Delegates of this Colony in the Continental Congress be immediately applied to, to use their utmost endeavours to procure two hundred able seamen, to be engaged in the Northern Colonies and sent hither with all possible dispatch, for manning the armed vessels in the Colony Service. And that they be requested to cause the encouragement offered by this Colony to be made as public as possible. 12

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10 *JHR*, 409.
12 William Hemphill, ed., *The State Records of South Carolina: Extracts from the Journals of the Provincial Congresses of South Carolina 1775-1776* (Columbia:
South Carolina

There is no evidence, however, that northern sailors rushed to serve in southern waters following this action by South Carolina.

The Commissioners of the Navy had a variety of jobs available for African Americans. In October, 1776 they hoped to hire blacks, "...to cleanse the entrance at the flood gate of the stones and rubbish now lying there, in order to make it convenient to receive boats belonging to the public." In the spring of 1777 the Board advertised in the Gazettes for, "...a number of negro ship carpenters or caulkers. Any person having such to hire by the year are desired to apply to Edward Blake, first commissioner." In an interesting turn of events, a number of ship carpenters from Georgia stopped in Charleston, while en route to Philadelphia. The Board was immediately called in order to engage them in service. Georgia had paid them $30.00 and South Carolina offered $40.00 for a three month obligation. By October 1777 the carpenters had gone north, leaving the Commissioners to instigate a new search. In 1779 the whole question of ships carpenters came up again when it was found that about 120, white and African American carpenters were available in and about Charleston. Many were employed in private work and they would need to be induced to work in public yards.

The fact that South Carolina African Americans served as pilots is evident from a Commissioners entry in 1778 that an African American pilot was carried away by the British. Another Free Black, Samuel Waldron, served as a pilot in Count D'Estaing's fleet in the fall of 1779.

In December, 1778 the brig, Notre Dame, was so short of crew that an officer was directed, "...to go round the town with a Drum and Fife and endeavor to get a few volunteers." "After having a Drum about Town all day," Captain Hall informed Commissioner Blake, "that he has got but two Men Enlisted and the promise of four as Volunteers." This brought his whole crew, officers included, to fifty-five or sixty men, when the common complement was eighty-five. His Excellency, the President, responded to this information by hoping that, "a fit of Zeal may Seize the Seamen when they hear that the Enemy heaves in Sight again." 

The original Journals of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina were damaged in a fire in the New York State Library in 1911. Clues to the identity of negro service men will require a search of the legislative and legal records of the state to shed any possible light on the subject.

The Catawba Indian Nation and the Revolutionary War

During the American Revolution, the people of South Carolina were fortunate to have strong allies among the Catawba Nation. No other southern colony enjoyed the friendship of an entire tribe living within its borders. The Congress of Augusta had, in 1763, defined Catawba lands to 144,000 acres situated near the North Carolina boundary. This reservation was located in present day York and Lancaster Counties on both sides of the Catawba River. While the colonial government had really attempted to provide the Catawba with exclusive rights to their property, the Native Americans welcomed white settlers to live among them. From the arrival of Thomas Spratt in the 1760's to the opening of the Revolution, the Catawba had entered into a large number of land leases with newly arrived families. By 1775, both races could not separate from each other and what affected one affected both.

When the political disturbances arose and the white South Carolina residents were dividing into loyalist and rebel camps, the Catawba became very confused. They sent a delegation to Charleston to

\textsuperscript{13} PCC, 75, 87.
\textsuperscript{14} A. S. Salley, Jr., ed., Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina, October 9, 1776-March 1, 1779 (Sumter, The Historical Commission of South Carolina), 9. (Hereafter cited as JPC.)
\textsuperscript{15} Ibid., 59.
\textsuperscript{16} Ibid., 60.
\textsuperscript{17} Ibid., 77.
\textsuperscript{18} Ibid., 99.
\textsuperscript{19} Ibid., 241
\textsuperscript{20} Ibid., 172.
\textsuperscript{21} BGM, 959.
\textsuperscript{22} JCN 1, 212.
\textsuperscript{23} Ibid., 213.
find out why, suddenly, the brothers were making preparations to fight each other.\textsuperscript{24} The tides of war surely would have turned against South Carolina if the Catawba had joined the nearby Cherokee in support of the British. Instead, the Nation chose, fortunately, to follow the majority of their neighbors.

The First Provincial Congress was quick to take advantage of this relationship when, on June 7, 1775, they

Resolved, That it is in the opinion of this Congress, that the Council of Safety should invite fifty men of the Catawba Indians, or so many more, as upon any emergency may appear needful, to enter into the services of this Colony, under the command of one or more proper white men.

Additionally, it was “Resolved, that the Council of Safety be empowered to draw on the Commissioners of the Treasury for such expenses as might be incurred by this service.”\textsuperscript{25} With these actions, the Catawba were officially brought into the Revolutionary efforts of South Carolina.

In July of 1775, King Prouw of the Catawba Nation arrived in Camden with about 50 warriors ready to participate in any available activity. Colonel William Thompson hurriedly contacted the Council of Safety for instructions. Evidently some directions were forthcoming as Captain Samuel Boykin of Camden soon reported to the Council of Safety from Granby on October 16, 1775. He explained that it was not in his power to comply with the Council’s wishes at that time as some of the Indians were sick. He mentions pay for 25 men so his group was not large.\textsuperscript{26}

By November of 1775 a company of Indian Pioneers commanded by Captain John Allston were “ordered to scour the coast from Seewee Bay to Haddrell’s Point, subject to the orders of the Council of Safety.”\textsuperscript{17} This order was made void and the company was restored to their original establishment.

In the meantime, Colonel Andrew Williamson was gathering Up Country troops to invade the Cherokee lands and diminish British inspired Cherokee raids on the frontiers. Catawba tribal members participated in the Battle of Great Cane Break in December of 1775. Along with the New Acquisition Militia and other troops, the Catawba endured thirty hours of constant snow followed by a sleet storm as they made their way home from the battle. This weather event caused the military action to be known as the Snow Campaign.\textsuperscript{28} A few months later, Catawba warriors were reported to be a strong force in the victory at the Battle of Sullivan’s Island. The Indians, with Colonel Thompson’s Rangers, defended the Breach between Sullivan’s Island and Long Island, preventing the British from attacking the rear of General Moultrie’s Palmetto Fort in June 1776.\textsuperscript{29}

The Cherokee Expedition of the summer of 1776 seemed to bring a lapse in Catawba military operations for some time. In the summer of 1779 South Carolina paid Captain David Garrison of York County for maintaining thirty-one Catawba on the road to Charleston and General Lincoln’s camp. The supplies listed were bacon, corn, flour and whiskey.\textsuperscript{30} These warriors may have been involved in the Battle of Stono that took place June 20, 1779.

The fall of Charleston to the British, May 12, 1780, brought the Revolution to the Up Country. As the remnants of the American forces tried to retreat to other colonies, the British engaged them at every opportunity. Battles at Waxhaws, Rocky Mount, Hanging Rock and Camden included Catawba participation. With the overwhelming destruction of the Up Country the Nation decided to follow the American Army into Virginia. Over a year later, on June 13, 1781, one hundred Catawba men, women and children passed through Salem, North Carolina

\textsuperscript{24} Thomas J. Kirkland and Robert M. Kennedy, \textit{Historic Camden: Part I} (Camden: Kershaw County Historical Society, 1963), 117. (Hereafter cited as \textit{HC}).
\textsuperscript{25} \textit{JPC}, 56.
\textsuperscript{26} PHL, 10:471.
on their way back to their homes. In settling accounts for the services of thirty-five Catawba men under Captain Drenan, a further sum was allowed for replacing live stock lost during the absence of the Tribe.

The only Revolutionary military roster for the Catawba that has survived is that which Captain Drenan presented showing the 1780 to 1782 military service. In Audited Accounts 3931A are two lists of Catawba men. The first list contains forty-one names; number of days served and pays. The second list is for thirty-seven men but carries a notation that the service cannot be substantiated.

Just one member of the Nation applied for a Pension after the Revolution. Peter Harris presented a memorial to South Carolina for relief in his old age. Through many sources it is possible to piece together his life during the Revolution and in the years following the conflict. The first published evidence for his military service is found in the rolls of the Georgia State Minute Battalion June 3, 1777 to March 1, 1778. The record states that Peter Harris, a Catawba “Indian,” was not at the time of his enlistment, an inhabitant of this State nor had he resided in any part of the State for twelve months prior to his enlistment. Many references for Peter Harris are found in the Thomas Sumter Papers of the Draper Collection of Manuscripts. Among the notes are recollections of local residents about Peter Harris at the Battle of Stono. The scheme devised by Adam Caruth to exhibit Peter and two other members of the Nation in London, England is recounted. After being deserted by the exhibitor, Peter was the only Catawba who returned from London.

The Sumter Papers abound in references to the Catawba Nation. When Lyman Draper collected the information about Thomas Sumter as a Revolutionary leader, he developed a full history of the American Revolution in the South Carolina Up Country. Thomas J. Blumer created a Bibliography of the Catawba in 1987 which provides easy access to available references for the Catawba Nation from 1680 to 1985. Another source of Catawba history is found in the writings of Douglas Summers Brown, including her book People of the River. Without the efforts of the Catawba Nation interest group represented by Mr. Draper, Mr. Blumer, Mrs. Brown and Frank G. Speck, the story of the Catawba Nation’s contribution to the American Revolution might have been lost in time.

Thoughts on Research in the Records of South Carolina

South Carolina is a state with rich historical records despite the various calamities that have struck the state over the centuries. Many of these sources are published and therefore readily available to researchers.

Beyond the military sources for the Palmetto State, such records as Accounts Audited of Claims Growing Out of the Revolution in South Carolina are essential to researchers, because they provide detail about payments to South Carolinians for activities, services, and supplies during the war. The records of the South Carolina naval forces are also particularly important.

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32 JHR, 491.
33 Records of the Comptroller General: Accounts Audited for Revolutionary Service. South Carolina Department of Archives and History. 3368A.
ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES

USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


BLWt  Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


HEI-2  Paul Heinegg, “Free African Americans of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, and Delaware: The history of the free African American community as told through the family history of most African Americans who were free in the Southeast during the colonial period.” Online at: <http://www.freeafricanamericans.com/>


REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE
SOUTH CAROLINA 1775-1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, “Indian,” European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

ADAM, African American (“Negro”), Soldier, RSCP:3
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Negro”) (No given name), Patriotic Service, servant to Capt. Goodwin, RRSC
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, (“Negroes”) (No names or number appear.), “to attend the army as artificers and pioneers over and above those employed to work on the fortifications” (1779), HGR:197
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN, (5 “Negroes”) [part of a 1777 contract agreement to lease the shipyard of Robert Cochran; contract was originally for 5 years but was terminated in 1779.], HGR, 217
AGRIPPA, African American, Soldier, RSCP:3
ANTIGUA, African American, Spy, BHAM, JHR:42,80,108&536
AYERS, BILLY, Catawba Indian, DC:5:VV40, also listed as EAYRS, BILLY
AYERS, JACOB, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A; also listed as EAYRS, JACOB
AYERS, JAMES, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A; also listed as EAYRS, JAMES
AYERS, JOHN, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A; also listed as EAYRS, JOHN
BACCHUS, African American, Navy, JCN:II:23
BACCHUS, NEGRO, African American, prisoner of war, SCHG:7:21
BILLY, NEGRO, African American, prisoner of war, SCHG:7:21
BOATSWAIN, NEGRO, African American, RRSC
BOB, African American (“Negro”), Drummer, RSCP:721
BOBB, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
BOND, STEPHEN, African American, Navy, AASC:2567
BRAM, African American (“Negro”), Soldier, RSCP:720, IRWSR, M881
BROWN, JOHN, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
BROWN, PATRICK, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
BROWNNSGUARD, GASPER, African American, SCHG:7:21, SESC, DHSC
BUSBY, JOHN, African American, Soldier, RSCP:127
CAGG, BILLY, see KEGG, BILLY
CAGG, JOHN, see KEGG, JOHN
CAIN, African American, prisoner of war, SCHG:7:21
CANTER/CANTEY, GEORGE, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
CAPERS, JIM, African American, Drummer, RI669
CAROLINA, SOUTH, African American, NMSC
CARTER, ISHAM/ISOM, African American, Soldier, S39293, GREE
CELLIAH, JOHN, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A; also listed as KELLIAH, JOHN
CHARLES, African American, Navy, JCN: II:4
CHARLES, NEGRO, African American, prisoner of war, SCHG:7:21
BIDDIE/BIDDEY, JOHN, **, S10374, 1800SC, HEI-2, Union District
CHAVERS, JOHN, African American, Soldier, RSCP:165
CHAVIS, JOHN, African American, Soldier, AASC:22:125, HEI-2
CHAVIS, LAZARUS, African American, Soldier, S9316, 1790SC, HEI-2, Orangeburg Co.
CLOMPELL, African American, JCN:I:112
COLEMAN, EDWARD, African American, Soldier, R2160
CONNAR, JOHN, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
COOK, TOM, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
COOPER, GEORGE, African American, Navy, AASC:2567
COOPER, POMPEY, African American (“Negro”), BGMMS:192
CROSS, TOM, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
CUPID, African American, RRSC
DICK, OLD, see PICKENS, DICK
DUBLIN, African American, Navy, BGM, 269
EADY, JOHN, African American, BHAM
EAYRS, JACOB; see AYERS, JACOB
EAYRS, JAMES; see AYERS, JAMES
EAYRS, JOHN; see AYERS, JOHN
EXETER, **, slave of John Laurens, JLAR:159
FEATHERSTON, JOHN, African American, Navy, AASC:2567
FRALIX, SIMON, African American, Soldier, RSCP:339
FRANCH, MICHAL, African American, Soldier, RSCP:333
FRANCIS, **, slave to Capt. Baker, RRSC, SCHG:7:23
FRANCIS, JACOB, African American, Soldier, R2160
FREE, GEORGE, **, M881
GAZER/GRAZER, POMPEY, African American, NMSC
GEORGE, **, slave of John Laurens, JLAR:234
GEORGE, Catawba Indian, DC:5:40
GEORGE, PETER, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
GEORGE, PINTREE, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
GILBERT, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
GILLON, DUBLIN, African American (“Black slave”), NMSC
GOING/GOINS, RAPES/REEPS, African American, HEI-2, res. Granville County, NC
GRIFFIN, GIDEON, African American (“other free”), W8877 [married Patience Rawlinson; he died July 10, 1837; she died October 26, 1842; children: Gideon, Sophia, Stephen], HEI-2, 1830 SC, Richland Co.
GRIFFIN, MORGAN, African American, S18844 (daughter Mrs. Martha Coon), HEI-2, Richland Co.
GRIFFEN/GRIFFIN/GRIFFON/GRISSON, PREMIUM/PRIMUS, African American, landsman, NMSC
HARRIS, EDWARD, African American (“Free Person of Color”), Soldier, Continental Line, R4649
HARRIS, GEORGE, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
HARRIS, PETER, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
HARRY, African American, Messenger, PHL:11:69
HECTOR, African American, prisoner of war, SCHG, 7:21
HILL, TOWER, African American, Navy, JCN: I:231
HORACE, African American, Laborer at Public Rope Walk, JCN: I:76
ISSAC, African American (“Negro”), Soldier, RSCP:486
JACK, African American, Laborer at Public Rope Walk, JCN: I:76
JACK, African American, Soldier, JHR:409
JACK, African American (“Negro”), Laborer “had been Constantly Employed in the Public Service for upwards of 4 Years...” [mortally wounded while working to “scale” cannons; enslaved man of John Calvert; Calvert sought restitution from the state.], JHR:409,435,442,475
JACOB, **, slave of Henry Laurens, JLAR:159
JAMEY, BIG, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
JAMEY, SUGGAR, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
JANUARY, **, Patriotic Service, servant of Capt. Gadsden, RRSC, SCHG:7:24
JEFFERS, ALLEN, African American, SI770, private, res. in Richland Co.
JEMEY, African American, Navy, JCN:I:231
JEMMY, **, pilot, slave of Peter Croft, PHL:10
JEMMY, CHUCKEFACE, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
JEMY, NEGRO, African American, prisoner of war, SCHG:7:21
JOE, **, servant of Lt. Hart, RRSC
JOHN, DOCTOR, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
JOHN, YOUNG, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
JOUE/JOVE, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
JOSEPH, **, Patriotic Service, servant to Capt. Warley, RRSC, SCHG:7:25
JULIUS, **, Patriotic Service, servant to Lt. Frierson, RRSC, SCHG:7:69
KEGG/CAGG, BILLY, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
KEGG/CAGG, JOHN, Pamunkey ("Indian"), AASC:3931A
KELLIAH, JOHN, see CELLIAH, JOHN
KELLER/NELLER, **, Patriotic Service, servant to Col. Henderson, RRSC, SCHG:7:72
KNIGHT/SHARPER/MCINTOSH, MOSES, African American ("an African by birth"), Soldier, W1082, 1840IN (Vincennes)
LANDY, African American, Laborer at Public Rope Walk, JCN:I:83
LEWIS, African American, Laborer on Brig Comet, JCN:I:159
LITTLE, ALACK/ALECK, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
LITTLE CHARLEY, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
LITTLE, MICK, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
LITTLE, STEPHEN, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
MARION, OSCAR/"BUDDY," African American, Servant/Soldier, BASS, MONTES, BODDIE:3, MOSS, WDJ, WGS, NWD
MCINTOSH, MOSES, see KNIGHT, MOSES
MCKENZIE, HECTOR, African American, NMSC
MORRISON, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
NELSON, **, Patriotic Service, servant to Lt. Col. Henderson, RRSC
NEPTUNE, African American, Drummer, RSCP:723
NETTLES, JOHN, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
NEW RIVER, General, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
OTTER, BILLEY, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
PATTY, **, Patriotic Service, seamstress, PHL:11
PEAS, TOM, **, patroon/boatman, slave of Henry Laurens, PHL:13 & 14
PENDARVIS, BRAND, African American ("Mullato"), AASC:5831. [Note: DAR established patriot.]
PENDARVIS, JAMES, African American ("Mullato"), SESC Books C-F:60
PENDARVIS, THOMAS, African American ("Mullato"), SESC Books C-F:191
PENDARVIS, WILLIAM, African American ("Mullato"), SESC Books C-F:11, 40
PERKINS, GEORGE, African American ("Free Negro"), BGMM:182, HEI-2 [Note: Pension R8113 is for another man with the same name.]
PERKINS, JACOB, African American ("Free Negro"), BGMM:183, R8105, HEI-2
PETER, **, Patriotic Service, servant of Lt. Evans, RRSC, SCHG:7:69
PETER, **, Patriotic Service, servant to Capt. Shubrick, RRSC, SCHG:7:69
PETER, **, Patriotic Service, servant to Capt. Mazyck, RRSC, SCHG:7:69
PETER, African American ("Negro"), Patriotic Service, servant to Capt. Uriah Goodwyn, BGMM:185, RRSC
PETTER, Capt., Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
PICKENS/OLD, DICK, African American, DC:16VV:360-2, MOSS
PIPE, CHUNKEY, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
PLYMOUTH, African American, Soldier, DC:12VV:203

Oscar “Buddy” Marion, shown in the left foreground beside the camp fire, accompanied Francis Marion throughout the Revolution.
POMPEY, African American, Navy, JCN:II:23
POMPEY, African American, Patriotic Service, Slave & servant to Marquis de Lafayette, BGMMS:192
PORCY/POVEY/PERCY, ANTHONY, African American (“Black sailor”), NMSC
PRIMAS, African American (“Negro”), Laborer “had been Constantly Employed in the Public Service for upwards of 4 Years...” [mortal[y wounded while working to “scale” cannons; enslaved man of John Calvert; Calvert sought restitution from the state.], JHR:409,435,442,475
PRIMUS, African American, Soldier, JHR, 409
PROUW, KING, Catawba Indian, HC:1:117
QUASH, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
READHEAD, BILLY, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
READHEAD, PATRICK, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
REED, SHADRACK, African American, Soldier, RSCP:808, 1790SC, HEI-2, Orangeburg Co.
REED, WILLIS, African American, Soldier, RSCP:806, 1790SC, HEI-2, Orangeburg Co.
ROBBIN, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
ROBIN, **, Patriotic Service, servant to Lt. Mazyck, RRSC, SCHG:7:69
ROUSE, CORNELIUS, African American, patriotic service, HEI-2
SAM, aka NEGRO SAM/MILLER SAM, African American, DC:4VV78, DC:4VV80-1, DC:4VV84-8, DC:9VV206, MOSS
SANDY, OLD, African American, DC:13DD1-2, 30, MOSS
SCARAMOUCH, **, boatman, slave of Henry Laurens, messenger, PHL:10 & 14
SCOT, ABRAHAM, African American, Soldier, RSCP:849, 1790SC, HEI-2, Orangeburg Co.
SCOTT, BILLEY, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
SCOTT, JACOB, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
SCOTT, JACOB, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
SCOTT, JOHN, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
SHARPER, MOSES, see KNIGHT, MOSES
SHREWSBERRY, **, slave of Henry Laurens, at Valley Forge with John Laurens, PHL:12 & 13, JLAR
SIMMONS, JACK, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
STEPNEY, **, slave of John Laurens, JLAR:159
TITUS, **, Laborer at Public Rope Walk, JCN:1:64
TOBY, African American, prisoner of war, SCHG:7:21
TOM, **, Patriotic Service, servant of Paymaster Gray, RRSC
TOM, African American, prisoner of war, SCHG:7:21
TOMPSON, JOHN, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
TONEY, **, Patriotic Service, servant to Capt. Mazyck, RRSC
WALDRON, SAMUEL, African American, Pilot, RSCP, 959
WEXFORD, NEGRO, African American, prisoner of war, SCHG:7:21
WHITE, GEORGE, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
WHITE, HENRY, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
WILL, African American (“servant of Capt. Baker”), RRSC, SCHG:7:25
WILLIS, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
WILLIAMS, BILLEY, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
WILLIAMS, Catawba Indian, AASC:3931A
YORK, **, Patriotic Service, servant to Lt. Kolb, RRSC, SCHG:7:69
Identifying additional patriots of color is easier when pension records contain information relating to a sibling who also served in the war. Morgan Griffin used his brother Gideon’s proof of service to obtain a pension. Both brothers received pensions.
Heirs seeking pension benefits relied on the testimony of relatives to prove kinship and ages. Mahalah Averitte, first cousin to Gideon Griffin’s children, Sophia, Gideon Jr, and Stephen, provided testimony to their parentage and ages based on her family’s records.
Obtaining depositions from relatives of both the veteran and his wife provided some pensioners with the necessary proofs of service and marriage. James Rawlinson was a non-serving draftee and brother-in-law of Gideon Griffin. Rawlinson testified to the service of six men from Richlands District (see also pension of Edward Harris R4649) while also revealing the maiden name of Gideon’s wife.

“Deposition from the pension file of Gideon Griffin of South Carolina,” Pension W8877, page 11, RG 15, Records of Veterans Administration, “Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files,” (M804, Roll 131) National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
“Pay Roll of Captain George Liddell’s Company in the 3rd Regiment of So. Carolina Continental Troops commanded by Colo. William Thompson to the First of July 1779,”
RG 93, Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, (M246, Roll 89)
National Archives and Records Administration, Washington D. C.

Morgan Griffen and Gideon Griffen appear on Captain George Liddell’s payroll in 1779.
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South and North Carolina in 1776.” Historical Magazine, 2nd Series, 2 (October 1867), 212-220.
Timeline of the American Revolution in South Carolina. Columbia: South Carolina Confederate Relic Room & Museum, 2006?


South Carolina and Georgia faced many of the same challenges in the opening days of the American Revolution. They shared, in common, an unprotected seacoast easily exposed to enemy blockades. In each Colony, only one commercial port provided an economic lifeline. The Low Country of South Carolina and Georgia had developed a culture based on slavery. Free Blacks led highly restricted lives as artisans and skilled laborers in predominantly urban settings. In contrast, smaller farmers determined to carry out an independent way of life populated the Up Country. Slavery existed on a more limited scale in the Up Country. To the west, the extensive borders were also exposed to an enemy. The foe in this area was British inspired Indian tribes poised to invade remote settlements.

The Low Country looked east to an invasion from the sea. Additional concern centered on possible slave uprisings offering a physical and economic threat. The Up Country faced a constant menace from the mountains. The two segments of the population stood back-to-back, unable to share the other’s perspective. The first obstacle facing the leaders of these southern colonies was to convince the residents that there was a common enemy who would only be defeated by a unified effort.

The African American and American Indian population of Georgia looked on in bewilderment as the revolutionary spirit gathered momentum. Yet, the contribution they ultimately made to American Independence during the conflict was unique in some ways and must be emphasized in the context of the military annals of the area.

Georgia was still struggling to become an established Colony when the American Revolution was added to the challenges faced by the settlers. Not even fifty years had passed since the early permanent residents had started to build new lives in a new land. Initially, the first Georgians were a bit different from their neighbors to the north. They welcomed a ship loaded with displaced Jews that brought the first physician, Dr. Sheftel, to help abate a plague. In addition, an Act of 1735 prohibited “the using of Negroes in any manner or way whatsoever in the province.” Tolerance had a glimmer of hope under the Trustees in charge of Colonial Georgia. This condition was not to last as economic concerns and pressure from planters soon introduced slavery to the Colony.¹

On January 12, 1775 the residents of St. Andrews Parish, headed by Lachlan McIntosh, drew up a resolution showing support for the “loyal and brave people of Boston and Massachusetts Bay.” They also declared “our disapprobation and abhorrence of the unnatural practice of Slavery in America...”, adding that they would “…at all times use our utmost endeavours for the manumission of our Slaves in the Colony.”² A spate of manumissions did not ensue and even McIntosh

did not free any slaves. Georgia entered the American Revolution with about eighteen thousand slaves held firmly in subjugation.

The opening days of 1776 brought indications that there was racial unrest, forcing the Executive Council to take action. On January 8, 1776 it was:

Resolved, That houses of all overseers and Negroes throughout the Province, together with those on the Plantations in South Carolina, bordering on the Savannah River, below Purisburg, be forthwith searched and all guns and ammunition (except one gun and thirteen cartridges for each overseer) which shall be found therein, shall be taken and lodged in the hands of the Committee for the several Parishes and Districts. Ordered; That the Commanding Officer at Savannah be directed to send a party of men to search the said Plantations in South Carolina -- guns and ammunition to go to the public store in Savannah.

Resolved, That the President do write the Council of Safety in South Carolina and represent the necessity that obligated this Board to order their Plantations to be searched. 3

By June of the same year additional concerns about the minority situation in Georgia appeared in a report to the President and Council of Safety:

The Deputies sent by desire of General Lee, from the Colony of Georgia to confer with him upon the state of that Colony and the mode of putting it in the best posture of defence against all enemies, external and internal, are of the opinion that it is evident that Province is in a most weak and defenceless situation; and besides the intrinsinc value of lands ...make it of the utmost consequences, perhaps equal to any other on the continent in the great cause of America ...liable to be attacked by sea

on the east ...south and west by the garrisoned Province of the Floridas and the most numerous tribes of Savages in North America ...not one of the thirteen United Colonies is so weak within or so much exposed without Their Negroes are daily inveighed and carried away from their plantations ...to the west and almost down upon the Georgia line are the most numerous tribes of Indians now in North America ...at least fifteen thousand gun men. All these nations have been much tampered with ...our accounts from the Indians are rather unfavorable. ...add to all these considerations the vast number of Negroes we have, perhaps of themselves sufficient to subdue That measures be immediately taken for defence of that Province. But the low situation ... of its inhabitants, puts it out of their power to do it themselves ...The objects seem to be men, fortifications and a good understanding with the Indians ...less than six battalions will not answer the purpose. But we do not conceive any of these men can be recruited in Georgia ...it is a fixed principle with the Indians to be paid for their good offices; and in this controversy we conceive that they will expect to be well paid even for neutrality...4

With the great “objects” in this report listed as men, fortifications and a good understanding with the Indians, Georgia set about to try to improve her situation. Men were hard to find as the local militia units took the attention of most of the able bodied men. Shorter enlistments and defending their own homes kept these men from Continental Service. Recruiting was extensive in other colonies. The Federal pension application of Captain Samuel Scott includes a roster of men he enlisted in a company from Prince Edward County, Virginia.5 Georgians preferred to pay bounties to attract

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3 Allen D. Candler, The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia. 3 volumes (Atlanta: Franklin-Turner Company, 1908), I: 92. (Hereafter cited as RRG.)

4 Ibid., 300-303.

5 Robert S. Davis, Jr., Georgia Citizens and Soldiers of the American Revolution (Easley, S. C.: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 113. (Hereafter cited as GCS.)
soldiers than to follow Rhode Island’s lead by enlisting African Americans.

Fortifications were constructed by slaves. Some were conscripted from sequestered estates. The Revolutionary Records of Georgia are a source for the details of such transactions in Savannah, Tybee, Sunbury and other places.

A good understanding with the Indians was sought in many ways. The Creek and Cherokee traders were pressed into service. Moses Nunes, a trader who came to Georgia with the early Jews, was commissioned as a linguist with the Indians. William Belcher, Commissioner for the Indian Trade, was authorized to furnish four Indians with a blanket, a shirt, a pair of boots and a flap, powder and ball, a provision of rice, beef, or pork along with a gallon of rum and some tobacco. The Indians were being rewarded for having been on a scouting party with a Mr. Gray for four months. Mr. Nunes would have the names of the Indians, and in the future, would keep a regular account of names and gifts. It was further ordered that Nunes would deliver a gun to the Indian who assisted in the taking of Roberts, a Florida scout. Nunes was to be sure the Indian understood that the gun was an acknowledgement for his services. Mr. Belcher was also allowed one hundred and thirteen pounds seven shillings and eight pence for goods he supplied to certain Catawba Indians for services done to the state. Moses Nunes was enlisted to bring succor from the Council to Indian Johnny of Liberty County. Local citizens were distressed that the said fellow was unjustly imprisoned. He had always been a friend and several times had gone out in the service of this country. Fifty pounds were allowed to cover false imprisonment and loss of cattle and horses.

When the Revolution drew to a close in Georgia, a multitude of claims and legal records were generated as a result of military and navy service, along with Indian depredations suffered by the frontier residents. Men who served in the Georgia State Legion petitioned to receive slaves in compensation, in lieu of pay or bounty. David Monday was emancipated and appraised at one hundred guineas which was paid to his owner. He served as a drummer.

Just two pensions have been found that firmly establish the color of the Georgia soldier. Austin Dabney received his pension from Georgia. His story of patriotic service includes being wounded at the Battle of Kettle Creek. A local farmer, Giles Harris, helped him recover and he maintained a lifelong devotion to that family. By 1786 the Georgia Legislature acted to emancipate and set free Austin a mulatto, also Harry a negro fellow. Whereas Austin a mulatto man at present the property of the Estate of Richard Aycock, esquire, during the late Revolution instead of advantaging himself of the times to withdraw himself from the American lines and enter with the majority of his color and fellow Slaves in the service of his Brittanick majesty and his officers and Vassals, did voluntarily enroll himself in some one of the corps under the Command of Col. Elijah Clark, and in several actions and engagements behaved against the Common Enemy with a bravery and fortitude which would have honored a free man, and in one of which engagements he was severely wounded, and rendered incapable of hard servitude; and policy as well as gratitude demand a return for such service and behavior from the Commonwealth.

Nathan Fry applied for a Federal Pension (S39545 GA) from Henrico County, Virginia. His declaration was made before John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States. Nathan was a man of color, born free in Westmoreland County, Virginia.

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6 RRG, II: 51.
7 RRG, II: 63.
8 RRG, II: 64.
9 RRG, II: 67.
10 RRG, II: 565.
12 GCS, 125.
13 Ibid., 209.
14 Alton Hornsby, Jr., The Negro in Revolutionary Georgia (Atlanta: Georgia Commission for the National Bicentennial Celebration and Georgia Department of Education, 1977), 4, 9.
He enlisted in 1775, in the Minute Service with Daniel Duvall of Henrico County. Fry went to Georgia and served as a drummer with Captain Elliott against the Creek Indians. He was at Valley Forge and Monmouth. He was batman for Baron von Steuben until the surrender at Yorktown and then was transferred to General St. Clair who gave him a discharge.

Other evidence of possible minority participation appear with no positive identification of the person and the service performed. In July, 1776, Edward Telfair was worried that his African American pilots would be taken by the enemy. A roster of these pilots has not been found.\textsuperscript{15} The list of supportive Indians that Moses Nunes was ordered to keep has not come to light. The great number of given names that appear in Georgia Continental accounts need to be investigated for clues to color identity.\textsuperscript{16} Minorities had a vital role in Georgia during the Revolution but the documentation of their service has been difficult to uncover.

\textit{Thoughts on Research in the Records of Georgia}

The absence of a federal census for Georgia in 1790, 1800, and 1810 complicates considerably the identification of African American and American Indians who supported the American side in the Revolution. There is a published substitute for the 1790s census, but because it is based on tax and other records (which do not include the same identifying information as a census would) it is only of limited value for this research.

The overall population of Georgia was quite small at the outset of the Revolution, and therefore the state had to recruit troops from elsewhere to meet its quotas. This small population coupled with the large percentage of enslaved residents and a long frontier with Indian and foreign territories made Georgia a frontier itself. Record keeping on frontiers was often sketchy at best, and this factor must be kept in mind when researching in Georgia sources. The occupation of Savannah, the capital at this time, by the British of a significant part of the war is also a factor in the quantity and thoroughness of records from this southern-most of the original states during the war.

\textsuperscript{15} RRG, I:184.
\textsuperscript{16} GCS, 116.
ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR GEORGIA REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


BLWt Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the Soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE, GEORGIA, 1775-1783

The inclusion of some of the men in this list may be open to differing interpretation by other researchers as to whether or not they were of African, Indian, European, or mixed descent. They are included here because of the possibility that they were of minority ethnic background based on name analysis and/or military occupation/rank and not because of a specific statement in the records of their ethnicity. Most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color.

Inclusion in this list does not guarantee that these men had descendants or that individuals applying to lineage societies for membership as descendants of specific patriots will automatically be approved based on this listing alone. Additional documentation will likely be necessary. This publication seeks to identify and to recognize the patriots themselves and to serve as a reference for additional research. Application to a lineage society and compliance with that organization’s requirements for genealogical documentation are the responsibilities of the applicant.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN, (enslaved man of Andrew Maybank), ANGA:1:172 (hired by the United States during the war), no residence given
BARRICK, African American, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
BOOKERY?, African American, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
BULLOCK, African American (“Negro”), GCS: 116, no residence given
CHARLES, African American (“Negro”), GCS: 116, no residence given
COY, PADDY, African American, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
CRESWELL, DANIEL, African American, BHAM, no residence given
CRUP, WILLIAM, African American, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
DABNEY, AUSTIN, African American, Soldier, ARG:188, GCS: 209, GDAH, MOSS, BHAM,
HCGA:584, 585, no residence given
DUNSTAN/DUNSTON, WALLACE, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), deserted, GCS: 112, FAA:448, no residence given
FRY, NATHAN, African American, Soldier, S39545, Savannah
HALL, HUGH, African American, BHAM, no residence given
HARRY, African American, GDAH, no residence given
INDIAN JOHNNY, Indian, Soldier, RRG:II: 67, no residence given
JACK, African American, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
JOHN, BLACK, African American, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
MAFFETT, JOHN, African American, BHAM, no residence given
MAMMY KATE, African American, Slave of Stephen Heard, Patriotic Service, KIL, no residence given
MARCH, African American, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
MIERS, NICK, **, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
MONDAY, DAVID, African American, Soldier, ARG: 188, no residence given
MOUKCO, African American, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
OZBON, JOHN, **, GCS:136, MOSS, no residence given
PERRYMAN, Indian, GCS: 150, no residence given
PHILOTOUGI, Indian, GCS: 149, 150, no residence given
SAM, BLACK, African American, GCS:136, no residence given
SAM, YELLOW, African American, GCS:136, no residence given
SANGER, BLACK, **, GCS: 90, no residence given
SCIPIO/SCIPIO, JOSEPH, **, GCS: 122, IRWSR, MOSS, no residence given
SMITH, JAMES, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), deserted, GCS: 112, FAA: 448, no residence given
SMITH, African American, ANGA:1:117 (enslaved man of Sarah Minis, hired by the United States during the war), no residence given
WOOD, ____, African American, BHAM, no residence given
“An Act to Emancipate and Set Free Austin Dabney, a mulatto, also Harry, a Negro fellow,” page 1, August 14, 1786


Georgia State Archives, East Point
"An Act to Emancipate and Set Free Austin Dabney, a mulatto, also Harry, a Negro fellow," page 1, August 14, 1786


Georgia State Archives, East Point
WHEREAS from the representation of Colonel Elliott and other Gentlemen of Liberty County it appears that an Indian commonly called Indian Johny hath been for a long time unjustly imprisoned and that the said fellow hath always acted as a friend to us and hath several times gone out in the service of this country: And whereas it also appears that during the said Fellows imprisonment he lost all his Cattle & Horses consisting in all of near twenty head besides a number of other articles it is therefore resolved that the said Indian Johny be allowed fifty pounds in lieu of and in full for his Cattle and other things which he lost; And also as a compensation for his false imprisonment that the Treasurers do pay the same to Mr. Nunes to be by him delivered to the said Indian.

Published copy of a document from the Minutes of the Georgia Executive Council recounting the story of one Indian Johny during the period of the American Revolution.

(3 April 1778)
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AND AMERICAN INDIANS
IN THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA


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Smith, Billy G. “Runaway Slaves in the Mid-Atlantic Region during the Revolutionary Era.” In Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert, eds., The Transforming Hand of Revolution: Reconsidering the American Revolution as a Social
The Old Northwest has a complicated history during the period of the American Revolution. For the purposes of this book – the identification of African Americans and American Indians who supported the American cause during the conflict – the story is more clear-cut than in some other parts of North America owing to the small numbers of named individuals involved. There were few African Americans in this region, and the vast majority of Native Americans sided with the British against the Americans in hopes of preserving their own lands and cultures. Many Indian groups had moved from points further east to escape the ever-expanding Euro-American settlements; so naturally, they were rarely friendly to the Americans. The most notable exceptions were some portions of the Lenape or Delaware Indians in Ohio.

During his various campaigns in the western territories, George Rogers Clark’s units included some Indians at different times. Identifying those individuals by name is difficult. In some lists of men, there are single names that appear, but one cannot be certain if these are Native Americans or Frenchmen whose surname is only shown. In addition, some Native Americans in the region had adopted French names making it difficult to differentiate them from men of French ancestry or men of both native and European descent. Rarely do these sources indicate a man’s color next to his name.

**Lenape/Delaware Indians in Ohio**

Just prior to the Revolutionary War, most of the Delaware Indians who had been living in the Colony of Pennsylvania moved west to an area on the Ohio frontier along the Muskingum, now the Tuscarawas River. Included among those who moved were a group of Moravian Christian Indians who settled at Gnadenhutten, Newcomerstown, and Coshocton.  

In an attempt to secure or to gain the friendship of the Indian nations, the Continental Congress on July 12, 1775 established three Indian affairs departments. The departments were to be superintended by commissioners appointed by Congress. Pennsylvania was included in the Middle Department, situated between the Northern Department which included the Six Nations and all Indians to the north and the Southern Department which included the Cherokees and all Indians to the south.

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On April 10, 1776, George Morgan of Philadelphia was chosen by Congress to serve as Agent for Indian Affairs in the Middle department at Fort Pitt, Pennsylvania. Morgan was immediately instructed to fulfill several promises made by Congress in December 1775 to Delaware Captain White Eyes and the Delaware Nation who had declared their friendship to the United States.4

Shortly thereafter, while awaiting further orders from Congress, George Morgan sent “Michael the Huron” as a messenger to the Delaware Nation. Michael had volunteered for the mission. He was captured by members of the Huron Nation and several Englishmen, and was taken as a prisoner to Detroit. In a letter, dated April 26, 1776, Morgan wrote to Don Bernardo de Gálvez, the Spanish Governor of Louisiana, “I hope he (Michael) will be very speedily released and more especially as he is a subject of Spain.”5

In May 1776, the commissioners in the Middle Department were instructed to “… procure the Assistance of the Indians under their care, …and if possible undertake the Reduction of Detroit.” The Indians were to be paid fifty pounds Pennsylvania currency for each enemy prisoner taken and brought to headquarters.6

During the following two years, relations between the Delaware Indians and the American authorities remained cordial. Delaware Chiefs Captain White Eyes and Captain John Killbuck kept Colonel George Morgan and Brigadier General Edward Hand, the commander of Fort Pitt, apprised of the activities of western Indian nations.7

In August 1778, approximately 670 “friendly” Indians were enumerated by William Wilson of the Western Military Department which included the Ohio frontier. Delaware Indians numbering about 500 individuals comprised the largest group of “friendly” Indians.8

The United States’ dealings with the Delaware Nation became more complex as the theater of war moved south from New England and into the middle and southern states. During his tenure at Fort Pitt, Colonel George Morgan had made every attempt to insure the neutrality of the Indian Nations who resided in the Middle Department. However, during Morgan’s extended absence in Philadelphia in 1778, “Articles of agreement and confederation” with the Delaware Nation were signed by the Middle Department commissioners. Commissioners Andrew and Thomas Lewis signed the Articles on behalf of the United States. George White Eyes, first captain of the Turtle division, John Killbuck, chief of the Turtle division and Pipe, chief of the Wolf division signed on behalf of the Delaware nation. The Articles, signed on September 17, 1778, “…provided for an offensive and defensive alliance between the United States and the Delawares.”9

THE LENAPE/DELAWARE CHIEFS

In late fall of 1778, the United States suffered a serious loss with the unexplained death of its faithful ally George White Eyes. White Eyes, whose intelligence reports had been of great assistance to the Americans since the beginning of the Revolution, volunteered to serve as a guide and scout for an expedition through the Ohio Indian territory to Detroit. The expedition, whose ultimate goal was the reduction of Detroit, left Fort Pitt under the command of General Lachlan McIntosh on November 4, 1778. On November 10, the Delawares at Coshocton received word that White Eyes had died of smallpox. However, the exact cause of his death has never been determined. An unpublished letter written by Colonel George

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5 Letterbook of General Edward Hand. National Archives and Records Administration, RG93, (microfilm), reel 156, 31-32.
8 Papers of the Continental Congress. National Archives and Records Administration, RG 360, (microfilm M247; roll 157, item 147, vol. 2 pgs. 180-183 (Hereafter cited as PCC).
Morgan in 1784 states that he (White Eyes) was “…treacherously put to death.”

Morgan’s assessment may well be correct. In an intelligence report which White Eyes sent to Morgan in July 1778, he reiterated his friendship to the United States and further stated, “I am threatened for my attachments to you and for giving you Intelligence of what passes among the Nations….” White Eyes went on to say, “We fear the Road is Way laid for our messengers…We are in great Danger….”

After White Eyes’ death, John Killbuck and Pipe remained as chiefs of the Turtle and Wolf Divisions, respectively, of the Delaware Nation. However, their attitudes toward the United States changed dramatically in the ensuing years.

In May 1779, Captain John Killbuck led a delegation that visited George Washington and the Continental Congress. The delegates reiterated their friendship for the United States, but stated that they wished to observe strict neutrality in the conflict between the United States and Britain. They brought with them three Indian youths, who, at the invitation of Congress, were to be educated at Princeton, New Jersey. They were George Morgan White Eyes, son of the deceased Chief, and John Killbuck and Thomas Killbuck, son and half-brother, respectively, of the Chief. Although Chief Killbuck initially preferred to remain neutral in the struggle between the United States and England, he ultimately became a strong ally of the United States. In 1785, George Morgan inferred that the three youths had been held as hostages in order to insure the friendship of the Delaware Nation.

In contrast to Killbuck, Captain Pipe, the third Delaware Chief, allied himself with the British. Pipe was among the leaders at a brutal massacre of the Moravian Indians who lived in Ohio. The diary of Reverend David Ziesberger, Moravian missionary to those Christian Indians, describes in vivid detail the 1781 massacre and the role that Captain Pipe played in it.

Pipe was also responsible for the burning at the stake of American Colonel William Crawford near Sandusky, on the Ohio frontier in June 1782.

Popemotoughwe, another Delaware Indian, also served as an interpreter. In January 1779, Captain John Killbuck recommended Popemotoughwe to Colonel George Morgan because he was known to be “sober and honest.”

In late November of the same year, Colonel Brodhead wrote to Reverend David Ziesberger asking him to employ someone to bring him intelligence from Detroit. Brodhead offered to pay the spy “eighty Bucks or one hundred” if eighty deer were not sufficient. Two weeks later Brodhead informed Ziesberger that Joshua, a Christian Indian, was willing to undertake the mission. However, Joshua was unable to carry out the assignment because of extremely cold weather.

Welapachtschiechen (also known as Captain Johnny and as Israel), was a Delaware Christian and another Indian patriot. In 1779, he donated seven bucks, one doe and a large hog for the use of the United States. In addition, he served as a messenger in 1781. In October 1781, Captain Johnny was taken as a prisoner of war along with several others from the Delaware tribe. They were captured by an enemy party while on their way from Gnadenhutten, Ohio to Fort Pitt and taken west to the “Shawanese towns.”

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13 PCC, RG 360, M247, reel 49, item 41, 3:77ff.

14 Sipe, ICPA, 425.

15 PCC, RG360, M247, reel 180, item 163, 329.


17 PCC, RG360, M247, reel 183, item 166, 457; M247, reel 92, item 78, 4:222; M247, reel 49, item 41, 3:89-90.
Three other Delaware Indians are known to have served as messengers. Joseph Green was sent as a messenger to the French near Detroit by Captain John Killbuck. In 1779, Colonel John Gibson of Virginia, commander of Fort Laurens on the Tuscarawas, wrote Colonel Morgan that Pekkeland and Koshias had gone as messengers to the “Wiandots.” Gibson also reported that John Fish, Lelongoekwen, Pontius and seven other Delawares remained at Fort Laurens. He went on to report that “they have given the strongest proofs of their attachment to the United States.” 18

Colonel Brodhead, as did Colonel Gibson, often made mention of patriotic Indians, especially those of the Delaware nation. Brodhead’s letters written in 1779 and 1780 refer to military parties of Whites and Delawares, and to Delaware Indians serving as advance guards, intelligence gatherers and “runners.” These men, like the men who were taken prisoners with Captain Johnny and the seven loyal Delaware Indians who remained at Fort Laurens, are among the unnamed patriots of the American Revolution. 19

A young Delaware chief who provided invaluable service to the Americans stationed at Fort Pitt was Nanowland, also known as George Wilson. In June 1779, he so distinguished himself in an expedition into the Seneca country, led by Captain Samuel Brady, that Colonel Brodhead suggested that Congress or Pennsylvania bestow on him a “small present.” In September of the same year Nanowland was slightly injured while serving in an expedition toward Ohio under the command of Lieutenant John Hardin. His recovery was swift and he was pronounced fit for further action within a few days. 20 The support of some Lenape/Delawares for the American cause was short-lived. Brodhead’s destruction of the Delaware community of Coschoctan in 1781 and the Gnadenhütten Massacre of March 8, 1782, in which Christian Delawares were brutally murdered by Pennsylvania’s from Washington County seeking revenge for Indian attacks of their settlements, marked an end to Delaware cooperation with the United States government as an ally during the Revolution.

MONTOUR’S COMPANY OF DELAWARE INDIANS

In addition to Chief Killbuck, Captain John Montour was a Delaware Indian ally of the United States. He acted as a messenger for White Eyes and continued his close cooperation with the Americans throughout the War. 21 Montour was the captain of a company of Delaware Indians under Colonel Daniel Brodhead. Colonel Brodhead was the commander, from February 1777 to January 1781, of the 8th Pennsylvania Regiment headquartered at Fort Pitt. In 1786, Captain John Montour was paid $240 by the United States for services performed between 1780 and 1782. 22

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18 Williams, op. cit., 214; PCC, RG 360, M247, reel 183, item 166, 457.
ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES
USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

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** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


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AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN (not named and no number given), (“Negroes” in Capt. J. William’s Company, George Rogers Clark’s Illinois Regiment) GRC-Index:445
ALLEEMEN/ALLEMEM, Indian, Soldier in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:i 183, M881
CAESAR, African American, GRCP:333 (“It appears that the estate of James Robinson is Entitled to receive pay agreeable to Certicates receiv’d for nine hundred & forty five days service of his Negro Caesar to be paid at the rates usually allowed to Artificers by the state ... [1780].”
CAPT. JOHNNY, see WELAPACHTSCHIECHEN
CATHERINE THE GRENADIER, see NONHELEMA
CAYLAYLAMEND, see KILLBUCK, JOHN
CEASAR/CESAR, African American, Artificer at Fort Jefferson, Ky., GRC-CQB:123
CHIPPEWA, POTOWATOMIE, AND OTTAWA INDIANS [not named and approximately 60 in number] on the Spanish expedition from St. Louis against Fort St. Joseph, Michigan, January 1781, RGC, LJT:215
COL. HENRY, see JOHN KILLBUCK
COQUETAKEHTON, see WHITE EYES
DARK, Indian, Captain, in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M881
FISH, JOHN, Indian, soldier, FPRWF:214
GREEN, JOSEPH, Indian, messenger, FPRWF:214
HANOTIT, Indian, Soldier in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:i 183, M881
HINGWALUPA, Indian, Soldier in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:i 183, M881
INDIANS [not named and number uncertain] on the Spanish expedition from St. Louis against Detroit, late summer 1780. LK:182
ISRAEL, see WELAPACHTSCHIECHEN
KAYLELAMUND, see JOHN KILLBUCK
KILLBUCK, JOHN/KAYLELAMUND/CAYLAYLAMEND/GELELEMEND (aka COL. HENRY), Indian, Captain, PA:t:XII:147, in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r29:i183, M881, [Note: DAR established patriot.]
KOSHIAS, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r183:i 166:p457; FPRWF:214; also listed as WIELEYCAPALAND
LELINGOEWOWHEN, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r183:i 166:p457, Indian, soldier, FPRWF:214
MAHINDHPOOSES, Indian, Captain in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:i183, M881
MAWANAPANO, Indian, Captain in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:i183, M881
MONTOUR, JOHN, Indian, Captain, in his Company of Indians, M246:r129:i183, M881
NANAWOLAND (aka GEORGE WILSON), Indian, Captain in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:i 183, M881
NAQUIGUEN/NAAKEWOIN/WIND STRIKER, Potowatomie Indian from the Milwaukee area [Lead a group of Indians with Siggenake on the Spanish expedition from St. Louis against Fort St. Joseph, Michigan in January 1781.] RDE:111, RGC, FJT:215: text and note 5; LK:182
NONHELEMA/aka SHAWNEE WOMAN or “GRENADEIER SQUAW,” Shawnee Indian, WW, OC, ARIC:167,169, JCC, SWA
PEKKELEND, Indian, Soldier, FPRWF:214
PIMEELAUGHAN, Indian, Soldier, Soldier in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:i183, M881
PONTIUS, Indian, soldier, FPRWF:214
PIMEELEAUGHAN, Indian, Soldier, Soldier in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:i183, M881
PEKKELEND, Indian, Soldier, FPRWF:214
PIMEELEAUGHAN, Indian, Soldier, Soldier in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:i183, M881
TAWQUATCHEE, Indian, Soldier in Captain John Montour’s Company of Indians, M246:r129:, M881
WELAPACHTSCHEICHEN/CAPT. JOHNNY/ISRAEL, Indian, Patriotic Service, M247:r183:i 166:p457
WELEYCAPALAND, see KOSHIAS
Selected Revolutionary War Documents Relating to Old Northwest Soldiers


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versity of Illinois at Chicago Circle, 1981.
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Quaife, Milo M. “When Detroit Invaded Kentucky.” Burton Historical Collection Leaflet, 4 (1925), 17-32.
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The Old Northwest: 647


Stevens, Paul L. “‘To Invade the Frontiers of Kentucky? The Indian Diplomacy of Philippe de Rocheblave, Britain’s Acting Commandant at Kaskaskia, 1776-1778.” Filson Club History Quarterly, 64 (April 1990), 205-246.


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During the course of research for this publication, researchers found various listings of African Americans and American Indians who could not be placed in a specific state. Some of the following listings are for naval activities, and the others are for random military service with the land forces.

The navies of the various states provided a major venue for the participation of African Americans and Indians who lived in coastal areas and ports. The preceding chapters on each state contain many listings for individuals with naval or related service in the Revolution.

The following quotation is interesting, but it has not lead to specific names of seamen or to any concrete information to help document the information provided:

Negroes served also in the improvised American navy and were thus actively identified with the birth of this arm of the service. On nearly every ship they were utilized as cooks, landsmen, sailors, carpenter’s mates or marines. Vessels like the Aurora, the Julius Caesar, the Hazard, the Adventure, and the South Carolina were only a few of the ships carrying Negroes in their crews. The twenty-six gun Royal Lewis, commanded by Captain Stephen Decatur, carried twenty Negroes. On the Alliance was Robert Forten [sic; should be James Forten] later to become important among the free Negroes of Philadelphia. Most of these ships-of-war were armed privateers, but some like the Aurora (Captain David Porter) were Continental vessels. The names of sixty-four Negroes who served in the navy from Massachusetts are known.¹

The lack of detailed ship crew lists or lists that indicate the color of crewmen makes identification of these men all the more difficult.

For studies on the subjects, please consult the master bibliography at the end of this book.

ABBRévIATIONS AND SOURCES

USED IN DOCUMENTATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Revolutionary War Pensions located at the National Archives (Record Group 15) are arranged by the Patriot’s surname including a designation indicating the type of pension: “S” for Survivor (the actual Patriot), “W” for his widow, and occasionally “R” for a Rejected application followed by the Applicant’s certificate number. (For example: S1234, W1234, and R1234).

Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.


NMS The Negro in the Military Service of the United States, 1639-1886. National Archives and Records Administration, Microfilm publication M858, Roll 1 [includes the American Revolution]


MISCELLANEOUS NAVAL SERVICE RECORDS

BAYARD, RICH’D, African American, NDAR: 4:715
BOSTON, African American, M881 (“orderly” [ordinary?] seaman in the Navy)
BRIHLY, RICH’D, African American, NDAR: 4:715
CAESAR, ELISHA, African American? CBSL:389 (boy on the Ship Alliance)
CALITE, CATO, African American? JPJ:183&194 (seaman on the Ranger)
CASER, TERRENTS, African American, M881
CEASAR, JOHN, African American?, Marine private, CRS:426
CHERRY, JOHN, African American (“Negro”), cook on the frigate Washington 1777, NDAR:10:312
CLIVERY, JOHN, African American (“Negro”), CRS:416 (cook on the Continental frigate Washington)
DICK, African American, NDAR: 4:670
DRAGON/DRAGOON, African American, NDAR: 4:670, 715
FORTUNE, GABRIEL, African American, M881 (“able seaman” in the Navy)
FORTUNE, JAMES, African American, M881 (seaman in the Navy)
GILLON, DUBLIN, African American, NMSC
GREENE, CAESAR, African American? CBSL:395 (marine on the Queen of France)
JEREMIAH, ANTHONY, Indian, “apprentice boy,” ACB:1:51
JONES, CATO, African American, cabin boy, former slave of John Paul Jones, ACB:1:51
JONES, SCIPIO, African American, former slave of John Paul Jones, ACB:1:51
NEWPORT, African American, slave of Mr. Wanton, crewman on brig, NDAR:4:670
PARKER, FORTUNE, **, CSP
PHILLIPS, JOSHUA, African American (“Negro”), crewman on the Continental frigate Effingham, 1777, NDAR:10:317
PLUTO, African American, M881, sailor in the Navy
PORCY, ANTHONY, African American, crewman on frigate, NMSC: 161
ROOM, CATO, (“man of color”), CBSL:397 (seaman on the Queen of France), res. in North Kingstown, Washington Co., R. I. after the war
SURRINAM, African American, slave of Mr. Wanton, crewman on brig, NDAR:4:670
MISCELLANEOUS MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS

ADAM, African American (“Negro”), M881 (private in Warner’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
BLACK, CEASOR, African American, M881 (served in the Commissary General, Military Stores Department)
BLACK/BLAKE, FORTUNE, African American, M881 (private in Lee’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
CAESAR/CEZAR/CESAR/CEZAR/CEZAR, THOMAS, African American, M881 (private in Spencer’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
CAESAR/CAESOR/CEASAR/CEZAR, SOLOMON, African American, M881 (private in Sherburne’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
CEZAR, NEGRO, African American, M881 (served in Capt. Van Yeveren’s Company of Bateaumen in Continental Troops)
CEZAR, NEGRO, JR., African American, M881 (served in Capt. Van Yeveren’s Company of Bateaumen in Continental Troops)
CEZAR, African American, M881 (4th Regiment of Light Dragoons of Continental Troops)
CHAFFEE, COMFORT, African American, WAL
CUFF, JAMES, African American, M881 (private in Henley’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
FREE, JOHN BLACK/JOHN BLACKFREE, African American, M881 (private and drummer in Malcolm’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
FREEBORN, GEORGE, African American, M881 (private in the 4th Regiment of Artillery in the Continental Troops)
FREEBORN, HILL, African American, M881 (private in the Corps of Artificers in the Continental Troops)
FREEBORN/FREEBAN, JOHN, African American, M881 (private in Sherburne’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
FREEMAN, JACK/JOCK, African American, M881 (private in Sherburne’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
FRY, PRINCE, **, M881 (private in Henley’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
HALL, CEASAR, **, M881 (served in the Corps of Invalids in Continental Troops)
HARRIS, SQUIRE, **, M881 (served as a fifer and drummer in the 2nd Artillery Regiment of Continental Troops)
[Note: Pension W3989 is for another man with the same name who served as a private in Capt. Doughty’s regiment in N. Y.]
JACK, African American (“Nigor/Negro”), M881 (private in Capt. Visscher’s Co. Bateaumen in Continental Troops)
LAWRENCE/LAWRANE, JACK, **, M881 (private in Spencer’s Regiment Continental Troops)
MARTIN, CAESAR, **, M881 (miscellaneous service)
MIGASS/MINGOS/MINGES/MINGS, MOSES/MOSIS, **, M881 (Spencer’s Regiment Continental Troops)
NED, African American (“Nigrow”), M881 (served in the 4th Artillery Regiment Continental Troops)
PHILIP, African American, M881 (private in Corps of Invalids in Continental Troops)
PRICE, CROMWELL, **, M881 (served in Baldwin’s Regiment of Artificers, Continental Troops)
SAM, African American, M881 (miscellaneous service)
SHEPHERD, SCIPIO, African American, M881 (served in Hazen’s Regiment of Continental Troops)
STEPHEN, African American, M881 (private in 2nd Regiment of Light Dragoons in Continental Troops)
MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT WITH THE FRENCH ARMY AND NAVY

Beyond the service and involvement of African Americans and Native Americans in the United States in the Revolutionary War, other men of African or American Indian descent served in the armed and naval forces of the new country’s French and Spanish allies. Some of these men have been identified by name in published sources, and the following lists include those that have been found by historians and genealogists.

One of the standard publications for documenting the involvement of French troops in the American Revolution is Les combattants français de la guerre américaine, 1778-1783. Unfortunately, the lists therein do not provide any color descriptors for the men listed. There were surely men of African descent with Rochambeau’s army during the campaign leading to the siege of Yorktown in 1781, but few lists have revealed their names beyond the following short compilation.1 Perhaps records in the French military archives would give additional information on the origins of some of these individuals.

Sources


Service

AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN (“Black man”), wagoner, KSRAW:259
ELLOMAUG, DANIEL, Indian? wagoner, KSRAW:261
MARIE, **, cook, KSRAW:259
MOGGS, PETTER, Indian? wagoner, KSRAW:262
NEGRE, GEORGE, African American? wagoner, KSRAW:261
PAULLI, **, cook, wagoner, KSRAW:259
SAMSON, MARIE, **, cook, KSRAW:261

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SAINT-DOMINGUE VOLUNTEERS AT THE BATTLE OF SAVANNAH (HAITIANS)

The Siege of Savannah occurred on October 9, 1779 with many days of preparation prior to that date. The American army was joined by French naval and land troops under the Comte d’Estaing. Among the French forces were the Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint-Domingue, a unit of 500-800\(^2\) men of African and mixed descent. These troops from the island of Hispaniola were largely from the portion of the island that later became the first black republic in the world, Haiti.

On October 9, 2007, a monument to the Saint-Domingue volunteers with the French forces was erected in Savannah after several years of planning. Additional information on the monument is available online at various websites including <http://www.haitianhistory.org/>, the site of the Haitian American Historical Society.

Sources


Service

AGLON, FRANÇOIS, Black, GAR2
AGLON, PIERRE, Black, GAR2
ANDRE, ___, STE
APPROT, JOSEPH, Black, GAR2
AUBA, ALEXIS, Black, GAR2

\(^2\) Granville W. and N. C. Hough, Spanish, French, Dutch, and American Patriots of the West Indies during the American Revolution (Midway City, Calif.: Society of Hispanic Historical and Ancestral Research, 2001), 29. “Chasseurs Vollandtes, composed of 800 mulattoes and free negroes from Saint Domingo, covered the French retreat at Savannah.” There are many different figures bantered about for the size of the Chasseurs ranging from 500 to 800.
MENOU, JEAN BAPTISTE, Black, GAR2
MORIN, PIERRRE, Black, GAR2
OLIVE, BERNARD, Black, GAR2
OLIVIER, Black, GAR2
PARDEU, JOSEPH, GAR2
PATICOT/LABRICOT, JOSEPH, Black, GAR2
PÉRIGEAU, Black, GAR2
PHILIPS, JEAN BAPTISTE, Black, GAR2
PORRE, JOSEPH, Black, GAR2
RAGEN, GU1LLE, Black, GAR2
RAMBOUR, LOUIS, Black, GAR2
RAYMOND, JOSEPH, Black, GAR2
RIGAUD, ANDRÉ, Black, GEG, DUB, STE
ROBERT, LOUIS, Black, GAR2
ROUVIERE, FRANÇOISE, Black, GAR2
SEVERAN, JEAN BAPTISTE, Black, GAR2
SILVREAU, Black, GAR2
TACOT, JEAN BAPTISTE, Black, GAR2
TANTA, FOUQUET, Black, GAR2
TAVEAUX, JEAN, Black, GAR2
TOURRON, ALEXANDRE, Black, GAR2
VILLATTE, J-B, Black, GEG, STE
VINCENT, OLIVIER, Black, GAR2
XAVIER, FRANÇOIS, Black, GAR2
BIBLIOGRAPHY

THE SAINT-DOMINGUE VOLUNTEERS AT THE BATTLE OF SAVANNAH, 1779

“Account of the Siege of Savannah from a British Source.” Collections of the Georgia Historical Society, 5, pt. 1 (1901), 129-139.


The pressure that Spain and her forces in the Gulf of Mexico littoral place on British possessions served to deflect some British attention and war effort away from other areas. The Gálvez expeditions in this region are well-documented and studied. We have included the names of men of African and Indian descent that appear in the available published sources for Gálvez’s troops to illustrate the important role they placed in the global nature of the American Revolution. The published lists are incomplete, so the listings below do not give the names of all of the men involved. Researchers studying the original sources have not published information to explain if those sources include the names of the men or if they are only statistical.

**ESTIMATES OF SOLDIERS OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN GÁLVEZ’S FORCES**

*The “Marcha de Gálvez” Baton Rouge, 1779*

“80 free black and mulatto militiamen” [unnamed]

“160 friendly Indians” [unnamed]3

*Mobile Bay, January 1781*

“Spanish and British Casualties at the Village on 7 January 1781” include several men from the Colored Militia of Havana who were wounded or captured. Their commanding officer, Simón Calfá, and Daniel Villar were killed.4

The Houghs’ study of Galvez’s forces includes the following statistic for men of African descent in the Mobile Campaign5

“107 Negro and mulatto militiamen;

“24 negro slaves.”

*Pensacola Campaign, March-May 1781*

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5 Hough and Hough, *Spain’s Louisiana Patriots...,* 5.
“Troops Embarked at Havanna 15 February 1780” included⁶:
“Pardo grenadiers and rangers: 5 officers, 139 troops [unnamed];
The same of Negroes (Morenos): 5 officers; 139 troops [unnamed];
Temporary militia of artillery: 4 officers; 100 troops [unnamed] [May have included some men of African descent.]
Fortification workers: 2 officers; 100 troops.” [unnamed] [May have included some men of African descent.]

“Bernardo de Gálvez’ Report on the Number of Men on the Expedition of 16 October 1780” includes⁷:
“Pardos (Mixed bloods): 3 officers; 139 troops [unnamed]
Negroes: 3 officers; 139 troops [unnamed]
Mixed Bloods and Negroes assigned to Artillery: 4 officers; 100 troops [unnamed]
Fortification Sappers: 4 officers; 100 troops” [unnamed] [May have included some men of African descent.]

“Reinforcements for the Campaign against Pensacola from New Orleans Which Entered Pensacola Pay, 4:00 P. M., 23 March 1781”⁸
This source lists the following figures for men of African descent without naming the men in the units:
Grenadiers and Rangers (Pardos)*: 5 officers, 138 men on the Brigantine San Juan Bautista [unnamed]
Grenadiers and Rangers (Negroes): 5 officers, 123 men on the Frigate Nuestra Señora de la Merced [unnamed]
“The following men went to Mobile from New Orleans by way of the lakes” (includes):
  90 Free Pardos (mixed-bloods) and Negroes [unnamed]
  75 Armed Negro slaves [unnamed]
  * “(mixed-bloods) and Negroes”

“Spanish Forces in the Siege of Pensacola including Reinforcements” includes⁹:
“Militia of Color of Havana: 262 troops” [unnamed]
“Militia of Color of New Orleans: 173 troops” [unnamed]

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⁶ Ibid, Appendix A, 90.
⁷ Ibid, Appendix D, 97.
⁸ Ibid, Appendix J, 109, 110.
### SOURCES AND ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Source</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GWNCH-2</td>
<td>Granville W. and N. C. Hough. <em>Spanish, French, Dutch, and American Patriots of the West Indies during the American Revolution</em> (Midway City, Calif.: Society of Hispanic Historical and Ancestral Research, 2001),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSHPC</td>
<td>Coker, William S., and Hazel P. Coker. <em>The Siege of Pensacola, 1781, in Maps, with Data on Troop Strength, Military Units, Ships, Casualties, and Related Statistics</em>. (Spanish Borderlands Series, vol. VIII) Pensacola, Fla.: The Perdido Bay Press, 1981. See specifically: Appendix G: “Spanish and British Casualties at the Village on 7 January 1781” include several men from the Colored Militia of Havana who were wounded or captured. Their white commanding officer, Simón Calfá, and Daniel Villar were killed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NAMES OF MEN OF AFRICAN OR NATIVE AMERICAN DESCENT APPEARING IN PUBLISHED SOURCES FOR THE GÁLVEZ CAMPAIGNS

AFRICAN MAN, GWNC-1:136, African descent (enslaved man of Madame Nanet who provided him for work at Mobile in 1780.)
AGUSTÍN, JOSEPH, African descent ("black soldier"), GWNC-1:20
ALEXES, African descent ("Negro who worked on fortifications and served at Mobile"), GWNC-1:21
APOLON, African descent ("slave working and serving at Mobile, 1780"), GWNC-1:24
BACUS1, African descent ("Negro slave working and serving at Mobile, 1780"), GWNC-1:28
BACUS2, African descent ("Negro slave working and serving at Mobile, 1780"), GWNC-1:28
BACUS, NICHOLAS, Mixed descent ("Negro or Mulatto"), JDLH:23 (The "Marcha de Gálvez", 1779, to Baton Rouge), RCM:19
BADON, AUGUSTÍN, African descent ("black soldier, Company of Petit Jean at Pensacola, 1781"), GWNC-1:28
BADON, CUPITÓN, African descent ("black soldier, Company of Petit Jean at Pensacola, 1781"), GWNC-1:28
BAGNIER, LOUIS, African descent ("Negro, wounded at Mobile, 1781), GWNC-1:29
BAILLY/BELLY/BAHY/BALLY, PIERRE, Mixed descent ("Negro or Mulatto"), JDLH:23 (The "Marcha de Gálvez", 1779, to Baton Rouge)
BENOIT, AMBROSIO, African descent ("black soldier, Company of Petit Jean at Pensacola, 1781"), GWNC-1:28
BOISSIEUX, PIERRE, African descent ("Negro soldier, wounded at Mobile, 1781"), GWNC-1:39
BONREPORT, CHARLES, Mixed descent ("Colored"), WSHPC:Ap:G:101 (Pensacola Campaign, 1781), "colored soldier wounded at the Village (Mobile), 7 January 1781" GWNC-1:40
CANELA, PEDRO, Mixed descent ("Negro or Mulatto"), JDLH:23 (The "Marcha de Gálvez", 1779, to Baton Rouge)
CAPOT, "Indian chief of Bydaye ..., allied to Spain in 1780, furnishing 7 warriors" GWNC-1:48CH
CARRIÈRE, NOEL, Mixed descent ("Negro or Mulatto"), JDLH:23 (The "Marcha de Gálvez", 1779, to Baton Rouge), RCM:18, 19
CHASTÁN, ANDRÉS, African descent ("black soldier in the Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781"), GWNC-1:53
CHASTÁN, NICOLÁS, African descent ("black soldier in the Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781"), GWNC-1:54
CHASTÁN, SINEGAL, African descent ("black soldier in the Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781"), GWNC-1:54
CHIC, Mixed descent ("free colored courier, 1780"), GWNC-1:54
CHRISTÓBAL/CRISTÓBAL, African descent ("Negro serving at Mobile in 1780"), GWNC-1:55
COCAILLE, "Indian chief of Yatasse nation, ... 1780 ally of Spain, 16 warriors," GWNC-1:56
COS, JUAN, African descent ("free negro member of the New Orleans Militia at Pensacola. He was captured by the British and sold as a slave to the Indians. He was later brought from the Indians and regained his freedom."), GWNC-2:69
D’ORVILLE/DROUVILL/DORVILLE, FRANÇOIS, Mixed descent ("Negro or Mulatto; free mulatto"), JDLH:23 (The "Marcha de Gálvez", 1779, to Baton Rouge), RCM:18, 19
DE BLANC, PIERROT, Mixed descent ("free colored courier, 1780"), GWNC-1:37
DE CADEFIEL, CARLOS, Mixed descent ("mulatto serving at Mobile, 1780"), GWNC-1:46
DE LA CRUZ, TOMÁS, "Maya Indian from Yucatán", GWNC-1:60
DUBROCAR, JOSEPH, African descent ("black soldier, Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781"), JEGM:256
DU PONT, NICOLÁS, Mixed descent ("free colored courier, 1780") GWNC-1:73
DURET, LUIS, African descent ("black soldier, Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781"), GWNC-1:74
ESTEVAN[3], African descent ("Negro slave serving in Mobile, 1780"), GWNC-1:77
ESTAYAN[3], African descent ("Negro slave serving in Mobile, 1780"), GWNC-1:77
FLON, African descent ("Negro"), GWNC-2:80 (blacksmith and armorer during the 1780 Mobile Campaign)
FORGERON, JOSEPH, African descent ("Black soldier, Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781"), GWNC-1:81
FRANCISCO, African descent (“negro slave serving in Mobile, belonging to Mrs. Trepanier of New Orleans.”), GWNCH-2:82
FRANCISCO, African descent (“negro slave of Mr. Beinvenu serving in Mobile, 1780.”), GWNCH-2:82
GIRON Y MOCTEZUMA, JERONIMO, (Aztec and Spanish ancestry), EB
GUILHAUME, African descent (“negro slave of Mr. Beinvenu serving in Mobile, 1780.”), GWNCH-1:94
GUIM, GEORGE, African descent (“negro militiaman wounded at Pensacola in 1781.”), GWNCH-1:95
HONORÉ, African descent (“Slave who performed several confidential missions at Mobile…”), GWNCH-1:99
LIVOIS, JOSEP, African descent (“Black soldier, Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781.” ), GWNCH-1:118
MACA, African descent (“Negro slave serving in Mobile, 1780, belonging to Mr. LaMazzalliere/Macillerau of New Orleans.”), GWNCH-1:121
MARCUS, African descent (“negro in service at the Mobile plaza, 1781.”), GWNCH-1:122
MATURIN, African descent (“negro at Mobile, 1780, belonging to Mr. Dupare of New Orleans.”), GWNCH-1:126
MEDAIR, DAVID, African descent (“Black soldier, Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781”), GWNCH-1:127
MEDES, JEAN, Mixed descent (“Negro or Mulatto”), JDLH:23 (The “Marcha de Gálvez”, 1779, to Baton Rouge)
MEULON, JEANOTE, Mixed descent (“free colored courier, 1780”), GWNCH-1:129
NARBONE, PHELIPPE, African descent (“black soldier”), Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781, JEGM:256
ORBANE, PRINCIPE, African descent (“black soldier, Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781”), GWNCH-1:140
PEDRO, African descent (“negro slave serving in Mobile, 1780, property of Mr. LaTour of New Orleans.”), GWNCH-1:143
PETIT JEAN, African descent (“commander of a black company (Compañía de Negros de la Mobilia), he a mulato slave…”), GWNCH-1:146
PETIT BAUTISTA/BAUTISTA PETIT, African descent (“apparently a Negro militiaman from New Orleans at Mobile in 1781”), GWNCH-1:146
PHELIPPE, African descent (“negro slave serving in Mobile, 1780, belonging to Mr. Donoy of New Orleans), GWNCH-1:147
RENAUD/RENAITO, AUGUSTIN, Mixed descent (“Negro or Mulatto”), JDLH:23
RUBEN, FELIPE, Mixed descent (“Negro or Mulatto”), JDLH:23 (The “Marcha de Gálvez”, 1779, to Baton Rouge), RCM:18
RUBY, SALVADOR, Mixed descent (“Negro or Mulatto”), JDLH:23 (The “Marcha de Gálvez”, 1779, to Baton Rouge)
SANSON, African descent (“negro slave serving in Mobile, 1780, property of Mr. DuGruize of New Orleans.”), GWNCH-1:168
SANTIAGO, African descent (“Negro”; enslaved man of Mr. Dingerard of the German Coast of Louisiana), SMV:2:pt1:428-492.
SARRASE, JUAN BAUTISTA, Mixed descent (“Negro or Mulatto”), Sergeant, JDLH:23 (The “Marcha de Gálvez”, 1779, to Baton Rouge)
TOLOPE, (“Yuchi Indian Chief in East Florida who favored an alliance with Spain in 1779.”), GWNCH-2:155
TRENIER, BAUTISTA, African descent (“negro who served at Mobile in various ways, 1780”), GWNCH-1:179
TRUILET, WILL, African descent (“black soldier, Company of Petit Jean, Pensacola, 1781”) GWNCH-1:180

FOREIGN ALLIES

669
TUNAPÉ, (“Florida Indian Chief from Appalachee region who in 1778 went to Havanna to ally himself with the Spanish.”), GWNCH-2:157
VARANQUE, JEAN, Mixed descent (“free colored courier, 1780...”), GWNCH-1:181
VILLAR, DANIEL, African descent (“Negro militia, killed at the Village in 1781”), GWNCH-1:184
ABBREVIATIONS


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Din, Gilbert C. “Spain’s Immigration Policy and Efforts in Louisiana during the American Revolution.” Louisiana Studies, 14 (1975), 241-257.


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Yela Utrilla, Juan F. España ante la independencia de los Estados Unidos. 2 vols. 2nd ed. Lérida, Spain: Gráficos Academia Mariana, 1925.
The names of the following men appear elsewhere in this publication as noted. The original sources in which they appear indicate that they were natives of a particular West Indian island. In addition to these individuals, also note the inclusion in Chapter Fourteen, Georgia, of the names and historical background of the Haitian soldiers in the French Army who played a major role in the Battle of Savannah.

**Names of Patriots**

**Service in Rhode Island (See Chapter 4 for sources.)**


NILES, ROBERT, **, S5828. [Note: The Pension does not mention his color, but does say he was born in Kingston, Jamaica. He cannot be found in the census because he moved so often between PA, RI, MA, and VA.]

**Service in Virginia (See Chapter 11 for sources.)**

*From the Virginia chapter:*

In the Revolutionary War “size rolls” (lists of men which give physical descriptions, age, birthplace, etc.) which have survived, some interesting and surprising enlistments appear. 1 A Mathew Heward or Howard, the surname is not clear in the original record, lists his birthplace as Jamaica and his residence in 1780 as Caroline County. The clerk describes him as “black” in complexion.2 Thomas Crew, another man described by the army clerk as “black,” gives his birthplace as “Hispaniola” (modern Haiti and the Dominican Republic) and his residence as Northampton County.2 Finally, and clearly the most surprising find, was a man named George Brumma, “yellow” in complexion and with a birthplace of “Austatia,” i.e. St. Eustatius.3 A George Brumagam is

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1 Register & description of Noncommissioned Officers & Privates at Chesterfield Court House, Powhatan Court House, Carter’s Ferry, Albemarle Old Court House, Cumberland Old Court House & at Winchester Barracks. Enlisted at different times from 1777 to 1783,” spine title: Revolutionary Army, v. 1, Register 1777 to 1783. Manuscript accession number 24296, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

2 Ibid.

3 Ibid.
listed in the 1787 tax list of Frederick County, Virginia, but because his name appears in the column of free taxpayers, his color is not given.

BRUMMA, GEORGE [also listed as Brumma Gee], (“yellow”), substitute, RAR, born “Austatia,” [i.e. St. Eustatius], living Fairfax Co., Virginia
CREW, THOMAS, African American, born Hispaniola, enlisted, RAR, living Northampton Co., Virginia
HEWARD/怎样 (surname unclear in original), MATHEW, African American, enlisted, RAR, born Jamaica, living Caroline Co., Virginia
BIBLIOGRAPHY
THE CARIBBEAN IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION


APPENDIX A

Map shows the *slave* population of the United States based on the first Federal Census in 1790.
To assist in study, the following map shows the slave population of the United States based on the first Federal Census in 1790.\(^1\) Similar maps for the black and Free Black population by county appear in Cappon’s *Atlas of Early American History: The Revolutionary Era.*\(^2\) Unfortunately, maps Native American population do not exist because they were not enumerated in 1790.

The map shows the concentration of the black population of the new country seven years after the end of the American Revolution and serves to draw our attention to regions where large numbers of some potential patriots, soldiers, and sailors may have lived. The Tidewater region of Virginia was one of the principal areas for concentration of the black population in 1790. Unfortunately for more in-depth study, it is also an area of severe record loss at the state and county level. Fires before, during, and after the Civil War rendered large parts of Virginia’s historic heartland barren of records. Investigations into minority participants from such “burned-counties” are extremely difficult, if not impossible – the records simply do not exist for many jurisdictions and the history one may have gleaned from them is now lost forever.

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APPENDIX B

DOCUMENTING THE COLOR OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
DOCUMENTING THE COLOR OF PARTICIPANTS
IN THE REVOLUTION

In an era when historians, anthropologists, sociologists, and psychologists challenge the very concept of separate races,1 it is sometimes difficult for modern readers to grapple with the wide variety of terminology used in past centuries to identify persons of varying skin colors, shades, and complexions. They are often different from terms used today, and they do not always have the same meaning today as they did in the eighteenth century. Avoiding “presentism,” -- interpreting historical situations and events using modern attitudes -- is something that researchers must maintain as a constant thought when examining historical documents and references to the color descriptors used in the past.2 Historical context is essential when examining any description or document.

One of the biggest stumbling blocks to researching individuals for inclusion in this study has been the surprising absence of color in the descriptions of men in a great many of the records created by the scribes of that period. While some sources do specifically use the terms “Negro,” “black,” “mulatto,” or “Indian,” many others from the late eighteenth century are, unfortunately, devoid of color descriptors. On the other hand, a few of the older published versions of Revolutionary War military records do not list the color descriptors that do appear in the originals requiring researchers to start with the published version and move back to the less-accessible originals. This frustrates proper documentation and emphasizes the need to consult original records to glean as much information from them as possible. It also calls into question some record abstracts from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

In surveying the vast number of records as part of this undertaking, it appears that the use of specific colors to describe an individual was usually the observation of a “white” man describing another man and trying to create distinctions between individuals. After all, men of European descent were the ones who wrote down the information with only a few exceptions. Specific and designated terms such as “Negro,” “mulatto,” “mustee,” “black,” “black man,” “blackamoor” etc., were used in that period to describe individuals of African descent or partial African descent. One must remember, however, that there also were and still are various terms used by “white” European Americans to describe each other. The use of terms such as “ruddy,” “sandy,” “light,” “dark,” etc., usually refers to a situation where someone of European descent was attempting to describe better the variations in skin tone lumped together by some as “white.” One likely explanation for the use of “light” and “dark” in descriptions of the same man in many records is that the observer was noting the shade of another “white” man’s skin during different seasons when exposure to the sun or lack thereof would result in a change in skin tone. Such descriptions as “light” and “dark” often appear in the same record for the same man in Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors and in many other sources from the period with no indication anywhere that he was not of European descent. Similarly, one “white” man exposed to the sun for long periods of time often tans

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to a “brown” complexion, while another may turn bright red from sunburn. Such variations in “Caucasian” skin tones must also be taken into account when studying older records and cannot be dismissed out of hand and ignored. These possibilities only add to the complexity of the overall attempt to interpret eighteenth-century sources and lead to the requirement for further documentation. In the absence of such documentation, one must conclude that there is insufficient evidence one way or the other.

It is important to note that for research purposes for the content of this book, any reference that remotely suggested a possible minority patriot was examined at length. The goal of this ongoing effort is to be as inclusive as possible, but this must occur within the constraints of documentation. One of the major challenges is that while there are copious examples where a written description suggests a possible minority patriot when in fact subsequent research proves otherwise, it is much more difficult to identify a minority patriot whose description is devoid of any mention of color and whose name suggests European descent. Further to this point, just because a person’s lineage traced back to a European country did not immediately dismiss them from further research as being of a minority background. It is well documented that by 1700, individuals of African descent had a presence in most European countries and often bearing names reflective of the local populace. Again, this is one more hurdle that researchers faced in attempting accurate documentation for inclusion in this book. It is not always a cut and dry matter.

For instances where color descriptors proved not to be definite indicators of descent, a few examples from the many include the numerous men listed as having “brown” complexions in the set of books titled Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolution. See Chapter Three for a discussion and analysis of information on these individuals. In Chapter Ten, a discussion appears about the difficulty of using color descriptors from the 1790 census in identifying men in Maryland who may have been Revolutionary War soldiers.

An additional color factor to be taken into account relates to the way Englishmen, and by extension the people of English descent in North America, viewed other Europeans. They did not consider all of those on the continent to be simply “white” in complexion. One can see examples of this in the following newspaper advertisements for deserters, one of the best sources for descriptions of individuals from the period:

“A Return of Deserters from the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment of Foot, in the Service of the United States, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel William Butler”
From Captain Meares’s Company
Philip Filer, 5 feet 5 inches, pale complexion, light coloured hair, born of German parents, near Reading, Berks County; deserted June 26, 1777
Robert Patrick, 5 feet 8 inches high, sandy complexion, remarkably freckled in his face, stoops in his shoulders; inlisted near Conshohopen, Berks County; deserted July 4, 1777.
Martin Reid, about 5 feet 4 inches high, brown complexion, dark coloured short hair, a blemish in one of his eyes; Dutch parents; late servant of one Hains, near John Patton, Esq., Big Spring; deserted August 5, 1777
George Cole, about 5 feet 6 inches high, brown complexion, born of German parents, near George Ream tavern, Berks County; deserted August 7, 1777.

or,


4 Pennsylvania Gazette, August 27, 1777, p. 3, col. 3.
Deserted from Gosport [Virginia], Daniel Murphy, a soldier in Col. Harrison’s regiment of artillery. He is an Irishman, five feet five or six inches high, well made, of a ruddy complexion, has a down look, and dark hair; ... Thomas Dix, Lieut. Artillery.⁵

Deserted from on board the brig Northampton, at Frazer’s ferry, on Mattaponi, the 4th instant, John Anthoney, a stout well made fellow, Portuguese born, and as dark as a mulatto; .... Francis Bright.⁶

and,

Deserted, three of the recruits from Prince William county, to wit: Andrew Murphey, an Irishman, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, well made, black hair, a large black beard, ...; James Miller, an Englishman, 5 feet 8 inches high, of a swarthy complexion, short brown hair, ...⁷

Color descriptors in Revolutionary-era records are very inexact and have raised many questions about individuals who may or may not belong in these lists. Such eighteenth-century terms for a man’s complexion as “ruddy,” “brown,” “dark,” “fresh,” “yellow,” and “freckled” are simply not definitive in every instance and by themselves when viewed with twenty-first-century eyes.⁸ Researchers in 2008 really have little certainty about whom the writer of such information was viewing and describing with some of these terms over 225 years ago. Other sources must be consulted to verify such notations to insure responsible documentation.

A good Northern example of this situation can be found in records from Dutchess County, New York, where various men on the county’s Revolutionary War rolls are listed with “brown” or “dark” complexions. A representative example is:

John Hayburn enlisted 30 July, age 37. He was b. in Londonderry [Ulster, Ireland] and was a labourer. He was in Fowler’s Co., 5’7” tall with a dark complexion and black hair.⁹

Most of these individuals were of designated European descent and lived in an upstate New York county with a small population of African descent. This is just one county, and the problem is compounded and confused in records up and down the East Coast.

In an eighteenth century example of confusion relating to identifying individuals, the following quotation from a Connecticut official clearly expresses his exasperation with determining who belonged to the Mohegan tribe:

As to the Interlopers and Straglers [sic] from other tribes, it is very Difficult to find out who they are (if any), they having no records to find out their Genealogy and are very Differing in their Acc[oun]ts. We find none but what by blood or Intermarriage claim to belonging to the

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⁵ Virginia Gazette (Purdie), November 14, 1777, p. 3, col. 3
⁶ Virginia Gazette (Purdie), September 12, 1777, p. 3, col. 3
⁷ Virginia Gazette (Dixon and Nicolson), September 11, 1779, p. 3, col. 2.
⁸ “Ruddy” now is used to describe a white person with a reddish or rosey complexion – did it mean the same thing in the eighteenth century? The Royal Standard English Dictionary, published in Boston in 1777, defines “ruddy” as: “approaching to redness, fresh.” They sound similar. The same dictionary defines “brown” as “the name of a colour; reddish;” “swarthy” as “dark of complexion;” “yellow” as “glaring color, as gold;” and “fresh” as “ruddy”. “Dark” may or may not connote minority status, but one cannot assume that it does without further supporting sources.
tribe & have been with them for a Long Space of Years, and it is very Difficult to Distinguish Between the whole blood and part blood.10

Writing about her research in Rhode Island town records in the Revolutionary period, historian Ruth Wallis Herndon makes the following observations about the appearance of color descriptors for one specific individual as well as for many others she encountered in the records:

The Jamestown town clerk identified Primus Thompson as “Indian”; but the Westerly town clerk identified him as “Mustee or Molatto.” This lack of precision about Primus’s racial heritage was commonplace. Eighteenth-century Rhode Island town clerks routinely blurred racial distinctions. Many clerks referred to the same person as ‘mulatto” in one place and “Indian” in another, or used the terms “Indian” and “Negro” to describe the same person within one document.”11

Herndon’s observations are quite accurate and illustrate the great variation in detail that appears in records from this period. She aptly demonstrates that the records do not always reveal what one would hope for in the way of consistent descriptive information about individuals in the Revolutionary period.

While these problems occur throughout New England and other Northern-state records (which tend to be much more voluminous than sources further south), Southern examples can be found in the records of Virginia’s colonial militia, where many men of European descent are described as having “light,” “dark,” “ruddy,” “fresh,” “freckled,” or “brown” complexions and often with European places of birth and social descriptions such as “planter” next to their name.12

Still, the color “yellow” often meant in some locations that the person was of mixed heritage, and, indeed, various records in Virginia list some soldiers as “yellow mulatto.” Using that as an indicator in a specific set of Virginia records written by the same person, we have included all persons in those records listed as “black hair, black eyes, yellow complexion.” In these same records, however, men who noted their birthplaces as England, Ireland, Scotland, France and Italy are listed with “brown” complexions. (See Chapter Eleven for further information on these records.)

Yet another situation that the records reveal and that is well known in the history of New York and other Northeastern states, is the story of Joseph Louis Gill. Gill, a “white Indian chief,” was born of white parents, who had been captured by Indians. He was raised as an Indian but maintained strong ties to his English background. Gill showed sympathies to both sides during the Revolutionary War. He was promoted to major as “an Indian Chief of the St. François tribe” in May 1779.13 Because of continued Tory influence on the Indians to support the Loyalist cause, Major Gill was offered a pardon just six months after this promotion, and he finally took an oath

of allegiance to the Crown. Had Gill not taken this course of action and supported the American cause, he might have been included in this publication because of his cultural affiliation. There likely were others like him.

One thing that these investigations have done is to underline the diversity of the population of the new American states in the late eighteenth century. It was simply not a situation where ‘white,” “red,” and “black” alone adequately illustrate the components of the populace. All researchers involved with this project have made diligent efforts to identify participants in the American Revolution of African, Native American, and mixed descent and have been pleased with each new documented discovery. At the same time, however, they have also struggled with the dilemma of dealing with old color descriptors that, by themselves, cannot always be taken as proof of a person’s descent. It has been, indeed, both frustrating and fascinating to view the historical records with this purpose in mind and to learn that the record is often greatly lacking.

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APPENDIX C

NAMES AS CLUES
TO FINDING FORGOTTEN PATRIOTS
NAMES AS CLUES TO FINDING FORGOTTEN PATRIOTS

The names of the individuals listed in this publication appear as shown in the historical sources. Often, there are many variations to these names, and researchers have tried to identify as many of these alternative spellings as possible. When reading through lists of soldiers and other eighteenth century documents, researchers would occasionally encounter a very unusual name. This lead to several avenues of examination to determine if the person was of African or American Indian background or if the man’s name was so distorted by the original scribe that it was unrecognizable. Pronouncing a name over and over again often helped draw the conclusion that the name was a gross misinterpretation of a Scottish, French, or German surname that an English speaker had written down phonetically. A few defied explanation.

The records from the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries have been slow to reveal all of the names of those of non-European or mixed descent who participated in the American struggle for independence. A very large number of black and American Indian men used English names, and record keepers did not always note that the person to whom they were referring was “of colour.” As a result, researchers began with the many published lists of soldiers from the original states in an effort to identify these individuals. These sources, however, proved to be only the tip of the iceberg, and the writers expanded the search and studied many other sources intensely.

Utilizing manuscripts, historical accounts, monographs, journal articles, and original sources, researchers worked to find documentation to substantiate the identification of persons falling into the categories of interest. Beyond the obvious – and some not so obvious – military records, Federal censuses for 1790 through 1850, state and federal pension records, state and local tax lists, local histories, cemetery transcriptions, and town and county records have revealed many names of individuals and their stories. Often only a tantalizing snippet of someone’s life and contribution to American independence appears in the historical record. In many other cases, only a small hint appears or the man’s heritage is completely obscured among all the other men with English-sounding names.

One important publication that served as an early starting point was Debra L. Newman’s List of Black Servicemen Compiled from the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records. This study included names of individuals from Federal records using the following criteria:

Certain entries of this list specify race, but the racial designations are not systematic. The records were examined using information contained in the records themselves and other sources ... to find characteristics in a name or about a name that might indicate race. Most helpful was the fact that some names, especially given names, appeared frequently only among the black population – principally in New England, where the largest recruitment of black servicemen was recorded. These names fall into four categories: African names or words, classical names, place names, and “status” names. Names in one or more of these categories were recorded in this list.¹

Newman’s study continues with a longer discussion of various names and their use.

Accordingly, Newman’s strategy for identifying potential minority patriots proved valuable to researchers. Similarly, historians such as Benjamin Quarles and Glen A. Knoblock also considered name analysis as a strategy for identifying minority patriots, but differed in the names they found acceptable. While Quarles only considered names of men who bore “Negro” as a given or surname, Knoblock considered names matching

Newman’s criteria and required additional proof of color for inclusion in his book.² And, anthropologist Newbell Puckett developed a list of seven categories of Black names.³ Although derived from sources that identified the bearer’s color, the names were identical to those done according to Newman’s analysis.

Contrasting with African and African American studies, few historians and anthropologists have published personal names studies on East Coast tribes from which we could derive guidance on identifying American Indian names. A majority of the extant studies focus on place or geographic, rather than personal names. One study that examined New York tribal naming traditions suggests practices that contrast with Euro-American naming traditions. Historian Toni Jollay Prevost explained that names could change throughout a person’s lifespan, reflecting contemporary actions.⁴ Thus, a person could have several names within their lifetime that changed according to factors independent of prescribed or static events such as birth. Research did not reveal evidence of these types of name changes, but it did note that variances in a man’s name could occur for these reasons, and might account for our inability to discern whether service belonged to two men, or one Native American possessing multiple names.

Multiple names might not necessarily be Native American, however. Several men from tribes with established diplomatic ties to colonial and British governments often appeared in records under their Indian name. Other Native Americans who assimilated into colonial society assumed anglicized names. Some maintained their tribal and anglicized names, appearing in various records under both. Still others were selective in their name usage, showing a preference for a name depending upon whether they were functioning within diplomatic, tribal, or assimilated contexts. Studies that examine the retention, disposal, or dual usage of Native American and anglicized names that would guide one in identifying patriots have not surfaced. Both the Native American and anglicized name appear in the listings herein if they were linked together in the historical records.

Similar to Newbell Puckett’s observations on African and African American names, anthropologist J. Owen Dorsey identified several categories of names used by Native Americans. Differentiating only slightly from Puckett, Dorsey identified the following categories: color, animal, and elemental or nature-oriented names.⁵ These categories hint at parallels with African and African American naming practices, suggesting the need to use a similar approach in identifying Native Americans within the same records.

Thus for this publication, the writers have used name analysis as a method of identifying minority patriots and when possible, have added further proof to identify color. They have also added names lacking color descriptors based upon name analysis coupled with military service, rank, or occupation as possible clues to a person’s status and descent.

This strategy is not without limitations, of course. Occasionally when searching for evidence of color where none is present, we find traditional African or African American names, but upon further investigation discover that the name belonged to a Native American or to someone of European descent. A problem can arise when documenting a person’s color using only the name as an indicator. For example, Newman lists one Africa Hamlin as a possible African American soldier.⁶ This individual was the son of Eleazar and Lydia Hamlin of Pembroke,

Appendix C: Names as Clues

Massachusetts, was of European descent, and had siblings named Asia, Europe, and America. Hamlin’s situation is clearly an unusual one, of course, but it does illustrate the pitfalls that can arise in making assumptions without looking at more than just one source. Given names like “Prince” and “Cato” were also used by some men of European descent, albeit with less frequency. Occasionally those same names were surnames.

A name alone is not always positive proof, therefore, of one’s status or family origin, and as a result when this is the only reason for a name to be listed and no other proof has been found yet, we have generally not included that name because it is not documented. Doubtless, the vast majority of the names in such lists as Newman’s and others like it are of minority participants, and a large percentage of these are included, but proving the color of some of the persons Newman listed remains a challenge. While most of the names in Newman’s book are also in this NSDAR publication, all are not for this reason alone. This same approach has been applied to other lists and sources as well. Further study may reveal the answers.

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APPENDIX D

THE NUMBERS OF MINORITY PARTICIPANTS
IN THE REVOLUTION
THE NUMBERS OF MINORITY PARTICIPANTS IN THE REVOLUTION

How many individual Americans of African, Native American, or mixed descent participated in the American Revolution in support of the Patriot cause? That is an extremely good question, and one for which there is no firm answer. Various studies on African American involvement in the Revolution give different statistics, yet none gives a source for this information making verification of the estimate impossible. Statistics relating to total American Indian participation in the conflict have not been found. Some writers have repeated figures with no substantiation, and this repetition has produced the opinion, among some, that the statistics are based on historical fact. Other historians have lumped African Americans, American Indians, and men of mixed descent into one large category of “people of color” or “colored” and given estimates for these totals.

Estimates of overall troop strength during the war are very sparse and incomplete. General Alexander Scammell compiled an assessment of the number of African Americans in the Continental Army as of the 24th of August 1778: 755 men. The listing is almost certainly incomplete in terms of the units included therein, and the information is only useful as a snapshot of observations made at a specific time and not a cumulative total for the entire war.

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Writing in the 1880s, Joseph T. Wilson made the following observation:

> Of the three hundred thousand troops in the Revolutionary war, it has been estimated that five thousand were colored, and these came principally from the North, whose colored population at that time was about 50,000, while the Southern colonies contained about 300,000.3

Note that the term “colored” did not always mean “of African descent” in the 18th or 19th centuries, so it is unclear whether Wilson’s figure includes only men of African descent or also men of American Indian and mixed descent. The origin of Wilson’s estimate remains a mystery.

Another proponent of the figure of 5,000 comes from Brigadier General Andrew S. Burt, who made the following statement in 1911:

> “Baron von Clausen, a German army officer, who visited this country during the Revolutionary War, said, among other things, in describing his visit to Gen. Washington’s camp that of the 20,000 soldiers there, 5,000 were Negroes, and that the best drilled and disciplined regiment was Col. Greene’s Rhode Island regiment, three-fours of which was composed of Negroes.”4

A review of von Closen’s memoirs of the war does not support Burt’s statement or math on the number of troops in Washington’s camp nor his conclusion in terms of the numbers in general. The only reference to the subject of von Closen’s observation of the numbers of African American troops in Washington’s army near White Plains in early July 1781 (which is where he visited Washington’s army prior to the combined American and French armies’ departure for the Siege of Yorktown) is as follows:

> “[July 1781] On the 4th, M. de Rochambeau sent me with Colonel Cobb to find General Washington, whom we joined in White Plains, where his army was resting, while he was selecting a camp site there …. I had a chance to see the American army, man for man. …. A quarter of them were negroes, merry, confident, and sturdy.”5

A search for the strength of the Continental Army encamped near White Plains in early July 1781 reveals about 6,500 men in the American forces.6 This would have been the size of the entire American forces in the Hudson Valley (including those at White Plains, West Point and elsewhere), so the army at White Plains would have been somewhat smaller. Using 5,000 as an estimate of the American force at White Plains – the troops under Washington that von Closen observed and described above – one quarter of this total would be 1,250. The 1911 article pulls a total of 20,000 from an unknown source (which presumably was supposed to be a figure for the entire Continental Army) and then extrapolates the total African American number as 5,000. This does not compute using von Closen’s journal as the source of the one-quarter figure.

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In addition, note the following statistics relating to total troops strength during the war:

The author has unfortunately been unable to find enough information to make reliable estimates of the size of the entire Continental Army at any one time. General Knox as Secretary of War in Washington’s first presidential administration compiled a report on this matter to Congress. Knox admitted his report contained inaccuracies; some troops not being counted while others must have been counted twice. Still Knox’s figures appear to be about all we have to go on. For the years of the War he gives the number of Continental regular troops as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1775</td>
<td>27,443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1775</td>
<td>46,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1777</td>
<td>34,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1778</td>
<td>32,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1779</td>
<td>27,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1780</td>
<td>21,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1781</td>
<td>13,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1782</td>
<td>14,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1783</td>
<td>13,476</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Even if von Clossen were making an estimate of the number of American troops, and someone at the time made a guess and told him that there were 20,000, based on Henry Knox’s figures for the size of the army in 1781 (13,392), this 20,000 figure was erroneous. One quarter of the troops Knox reported would only be 3,348.

In an article in 1916, W. B. Hartgrove offered a variety of statistics in a few paragraphs, included a figure of 750 men in a proposed unit of that size in Maryland (a unit the state never formed), and said: “In view of these numerous facts it is safe to conclude that there were at least 4,000 Negro soldiers scattered throughout the Continental Army.”

A few years later, in 1919, Benjamin Brawley estimated the total number at 3,000 men. Benjamin Quarles noted in 1961:

> It is not possible to give accurate figures as to the number of blacks in the American armies. Not more than a third of the Negroes who bore arms were racially labeled; moreover, colored combatants were interspersed with whites in what today might be called

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8 W. B. Hartgrove, “The Negro Soldier in the American Revolution.” *Journal of Negro History*, 1:2 (April 1916), 127-128. The author also states in the paragraph preceding this quotation that “most of the 629 slaves then found in New Hampshire availed themselves of the opportunity to gain their freedom by enlistment as did many of the 15,000 slaves in New York.” This inserts an erroneous inference that the latter joined the American Army, when the well-known truth is that most fled to the British for their freedom, and very few African Americans in New York joined the American forces.

unsegregated units. It has been estimated, however, that 5,000 Negro soldiers served in the patriot forces, a respectable figure particularly since so many were not free to act.10

Yet another author observed in 1968: “While there is little agreement over the exact number of Negroes that fought in the Revolution, most authorities believe the figure to be at least 3,000.”11 There is no documentation behind this statement to lead to further statistical information.

Philip Foner, writing in Blacks in the American Revolution in 1975, makes the following statement:

The number of black Continentals has been placed at between 5,000 and 8,000; the former figure is probably the more accurate one. Although this is generally acknowledged to have been a “respectable figure,” it was nowhere near the number who could have been recruited.12

Oscar Reiss made the following observation in 1997:

The American Revolution was the most significant war of the period, and it has been estimated that 5,000 blacks saw service. The numbers are unreliable, because black soldiers’ names were used infrequently. A soldier might be listed as a Negro or a mulatto, or only a first name was used.13

Other undocumented estimates include 5,000 to 8,000 in an online North Carolina educational study guide; and 7,000 in History in Dispute.14 In a 2006 news release, the W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University confirmed the inconclusiveness of all estimates:

Historians commonly estimate the number of African Americans and other non-whites who served in the Revolutionary War as 5,000, but the actual number is unknown.15

A tally of the number of names listed in this publication is over 6,600 for all groups, and provides the following totals for the various groups found in the original sources:

African American: 3,906
Probably African American: 149
Possibly African American or American Indian based on name, occupation, rank, etc., but for whom an historical color descriptor in eighteenth-century records is absent: 1,066

10 Benjamin Quarles. The Negro in the American Revolution (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press for the Institute of Early American History and Culture, 1961), ix. Quarles does not give a citation for the 5,000 figure and provides no textual documentation for it, unfortunately.
12 Philip Foner. Blacks in the American Revolution (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1975), 67. Foner does not give a citation for these figure and provides no textual documentation for it.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American and/or Indian</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulatto</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulatto and/or Indian</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mustee</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various complexions, possibly African American or Indian</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign of unknown origin but possibly of African descent</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian:</td>
<td>1,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probably American Indian:</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,611</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list does not include men listed with the United States’ foreign allies or those in sections of the book that deal with attempts to clarify the background of individuals whose color is very unclear or unstated.
Appendix D: The Numbers of Minority Participants
APPENDIX E

GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THIS BOOK
**Glossary of Terms Used in This Book**

**Sources used to prepare this glossary**


Terms used

**Abenaki.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family that extended across most of the northern New England, southern Quebec, and the southern Canadian Maritimes. The Abenaki were one of the five members of the Wabanaki Confederacy.

**Adjutant.** An administrative officer who acts as an aide or secretary. He handles routine paperwork and activities for the commanding officer. His responsibilities include being in charge of the books, files, and men of the headquarters.

**Adjutant-General.** A general selected to assist the Commander-in-Chief or General of the Army in all his operations. Acting as a military secretary he performs all clerical duties for the general by writing orders, dispatches, and remarks.

**Affidavit.** A written statement made under oath taken before some person who is properly authorized to take it.

**African American.** In the original sources used in research for this book, many terms appear for persons of African descent. The most frequently used was “Negro” or a variation thereof. We have used the modern term “African American” as a descriptor to cover all of the variations found for persons of African descent. For some individuals in the chapter on troops of the foreign allies of the United States, we have used “African descent” instead of “African American” because these individuals were not residents of the United States at that time.

**Alarm.** A sudden call of being attacked by surprise, or the notice of such attack being actually made. It is generally signified by the discharge of firearms, the beat of a drum, etc.

**Alarm Post.** In the field it is the ground appointed by the quartermaster-general for each regiment to march to, in case of an alarm.

**Algonquian family.** One of eight chief language groups of the American Indians, which formerly occupied a greater area than any other in North America. Their territory reached from the eastern shore of Newfoundland to the Rocky Mountains and from the Churchill River in Canada to Pamlico Sound in North Carolina. The tribes were mainly agricultural and stayed in one place, with the exception of the tribes of the north in Canada.

**Alliance.** In a military sense, an alliance signifies a treaty entered into by sovereign states for their mutual safety and defense.

**American Indian.** We have used this term for individuals who were members of Native American tribes or groups because this is the term used by the United States government. Whenever possible, we have identified the individual with a specific tribe.

**Ammunition.** Is a term used for gunpowder, and all the various projectiles and pyrotechnical composition and stores used in the service.

**Annals.** A written account of events in the chronological order they happened.

**Annuity.** A sum of money payable yearly for a given number of years.

**Appointment.** A military position of office, rank, or employment.

**Artificer.** A military mechanic assigned to repair artillery pieces and their associated vehicle.
Artillery. Ammunitions and supplies that consist of guns or cannon, mortars, howitzers, etc. together with all the apparatus and stores there to belonging; also the officers and men of that branch of the army to which the care and management of such machines have been confided.

Barracks. An area erected for both officers and men to lodge in; they are built different ways, according to their different situations.

Batmen. Servants hired in wartime to take care of the horses belonging to the train of artillery, bakery, baggage, etc.

Battalion. A body of troops, smaller than a regiment, comprised of several companies.

Bombardier. An artillery soldier whose duties are to load and fire a mortar or howitzer; or one whose duty it is to manufacture bombs.

Brig. A area on a naval vessel for temporary confinement of offenders in the navy.

Brigantine. A two masted square rigged ship.

Brigade. A division of soldiers, whether horse, foot, or artillery, under the command of a brigadier. A brigade generally consists of three regiments, or six battalions.

British plunder. Something that was taken by force, theft, or fraud by the enemy.

Brotherton. A village that were remnants of different Algonquian tribes. They all went under the leadership of Samson Occum the Indian minister, and on arriving in Oneida County called their settlement Brotherton.

Cannon. An artillery piece in the form of a hollow cylinder closed at one end and used for throwing balls and other instruments of death by force of gunpowder.

Cannonade. The act of discharging balls and other instruments from cannon for the purpose of destroying an army, or battering a township, or fort.

Catawba. A tribe of the Siouan linguistic family that originally occupied parts of southwestern North Carolina near Catawba River. Years later they had left their towns in North Carolina and moved into South Carolina.

Caughnawaga. A principal village of the Mohawk tribe located in New York.

Cavalry. A body of soldiers that serves and fights on horseback; armed with swords.

Cayuga. A tribe of the Iroquoian linguistic family that originally lived along the shores of Cayuga Lake in New York. Some of the tribe went to Ohio soon after the Revolution and became known as Seneca of Sandusky. The Cayuga were one of the five nations of the Iroquois Confederacy.

Cherokee. A tribe of the Iroquoian linguistic family who formerly occupied the southern portion of the Appalachian Mountains, mainly in the States of Tennessee and North Carolina, but also including parts of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Virginia.

Chickahominy. A tribe of the Powhatan along the Chickahominy River in Eastern Virginia.

Chippewa. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family inhabited areas of Michigan, Wisconsin, and the basin of Lake Superior.
Colored/coloured. This term often appears in the historical records to designate someone of African descent, but there are times when it may describe someone of mixed descent or of Native American origin depending on the context.

Comptroller. An official in the military pay structure or Treasury, inspects the musters and returns of military organizations, makes the pay list, takes the account and remains of stores, and is accountable to the Treasury. This post is typically only in war-time.

Company. A small body of foot or artillery, the number of which is never fixed, but generally from 45 to 110, commanded by a captain, a lieutenant, and an ensign, and sometimes by a first and second lieutenant, as in artillery.

Conestoga. A village of Susquehanna originally located in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Conoy. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family located between the Potomac River and the western shore of the Chesapeake.

Corporal. A non-commissioned officer in rank between Private and Sergeant.

Creek. A confederacy made up of dominant tribes called Muskogee that resided in present day Georgia and Alabama.

DAR Established Patriot. A participant in the American Revolution, male or female, military or civilian, whose service in 1775-1783 and lineage have been proven by members applying to the DAR.

Delaware. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family who occupied all the state of the New Jersey, the western end of Long Island, all of Staten and Manhattan Islands and neighboring parts of the mainland, along with other portions of New York west of the Hudson, and parts of eastern Pennsylvania, and northern Delaware. They called themselves the Lenape or Leni Lenape, which meant the “real men.” When the settlers and the Iroquois entered their country, they moved to Ohio, Wyoming and to Indiana.

Deserter. A soldier who is absent without intention to return during his service in the army or navy. [Deserters’ names are included in this book because although they did not complete their military service. They did serve, however, so they did account for some of the names in the total statistics for the war.]

Discharge. Is the dismissing of a soldier from the troop or company he belonged to, either by his own request, or when after long and faithful services, he is discharged.

Dragoons. Horsemen, or cavalry, armed with pistol and sword, who serve both on horseback and foot. In battle, or on attacks, they generally fight sword in hand after the first fire.

Drum-Major. A non-commissioned officer in a regiment of infantry who has command of the drummers and teaches them their duty. He also directs the movements of the regimental band, while on parade.

Drummer. The soldier who plays a drum.

Fatigueman. A military personnel who performs manual or menial work.

Fife-Major. A non-commissioned officer who acts as chief or superintendent of the fifers of a regiment; synonymous with a Drum-Major’s duty and often serving as leader of the band.

Fifers. One who plays a fife or flute.
Fleet. A number of warships under a single command.

Frigate. A war ship smaller than a destroyer and is used for escort, antisubmarine, and patrol duties.

Fuze. A device for igniting the bursting charge in a hollow projectile at any point of its flight.

Galley. The kitchen and dining area on a boat or ship.

Galloper. A carriage on which very small guns are conveyed without a limber.

General. A senior officer who commands an army or large military force.

Gingaskin. A village of Powhatan originally located near Eastville, in Northampton County, Virginia.

Groton. A village of the Mohegan originally located near what is now Groton, Connecticut. It is famous as being the scene of the massacre perpetrated by British troops under Benedict Arnold.

Howitzer. A short, light cannon, having a chamber intended to throw like projectiles with comparatively small charges. A howitzer is of larger caliber than a gun, project larger shells than a gun, and used for shorter ranges.

Huron, see Wyandot.

Indian Scouts. A term applied both to white men and Indians who acted as guides or scouts for army troops and for pioneers.

Infantry. Foot soldiers using small-arms.

Interpreter. A person who translates orally for parties conversing in different languages.

Invalid. A soldier who has been wounded, or has suffered in his health, and as a result of his good conduct has been recommended for a pension or disability rating.

Iroquoian family. One of eight chief language groups of the American Indians located in eastern North America.

Iroquois Confederacy. The Iroquois Confederacy of New York was known as “the Five Nations” which consisted of the Cayuga, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, and Seneca and later included the Tuscarora. The Iroquois were located in the upper and central part of the Mohawk Valley and the lake region of central New York.

Lenape, see Delaware.

Lieutenant. A subaltern officer performing the duties of his superior. In company organization the lieutenant comes next after captain, and supplies his place during temporary absence. There are two grades of lieutenants, first and second.

Light Infantry. A body of armed men selected and trained for rapid evolutions; often employed as skirmishers, to cover and assist other troops; typically armed with rifles.

Loss. Killed, wounded, and captured persons, or captured property.

Lumbee. The Lumbee are a Native American tribe of North Carolina, though their origins are disputed. While Lumbees today identify ethnically as Indians, according to documentary sources they are in origin a mixture
of European American, African-American, and Native American. The name “Lumbee” derives from that of the Lumbar River that runs through Robeson County.

**Mahican.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family living on the banks of the upper Hudson from Catskill Creek to Lake Champlain and eastward to include the valley of the Housatonic.

**Maliseet.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family who lived in the valley of Saint John River, New Brunswick, but extending slightly into the northeastern corner of Maine. The Maliseet were one of the five members of the Wabanaki Confederacy.

**Man of color/colour.** This term often appears in the historical records to designate someone of African descent, but there are times when it may describe someone of mixed descent or of Native American origin.

**Mashantucket.** A village of the Pequot who were closely related to the Mohegan, located in Ledyard, Connecticut.

**Mashpee.** The mainland Wampanoags occupied Mashpee, a town in Barnstable County, Massachusetts.

**Matrosses.** Soldiers in the royal regiment of artillery in the British service, who assisted the gunners in loading, firing, and sponging the great guns.

**Mattaponi.** A small tribe of the Powhatan along the Mattaponi River in Virginia.

**Maya.** A tribe of the Mayan linguistic family occupying the Yucatán including the present British Honduras, northern Guatemala, and neighboring parts of Tabasco.

**Micmac.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family located in Nova Scotia, Cape Breton Island, Prince Edward Island, and the eastern shore of New Brunswick. The Micmac were one of the five members of the Wabanaki Confederacy.

**Militia.** A part of the organized armed forces of a country liable to call only in emergency.

**Minority.** Used as a collective term to incorporate persons of African and Native American descent in comparison to the larger European-American population, the term only means “smaller” in numerical size.

**Missisquoi.** A tribe of the Abenaki who lived along the eastern shore of Lake Champlain.

**Mixed descent.** We have used this term as the main descriptor for individuals identified in the original sources as “mulatto” or “mustee” because it more accurately describes their family origins as being a mixture of African, European, or Native American depending on the description.

**Mohawk.** One of the five nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. The Mohawk belonged to the Iroquoian linguistic family. They lived in the mid-Mohawk River Valley, which extends from Schoharie Creek to East Canada Creek. It also includes a portion of upstate New York and Vermont south of the St. Lawrence River.

**Mohegan.** The Mohegan belonged to the Algonquian linguistic family that was closely related to the Pequots. They originally occupied most of the upper Thames valley in eastern Connecticut.

**Monacan.** A tribe of the Siouan linguistic family that originally lived in the eastern part of the Virginia.

**Montauk.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family living in the eastern and central parts of Long Island.

**Moravian Christian Indians.** A body of Indians who belonged primarily to the Wappinger and the Delaware
who were converted by the society of the United Brethren.

**Mortar.** A short cannon for throwing shells, called “vertical fire,” which is opposite to the fire of a long cannon, usually made at low angles.

**Mulatto.** This term appears throughout the book reflecting the description given of a person in the original records in which their name appears. Historically, it has meant a person who was partly of “Caucasian” and partly of African descent. RSED (1777): “one begotten between a black and a white.” WEB (1986): “The first generation offspring of a Negro and a white; a person of mixed Caucasian and Negro ancestry.”

**Musket.** A muzzle-loading smoothbore shoulder fired gun, used by the infantry; the most common weapon used by all armies.

**Mustee.** This eighteenth-century term appears throughout the book reflecting the description given a person in the original records in which their name appears. Definitions and usage appear to vary: DAGWP (1848): “The child of a white person and a quadroon.” AKPW (1997): “Where clerks record the parentage of these “Mustee” children, it is always the mother who is identified as Indian. But what of the father? The use of “Mustee” indicates that officials considered the child to have a non-Indian father, even though no details about the father are provided.”

**Muster.** To take an account of numbers and conditions of soldiers and equipment in a company, troop, or regiment.

**Muster-Roll.** List of soldiers in each company, troop, or regiment, by which they are paid, and the strength of the army is known.

**Nansemond.** A tribe of the Powhatan who lived along James River in Virginia.

**Nanticoke.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family that originally lived on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and southern Delaware.

**Narragansett.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family occupying the greater part of Rhode Island west of Narragansett Bay, between Providence and Pawcatuck Rivers.

**Natchez.** A tribe of the Muskogean linguistic family that originally lived along St. Catherines Creek and east of the present city of Natchez, Mississippi.

**Navy.** Any fleet or assembly of ships that belong to a kingdom or state.

**Nauset.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family located on Cape Cod in Massachusetts.

**Nehantic.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family who lived in Connecticut and Rhode Island during the early colonial period. Due to intrusions of the Pequot, the Nehantic were divided into an eastern and western division. The Western Nehantic lived on the seacoast from Niantic Bay to Connecticut River while the Eastern Nehantic became very close allies to the Narragansett.

**Negro.** This term appears throughout the book reflecting the description given of a person in the original records in which their name appears. Other variations of this term also appear in the book because we are quoting the terms given in the original sources.
Nipmuc. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family that occupied the central plateau of Massachusetts extending south into northern Rhode Island and northeast Connecticut.

Non-commissioned officers. The subordinate enlisted men (corporals and sergeants) of the general staff, regiments, and companies who are appointed, not by commission, but by warrant from the Secretary of War or commanding officers of regiments; and they are usually selected on account of good conduct or superior soldierly abilities.

Oath. A declaration of fidelity, or promise to commit or refrain from committing certain action.

Ojibwa, see Chippewa.

Oneida. One of the five nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. The Oneida belonged to the Iroquoian linguistic family that originally lived along the waters of the Oneida Creek, which flow into Oneida Lake in central New York. The Revolutionary War permanently divided the Iroquois tribes because the Oneida and Tuscarora voted to side with the Americans, while the others chose to side with the British. In 1779 General George Washington convinced the pro-American Oneida to join his company in an attack against tribes of the Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca.

Onondaga. One of the five nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. The Onondaga belonged to the Iroquoian linguistic family located in New York and Canada. They fought against the colonists in the Revolutionary war, and suffered severely in the contest.

Ordnance. All military supplies including weapons, ammunition, combat vehicles, and maintenance tolls and equipment.

Ottawa. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family who originally resided on the shores of Lake Huron from Saginaw to Detroit.

Pamunkey. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family that was a part of the Powhatan Confederacy. They inhabited the Pamunkey River and King William County in Virginia.

Passamaquoddy. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family that lived along the Passamaquoddy Bay, St. Croix River, and the Schoodic Lakes. The Passamaquoddy were one of the five members of the Wabanaki Confederacy.

Penobscot. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family located in the Penobscot River valley and Penobscot Bay region of Maine. The Penobscot were one of the five members of the Wabanaki Confederacy.

Pension. A stated allowance to a person in consideration of past services; payment made to one retired from service, for age, disability, or other cause; especially a yearly stipend paid by government to retired officers, disabled soldiers, the families of soldiers killed, etc.

Pequot. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family that originally lived along a flat, narrow, coastal plain adjacent to the Connecticut River Valley.

Piscataway. A village of the Conoy Indians that occupied the southern part of Prince Georges County.

Potowatomie. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family who originally occupied a great part of Michigan.

Powhatan. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family located in the tidewater section of Virginia from Potomac River to the divide between James River and Albemarle Sound, and the territory of the present eastern shore of Virginia.
**Powhatan Confederacy.** A coalition of the Algonquian tribes of Virginia was famous for being the first American Indian peoples embracing the first permanent English settlement in North America was made.

**Prisoners of War.** Those of the enemy who are taken as captives and are deprived of their liberty at large, until exchanged.

**Private.** The lowest and most common rank in the army.

**Privateer.** An armed private ship commissioned to cruise against the warships of an enemy; the commander or one of the crew of a privateer.

**Punkapoag.** A village of Wampanoag Indians located in Norfolk Co., Massachusetts.

**Quartermaster.** An officer whose principal business is to look after the quarters of the soldiers, their clothing, bread, ammunition, firing, etc. Every regiment of foot, and artillery, has a quarter-master.

**Quartermaster-General.** A General staff-officer in the U.S. Army, who is head of the quartermaster’s department.

**Quinnipiack.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family that were located near the present city of New Haven, Connecticut.

**Ramapos.** American Indians who lived around the Ramapo Mountains of northern New Jersey and southern New York.

**Ranger.** One of a body of lightly armed troops, who were formerly armed with short muskets, or rifles and tomahawks or hunting knives; and who ranged over the wilderness and country, and fought on foot in the style of American Indians.

**Rank.** A title showing an enlisted man’s or officer’s degree of authority in any military organization.

**Rappahannock.** A tribe of the Powhatan named after the Rappahannock River located in eastern Virginia.

**Receipt.** A voucher or acknowledgement, given when official papers are received; or funds transacted.

**Record.** The general and official documentation of military organization.

**Recorder.** An official who keeps the records.

**Recruiting.** The act of obtaining men for service.

**Regiment.** A body of men, either cavalry, infantry, or artillery commanded by a colonel, lieutenant-colonel, and major: each regiment of foot is divided into companies commanded by a Captain, and two subalterns, but the number of companies differ. Each regiment has a chaplain, quarter-master, adjutant, surgeon, as well as support staff and a band.

**Register.** A list or roll; as, the army register; which is a list of officers, with rank and date of commission, etc.

**Return.** An official account, report, or statement, submitted to the commander.

**Roster.** Is a plan or a table, by which the duty of officers, entire battalions, and squadrons, is regulated.

**Sachem.** A chief of a tribe of the American Indians.
Sailor. A professional mariner; a member of a ship’s crew.

St. Francis. The Abenakis had split into small groups such as those known as the St. Francis and the Missiquoi. They were the most active in relationship to New Hampshire and Vermont during the Revolutionary War.

St. John’s. American Indians that settled in St. John’s, Quebec. During the American Revolution control of the town changed hands several times as the British and American forces moved through the area.

Schaghticoke. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family that occupied the eastern woodlands.

Schooner. A typically two masted fore-and-aft rigged vessel with a foremast and a mainmast stepped nearly amidships.

Scout. One sent out in war ahead of the army at the difference of a mile or two, to discover the enemy, and give the general an account of what they see.

Seneca. One of the five nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. The Seneca are a tribe of the Iroquoian linguistic family that originally lived around what are now Seneca Lake and the Geneva River in northwestern New York.

Sergeant. A non-commissioned officer ranking above corporal.

Sergeant-Major. The highest ranking non-commissioned officer in a regiment or brigade.

Shawnee. A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family who originally occupied the areas of Ohio, West Virginia, Western Maryland, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania.

Siconesse. American Indians of the Delaware tribe who lived along the eastern bank of Delaware River a short distance from Salem.

Siouan family. One of eight chief language groups of the American Indians located in central and eastern North America.

Sloop. A warship rigged as a ship, brig, or schooner mounting from ten to thirteen guns.

Soldier. A person employed by the government to fight its wars.

Spy. One employed to give intelligence of what the enemy is doing.

Stockbridge. A body of Indians whom belonged to the Housatonic Valley and other tribes of the Mahican were gathered into a mission at Stockbridge.


Surgeon. A doctor who serves in the military who specializes in surgery.

Susquehanna. A tribe of the Iroquoian linguistic family who originally resided along the Susquehanna River in New York, Pennsylvania, and Maryland.

Teamster. One who drives a team of horses, in the manner of a wagoner.

Truckmaster. An officer in charge of the trade with American Indians.
**Tuscarora.** A tribe of the Iroquoian linguistic family located originally of North Carolina and later of New York and Ontario. After they had been driven from their homeland in North Carolina, the Iroquois Confederacy voted to give them land near Oneida Lake and invited them to join their confederacy. At the outbreak of the American Revolution, the Tuscarora, along with the Oneida, sided with the colonists and in consequence they were attacked by Indians in the British interest.

**Wabanaki.** The Wabanaki Confederacy consisted of the Abenaki, Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Micmac, and Maliseet tribes. The coalition of the five Algonquian tribes of the eastern seaboard, banded together in response to Iroquois aggression. The confederacy officially disbanded in 1862.

**Wagoner.** One who drives a wagon which is a four-wheel vehicle for transporting bulky commodities and drawn by animals.

**Wampanoag.** A tribe of the Algonquian linguistic family occupying the coastal land from Cape Cod to Narragansett Bay and on the islands of Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket. They welcomed the early white settlers who came to Plymouth and helped them through their first winter. They were eager to have them as allies against their enemies, the Narragansett who would later become their allies.

**Warrant.** A certificate of rank issued to non-commissioned officers.

**Waterman.** A boatman who acts as a guide to lead or conduct over a usually difficult course.

**Wyandot.** A tribe of the Iroquoian linguistic family who originally occupied the territory of St. Lawrence Valley and what is now the province of Ontario.

**Yatasse.** A tribe of the Caddoan linguistic family that originally lived along the Red River near Shreveport in Louisiana.

**Yuchi.** A tribe who originally occupied eastern Tennessee, northern Georgia, and northern Alabama.
APPENDIX F:

MASTER LIST OF SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS
USED IN THIS BOOK
Master List of Source Abbreviations Used In This Book

** Included by analysis of name, occupation, or rank, or a combination of these. The color or ethnic origin of individuals noted with twin asterisks could not be found in the records in which they appear or in other sources for the localities in which they lived.

1774RI “1774 Census of Rhode Island.” Rhode Island State Archives, C00197. [There have been two abstracts of this census: (1) John R. Bartlett. Census of the Inhabitants of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, 1774. Lambertville, NJ: Hunterdon House, 1958; reprinted, 1984. The main concern with this abstract of the 1774 census is that it does not list African American and American Indian residents of Rhode Island, although they do appear in the original records. (2) Rhode Island Roots: Beginning in 2003 (v. 29), Rhode Island Roots has published complete abstracts by town of this census including all residents listed. Citations in the list of Rhode Island soldiers below to individuals appearing in this census are for listings in these newer abstracts.


1785JC 1785 James City County, Virginia Personal Property Tax List. Library of Virginia, Richmond.

1786JC 1786 James City County, Virginia Personal Property Tax List. Library of Virginia, Richmond.


1793GC “1793 Goochland County, Virginia Personal Property Tax List.” Library of Virginia, Richmond.


### Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1850IN</td>
<td>1850 United States Census, Bloomington, Monroe Co., Indiana. M432, roll 161, p. 292, family 16/16. Andrew Ferguson, 95, male, black, b. VA; Jane Ferguson, 65, female, black, b. MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACML</td>
<td>“Amherst County Militia List,” Special Collections Department, Swem Library, The College of William and Mary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


AM 16  Archives of Maryland, Vol. 16: Journal and Correspondence of the Maryland Council of Maryland, 1777. Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1897.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BBP</td>
<td>Document dated 1778 “on which Brown drafted a letter to the new government regarding his slave Sipio, who had enlisted in the army.” Beriah Brown Papers (Mss. 109), Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHAM</td>
<td>Black Heroes of the American Revolution, 1775-1783. New York : National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 1976?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIC</td>
<td>RuEllen “Rudi” Serina Hjella Ottery. “Brother” Indian Collection.” Manuscript collection 395, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department, New England Historic Genealogical</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

Society, Boston. [This collection contains extensive files of genealogical information on the families from New England and from New York associated with the Brotherton Indians. Ottery was the genealogist for the Brotherton Tribe, and she collected a large amount of material now contained in sixty manuscript boxes.] Contents include:
Subgroup I. Brotherton Indian Records, 1801-1896
   Series A. Tribal Rolls and Lists, 1833-1896
   Series B. Descents from Brotherton Progenitors
   Series C. Brotherton Enrollment Records
   Series D. Numbered Individual Data Files
   Series E. Historical Records, 1801-1980
Subgroup II. Source Materials for Brotherton Genealogy, 1839-1893
Subgroup III. Correspondence on Brotherton Genealogy, 1977-1991
Subgroup IV. Source Materials for New England Indian History, 1622-1941
Subgroup V. Graphics


BJC  “Bible of Joseph Cheuvront” [containing handwritten annotations from the late eighteenth century of Revolutionary War service of various men and women at Hinkle’s Fort.] A copy of the Bible is in the file collection of the DAR Library, Washington

BLWt  Records of Bounty Land Warrant application files based on Revolutionary War service cover the period from 1775 to 1855 and are located at the National Archives (RG 15: Records of the Veterans Administration). The warrant is a certificate which states that, based on the soldier’s service, he is entitled to a certain number of acres in one of the bounty land districts. Similar records may also be found in RG 127 (Records of the Treasury).


BOSM  Boston. Registry Department. A Volume of Records Relating to the Early History of Boston Containing Boston Marriages from 1752 to 1809. (Boston Record Commissioners’ Reports, vol. 30). Boston: Municipal Printing Office, 1903. [The index to this volume, as is typical of many of the published volumes of Massachusetts town vital records, includes a separate index for “Negroes,” 690-702. It is an important listing of Boston African Americans and can be especially useful in determining the color of an individual with a common English name.]


C00101  “Black Americans Revolutionary War Documents; Back Pay, Service & Supplies, Revolutionary War, 1795-1819, Manuscripts.” Rhode Island State Archives Record Group C00101. [There are often multiple references to the named individuals throughout this collection of records.]

C00247  “Military Papers, French and Indian & Revolutionary Wars,” 19 manuscript volumes; vols. 1-6 are for the French and Indian War; vols. 7-16 are for the Revolutionary War. Rhode Island State Archives Record Group C00247. LDS microfilm numbers 953925-953937, 954952-954955
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

C00253M  “Minutes of the Council of War, 1776-1784,” 4 manuscript volumes. Rhode Island State Archives Record Group C00253M.

C00253M  “Minutes of the Council of War, 1776-1784,” 4 manuscript volumes. Rhode Island State Archives Record Group C00253M. [“...lately redeemed from captivity to be paid six dollars out of the General Treasury in order to enable him to go to Philadelphia, the place of his abode (October 1777).”]

C00482  Transcripts, Military Records, 1774-1786, 2 manuscript volumes. Rhode Island State Archives. Record Group C00482. Entries refer to volume and page number, i.e. C00482:2:455 = volume 2, page 455. Then, the page number takes you to the portion of these abstracts listed below in which the citation to the individual appears. The names of many of the men in the service list appear many more times within set of abstracts, so further reading to obtain every reference for every individual would be needed to find every instance for individual’s service.

Contents of this collection of abstracts:

Volume 1
Pages 1-23, part 1, “Rolls in Possession of Hannah Read, Newport, R. I., Wm. E. Davis, Providence, R. I., and Thomas W. Bicknell”
Pages 24-48b, part 2, “Rolls in Possession of Thomas Bicknell and Fred A. Arnold.”
Pages 107-125, part 6, “Military Papers, vol. 1, pp. 211-227”
Pages 167-186, part 9, “Military Papers, vol. 2, pp. 303, 310-413”
Pages 267-286, part 14, “Military Papers, vols. 3 & 4, pp. 544-596”
Pages 327-341, part 17, “Military Papers, vol. 5, pp. 49-35” [sic]
Pages 381-397, part 20, “Rhode Island Regiment Casualties, etc.; Angell’s Regiment, 1781, pp 381-394
Pages 401-420, part 21, “Pensions, Manuscript Rhode Island Historical Society, March 18, 1818; 1820 Applicants, and some muster rolls; accounts, pp 416-420”
Pages 421-439, part 22, “Names of Officers and soldiers in the Regiments Commanded by Colonels Robert Elliott, John Topham, and Archibald Crary, In the Rhode Island Service with their Balances of Depreciation, so called, reported to be due by a committee in October 1785.” [Topham’s, pp 423-429; Elliott’s, pp. 430-431; Crary’s, pp. 432-439]
Pages 1-20 [at back of vol. 1], part 23, “Book of Returns; Returns of the Rhode Island Regiment, 1779-1781” [These pages are also lettered. The names in this list are numbered. This number appears in the entries below instead of the page numbers. An example of an entry for this section would be: C00482:1:523:#394 = Vol. 1, section 23, entry number 394.]

Volume 2
Pages 441-459, part 24, “Papers of Randolph”
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

Pages 460-479, part 25, “Hospital Papers”
Pages 480-499, part 26, “Hospital Papers”
Pages 500-516, part 27, “Return Book”
[no page numbers], part 28, “Extracts from Colonial Records, 1784-1792, Vol. X”
[no page numbers], part 29, “Roll and Letters from Tiverton”
[no page numbers], part 30, “Rhode Island Manuscripts, Rhode Island Historical Society”
Pages 501a, part 31, “Providence Town Papers”
Pages 517-528, part 32, “Providence Town Papers”
Pages 529-544, part 33, “Providence Town Papers”
Pages 545-568, part 34, “Providence Town Papers”
Pages 569-578, part 35, “Military Papers, State Archives, No. 1 Folio”
Pages 588-607, part 36, “Military Papers, State Archives, No. 2 Folio”
Pages 608-623, part 37, “16th Congress Letters”
Pages 657-676, part 40, “Revolutionary Navy”
Page 676a, part 41, “Revolutionary Navy”
Pages 677-689, part 42, “List of Pensioners”
Pages 690-701, part 43, “Returns of Enlistments”
Pages 702-721, part 44, “Deserters from Rhode Island Regiment”
Pages 722-741, part 45, “Deserters from Rhode Island Regiment”
Pages 742-751, part 46, “Pardon Gray’s Papers”
Pages 752-777, part 47, “Samuel Aborn’s Papers”

C00486
“Military Returns, Revolutionary War,” Rhode Island State Archives. Record Group C00486.
Enteries refer to volume and page number, i.e. C00486:1:4 = vol. 1, page 4

C00842

CACIIN
“Connecticut Archives Collection: Pre-1820 Connecticut General Assembly Documents.”
Connecticut State Archives, Hartford (also available on microfilm).
Subject Index: Indian references. Indians, Series 1, 1647-1789, vol. 23 of master index set
Indians, Series 2, 1666-1820, vol. 24 of master index set

CACRW
“Connecticut Archives Collection: Connecticut Revolutionary War Records.” Series I, Series II, Series III. Connecticut State Archives, Hartford, These references are to the specific volumes of textual records and to the specific document in that volume. [example: 30:78a = vol. 30, document 78a] These records are indexed by: Subject Index for CACRW: Revolutionary War: Series 1, 1763-1789, index vols. 41-48; Series 2, 1756-1856, slip [card] index at Connecticut State Archives; Series 3, 1765-1820, index vol. 50

CACRW A
[Accounts]: “Connecticut Line in the Continental Army, 1777-1782.”

CAMIN
Betty J. Camin. “Revolutionary War Pension Applications at the North Carolina Archives.”

CARON

CBS

CBSL
“Claims Barred by the Statutes of Limitation, 11th Congress, 3d Session, No. 216” includes: “A statement of all of the claims which have been adjusted and allowed at the Treasury Department, and for which certificates of registered debt issued, in virtue of a law entitled ‘An act providing for the settlement of claims of persons under particular circumstances barred by limitations heretofore established.’ Passed on the 27th of March, 1792.” American State Papers: Documents, Legislative, and Executive of the Congress of the United States from the First Session of the First to the Second Session of the Seventeenth Congress, Inclusive: Commencing March 4, 1789, and Ending March 3, 1823. vol. 9 (Washington, D. C.: Gales and Seaton, 1834), 386-406.
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

**CCC4** Charles City County Historical Society. “Blacks in Blue – Charles City County’s Free Black Revolutionary War Soldiers,” *Charles City County Historical Society Newsletter*, No. 4 (September 1995), 8-11.

**CCC6** Charles City County Historical Society. “More Blacks in Blue – Charles City County’s Free Black Revolutionary War Soldiers,” *Charles City County Historical Society Newsletter*, No. 6 (March 1996), 10-14.


**CFP** *Ethan Clarke Ledger/Account Book*, vol. 1 (1771-1779), p. 143, Clarke Family Papers (1676-1914), Mss. 351, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence

**CGW** Carter G. Woodson. “An Important Revolutionary Record of a Negro Soldier.” *Journal of Negro History*, 17 (1932), 379-381. [Jacob Francis]


**CHM** “Officers and Privates of Different Beats in New York City, at work 10 March 1776.” *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts Relating to the War of the Revolution in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, New York* (Albany, N. Y.: Weed Parsons and Company, 1868), 1:267. The list includes several African Americans working with the militia whose names are included below.


**CHS91553** Connecticut. Committee of Pay Table. “Note, 1780, October 9, Grotton, Conn.” This note “certifies that Samuel Pompey of Grotton served three years as a soldier in the first regiment of the Continental Army.” Connecticut Historical Society accession number 91553.

**CHS93535A** Elias Brewster Hillard. *Diary, 1841.* Connecticut Historical Society. Accession number 93535A. Mentions a visit to Gideon Quash, a veteran of the American Revolution.


**CHS97556** Connecticut. Committee of Pay Table. “Pay Document, 1781.” Connecticut Historical Society. Accession number 97556. “Camp, Feb’y 9th 1781. Gentlemen: “Please to deliver the bearer Sgt. of the late 6th Conn’t now 4th Reg’t, the Amount due to us in State Noats [sic] for service in the Conn’t line before the 1st Jan’y /80. [lists the names of the men referenced to this source below]. This certifies that the above Soldiers of the late 6th Conn’t Reg’t signed the above order in my presence and were in service before the 1st Jan’y 1780 & belong to the Conn’t Line. A. Prior, Maj’r Comd’r.”

**CHS99190** “Military Pay Vouchers, d. 1781.” Connecticut Historical Society. Accession number 99190. “Order to pay, certificate of service, receipt and appointment of estate administrator relating to
the military service and subsequent payment of American Indian Josias Poague, a soldier in the First and Fifth Regiments of the Connecticut Line of the Continental Army from 1777 until his death in 1781.”


COWELL  Benjamin Cowell. Spirit of ’76 in Rhode Island, or, Sketches of the Efforts of the Government and People in the War of the Revolution. Boston: A.J. Wright, printer, 1850. Indexed by: James N. Arnold. Vital Records of Rhode Island 1636-1850, Vol. XII, pp. 91-298. Cowell’s listings of men in specific units, and particularly in the long list for the Rhode Island Regiment, 1 February, 1781, on pages 217-223 (620 names) appears to be grouped by color in a couple of sections without stating so. This lack of color descriptors makes it difficult to determine the color of all of them in this list. Because this regiment was not entirely African American in its composition, the list complicates identification of some men.


CS  Virginia Genealogical Society. “The Chesterfield Supplement” or “Size Roll of Troops joined at Chesterfield Court House since September 1st, 1780, Captn Joseph Scott.” On title page: “This book is a supplement to Papers concerning the Army of the Revolution, vol. 1 [Revolutionary Army, vol. 1, Register 1777-1783; RAR below], Executive Department and in order precedes Benjamin Harrison’s mission to Philadelphia by Assembly, 1781.” Manuscript accession number 40 (original) and 23816 (photostat), Library of Virginia, Richmond.


CSRS  National Archives. Compiled Services Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army during the Revolutionary War. National Archives and Record Administration, A Microfilm Publication.


DARM54  “Red Cherry, A Naval Hero.” *Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine,* 54:2 (February 1920), 96.

DAV  Robert S. Davis. *Georgia Citizens and Soldiers of the American Revolution.* Easley, SC.

DBC-PR  *Deed Book Collection – Providence,* v. 2, Mss. 378, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence v. 2, p. 135: “Receipt given by Henry Bacon who agrees to hold Mingo Bentley ‘free negroman of Providence’ the amount of his soldier’s bounty.”


DEPVA  “Betsy, a servant in the American Camp during the Revolution, died in Petersburg, Aged 104.” *Daily Express* (Petersburg, Va.) June 28, 1858, p. 1, col. 4. Citation from: “A Proper Name and Subject Index Covering More Than 40 Newspaper Titles Primarily Published in Petersburg, Va., 1797-1877.” W. P. A. Project, Petersburg Public Library. Available online on the Library of Virginia’s website: <www.lva.lib.va.us>.


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**Appendix F: Source Abbreviations**

"Note:* Source abbreviations follow the format found in the Dictionary of American Biography (New York, 1953), where possible. Citations in this list are intended only as examples and for guidance in the use of the sources indicated.
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations 735


DRNH  Nathaniel Bouton et. al., eds. Documents and Records Relating to the Province of New Hampshire. Concord, 1873-1849. [Volumes 14-17 include Rolls of Soldiers in the Revolutionary War.]


EGC  Bill dated 1781 to the State of Rhode Island from Elizabeth Greene of Warwick for boarding and nursing of Nathaniel Wickes, a black soldier in Col. Christopher Greenes’s Regiment, Mss 9001-G, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.


Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

FC

FC&W

FCP

FER

FF

FPPV
Manuscript Final Pension Payment Vouchers are located at the National Archives (Record Group 217: Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Records of the Office of the Third Auditor 1775-1923, Entry 722 Selected Final Pension Payment Vouchers, National Archives, Washington, D.C.). The vouchers consist of pension agent files selected by National Archives staff for their genealogical value. The files contain details relating to the final payment to heirs of a pensioner after his death. Details in these accounts may include the name of the spouse, children, and other heirs; the date and place of death; and the date, place and amount of the final payment payment. The vouchers are filed by the state where the pensioner received payment and thereafter alphabetically by surname of the pensioner.

FIA
Margot Minardi. "Freedom in the Archives: The Pension Case of Primus Hall." In Peter Benes, ed., *Slavery/Antislavery in New England.* (The Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife Annual Proceedings 2003) (Boston: Boston University, 2005), 128-140. This article contains references to the Revolutionary War service of several other veterans including several Mashpee Indians.

FIS

FISC

FJT

FLS

FNFD

FNV

FOL

FPPMD

FPRWF

FRD
"Fredericksburg in Revolutionary Days." *William and Mary Quarterly,* Series 1, 27:4 (April 1919), 250.

GAB

GAP
General Assembly Petitions. South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

GAR

GAR2
the paper includes a list of mulatto soldiers from Saint-Domingue (i.e. Haiti) who served in the French forces that had been involved in the Siege of Savannah in 1779.

**GARVPF**  

**GBM**  

**GC**  

**GCS**  

**GDAH**  

**GDR**  

**GEG**  

**GEL**  

**GH1776**  
Gideon Hawley. “Letter to Thos. Cushing, Mashpee, 24th June 1776.” [Attached to the letter is a census of the Mashpee Indians providing considerable detail about them: “Number of the Indians mulatoes [sic] and Negroes belonging to the Mashpee June 24th 1776.”] In “Gideon Hawley Letters, 1754-1807.” Mss. N-1379, Box 1 (“Gideon Hawley Typescripts”), Massachusetts Historical Society.

**GH1793**  
Gideon Hawley. “An Account of the Number of Indian Houses in Mashpee Taken This 1st July 1793 at the Desire of the Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians and Others by the Missionary to Those Indians, Which Is Humbly Addressed to the Society.” The original document is in the “Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts “collection, Autograph File (Gideon Hawley), Houghton Library, Manuscript Collection, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts. A handwritten transcription of this document is available in the R. Andrew Peirce Collection, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts.

**GH1800**  

**GHSK**  
George Harrison Sanford King letter to “Dear Martha,” 23 November 1982, “George Harrison Sanford King Collection,” Virginia Historical Society, Mss6:1 L5167, file: “Restoration of County Records.” Text: “…and I have a long account (and most interesting) of one Sidebottom of this area helping to carry wounded James Monroe, then colonel, from the field of battle. Uncle JM never forgot Sidebotto [sic], a mulatto. I have much of the story.”

**GRAY1**  

**GRAY2**  

**GRC-CQB**  

**GRC-Index**  

**GRCP**  
George Rogers Clark; James Alton James, ed. *George Rogers Clark Papers, 1781-1784* (Collections of the Illinois State Historical Society, Volume XIX; Virginia Series, Volume IV) Springfield:
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

Illinois State Historical Library, 1926. [Chapter X: “Journal of the Western Commissioners, November 1, 1782 – July 1, 1783”]


GWNCH Granville W. and N. C. Hough. Spain’s Louisiana Patriots in Its 1779-1783 War with England during the American Revolution (Spanish Borderlands Studies, Part 6) Midway City, Calif.: Society of Hispanic Historical and Ancestral Research, 2000. The listings in this book often contain more information about the men than what has been quoted below.

GWPWL “Letter of George Washington to Clement Biddle, July 28, 1784.” [Letterbook 11. Image 247 or 368] The George Washington Papers at the Library of Congress, 1741-1799: Letterbooks, 1741-1799. (Library of Congress). <http://memory.loc.gov>. The pertinent text is: “The mulatto fellow William, who has been with me all the War is attached (married he says) to one of his own colour a free woman, who during the War was also of my family.”


HAMI The History and Archaeology of the Montauk Indians (Readings in Long Island Archaeology and Ethnology, v. 3) Stony Brook, N. Y.: Suffolk County Archaeological Association, 1979.


HBD Henry B. Dawson. “Slaves in the Revolutionary Army.” Historical Magazine and Notes and Queries Concerning the Antiquities, History, and Biography of America, Series I, 2:1 (v. 12) (January 1867), 44. [The brief query relates to an enslaved man of one David Belknap, who enlisted in the Revolutionary Army and was killed. The man’s name is not given.]


HEI Paul Heinegg, Free African Americans of Maryland and Delaware in the Colonial Period to 1810. Baltimore: Clearfield, 2000; citing: “Orange County, North Carolina Court Minutes, Book 3 (1777-1786), folio 48-49 (December 1780). Four African American members of the Maryland Line charged with robbery in Orange County, North Carolina.
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

HEI-2 Paul Heinegg. “Free African Americans of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, and Delaware: The history of the free African American community as told through the family history of most African Americans who were free in the Southeast during the colonial period.” Online at: <http://www.freeafricanamericans.com/>


ILB Independent Ledger (Boston), September 9, 1782, vol. 5, issue 226, p. 3
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


JHN  Joann Hesseltine Nichols. “‘Other Free Persons’ Listed in the 1791 Vermont Census.” Unpublished manuscript provided to the editor of this book by Mrs. Nichols of Brattleboro, Vermont, May 2007. Mrs. Nichols is continuing her research for publication at a later date.


JOL  “Letter of Jeremiah Olney to Arther Fenner, 18 May 1791, relating to Jack Champlin ‘a pensioner of the United States said to be unlawfully held at Hispaniola’.” Mss 18, Rhode Island Historical Society.

Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


JWD  Joseph W. Dooley. “Two Black Men Introduced as New Members at Congress.” SAR Magazine, 102:1 (Summer 2007), 6. [Two new SAR members, descendants of Henry Bakeman of New York, and of Isaac Brown of Charles City County, Virginia, are featured in this article.]


KW PT  “Legislative Petition: Lewis and Susanna Denry, King William County, November 25, 1795,” Legislative Petitions to the Virginia General Assembly, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

LCRS  Josephine Ellis Richards, ed. Honor Roll of Litchfield County, Revolutionary Soldiers. Litchfield, Conn.: Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, DAR, 1912.

LHF  “A List of the Heads of Familys Now Living in Mohegan That Are Not Properly Mohegans.” Connecticut Archives collection, 1629-1820. Indians, Series II, item 315a. [The record does not tell whether these individuals were of other Indian groups, of mixed descent, or of African descent.]


Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


MA188  “Petition to the General Court of Massachusetts by Stephen Webb, Salem, for pay for services of himself and man Primus & supplies at the Fort with a letter, an account & certificate, Sept.
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

25, 1782.” Massachusetts Archives collection, 188 (Revolution – Petitions to the General Court, 1782-1783), 134-136; Massachusetts Archives, Boston. [Stephen Webb served as a sergeant at the forts at Salem and his “man” Primus served as a soldier from 22nd November 1781 to the 22nd May 1782. Webb was petitioning the General Court for payment for their services.]

MACC

MAM

MAT

MBNP

McBRIDE1

McBRIDE2

McBRIDE3

McBRIDE4

McDP

MCG

MCO

MDM

MGC
Margaret G. Campbell Papers, Mss 388, Sub-group 1; Series J “Historical Collections”; Sub-group 2; Box 7, folder 46: “Persons of Color”R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts.

MGJC

MHNH

MHS625
“Miscellaneous Massachusetts Militia Records.” Ms. S-625, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston. The item in this file is an undated scrap of paper containing a partial pay list to soldiers that includes the following names: Pomp Magus and Isaac Munro, fifer. There is no identifying information on the piece of paper in terms of a date, location, etc.

MHR
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

MI73 “Mashonutxett Indians, 1773.” Connecticut Archives collection, 1629-1820. Indians, Series II, item 243a. Connecticut State Library, Hartford. [The abstract of this document in the Connecticut State Library gives a date of 1733, and someone has written in 1773 as the correct date based on other information apparently.]


MMS Isaac Jefferson; Rayford W. Logan, ed. Memoirs of a Monticello Slave, As Dictated to Charles Campbell in the 1840s by Isaac, One of Thomas Jefferson’s Slaves. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia for the Tracy W. McGregor Library, 1951. On pages 22-23 is the story of the house servants who were with Thomas Jefferson at the governor’s residence in Richmond when the British Army approached the capital. Ten of Jefferson’s enslaved people, including five children were captured by the British and taken to Yorktown where they endured the siege of the town. Later Washington arranged to have them returned to Jefferson after the British surrender. The patriotic service of the adults is for having been held by the British as prisoners. The bracketed surname – [Jefferson] – is used only to distinguish these individuals from others with the same name in this listing.


MSS+ Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors: Appendix to the Published 17 Volumes from the Massachusetts State Archives. Microfilm (7 rolls)

Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

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<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<tr>
<td>NMS</td>
<td>The Negro in the Military Service of the United States, 1639-1886. National Archives and Records Administration, Microfilm publication M858, Roll 1 [includes the American Revolution]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations

NYHS

NYJ
New-York Journal, August 15, 1776, issue 1754, p. 2

NYR1897

NYR1898

NYR1904

NYRB
David Brion Davis. “It Wasn’t Peter Salem.” New York Review of Books, 36:8 (May 18, 1989). [Discusses the traditionally held belief that Peter Salem is the African American man in John Trumbull’s famous painting of the Battle of Bunker Hill. This does not, however, attempt to dispute Salem’s service in the Revolution, only his appearance in the painting.]

OACC

OACH

OAQA

OATH

OAWM

OBMSS

OC

OLIK

ORSB

P1776

PA

PACG

PAWR
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


PEP *Philadelphia Evening Post*, III (April 26, 1777), 236: Desertion notice from the Dickinson armed boat under command of Capt. Alexander Henderson for “Cuff Warner, ‘a Negro man,’ yellowish complexion, this country born, his right leg very lame, and plays on the fife.”


PFM77 “A Petition for Freedom in Massachusetts.” In Roy E. Finkenbine, ed., *Sources of the African-American Past: Primary Sources in American History* (New York: Longman, 1997), 23-24. An earlier version of this petition without the names of the petitioners appeared in “Negro Petitions for Freedom,” *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, 5th Series,* 3 (Boston: Massachusetts Historical Society), 432-437. [The DAR does not generally consider petitions to state legislatures as patriotic service unless the petition “acknowledged the new government’s right to represent the people. The content and wording of the petition must demonstrate loyalty to the cause of American independence.” [See: Is That Service Right? (Washington, D. C.: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 2005), 16.] This petition, and others like it sought freedom from slavery for large groups of people, acknowledges the authority of the state legislature, and espouses some of the leading principles endorsed by the Founding Fathers and extends them to the enslaved population.]

PG *Pennsylvania Gazette* (date and issues as noted in list)


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<tr>
<td>PTPC</td>
<td>Providence Town Papers Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>“Oath of Allegiance, 21 June 1780” [including the name of Pomp Reaves; mustered into Continental service], Providence Town Papers Collection, Mss 214 sg 1, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>“Receipt dated 15 July 1780 by Nicholas Power who received bounty from John Brown for Negro Caesar for his enlisting into a battalion with permission from Power.” Providence Town Papers Collection, Series 1, v. 5, no. 2131, Mss 214 sg 1, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAP3</td>
<td>R. Andrew Pierce. “List of Prisoners Taken in the American Brig <em>Dean(e)</em>, on the 25th of September 1781 by His Majesty’s Ship <em>Pegasus</em>.” <em>Connecticut Nutmegger</em>, 39:4 (March 2007), 533-534. [The list is from The National Archives, London, HCA 32/303/7 New York Admiralty Court, High Court of Admiralty Records.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAR</td>
<td>“Register &amp; Description of Noncommissioned Officers &amp; Privates at Chesterfield Court House, Powhatan Court House, Carter’s Ferry, Albemarle Old Court House, Cumberland Old Court House &amp; at Winchester Barracks. Enlisted at different times from 1777 to 1783,” spine title: Revolutionary Army, vol. 1, Register 1777 to 1783. Manuscript accession number 24296, Library of Virginia, Richmond.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RBRIR</td>
<td>“Regimental Book, Rhode Island Regiment, 1781-1783.” On microfilm at Rhode Island State Archives and through the Family History Library (film number 954935).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCG</td>
<td><em>Records of Comptroller General</em>, Record Group 7, Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


RIHS231 “Petition of the Narragansett Tribe in Charlestown, Rhode Island, Read to the General Assembly in February 1785 and referred to the June 1785 Session” [“regarding land taken from Indians and given to others while the original owners where away as soldiers in the Continental service.”] “Rhode Island State Records Collection,” Mss231 sg3, Series I: General Assembly, Box 3, folder 15 (1785): Petitions: Narragansett.

RIHS485 “Papers of Col. Christopher Greene (1737-1781). Book of Returns (July 24, 1777 to July 29, 1780.” Rhode Island Historical Society, microfilm roll 3 of this collection, pp. 98-103.

RIHS673 “Rhode Island Military Papers: Colonial Militia Collection.” Rhode Island Historical Society. Mss673. [This collection is divided into subgroups. The following subgroup references with a letter designation are to enable citation of specific documents in this list. The letters added to the reference do not appear on the actual documents. Sample citation: RIHS673;SG1:A = subgroup 1, document A.]

SG1:A: “Receipt, 7 August 1778, by Esek Hopkins ‘for bounty paid for enlistment of his ‘Negro Loser’ [Losher?] in the 1st Rhode Island Regiment, Providence County Militia (Mathewson’s Regiment, Jencks’ company.]


SG2:B: “Return of the Men’s Names that are free and inlisted [sic] for term of 3 years in the 2nd Company of Foot commanded by Lieutenant Burlingame, Dec’r 1777 [Foster]: and, “Return of the Men’s Names who were slaves and inlisted [sic] during the war in the 2nd Company of Foot commanded by Lieutenant Burlingame.” [one document]

SG2:C: “Book of Returns, Returns of 2nd Rhode Island Battalion, Late Regiment, commanded by Col. Angell [February 1780-April 1782]”


SG2:E: “Pay at Camp Rhode Island Village, 10 February 1781, Col. Chr. Greene.”

SG2:F: “Amount of Money Paid by the State of Rhode Island to Soldiers in the Revolutionary War, 1781 February 3.”

RIHS789 “Transcripts of the Logs of the Sloop Providence (September 1779)” in the “Richard Waterman Family Papers, Mss 789, folder 22a, pp. 75 and 83, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.

RIHS828 “Log of the Sloop of War Independence, 1776.” Ships’ Log Collection, Mss 828, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence. [On the last page of this log book is a crew list for another vessel, the brigantine Famey, and this list includes the names of five African Americans. The log book does not, however, include a crew list for the Independence itself unfortunately.]

RIHS9001-B “Deeds from Japheth Bicknell of North Kingstown, Rhode Island to Sampson Gardner (alias Samson Chaucum, a free black man), 1788-1791.” Rhode Island Historical Society Mss 9001-B (Bicknell)

RIHS9006  “Shepley Collection,” Mss 9006, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence. Includes: “Petition of Harry Niles to the Honble. Committee Appointed to Settle Indian Affairs in Charlestown requesting land on the basis that his mother was ‘one of the Tribe of Indians’, 14 December 1792.” In the Shepley Collection, Mss 9006, v. 6, p. 112; and “Petition of Continental Army soldier Plato McClellan [who] signs his petition to the Rhode Island Assembly for relief for a disability incurred in service; dated March 1789.” In the Shepley Collection, Mss 9006, v. 13, p. 141.

RIHSM  “Rhode Island Historical Society Manuscripts.” [A collection at the Rhode Island Historical Society.] Includes:


2. “Receipt dated 24 February 1781, Jeremiah Caesar signed order assigning his wages for service as a soldier to John Waterman.” Rhode Island Historical Manuscripts, Mss. 9003, v. 18, p. 97, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.

RIHSRWPI  “Rhode Island Historical Society Revolutionary War Papers [Card] Index.” A reference in this card index in the reading room of the Rhode Island Historical Society’s Library provides additional references to the military service for the man whose name appears on the card. Often, but not always, a description will also appear for the man’s color or ethnicity. The following sources are those most frequently cited in this index. (The codes following the title are those used on the cards but not in this publication.): Anonymous typescript headed “Rhode Island Muster and Pay Rolls, Revolutionary.” 1907; “Size and Muster Roll of Enlistments for Campaign of (May) 1782 [Angell’s Regiment].” V; “Shepley Collection. Rhode Island Muster Rolls, 1774-1782.” Sh; “Sloop Providence’s Muster Roll, … 1777.” PRV; “Size Roll and Return Col. Christopher Greene 1st [Black] Regiment, 1780.” Gr80; and, “Military Papers.” MP [RIHS Mss. 673]

RIHT-10  Sidney S. Rider. An Historical Inquiry Concerning the Attempt to Raise a Regiment of Slaves by Rhode Island During the War of the Revolution. Providence, 1880.


RIRWN1  “Rhode Island Revolutionary War Names Index, 1776-1780.” Card index at the Rhode Island State Archives; also available on microfilm. There are two manuscript boxes (A-M and N-Z) sitting on top of the card catalog cabinet for the RIRWN1 at the Rhode Island State Archives labeled “Revolutionary War Minority Participant Index.” The material in these boxes is composed of photocopies of cards from the main index arranged alpha-betically. RIRWN1 cites many sources at the state archives and at the Rhode Island Historical Society.

RIS91  Rhode Island Schedules [Acts of the General Assembly], May 1791-February 1793, May 1791 session, p. 19: “It is voted and resolved, that twelve pounds five shillings and fourpence halfpenny, Specie, be allowed to Mr. Robert Rodman; it being the Amount of his Account for the Board of Mingo Rodman, late a Soldier in Col. Green’s Battalion, and now a State Pauper, from October 11, 1790, to April 11, 1791, and for Cloathing provided for him; and that the same be paid Robert Rodman out of the General Treasury, in the Bills of Credit emitted by the State at the established Rate of Exchange.”


Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


RUB Rubincam, Milton. “Muster Rolls Compiled for the Valley Forge Park Commission, 1947-1949.” Typescript in the DAR Library, Washington, D. C. [The reference gives the general abbreviation, the state, and the page number within that state’s listings.]


RWMAC “Revolutionary War Military Abstract Card File,” Pennsylvania State Archives. Online at: <http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/archive>. This index provides digital images of the cards from the original index at the Pennsylvania State Archives and gives some information about each soldier’s service.

RWPJ *Revolutionary War Pensioners Index*, Record Group 2, Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg.


Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


**SCPR** Stephen Clarkson. *Patriot’s Reward*. Portsmouth: Peter E. Randall Publisher, LLC., 2007. [This is a fictional account of the life of Will Clarkson, enslaved man of James Clarkson of Portsmouth. Will Clarkson fought in the Revolution. This title is included because it is one of the few historical novels based on the life of a specific African American Revolutionary War soldier and because it is based on considerable historical research and sources. While not proof of Revolutionary War service itself, Clarkson’s participation in the war is documented by actual records from the period.]


**SJW** Text of email from Marie Drouin, of Scott J. Winslow Associates (dealers of autographs, manuscripts and historic documents) to Hollis Gentry, DAR Library Special Projects Researcher, dated December 16, 2005. The text is from two original documents in their possession at the time: (1) pay order dated ca. 1783 relating to the Revolutionary War service and estate of Josias/Josiah Poheague; and (2) pay order form “Joseph Alias Jeff Liberty.” Copy in DAR Library, Forgotten Patriots Research Collection. The DAR Library does not own the originals or a copy of them.


**SMV** Kinnaird, Lawrence, ed. “Spain the Mississippi Valley, 1765-1794, vol. 2, part I, The Revolutionary Period, 1765-1781.” 3 vols. *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1945* (Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1949), 428-429. [Bernardo de Gálvez. “Citation of Santiago, A Negro Slave, July 1, 1781.” “I hereby certify that Santiago, Negro slave of Mr. Dingerard, residing on the German coast, employed in the siege and conquest of Pensacola, has complied with his obligation with great zeal and punctuality, manifesting in the expeditions, attacks and defence, a decided interest in the royal service. In order that upon all occasions evidence may be available, I hereby give him this document, signed by me and bearing the seal of my arms, and countersigned by the provisional secretary of this government. Given at New Orleans on the first day of July 1781.”]


**SPB** “Bond of Samuel Perry of South Kingston to the town council as administrator of the estate of William Greene, a black Revolutionary War veteran,” Mss 9001-P, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.
Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


TRDM  Edith Whitney Shaw and Elizabeth Janet MacCormick. Town Records, Dighton, Massachusetts. 3 volumes. [No place: no publisher], 1939-40.

Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


VG  Virginia Gazette (date and issue as not in the list)


Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


VRSAL4  Vital Records of Salem, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849, vol. IV – Deaths. Salem:

VRSTO  Vital Records of Stoneham, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849. Salem: The Essex Institute, 1918.


WBA  W. B. Adams. “Survey Report, Campbell County Records, 1937, Aug. 16: transcription of the judgement in which Luke Valentine, a free African American, has proven to the court that he was a veteran of the Revolutionary War (1832).” Virginia W. P. A. Historical Inventory Project, computer file, Library of Virginia, Richmond. Available online at <www.lva.lib.va.us> through the online catalog.


Appendix F: Source Abbreviations


WSHPC William S. Coker and Hazel P. Coker. *The Siege of Pensacola, 1781, in Maps, with Data on Troop Strength, Military Units, Ships, Casualties, and Related Statistics*. (Spanish Borderlands Series, vol. VIII) Pensacola, Fla.: The Perdido Bay Press, 1981. Appendix G: “Spanish and British Casualties at the Village on 7 January 1781” include several men from the Colored Militia of Havana who were wounded or captured. Their white commanding officer, Simón Calfá, and Daniel Villar were killed.

WT76 “Treaty with Massachusetts by Delegates of St. John and Micmac Tribes at the Council Chamber in Watertown, July 19, 1776.” *Massachusetts Archives* collection, 25 (Indian Conferences, 1713-1776),502-529. Massachusetts Archives, Boston. [The treaty shows the names of the Indian signatories. Massachusetts agreed to provide the Indians with supplies at the Machias Truckhouse, District of Maine, and the Indians agreed to provide support to the Commonwealth against the British.]


YCO4 *York County, Virginia, Order Book 4 (1774-1784).*

APPENDIX G

Contacting the DAR
with Questions, Additions, or Corrections
Appendix G: Contacting the DAR

Contacting the DAR with Questions, Additions, or Corrections

The publications staff of the DAR Library will continue to work on the Forgotten Patriots project after the publication of this book. They welcome questions, additions, or corrections to the content of the book and would appreciate documentation to support or to clarify the correspondence.

To contact the Forgotten Patriots project, send an email to: forgottenpatriots@dar.org

Main webpage: <www.dar.org/forgottenpatriots>. The site provides a page relating to this book along with additional information such as additions or corrections. If the quantity of additions and corrections is such that a new edition of the book is necessary, than this will be considered at some date in the future.

DAR Library phone number: 202-879-3229

DAR Library email: library@dar.org

DAR Library mailing address: 1776 D St., N. W., Washington, DC 20006-5303

DAR Library online catalog: <www.dar.org>

Guide to the Forgotten Patriots Collection at the DAR Library
<http://www.dar.org/library/publication.cfm#brochures>


An online version of the museum’s exhibit is under consideration. For basic information on the actual 2002-2003 DAR Museum Exhibit “Forgotten Patriots: African American and American Indian Service in the Revolutionary War,” see the press releases online at:

<http://www.dar.org/museum/oldmusnews.cfm#africanamerican>
Genealogical Research Guides and Related Studies

The following listing includes major publications and studies on African American and American Indian genealogical research. It is by no means comprehensive. Bibliographies of studies specific to each state and region of the country appear at the end of each section or chapter.

African American


Mills, Gary. “Can Researchers “Prove” the Unprovable”? A Selective Bibliography of Efforts to


American Indian


Young, Gloryann Hankins. *Indian Ancestors? Where to Look*. Wister, Okla.: Young, 1996.

**Black Indian**


General Studies

Color, Race, and Ethnicity (generally)


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Horton, James Oliver. "Shades of Color: The Mulatto in Three Antebellum Northern Communities." Afro-Americans in New York Life and History, 8:2 (July 1984), 37-59. [Cincinnati, Buffalo, and Boston] [Includes a section, “Test of Color Accuracy,” that examines the various color descriptors found in the federal censuses in 1850 and 1860.]


Nash, Gary B. “Also There at the Creation: Going Beyond Gordon S. Wood.” William and Mary Quarterly, 3rd Series, 44:3 (July 1987), 602-611.


Nash, Gary B. “The Hidden History of Mestizo America.” Journal of American History, 82:3 (December 1995), 941-


Names


**THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**GENERAL STUDIES**

[The following section is only a sampling of the many studies available on the history of the American Revolution.]


Kann, Mark E. “The Bachelor and Other Disorderly Men during the American Founding.” The Journal of Men’s Studies, 6:4 (Fall 1997), 1-27.


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The Continental Army


Royster, Charles. *A Revolutionary People at War: The Continental Army and American Character, 1775-1783*. New
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Tate, Thad W. “Desertion from the American Revolutionary Army.” M. A. thesis, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1948.

The Continental Congress


Loyalists

Archibald, Mary. “Shelburne, Home of the Loyalists.” Loyalist Gazette, 18:2 (Autumn, 1980), 6-8
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**NAVAL AND MARITIME**


Colburn, Jeremiah. “A List of the Americans Committed to Old Mill Prison since the American War, When Taken In, When Committed, Place of Abode, Exchanged, Ran Away and Died in Prison.” *New England Historical and Genealogical Register,* 19:1 (January 1865), 74-75; 19:2 (April 1865), 136-141; 19:3 (July 1865), 209-213.


Jarvis, Michael J. “Maritime Masters and Seafaring Slaves in Bermuda, 1680-1783.” *William and Mary Quarterly,* 3rd Series, 59:3 (July 2002), 585-622.


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“Claims Barred by the Statutes of Limitation, 11th Congress, 3rd Session, No. 216” includes: “A statement of all of the claims which have been adjusted and allowed at the Treasury Department, and for which certificates of registered debt issued, in virtue of a law entitled ‘An act providing for the settlement of claims of persons under particular circumstances barred by limitations heretofore established.’ Passed on the 27th of March, 1792.” American State Papers: Documents, Legislative, and Executive of the Congress of the United States from the First Session of the First to the Second Session of the Seventeenth Congress, Inclusive: Commencing March 4, 1789, and Ending March 3, 1823. vol. 9 (Washington, D. C.: Gales and Seaton, 1834), 386-406.


**Prisoners of War**


Colburn, Jeremiah. “A List of the Americans Committed to Old Mill Prison since the American War, When Taken In, When Committed, Place of Abode, Exchanged, Ran Away and Died in Prison.” *New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 19*:1 (January 1865), 74-75; 19:2 (April 1865), 136-141; 19:3 (July 1865), 209-213.


Turner, Eunice. “American Prisoners of War in Great Britain, 1777-1783.” *The Mariner’s Mirror, 45* (August
1959), 200-206.
AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR ERA


Andrews, William L. “The First Fifty Years of the Slave Narrative, 1760-1810.” In John Sekora and Darwin T. Turner, eds., The Art of Slave Narrative: Original Essays in Criticism and Theory (Macomb, Ill.: Western Illinois University, 1982).


Breig, James. “Finding Slaves in Unexpected Places: Keeping Blacks in Bondage Was Not a Southern


Finkelman, Paul. *Encyclopedia of African American History from the Colonial Period to the Age of Frederick Douglass*. 3
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[Ham, Debra L. Newman – see also Debra L. Newman]


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2004), 753-759.


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Opinions of the Early Presidents and of the Fathers of the Republic upon Slavery and upon Negroes as Men and Soldiers.
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Wesley, Dorothy Porter. “Integration versus Separatism: William Cooper Nell’s Role in the Struggle for


“What the Negro Was Thinking during the Eighteenth Century.” Journal of Negro History, 1:1 (January 1916), 49-68.


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Axtell, James. “The White Indians of Colonial America.” William & Mary Quarterly, 3rd Series, 32:1 (January 1975), 55-88; reprinted in Peter C. Mancall and James H. Merrill, eds., American Encounters: Natives and Newcomers from European Contact to Indian Removal, 1500-1850 (New York and London: Routledge, 2000), 325-350. [Most colonists that were captured by the Indians were young women and children of both sexes. Many of the captives left behind their past and were assimilated by the Indians.]


Belknap, Jeremy, and Jeremiah Morse. “Report on the Oneida, Stockbridge, and Brotherton Indians, 1796.”
Calloway, Colin G. “Suspicion and Self Interest: British-Indian Relations and the Peace of Paris.” Historian, 48 (November 1985), 41-60.
Calloway, Colin G., ed. New Directions in American Indian History (D’Arcy McNickle Center Bibliographies in


“An Estimate of the Indian Nations Employed by the British in the Revolution War,” Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Series 1, 10 (1809), 123.


Grinde, Donald A., Jr., and Bruce E. Johansen. “Sauce for the Goose: Demand and Definitions for ‘Proof’ Regarding the Iroquois and Democracy.” *William and Mary Quarterly*, 3rd Series, 53:3 (July 1996), 621-636.


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Hill, Edward C. *Guide to Records in the National Archives of the United States relating to American Indians*. The
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Jennings, Francis. “Tribal Loyalty and Tribal Independence.” In Esmond Wright, ed., Red, White, and True Blue:
Knollenberg, Berhard. “General Amherst and Germ Warfare.” Mississippi Valley Historical Review, 41:3 (December 1954), 489-494. See also: Bernhard Knollenberg and Donald Kent. “Communications.” Mississippi Valley Historical Review, 41:4 (March 1955), 762-763, featuring more information and a retraction by Knollenberg.


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PERSONAL NAME INDEX
African American Man (enslaved man of Mr. Ellis), 560
African American Man (enslaved man of Mr. Wunford), 560
African American Man (enslaved man of Nic Giles), 508
African American Man (enslaved man of Peter Wandelers), 331
African American Man (enslaved man of Petrus Oosterhoudt), 331
African American Man (enslaved man of Phil Johnson), 510
African American Man (enslaved man of Presly Nelms), 560
African American Man (enslaved man of Randolph Jefferson), 510
African American Man (enslaved man of Rebecca Hubbard Cocke), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of Richard Covington), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of Richard Whittaker), 511
African American Man (enslaved man of Robert Adams), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of Robert Harvey), 510
African American Man (enslaved man of Robt. Christian), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of Rowland Jones), 510
African American Man (enslaved man of Sarah Atkins), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of Sarah Lightfoot), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of Simon Bowling), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of Thomas Wood), 511
African American Man (enslaved man of Walter Cable), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of William Brown), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of William Dering), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of William Dodson), 510
African American Man (enslaved man of William Dunn), 510
African American Man (enslaved man of William Dunn, Jr.), 510
African American Man (enslaved man of William Keeling), 509
African American Man (enslaved man of William Kunn), 331
African American Man (enslaved man of William Smith), 511
African American Man (enslaved man of William Walthall), 511
African American Man (enslaved man of William Watts), 511
African American Man (enslaved man of Wm. Eley), 509
African American Man (Jamestown, R.I.), 203
African American Man (perhaps named William Payne), 509
African American Man (Rochambeau’s American Waggoners), 659
African American Man (servant to Capt. Goodwin), 591
African American Man (Simsbury, Conn.), 270
African American Man (worker in the leadmines), 509
African American Men ("100 Negro waggoners” to march with Lafayette’s Army), 512
African American Men ("15 male Negroes and 2 female Negroes” at the Chickahominy Shipyard in Richmond), 512
African American Men (5 Negroes part of a 1777 contract agreement to lease the shipyard of Robert Cochran), 591
African American Men (crew on Brig with supplies), 461
African American Men (enslaved men of Ann Godwin), 512
African American Men (enslaved men of Christiana Minge), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of Col. John Lewis), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of Col. Robert Goode), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of David Jamson, Esqr.), 512
African American Men (enslaved men of George Purdie), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of George Thompson), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of Jno. Cooke of Petersburg), 512
African American Men (enslaved men of John Fields), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of [[?] Purdie, Gent.]], 511
African American Men (enslaved men of [[?] Sck. Wells]), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of Thomas Bridgeforth), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of William Barrett), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of William Green Munford), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of William Moody, Jr.), 511
African American Men (enslaved men of William Royall), 511
African American Men (John Hudson was paid for their services in the state navy), 512
African American Men (men compensated by Col. Edward Booker for driving public beeves), 512
African American Men ("Negro Pioneers” at Wind Mill Hill to construct a battery near Fort Hood), 512
African American Men (Negroes (2) at the Quartermaster’s Department in Staunton), 512
African American Men (Negroes (28) at the Public Ropewalk), 512
African American Men (Negroes at the arsenal at Point of Forks), 511
African American Men (Negroes at the Chickahominy Shipyard), 512
African American Men (Negroes at the leadmines), 512
African American Men (Negroes at the Manufactory of Arms), 512
African American Men (Negroes hired for Lancaster District Minute Men), 512
African American Men (Negroes hired for the 2nd Regiment), 512
African American Men (Negroes hired to work at the Gun Factory in Fredericksburg), 512
African American Men (Negroes in Capt. J. William’s Co.), 633
African American Men (Negroes of George Harmer), 512
African American Men (Negroes of John Chapman), 512
African American Men (Negroes of Mary Elligood), 512
African American Men (Negroes of Mary Jones), 512
African American Men (Negroes of Rich’d Donald), 512
African American Men (Negroes of Sam, Hyde Saunders), 512
African American Men (Negroes of Warner Lewis, Esq.), 512
African American Men (Negroes of Warner Murray), 512
African American Men (Negroes with the French Troops in Charlotte Co.), 512
African American Men (Pioneers (150) to march with Lafayette’s Army), 512
African American Men ("Public Negroes in Hanover Co.), 511
African American Men ("public Slaves” on the Ship
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Name Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agustin,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen, Arthur, 560;</td>
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<td>Allen, Arthur, 99;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen, Ethan, 45;</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allis, Elisha, 83;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison, Plato, 99;</td>
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<td>Allolewayas (Maliseet Indian),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alston, John (Capt.),</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almey/Almy, Jack/Jacks/James, 204; Prince, 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almy, Sharper, 204;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alvis, Emmanuel, 513;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alvord, Daniel, 99;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambrose/Ambrose (St. John's Indian), 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambrose, Frank Joseph, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amboise, Jack, 99;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames, Primus/Prince/Prince Alexander, 99; Prince, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames, Jack/Jacob, 100; Joseph, 100; Thomas, 100; Thomas/Tom, 204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames/Ames, Isaac, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames (Danbury, Conn.), 270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames (Middleborough, Mass.), 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames (Stratford, Conn.), 270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaquaquahansigh/Anequwhtauntsi, Johannes Crine/Schrine [aka White Hans], 331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andre, _ 661; Charles Peter, 20; Peter, 14, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andres, Pomp, 100;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew, Abner, 270;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew (Capt. Ambrose Bears Co. of Indians), 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew (Micmac Indian/St. John's Indian), 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew (N.J.), 378, 382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew (N.Y.), 331;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew (Va.), 513;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrews, Neot, 100;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angell, BAKER, 513;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angell, Primus, 204;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angersbach/Angersbach, John, 138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angle, Thomas, 204;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann, Anthony, 204;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne, 331;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annaum, Cuff, 100;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anson, (Penobscot Indian), 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony, Ellis/Elisa, 204; James (Natick, Mass.), 100; James (Smithfield, R.I.), 100; John/Jack, 204; Jonathan, Jr., 100; Joseph, 204; Joseph (Grafton, Mass.), 100; Mark, 100; Michael, 204; William, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony/Anteny, Edward/Ned, 204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony/Antony, Jack, 270, 301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony/Antony/Antunyr, John, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (Md.), 461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (N.Y.), 322, 331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (Plaistow, N.H.), 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (slave in the Virginia Battalion), 513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (Swanzey, N.H.), 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony/Anteny, Edward/Ned, 204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony/Antony, Jack, 270, 301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony/Antony/Antunyr, John, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (Md.), 461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (N.Y.), 322, 331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (Plaistow, N.H.), 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (slave in the Virginia Battalion), 513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony (Swanzey, N.H.), 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antigua (S.C.), 585, 591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antonio, John, 204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apes, Peter, 270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apis, James, 204; Samuel, 204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apolon (&quot;slave working and serving at Mobile&quot;), 668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apomb/U/pomb, Deppo/Doppo, 270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appleby, William, 461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approt, Joseph, 661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabas, Jack, 258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabas/Aribas, Jack, 270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbado, Francis, 513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archelaus (Colchester, Conn.), 270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archelaus (Plaistow, N.H.), 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archelaus (Plaistow, N.H.), 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archer, Caleb, 560; Evans, 513; Jack, 100; Jonathan, 318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arcules/Archelaus, James, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arexes (Penobscot Indian), 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argontien, Lour, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armstead, William, 490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armsby, Shem, 100; Titus, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armstrong, Adam, 513; John, 138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arnold, Benedict, 14; Bristol/Briston, 204; Cuff, 204; Josiah, 204; Prince, 204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arons, Jompeo, 331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Array, James, 382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artis, Archibald, 560; John, Jr., 560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artis/Artist, Burwell/Burrel, 513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash, Gem, James, 513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashby/Ashbow, John, 270; Robert, 271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashby/Ashbow/Aspo, Samuel, Jr., 260, 271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashby/Ashe, James, 270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashbow, Simeon, 271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asher/Acher, Anthony, 513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asher/Asheur, Gad, 271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley, Gillam, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashport, Cuff, see also Cuff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell/Mitchel, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashur, Church, 100; Joseph, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asking, Sam, 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspenno, Anthony, 331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assademouit, Luis, 20; Noel, 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Personal Name Index

Assonsor/Assonses (Penobscot Indian), 20
Assuegangesh, Pierre, 20
Atayatarougha/Atayaghronght, Lewis/Louis, 321, 333
Athanes (Passamaquoddy Indian), Athanés (Passamaquoddy Indian), 20
Atienesh (Penobscot Indian), 20
Atis/Atus, London, 12, 15, 20
Atkins, Primus, 204; Primus (Lincoln, Mass.), 100
Atkinson, Anthony, 100
Atlean (Penobscot Indian), 20
Atlias, Jr., 20
Attea (Penobscot Indian), 20
Atteas (Penobscot Indian), 20
Attoeskin, Jona, 69
Attucks, Crispus, 151–53
Atwater, Titus, 271
Atwater (New Haven/East Haven, Conn.), 271
Atwell, Samuel, 298
Atwood, Freeman, 100; Prince, 100
Auba, Alexis, 661
Auger (N.Y.), 324, 331
Augustin, Armand Charles, 324
Augustine, Augustine/Auguston, 20
Augustine/Auguston (Penobscot Indian), 20
Augustus, Jr., 100; Bristo, 271; Caesar (Newbury, Mass.), 100; Caesar (Plymouth, Mass.), 100; Caesar, Jr., 271; Caesar/Zear, 271; Jacob, 271; John, 100
Aunice (Penobscot Indian), 20
Aupaumut, Hendrick, 100
Ausery, Leod, 20
Ausong, Scard, 100; Scard (Boston, Mass.), 20
Austin, Cato/Cody, 100; Jack, see also Jack Rand, 100; Pasco, 100
Auston/Austin, Pasco/Picus, 204
Avans, Maybery, 100
Avary, Timothy, 138
Averitt, Mahalah (1st cousin to Gideon Griffin’s children), 597
Avrey, David, 138
Ayers, Billy, see also Billy Eayrs, 591; Jacob, see also Jacob Eayrs, 591; James, see also James Eayrs, 591; John (Frederick Co., Md.), 468; John, see also John Eayrs, 591
Ayres, Peter, 100

B

Babbitt/Babtist, John, 100
Babcock, Asa, 205; Ceasar/Cesar, 205; Primus, 258; Primus/Priamus/Prime, 205; Prince, 205
Babcock/Badcock, Abraham, 100; Amos, 101
Babson, London, 100
Babson, Sam, 100
Bacchus, Delucena, 271; Negro, 591
Bacchus (Grafton, Mass.), 101
Bacchus (Reading, Mass.), 101
Bacchus (S.C.), 584, 585, 591
Bachelor, Prince, 101
Bachus/Backus, Charles, 513
Bachus (Va.), 513
Bacus, John, 513
Bacon, Prince, 101
Bacus, Nicholas, 668
Bacus (“slave working and serving at Mobile”) (2), 668
Badger, Charles (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464; Freeman, 271; John, 138; Nan (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464
Badon, Augustin, 668; Cupiton, 668
Baer, Adam, 331; Cuffy, 331
Bagden/Bagdon, Caesar, 271
Bagnier, Louis, 668
Bailey, Isaiah, 101; Prince, 20; Prince (Hanover, Mass.), 101
Bailey/Bailes/Balis, London, 101
Bailey/Bayley/Bayly/Sacker, 513
Bailly/Belly/Bally/Pierre, 668
Baine/Bine, Humphrey, 513
Bakeman, Henry, 331
Baker, Bristol/Bristor, 271; Cato, 52; David, 492, 513; Davis, 513; Davis (Navy seaman), 513; John, 138; Lawrence, 492; Sim, 101; Thomas, 513
Baldwin, John, 52; Pomp, 101; Reuben, 86
Bale, Caesar, see also Caesar Dickenson/Dickerson, 101
Ballis/Balis/Bayles/Baylay/Baylay/Baylos, London, 101
Ball, Boston, 101; John, 271
Ballard, Boston, 101; Bristol, 101; Daniel, 461; Ebenezer, 139; William, 461
Balantino, William (Md.), 461; William (R.I.), 205
Baltazar, 662
Baltrip, James, 560
Bambo, Thomas, 101
Banahsynthron, Joseph, 321
Bancroft, Esau, 101
Band/Rand/Rond, Wart/Whiff, 101
Banks, Jacob, 513; John (Dragoon), 513; John (waggoner), 513
Bannister, Peter, 101; Tony, 205
Bannister/Barrister/Banister/Barnsted/Canister, Cato, 205
Banton, Gabriel (Caroline Co., Md.), 465
Baptise, John, 101
Baptist, John (Capt. Ambrose Bears Co. of Indians), 101; John de, 491, 516; John (St. John’s Indian), 14, 20; Michael (Capt. Ambrose Bears Co. of Indians), 101; Michael (St. John’s Indian), 20
Baptist/Baptist/Baptiss, Francis, 205
Barade, Jean Pierre, 662
Barbados, Isaac, 101; Isaac (Woburn/Shrewsbury, Mass.), 101; Issac, 101
Barber, Ellick, 205; John, 101; William, 513
Bard, Cuffy, 382; Prince, 101
Bardeck, Freedom, 101
Barjonah, Issachar/Isiah/Isaiah, 101
Barker, Caesar, 101; John (Middleborough, Mass.), 101; John (Rochester, Mass.), 101
Barking (Va.), 513
Barnaba, Jack, 101
Barnabas, Isaac, 101
Barnard, Richard, 101; Seco/Seeko, 52
Barney/Barneybee/Barnabe, Jack, 205
Barnes, Cromwell, 101
Barnes/Burnes, Caesar, 52
Barnet, Castel/Castelo, 101
Barnett, David, 513
Barnett/Barnett/Barrett, Charles, 513
Barney, Paul, 101; Prince, 101; Wheaton, 101
Baroche, Jacques, 662
Barret, Philip (Esq.), 435
Barrett, Joshua, 101; Philip, 101; Thomas, 139
Barrick (Ga.), 617
Barse, Prince, 101
Bartlet/Bartlett, Scipio/Sip, 101
Bartlett, Peter, see also Peter Freeman, 52
Bartley, John, 139
Barton, Hampton, 205; Simon/Simeon, 205
Barton/Baston, Pero, 205
Barzill, Henry, 271
Bash/Bash, William (Montgomery Co., Md.), 468
Basket/Basket, William, 556, 560
Bason, Cesar, 101
Bass, Council, 560; Elijah, 555, 560; James, 513; Samuel, 139
Bassagnac, Joachim, 662
Basset, Caesar/Cesa, 317, 331; Richard, 435; Zebulon, 101
Bassett, Flora (widow of Caesar Basset), 317; Zebulon, 101
Batchelder, Prince, 52
Personal Name Index

Batchelor, Prince, 101
Bateman, John, 555
Bates, Benoni, 205
Batiste, John, 21
Batis/Battis, John, 21
Batterson, Thomas, 461
Battey/Batty, William, 205
Battiet, Jean, 21
Battis, John, 21; Samson, see also Sampson Moore, 52
Battist, John, 69
Battle, Caesar, 102
Battle/Battles, Shadrack, 513
Bauvais/Beauvais, Louis-Jacques, 662
Baxter, Prince, 102
Bayard, Rich'd, 655
Bayley, Jacob, 47
Bayley/Bailey, James, 139
Bazell, Hannaball, 271
Beachman/Beackman, Pomp, 102
Beals, Cato, 102
Beaman, Sam, 331
Beaman/Beaumont/Beeman/Beman/Bement, Caesar, 271
Beamus, Abra'm, 205
Bean, Robert, 583
Bear, Ambrose, 21; Charles, 21
Bear/Baer, Coffe/Coffee/Cuffy, 331
Bear/Bears, Charles, 102
Beard, Prince, 52, 102
Beasley, Larkin, 514
Beason, Saco/Sock, 21
Beaver, Mevus, 102; Pomp, 102
Beavin, Charles (Charles Co., Md.), 466; James (Charles Co., Md.), 466; Paul (Charles Co., Md.), 466
Beavin/Bevin, James, 461
Bebe, Solomon, 102
Beck, William, 514
Beckett, George, 514; Solomon, 514
Becky's Boston, 102
Bedel, Timothy, (Col.), 46–77
Beech Tree (N.Y.), 331
Beky/Boky, Magnus, 52, 102
Belcher, William, 613
Bell, Boston (Ipswich, Mass.), 102; Boston (Mathuen, Mass.), 102; Cato, 437; Richard, 560; Samuel, 556, 560, 570
Belt, John Sprigg (Capt.), 455
Bembo, Jack, 102
Ben (crew member of the brigantine Famey), 205
Benard, Baptiste, 662
Benfutt, Cromwell, 271
Benglarus, Pomp, 102
Benjamin (N.C.), 561
Benjamin (St. Domingo volunteer), 662
Benjamins, Samuel, 205
Bennet, Brister/Bristol, 102; Gile, 437
Bennet/Bennett, William (Del.), 437
Bennet/Bennet, Toby, 271
Bennett, Merrick, 205; Samuel, 205; William (Boston, Mass.), 139; William (R.I.), 205
Bennovowit (Penobscot Indian), 21
Benoit, Ambrose, 668
Benolt, Pierre, 21
Benona, Dick, 271
Benson, Abel, 102; Aquilla, 102; Perry (Capt.), 454
Bent, Prince, 206
Bently, Mingo/Mengo, 206
Benton, Bezar, 102
Benway, Joseph, 102
Benwoit, Benedict, 21
Berdick, Freedom, 102
Bernal, Peirre, 662
Bernard, Joseph, 21; Joseph, Jr., 21
Berry, _21;_ 102; George, 435, 437; Harry, 514; James, 514; Shears, 102
Berry/Barry, William (Kent Co., Md.), 468
Berthiaume, Jupiter, 21
Bertolle, (St. Domingo volunteer), 662
Besayade/Bizare/Besear, Luis, 206
Bess, Peter, 102
Betsy (Va.), 514
Bettis, John, 102
Beuregard, _262
Beverly, Sylvanus, 514; Sylvester, 514
Bewley/Builey, George, 461, 472–73
Bibby, Absolem, 561; Edmund, 561; Solomon, 555, 561, 571; Thomas, 561
Bick, Lancaster, 102
Bicknall/Bicknell, Samuel, 139
Bicknell, Poro, 206
Biddie/Biddey, John, 591
Big Bear, Klinius, 331
Bill, Boston, 102
Biling, _260
Billy, Negro, 584, 591
Bilston, Prince, 102
Bimbo, Jack, 102
Bingham, Rial, 321
Bird, Edward, 139; John, 514; Moses, 561; Reuben, 561
Birden, Codjo, 102
Bishop, Billy, 514
Birza, Pierre, 662
Black, Benjamin, see also Benjamin Simmons, 271; Boston, 21, 102; Caesar, 21; Caesar/Ebenezer, aka Caesar Fiddler/Fidler, 271; Caesar (Hingham, Mass.), 102; Caesar (Mass.), 52; Cato (Conn.), 271; Cato (Mass.), 102; Cato (Me.), 21; Cato (N.Y.), 331; Cezar, 656; Cesar, 514; Cezar/ Caesar, 331; Cicero, 21; Cuff, 102; Cupid, 206; Dan, 271; Dublin, 21; Ebenezer, 102; Fortune (Brantree, Mass.), 102; Fortune (Stonington, Conn.), 271; George, 52; Jack, 331; Jasper, 271; Joel, 102; Joseph, 21; Kittery, 21; Martin, 561; Mingo, 45, 69, 73; Oliver, 437; Oxford, 412; Pharaoh, 21; Pharrar, 102; Pompey, 382; Primus, 331; Primus, 45; Primus/Primas, 52; Prince, 21; Richard, 21; Samson, 271; Scipio, 21; Tom (Conn.), 271; Tom (N.Y.), 332; Walter, 318, 332
Black/Blake, Fortune, 656
Black Jack (N.Y.), 331
Black Man (Essex Co., Va.), 514
Black William (carpenter on the armed boat Experiment), 412
Blackamore, Holton, 102; John, 206
Blackducks, Francis, 21
Blache, Caesar, 102
Blacking, Cato, 102
Blackman, John, 52; Kemer/Kemor/Kamer, 102; Pomp, 102; Pompey, 102; Sampson, 271; Samuel, 102
Blackman/Blackmore/Blackmar, Cuff/Cuffs, 206; Jacob, 206
Blackmar, Abner, 206
Blackmarr, Abner, Jr., 206
Blackmor, Holland, 102
Blackmore, John, 102
Blackney, Cato, 102
Blak, Caesar, 102
Blake, Caesar, 102; Edward, 461; Edward (Commissioner), 586; George, 461; George (Washington Co., Md.), 469; James, 461; Levin, 461; Oliver, 461; Sarah (married to Saladdy Stanley), 455; William (Baltimore Town, Md.), 464
Blakely, Pero, 103
Blanban, Samuel, 139
Bleau, Pierre de, 668
Blanchard, Cuff, see also Cuff Chambers, 103; George, 52; Lysias, 103; Nero, 103; Peter, 52; Robbin, 103; Simeon, 103; William, 103
Blanchard/Blanch, Robin, 271
Blanchford/Blanford, Richard, 465
Blanding, Oresto, 103
Blango, Benjamin, 561; Moses, 561; Thomas, 561
Blatcop (N.Y.), 332
Blew, Cuff, 103
Blink/Blinks, Jack, 206
Bliss, Theodore, 139
Bryan, 412; John (R.I.), 207; John (Salem, Mass.), 104; John (S.C.), 591; John (Upton/Hopkinton, Mass.), 104; John (Westchester, N.Y.), 332; Joseph, 207; Joshua, 207; Josiah, 207; Marlin, see also Marlin, 332; Nath, 139; Patrick, 591; Pompey, 207; Primus/Priamus, 207; Prince (Falmouth, Mass.), 104; Prince (Grafton, Mass.), 104; Prince (Newbury, Mass.), 104; Prince (S. Kingstown, R.I.), 207; Richard (Boston, Mass.), 139; Richard (Pa.), 412; Richard (Charles Co., Md.), 466; Robert, 272; Sambo (Conn.), 272; Sambo (Leicester, Mass.), 104; Sambo (S. Kingstown, R.I.), 207; Sampson, 104; Samuel, 139; Scipio, 43; Scipio (N.H.), 52; Scipio (Navy), 52; Scipio/Sipio/Sipo/Sippo/Sipio/Sipio (Mass.), 104; Sharp/Sharp, 207; Syfax, 515; Sylvanus, 412; Thomas (Baltimore Town, Md.), 464; Thomas (Mass.), 104; Thomas (N. Kingstown, R.I.), 207; Thomas (Talbot Co., Md.), 469; Toby/Tobias, 207; Tunis, 332; William, 515
Brownell, Prince, 104
Browning, Lay, 208
Brownesguard, Gasper, 591
Bruce, William (Col.), 455
Brumma, George, 496, 515, 680
Brune, Antony, 104
Bruster, Amos, 272; Prince, 104; Samuel, 272
Brutus (N.C.), 561
Bryan, John (North Sassafras Hundred, Md.), 465; William, 554; William (Charles Co., Md.), 2), 466
Bryant, James, 139
Buck/Bourn/Burke/Bush, Africa/Africa, 208
Buckland/Bucklen, London, 104
Buckley/Bulkley/Negro, Jack, 272
Bucklin, London, 208; Prince, 208, 679
Budd/Bidd/Bristol/Bruster, 272
Buker/Baker, Winsor/Windsor, 104
Bullock (Ga.), 617
Bumpo/Bumps, Micah/Mike, 104
Bun (enslaved man of Gen. William Floyd), 332
Bundy, William, 515
Bunn, alias Samuel Brown, 104
Burchardt/Burkhardt, George, 139
Burd, Prince, 104
Borden, Cudjo, 104
Burdoo, Eli, 104; Silas, 104
Burdun, Cato, 104
Burhans, Edward, 139
Burling, Lewis, 332
Burne, Fortune, 104
Burnett, Charles, 561; David, 561; William, 561
Burnix/Burnox/Burnrock, Fortune, 104
Burns, Caesar, 52; Levi, 403–412
Burr, Seymour, 104
Burrell, Cudjo, 208
Burrington, Jack, 208
Burroughs/Borroughs/Burrows, John/Jack/Tack, 208
Burrows, Samuel (Charles Co., Md.), 466
Burton, Job, 208
Burzie, Bela, 104
Busby, John, 585, 591
Bush, Samuel, 272
Bustill, Cyrus, 378, 382
Butcher, Thomas, 437
Butler, (Capt.), 324; Henry, 461; Jack, 104; Jacob (Charles Co., Md.), 466; Joe, 515; John, 561; Josias (Charles Co., Md.), 466; Nace, 461; Negro, 52; Tom, 584
Butterie, Edward, 139
Buxton, Peter, 104; Prince, 104
Byrd, Comet, 555
C
Cabbage, Coural, 515
Cadefiel, Carlos de, 668
Cadey/Cadie/Cady/Kady, Caesar/Casas, 208
Cady, Caesar, 272; Darius, 208
Caesar, Elisha, 655; Joe, 405, 412; John, 208; Jonathan, 104; Julius/Juliet/Julian, 84, 104; Saul, 208; William, 273
Caesar B (N.Y.), 332
Caesar (Branford, Conn.), 272
Caesar/Casor/Cesoi/Cesar/Cezar, Solomon, 656
Caesar/Casor/Cesoi, Levi, 208
Caesar/Cesoi/Cesar, Bristol/Brister, 272
Caesar/Cesoi/Cesoi/Chesor/ Cesoi/Cesor, Timothy/Timothy, 272
Caesar/Cesoi/Cesoi, Samuel, 208
Caesar/Cesoi, Jeremiah, 208; Thomas/Tom, 104
Caesar/Cesoi/Cesoi/Chesor, Jonathan, 272
Caesar/Cesoi (Conn.), 272
Caesar/Cesoi/Sesoi, Solomon, 208
Caesar/Cesoi, Joseph, 208
Caesar/Cesoi/Cesoi/Cesoi/Cesoi/ Cesor, Thomas, 656
Caesar (Danbury, Conn.), 272
Caesar (enslaved man of James Robinson), 633
Caesar (enslaved man of Thomas Pemberton), 515
Caesar (Groton, Conn.), 272
Caesar (Hebron, Conn.), 272
Caesar (leadminer), 515
Caesar (Navy pilot), 515
Caesar (New London, Conn.), 272
Caesar (New York City, N.Y.), 332
Caesar (Norwich, Conn.), 272
Caesar (N.Y.), 332
Caesar (Pa.), 404, 412
Caesar (Pomfret, Conn.), 272
Caesar (R.I.), 208
Caesar/Saezar, William, 208
Caesar/Seaor/Cesoi/Cesar/Cesar/ Cesar, Job/Jobe, 272
Caesar/Seaor/Coezar, Ebenezer, 208
Caesar (served in Col. John Durkee's Co.), 272
Caesar (Stamford, Conn.), 272
Caesar (Stratford, Conn.), 272
Caesar (Suffield, Conn.), 272
Caesar (Voluntown, Conn.), 272
Caesar (Woodstock, Conn.), 272
Caesar, 104
Cagg, Billy, see also Billy Kegg, 591; John, see also John Kegg, 591
Caipee, Joseph, 21
Cain, Abednego, 515; Abel, 332
Cain (S.C.), 584–585, 591
Caine, Jno., 515
Caldwell, Adam, 104; Medford, 104
Calervan, Michael, 139
Calfa, Simon, 665
Calite, Cato, 655
Calondoda (N.Y.), 332
Calver, John, 585
Calvin (Mass.), 105
Cambray, Jean Louis, 662; Monier le Chevalier de, 553
Cambridge, Caesar (S. Hadley, Mass.), 105; Caesar (Seaman on the Brig Defence), 273; Charles, 139
Cambridge (Farmington, Conn.), 273
Camel, Thomas, 490, 515
Camp, Sharp/Hearper, 273
Campbell, James (South Susquehannah Hundred, Md.), 466; William (West Sassafras Hundred, Md.), 466
Canady, Jack, 105; Thomas (Queen Anne's Co., Md.), 468
Canala, Pedro, 668
Cann, George/Georgie (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464
Cannady/Kennedy, William, 515
Cannon, Patrick (Elk Neck Hundred, Md.), 465
Canonbrig(?), William, 515
Cantey/Cantey, George, 591
Capeney, Cuff, 273
Capers, Jim, 583, 591; Milly (wife of Jim Capers), 583
Cape/Capee, Solomon, 273
Caples, Jesse, 273
Capt. (Indian chief of Bydaye”), 668
Capt. Johnny, see also Welapachtschiehen, 630, 633
Captain Pipe, 629
Capwell, James, 208
Capy, John, 105
Carbit, Fragit, 208
Carlisle, Cato, 52
Carney, Thomas, 454, 462
Carolina, South, 591
Carpenter, Cudjo, 208; Jenny James, 209; Sarah, 318
Carr, Bristol/Briston, 209; Quam/Quish/Quash, 209
Carrell, John, 139
Carrey, William, 105
Carriere, Noel, 668
Carrol, Morris, 140
Carroll, Charles, 455
Carter, Aaron (Chatham, Conn.), 273; Aaron (Colchester, Conn.), 273; Asher, 273; Charles (Charles Co., Md.), 466; Edward, 273; Edward, Jr., see also Edward Carter
Chappel, 273; Edward/Ned, 273; Esau, 273; Francis, 515; Isaac, 554, 561; Isham/Isom, 584, 591; James, 515; John (Barrington, N.H.), 53; John (Craven Co., N.C.), 561; John Edward, 561; John (Lancaster, Mass.), 105; John (R.I.), 209; Joshua, 554, 561; Moses, 561, 568; William, 515; William (Charles Co., Md.), 466
Cartrite/Cartwright, Toney D., 105
Cartwright, 105
Caruth, Adam, 588
Cary/Carey, Windham/Wenham, 105
Casar (Barrington, N.H.), 53
Cesar/Caeser/Ceser, James, 382
Casa/Caser/Casor/Casar/Cesar, John, 382
Cesar (free Negro man on Privateer Joseph), 209
Case, John, 515; Jonathan, 561; Joseph, 555, 561; Scranton, 342; Tom, 209; William, 515
Case/Cave, Prince, 209; Tom, 209
Caser, Terrace, 515; Terrents, 655
Casey/Kesey, William, 515, 555, 563
Cash (Lebanon, Conn.), 273
Casualgauay (N.Y.), 332
Cassaweto (N.Y.), 322, 332
Cassidy/Cassady/Cassiday, Andrew, 140
Castle, Sowego Gilding Swam, 515
Caswell, Prince, 105
Cata (Conn.), 273
Catherine the Grenadier, see also Nonhelema, 633
Cato, Dick, aka Cato Dick, 273; George, 462; Henry (Mass.), 140; Henry (N.J.), 382; James, 105; John, 382; Major, 273; Prince (Conn.), 273; Prince (N.Y.), 332; Prince (Plymouth, Mass.), 105; William, 462
Cato (3rd Regt. Mass. Militia), 105
Cato (4th Mass. Regt.), 105
Cato (9th Mass. Regt.), 105
Cato (Andover, Mass.), 105
Cato (Ashford, Conn.), 273
Cato (Barrington, N.H.), 53
Cato (Conn.), 273
Cato (Dover, N.H.), 53
Cato (Durham, Conn.), 273
Cato (East Windsor, Conn.), 273
Cato (Falmouth, Mass.), 105
Cato (Grotton, Conn.), 273
Cato (Hampton, N.H.), 53
Cato (Killingly, Conn.), 273
Cato (Lanesborough, Mass.), 105
Cato (Marblehead, Mass.), 105
Cato (Mass.), 332
Cato (New York City, N.Y.), 332
Cato (N.H.), 45
Cato (N.J.), 377
Cato (N.Y.) (2), 332
Cato (Pa.), 405
Cato (Pa.) (2), 412
Cato (Pomfret, Conn.), 273
Cato (Salem, Mass.), 105
Cato (slave of Robert R. Livingston), 405, 412
Cato (Springfield, Mass.), 105
Cato (VT.), 69
Cato (Woodbridge/Middlesex, N.J.), 382
Cato (Woodstock, Conn.), 273
Caumont, Jean Pierre, 662
Causey, James, 515; William, 515
Cavender, John, 140
Cawquish (Penobscoet Indian), 21
Caylalaman, see also John Killbuck, 633
Cesar, Ceaser, 21; John, 655; Julius, 105
Cesar (Braintree, Mass.), 105
Cesar/Cesar/Casor/Casar, John, 382
Cesar/Cesar, Jesse, 105
Cesar/Ceser, William, 555
Cesar (Artificer at Fort Jefferson, Ky.), 633
Cesar (Conn.), 273
Cesar (Mass.) (2), 105
Cesar (N.J.), 378, 382
Cesar (Pembroke, Mass.), 105
Cesar (York Co., Me.), 12, 21
Cesar, Joseph, 209; Scipio, 105
Cesar/Casor, Tom, 105
Cesar (enlisted man of Nicholas Power), 209
Cezar (Conn.), 273
Celliah, John, see also John Kelliah, 591
Cesar, Julius, 332
Cesar (Conn.), 273
Cesar (enlisted man of Henry Brown), 515
Cesar (N.Y.), 319
Cesar (N.Y.) (2), 332
Cesar/Seasar (N.Y.), 332
Cesar (servant of Daniel Buck), 273
Ceser, Indian, 332
Cesjoy/Chrisjoy/Cushjoy/Cusjoy, Benjamin, 273
Cezar, Negro, 656; Negro Jr., 656
Cezar (4th Regt. of Light Dragoons of Cont. Troops), 656
Cezar/Cizar (Pa.), 412
Cezar (Conn.), 273
Cezar/Sezar, Thomas, 382
Cezar (York Co., Me.), 21
Chace, Cato, 209; Prince, 209
Chace/Chase, David, 140
Chadsey, William, 209
Chadwick, John (Capt.), 86; Quako, 655; Quako/Quaco, 209
Chaffee, Comfort, 656
Chamberlain, William (Capt.), 316
Chambers, Betty (wife of Cuff Chambers), 13; Cuff, see also Craftsman, 13, 21, 105; Edward, 455, 462; Ned (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464
Champ (Conn.), 273
Champlin, Cudgo, 105
Champlin, Asa, 209; Dewey, 209; Dick/Richard, 192, 209; Edward, 209; Jack (Mass.), 105; Jack (S. Kingstown, R.I.), 192, 209; July (Mass.), 105; July (S. Kingstown, R.I.), 209; Newport, 209; Sharper, 105; Sharper/Sharpo, 209; William, 209; York, 209; Yorke, 105
Champlin/Champlain, 209
Champlin, Cudgo/Cudd/Cudge, 209
Chandler, Primus, 53; Samuel, 140
Chaper, William, 140
Chapin, Plato, 515
Chapman, Caesar/Seasar, 273; Rufus, 209
Chappel, Edward Carter, see also Edward Carter, [Jr.], 273; Samuel, see also Samuel Jones, 140
Charbe, Weeneke, 556, 561
Charity/Charrety/Chorrety, Charles, 515
Charles/Daniel, 273; Ephraim, 210; Janer, 273; John, 210; Joseph, 105; Moses, 105; Negro, 591; Stephen, 210
Charles/Capt. Charles, 21
Charles (Ga.), 617
Charles (Kittery, Me.), 21
Charles (Leader miner), 515
Charles (Md.), 462
Charles (Navy seaman), 515
Charles (Navy seaman on the Caswell), 515
Charles (S.C.), 585, 591
Charles/Sodaub, Joseph, 273
Charles (servant to John Phillips), 412
Charles (St. Francis), 69
Charlton, Samuel, 382
Charot, Joseph, 662
Charp, Trias, 53
Chase, Cato, 210; Joseph, 105; Sipio, 105
Chastan, Andres, 668; Nicholas, 668; Sinegal, 668
Chaumain, Jean Baptiste, 662
Chavannes, Jean-Baptiste, 662
Chavas, Isaac, 515
Chaver, William, 515
Chaver/Chavers/Chavis/Chavos, Anthony, 515
Chavers, John, 592
Chavers, John (Dinwiddie Co., Va.)
Chavers, Robert W., 515
Chavers/Chavans/Chavious, James, 515
Chavers/Chavas/Chavos/Chavours, Isaac, 515
Chavers/Chavis/Chavos/Chavos, Edward, 515
Chavers/Chavours/Chavos/Chavos, Samuel, 515
Chavis, Anthony, 515; Caesar, 561; Drury, 561; Henry, 561; John, 585, 592; John (Chesterfield Co., Va.), 515; John (Mecklenburg Co., Va.), 515; Lazarus, 584, 592; Solomon, 561; William, 551
Chavis/Shivers, Shadrach, 515
Chavis/Shivers, John, 515
Chavos, Joshua, 515
Cheapeak, Simon, 273
Cheeastawaliosotte, see also Ojistatale, 332
Cheeks, John, 382
Cheenequan, Joseph, 105
Cheeseborough, Cuff, 210; Peter, 210
Cheeseborough, Cuff, 105
Cheslong, Joseph, 105
Chenequin/Chenequon, Joseph, 105
Cherreaux, Dominique, 662
Cherry, John, 655; Pomp, 273
Chesley, Corydon, 53
Chew, Prince, 210
Chic ("free colored courier"), 668
Chicken, Peter, 516
Chicknow, Charles, 210
Child, Nail, 210
Childs, Jeremiah, 210; William, 210
Childs/Chiles, Prince, 210
Chilloway, Job, 407, 412
Chinch, Noah, 273
Chippewa, Potowatamie (and Ottawa Indians), 633
Chiswell, John (Col.), 488
Choichoii/Choychoy/Chawchoy/Georgy/Gorgoy/Georgia/Georgi, Simon, 274
Chotter, John, 210
Chowen, John, 105
Chris (Va.), 516
Chrisbysh, Regemalia H., 106
Christian, Robert, 516
Christian (N.Y.) (2), 332
Christo (Capt. Bell's Co.), 53
Christobal/Cristobal ("Negro serving at Mobile in 1780"), 668
Christoph, Henri, 662
Chubb, John, 516
Chubbuck, Eben, 274
Chuish, Philip, 274
Chunks, George, 274
Chunks, George, 210
Church, Caesar, 106; Job, 106; Prince, 274
Churchward, Churchward, Arthur, 140
Cicero (Capt. Follett's Artillery Men in N.H. Troops), 53
Cicero (Kittery, Me.), 21
Ciley, Joseph (Col.), 43; Prince, 274
Cipio (Berkshire Co., Mass.), 106
Circum, Caesar, 106
Citizen, London, 106
Clap, Cuff, 106; Thomas (Easton, Mass.), 106; Thomas (Mansfield, Mass.), 106
Clark, Anthony, 106; Caesar, 274; Cudgo, 274; Dick, 274; George, 140; George Rogers, 492; James/Jemmy, 210; John, 210; Prime, 210; Prince, 210; Prince/Prime, 106; Thomas, 106; Tony/Anthony, 106; William (Talbot Co., Md.), 469
Clark/Clarke, Beriah, 274; James, 210; William, 490, 516
Clark/Clerk, Joseph, 12, 21
Clark/Clerk/Clarke, Caesar, 210
Clarke, Beriah, 210; Isaac (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464; John, 655; Richard (Charles Co., Md.), 466; William (Baltimore Town, Md.), 464
Clarkson, Will, 53
Clary, Job, 140
Clash, Jonathan (Talbot Co., Md.), 469
Cleary, Thomas, 210
Cleary, Prince/Punce, 210
Clements, Samuel, 140
Clemmons/Clements, Prince, 53
Cleveland, John, 274
Clever, Anthony, 106
Clinton, Henry, 377; Henry (Gen.), 316, 323
Clover, John, 655
Cloos, Enoch, 106
Clomwell (S.C.), 592
Close, Cesar, 332
Clough/Cluff, Caesar, 53
Clouston, John (Capt.), 84
Cobas/Cobus/Cabus/Coburn, Primus, 106
Cobin, Titus, 106
Coburn, Primus, 462; Sampson, 106; Smith, 106
Coburn/Coburn, Titus, 106
Cobus, Cull (Cuff?), 274
Cocaillie ("Indian chief of Yatassie nation"), 668
Cocheats, see also Quacheats, 274
Cock/Cook, John, 210
Coddington/Codinton, Jack, 210
Codoode/Codudy/Coduda, Ebenezer/Eben, 274
Coe, Benjamin, 376–77; James, 44
Coesar, Jeremiah, 210
Coff, Thomas, 106; William, 516
Coffee/Coffe/Coffie, Ishmael, 106
Coffee, Michael, 106
Coffey, John, 106
Coffin, Obed, 86, 106; Primas, 53; Primus, see also Primus
Lain/Lane, 53
Coggany/Coggery, Peter, 210
Coggeshall, Isaac, 210
Cognewhe, Thomas, 106
Cognewhe/Cognée/Cocknehu, John, 106
Cognhue/Cognnewhe,
Collins, Caesar, 106
Collord, 53
Cole, Barnabas, 106; Caesar, 210; Levi, 211; Thomas, 106
Colean, Pierre, 21
Coleas/Coleau, John, 21
Coleman, Edward, 584, 592; Plato, 53; Rachel (wife of Edward Coleman), 584; William, 140
Colless, Pompey, 462
Collier, George (Capt. Sir), 14
Collin/Collins (waiter of Lt. Col. William Washington), 516
Collings, James, 140
Collins, Daniel, 140; Dodge, 53, 106; George (Charles Co., Md.), 466; George (Kent Co., Md.), 468; Mason, 516
Collord, Edward, 332
Collumbus/Columbus, 211
Colly, Joseph, 274
Colman, Stephen, 140
Colonel, Louis, see also Lewis Atayaroughta, 332
Colton, Edward, 140; Garrett, 53
Comecho, Isaac, 106
Comecho/Commechew, Samuel, 106
Compsert/Comitt, Joshua, 106
Comstall, Cuff, 274
Comwas, Isaac, 274; J., 274
Conant, Joseph, 106
Concopatts, John, 69
Concopatts (Berkshire, Mass.), 69
Condo, William, 106
Condon, Patrick, 140
Cone, Benjamin, 332
Congdels/Congdon, Stutely, 211
Condon, Brister/Bristol/Briston, 211; Stuckely, 211
Congle, Brister, 211
Congo, David, 332; Jack, 106; Jack, or Congo Jack, 274
Connar, John, 592
Connelly, Isaac, 434, 437
Conningham/Cunningham, John (Kent Co., Md.), 468
Conomy/Capeny/Capency, Cuff, 274
Consale, Manuel, 332
Constan (St. Domingo volunteer), 662
Conway, Michael (Queen Anne's Co., Md.), 468; Thomas, (Gen.), 47
Conya, Peter, 211
Cook, Abraham/Abram, 211; Caesar/Seser, 211; Daniel, 211; Henry, 106; John, 53; Joseph (Maliseet Indian), 21; Joseph (Mohawk Indian), 21; Jupe, 274; Lewis, 323; Lewis, see also Lewis Atayaroughta, 332; Minga, 211; Pomp, 106; Quom, 211; Rhoda (daughter of Jude Hall), 43; Sesar, 211; Simeon, 211; Sip, 211; Tom, 592
Cook/Cock, John, 211
Cook, Henry, 106; Nicholas (Gov. of R.I.), 191
Comees, Samuel, 274
Coon, William, 211
Cooper, Adam, 211; Betsey, 323; Cyrus, 274; George, 585, 592; Jacob, 274; James, 516; John, 516; Joshua, 274; Perry, 462; Polly, 339; Pompey, 592; Samuel, 274; Thomas, 140; William, 274
Cooper/Coopen/Coopon/Cooper/ Cowpen/Cooeping/Copin, William, 211
Copeland, Cato, 555, 561
Coquetakeghton, see also White Eyes, 633
Corck, Samuel, 106
Cordiz, Joseph, 211
Cordner, Amos, 106
Corey, Edmund, 140; Tabor, 211
Cornelius, Henry, 332; Samuel, 516; Soto/Toto, 274; William, 516
Cornet, Byrd, 561
Corryn/Cornet, Josiah, 211
Cornish, Charles (Talbot Co., Md.), 469
Cornwallis/Corelius, 106
Cornwell (N.Y.), 332
Corridon (N.H.), 53
Corter, John, 106
Cory, Pardon, 211; Tabor, 211; William, 211
Cory/Corey/Correy, Paris, 211
Cos, Juan (“free negro member of the New Orleans Militia at Pensacola”), 668
Cossum, James, 274
Cotman, James, 516
Cottiller/Cuttillo, Abraham, 516
Cottineau, Captain de, 553
Cotton, Joseph, 53; Joseph, Jr., 53
Couch, William, 274
Couchop/Couchop/Cowship, Joseph, 211
Couchop/Cutchop, Peter, 211
Count, Jesse Abner, 106
Coursey, William (West Sassafras Hundred, Md.), 466
Court, Tom, 106
Cousins, Francis, 516; Morocco, 516
Cousines/Cousand, Cuff, see also Cuff Tindy, 106
Cousard, Phpe, 662
Couvins, James, 516
Cowell, John, 106
Cowell (Newport, R.I.), 211
Cowen/Covin, Tabor, 106
Cowigg, John, 516
Cowitt, Ebenezer, 106
Cowitt, James, 106
Coy, Elisha, 211; Paddy, 617
Coy/Coyes/Coyes/Coyhis/Cois/ Coyheas, Toby, 211
Cozens/Cozzens/Cousins/Couzens, Richard/Dick, 211–12
Cozzens, Coffe, 106; Sampson, 212; Samuel, 212; William, 212
Cozzens/Cozzins, David, 212
Craft, Samuel, 106
Crafts, George, 140
Crandall, Christopher, 212; James, 212; Mintas, 212
Crandle, Henry, 332
Crank/Cranks, Peleg, 107
Crawford, William (Col.), 629
Credit/Credik, Moses, 516
Creiger/Grage, John, 140
Creswell, Daniel, 617
Crew, Thomas, 516, 680
Cringle, John, 412
Crock, Jeremiah, 107; Kenelm, 107
Crock/Croker, Jeremiah, 107
Cromwell, James, 212; Oliver, 378–79, 382, 385–89; Prince, 274
Crook, James, 107
Crosbey/Crosby, London, 107
Crosby, London, 107; Sparrow, 107; Tully, 107
Crosley, Sawney, aka Sawney York, 274
Crosley/Crosbee, Prince, 274, 300
Cross, James, 212; Nero, 274; Thomas, 592
Crouch, Peter, 212
Croydon, Nero, 274
Cruft, Monday, 107
Cruhip/Chupich, Simon, 274
Crup, William, 617
Cruz, Tomas de la, 668
Crysp, Friday, 462
Cubit/Cubit/Cubert (N.C.), 561
Cubitt, Black, 318, 332
Cuddy, Porter, 107
Cudge, Jube, 107; Reuben, 107
Cudgo (Caterbury, Conn.), 274
Cudgo/Cudjo, Jack, 376–77, 382
Cudgo/Cudjo (substitute for his master Benjamin Coe), 382
Cudjo, John, 107
Cudjo (Haddam, Conn.), 274
Cudjo (Plainfield, Conn.), 274
Cudjo, Ham, 274
Cuff, 107; Abel, 275; Copeny, 275;
Personal Name Index

Demery, Allen, 561
Demmon, Richard, 108
Demos, Abraham, 212; Joseph, 212
Demour, Etienne, 21
Demus, Abraham, 108
Demus/Demus, Joseph, 108
Denaquane/Denaquara, Joseph, 14, 21
Denham, David, 561
Denn, Dennie, Barna/Barna, 108
Denn, Johnat, 21
Dennis, Cato, 108; Nimrod, 437; Patrick, 412
Dennison, Prince, 140, 275
Denny, Dick, 108; Joseph, 21; Lewis, 333; Michel, 21
Denny, Lewis, 496, 517; Susanna (wife of Lewis Denny), 496
Deo, Charlestown, 108
Depuy, James, 333
Derby, Prince, 108
Derrah/Derrack, John (Kent Co., Md.), 468
Derrick, Cato, 275
Derry, Bob, 437
Derry/Derey, London, see also London Terry, 108
Desbarnays, Peter, 585
Desparloir, Jean Louis, 662
Devaney, Aaron, 571
Deverux, Cato, 108
DeWandelers, Peter, 319
Dewey, Elias, 108; Gideon, 140
Dewis/Duis, Dennis, 275
Dewitt, Frances, 318; Francis, 333; Jacob, 318
Dewolf/Dewolfh, Scipio/Sipio/Seopi D. Wolf, 212–13
Dexter, Peleg, 213;
Samuel/Sam/Samson, 275
Diamond, John-Jack, 53
Diamond/Dimon, Ezekiel/Ezek, 213
Dias/Dice, George, 462
Dibbill/Dibble, Cato, 108
Dick, Benoni, 275; Black, 21; Cato, 275; Exeter, 108; Jacob (Sandwich, Mass.), 108; Jacob (seaman on the sloop Republic), 108; James, 275; Joshua, 213;
Milford/Millford/Millard, 213; Negro, 462; Negro (Caroline Co., Md.), 465; Old, see also Dick
Dicks, 592; Samuel, Jr., 108; Solomon, 109; Thomas, 213
Dick (Brooklyn, Conn.), 275
Dick (Colrain, Mass.), 108
Dick (Conn.), 275
Dick (Dartmouth, Mass.), 108
Dick/Dik, Warwick, 109
Dick (enslaved man of Gen. William Floyd), 333
Dick (Farmington, Conn.), 275
Dick (former slave of T. Thornton), 517
Dick (Hampshire, Mass.), 108
Dick (Md.), 456, 462
Dick (Navy), 655
Dick (Navy seaman), 517
Dick (N.J.), 378, 382
Dick (N.Y.) (4), 333
Dick (Pomfret, Conn.), 275
Dick (Va.), 517
Dick (West Springfield, Mass.), 108
Dick (Wethersfield, Conn.), 275
Dick (Worcester/Leicester, Mass.), 108
Dick (Worcester, Mass.), 108
Dicke, Ezekiel, 109
Dickenson/Dickerson, Caesar/ Caesar Bailey, 109
Dickinson, Castor/ Caesar, 53; John, 405, 435; Nathaniell, 109
Dicks, Henry, 517
Dike, Hercules, 109
Dillap, James, 382
Dimmack/Dimack, Prince, 109
Dimon/Dimond, Peter, 213
Dimnah/Diner/Dinor/Dinah, James, 275
Dinns, Cato, 109; James, 109
Dinsmore, Abraham, 141
Dippo (West Springfield, Mass.), 109
Diseo/Disko, Providence, 109
Divendorf, Jacob, Jr., 319
Dixon, Jeremiah, 433
Dobago, Simon, 213
Dobbins, Charles, 517
Dodge, Hampshire, 109
Dodge/Lee, Scipio, 109
Dogged, Clem, 517
Dolbe, Exeter, 69
Dole, Cuff, 109
Dolphin (Woodbury, Conn.), 275
Done, Cato, 109; Freeman, 109
Donarson/Donieron, Joseph, 213
Donohew/Donohue, Ethel, 141
D'onset, Prince, 21
Doolittle, Caesar, 275
Dop (Hampshire Co., Mass.), 109
Dority/Dorothy/Dorothy, Thomas, 109
Dorten, Henry, 462, 517, 531–32
Dorus/Doras, Pompe, 276
D'orville/Drovull/Dorville, Francois, 668
Dotty, Brister, 213
Doubleday, Benjamin, 141
Douglas, Cato, 276; Prince, 109
Dove, William, 554, 562
Dow, London, 53
Downes/Downs/Done, Prince, 109
Downing, Simon, 53
Downs, Prince, 342
Downrey, Cuff, 109
Downy, Cuff, 109
Doxtader, Catherine, 323
Doxtator, Honayre, 321; Honayre, 321, 332; Honayre, see also Honyre Tewahanghalken, 333; Honyst, see also Honyst Tewahanghalken, 333
Doyle, James (Elk Neck Hundred, Md.), 465
Dragon/Dragoon, 655
Drake, Bristol, 109
Drenan/Drennan, John (Capt.), 587–88; Thomas (Capt.), 600–1
Drewery, Michah, 109
Dring, Thomas, 562
Driver, Emanuel, 517; John, 517; John/Jack, 109
Drow, Gan, 517
Du Pont, Nicolas, 668
Dublin (Berwick, Me.), 21, 109
Dublin (S.C.), 592
Dubois, Lewis (Col.), 317
Dubrocar, Joseph, 668
Duce, Cato, 53
Duchemin, Pierre, 662
Duckenfield, Thomas, 109
Dudley, William (Kent Co., Md.), 468
Due/Dice, James, 462
Duglas/Duglass, Prince, 109
Duglass, Danl. (Frederick Co., Md.), 468
Dument, Charles, 662
Dummond/Du Mond, Peter, 141
Dunbar, Christopher, 213; John, 213;
Joshua, 109; Sampson, 109;
Samuel, 109, 333
Duncan, Luke, 517; Solomon, 517
Duncan/Dunkins, Frank, 86, 109, 155–57
Dunham, Manasseh, 109
Dunkin, Thomas, 53
Dunmore, Caesar, 333; Lord (Royal Gov. of the Province of N.Y. and the Virginia Colony), see also John Murray, 316, 377, 402–3, 483–485, 529
Dunn, John (Queen Anne's Co., Md.), 468; William, 406
Dunsett, Cato, see also Cato Gray, 109
Dunstan, Wallace, 517; William, 562
Dunstan/Dunston, Wallace, 617
Dunston, Joseph, 517
Duplex, Prince, 276
Durand (St. Domingo volunteer), 662
Duret, Louis, 668
Durfey/Durphy, Boston, 109; Jack, 109
Durham, Isiah, 437; Nicholas, 141; William, 437
Duvall, Daniel, 614
Dyar, Andrew, 213
Dycus, William, 435, 437
Dye, Firman, 213
Dyer, Jack, 109; Jube/Juba, 276
Dyke, Archelaus, 109

E
Ebet, 90
Eavlath, 90
Easten, 90
Elsberry, 90
Eddy, 90
Eaton, 90
Easton, 90
Emanuel, 90
Ellis, 90
Easterbrooke, 90
Earl, 90
Easterbrook, 90
Elliott, 90
Edes, 90
Edor, 90
Elles/Ellis, 90
Ellery, 90
Edward/Ned, 90
Edore, 90
Eager, 90
Eady, 90
Ellege, 90
Elden, 90
Eldridge/Eldridge, 90
Eliot, 90
Ellege, 90
Ellery, 90
Ely/Ellis, 90
Emanuel, 90
Emerson, 517
Encas/Enes, 22
Encourer, 22
Enea/Eneas, 22
English, 141
Enthar/Frethar/Inthar, 110
Entwistle, Edmund, 141
Ephraim, 276; Michael, 213; Samuel, 110; Simon, 110
Eving, 110
Eshmal/Ishmael, 110
Esop, 110
Espaniole, 110
Espernt (Penobscot Indian), 22
Essig, 566
Estabrook, Prince, 79
Estavacho, 110
Estevan ("Negro slave serving in Mobile, 1780") (2), 668
Ettiene, 22
Ettine (Micmac Indian), 22
Evans, Charles, 517; George, 53; John, 383; Phil., 517; Thomas (Mecklenburg, Va.), 517; Thomas (Navy), 517
Everall, Bister, 110
Everet/Everett, Cato, 110
Everitt, Thomas (Kent Co., Md.), 468
Evers/Ewer/Ewers, Prince, 110
Ewing, Dixo, 213; Robert (Dorchester Co., Md.), 467; William, 110
Exeter, John, 412
Exeter (slave of John Laurens), 592
Ezra (Yarmouth, Mass.), 110

F
Fachell, 517
Facson, 110
Facundas/Facundus/Fagendus, Abraham, 22
Fagins, Robert, 110; William, 110
Fahando, Chavat, 110
Fair/Fare, Cato, 110
Fairchild, Pero, 213
Fairservice, Caesar, 110
Fairweather, Caesar, 110
Fales, London, 110
Falkenham, John, 43
Fall, Adam, 110
Falmouth, Joseph (Mass.), 110; Joseph (Me.), 22
Farchild, London, 276
Fargus, David, 517
Faris, Jack, 110
Farnando/Fernando, Andrew, 110
Farmun, Cato, 213

Farrar/Farrow, John, 517
Farrow/Forow [Pharaoh?], 22
Fason, James (Capt.), 552–53
Favreau, Pierre, 662
Featherston, John, 585, 592
Feen, Case, 110
Fegín/Fagan, Cato, 437
Fegro, Peter, 276
Feltton, Fortune, 110
Fenner, Abraham, 213; Brister, 213
Fenton, Charles, 462
Ferdinand, Anthony, 110
Ferguson, Andrew, 490, 517; William, see also Toby, 517
Fernando, Francis/Francisco, 110; Tagnier, 276
Ferren/Fearing, Prince, 110
Ferrit, John, 110; Thomas, 110
Ferrit/Ferate, Caesar/Eleazar, 110
Festus (Berkshire Co., Mass.), 110
Fiddler, Caesar, see also Caesar Black, 276
Field, (Col.), 319; Philip, 319, 333
Fielding (Va.), 517
Fields, John, 517; Ned, 276
Fiffet, William, 141, 333
Figgion, James, 517
Fillarida, Joseph, 213
Filsingham/Filzhingham, Joseph/Andrew Joseph, 141
Finch, Caesar, 213; Pero, 110; Pero/Perow, 213
Fish, John, 412, 630, 633
Fisher, Thomas (Dighton, Mass.), 111; Thomas (N.Y.), 333
Fisk, Pompey/Pomp, 111
Fiske, Pompey, 111
Fiske/Fish, Cato, 44, 53, 57–58
Fitch, Benjamin (Mass.), 111; Benjamin (R.I.), 213; Zabdiel, 141
Fithian, Philip V. (Rev.), 406
Flagg, Anthony, 111; Diamon, 276
Flamer, Solomon, 462
Flanagan, James (Justice of the Peace in N.Y.), 584
Flanders (Windham, Me.), 22
Fleck, John (South Millford Hundred, Md.), 466
Fleming, William, 111
Fletcher, Archelaus, 111; Ozias, 111, 276
Fletus (Granville, Mass.), 111
Flon (blacksmith and armorer during the 1780 Mobile Campaign), 668
Flood, Benjamin, 562; Michael, 517
Flora, William, 486; William/Billy, 517
Foay, Boston, 213
Fogg, Fortune, 111; Jockey, 53
Follett, William, 43, 53
Fones/Fomes, Jack/John, 213
Ford, Boston, 276; Ninian (Charles Co., Md.), 466; Prince, 111
Forelys, Jean Baptist, 22
Forgeron, Joseph, 668
Forow, _; 22; Jack, 111
Forten, James, 404, 412, 653
Fortin/Fortum, Cato, 111
Fortin/Fortum/Fortum, Enoch, 111
Fortonatus/Fortunatas, Cato, 111
Fortue, Pierre, 22
Fortune, Amos, 22; Gabriel, 517, 655; Gardner, 517; Jacob, 276; James, 517, 655; James (R.I.), 214; John, 517; Lewis, 517; Primus, 412; Richard, aka Richard Putnam, 276; Saml., 517; Shadrack, 518; Thomas (N.J.), 383; Thomas (R.I.), 214
Fortune/Fortin, Anthony, 214; Dick, 276
Fortune/Fortin/Forten/Forting/Proctor, Joseph, 214
Fortune/Fortunatus (Bedel's N.H. Regt.), 53
Fortune (Lynn, Mass.), 111
Fortune (seaman or marine on the brigand Hazard), 111
Forward, Dan, 111
Foster, Boston, 342; Boston (Mass.), 111; Cato (Andover & Salem, Mass.), 111; Cato (Pa.), 412; Henry, 584; Peter, 276; Prince, 276; William, 562
Foster/Foseter, Jack, 214
Fougette, Julian, 141
Fowell, Francis, 141
Fowle, John, 141
Fowler, Cezar, 276; Freeman (Octoraro Hundred, Md.), 466; James, 214; Joseph, 111; William, 333
Fox, Bacchus/Bacchus, 276; Benjamin, 53; Crispus, 276
Foy, Cato, 111; John, 111; Lovis, 111; Sylvanus, 111; William, 111
Foy/Foye, Boston, 111
Foye, Boston, 214
Fralix, Henry, 584; Simon, 584, 592
Fransis, Nathan, 276
France, Sontuck, 333
Frances, James, 111; John, 87; Patience, 87
Frances/Francis, Joseph, 141
Franch, Michal, 592
Francis, Charles, 111; Christopher, 518; George, 518; Jacob, 111, 377, 383; Jacob (S.C.), 592; John, 403, 413; John (Mashpee & Sandwich, Mass.), 111; John (St. John's Indian), 22; Jonathan, 111; Joseph, 584; William Joseph, 383
Francis (Maliseet Indian), 22
Francis (Micmac Indian), 22
Francis (slave to Capt. Baker), 592
Francis (St. John's Indian), 14, 22
Francisco ("belonging to Mrs. Trepanier of New Orleans"), 669
Francisco ("negro slave of Mr. Beinvenu serving in Mobile"), 669
Franck/Frank, Joshua, 276
Franklin, Michael (British Agent), 15
Francois, Jean, 662; Louis, 662
Francois (deserted from the Alfred ship), 111
Fran, Andrew, 214; Asher (Conn.), 276; Asher (N.Y.), 333
Frank (Conn.), 276
Fran/Frank, Benjamin, 214; William, 214
Frank (Navy seaman), 518
Frank (N.Y.), 333
Frank (Salem Co., N.J.), 383
Frank (Seaman on the Liberty), 518
Frank (slave of John Henley), 518
Frank (Westfield, Mass.), 111
Franklin, Ambrose, 562; Cato, 111; Charles, 562; Peter, 111; Squire, 214
Franks, David Salsbery, 141
Frankson, Enos, 111
Fransway (Penobscot Indian), 22
Fraunces, Phoebe, 340; Samuel, 339–40
Freeman/Freeman/Freemon, Colsp/Coldrup, 518
Frederick/Fredrick, Prince, 22
Frederick (musician), 562
Frederick (Musician 2nd Regt.), 562
Free, Archelaus, 276; Christian, 562; George, 592; John Black/John Blackfree, 656; Jupiter, 111; Nero, 276; Pompey/Pomp, 276; Prince, 276; Silas, 214
Free Jack (N.Y.), 318, 333
Freebody/Frebody, London, 276
Freeborn, George, 656; Hill, 656
Freeborn/Freeban, John, 656
Freedom, Caster/CASTOR, 276; Cato, 276; Cuff, 276; Jonas/Jones, 276; Prince, 276
Freedom/Fredom, Jack, 277; Joseph, 277
Freedom/Freedom, Dick, 276
Freedom/Freeman, Chatham, 276; Ned, 277; Ned/Edmund, 277
Freeman, Abraham, 277; Adam, 111; Antoney, 111; Artillo, 111; Asher, 111; Brister/Bristo/Bristo, 111; Caesar, 277; Caesar Augustus, 111; Caesar (Hadley, Mass.), 111
Caesar (Hampshire, Mass.), 111
Caesar (Reading, Mass.), 111
Cato (3), 111; Cato (Cambridge, Mass.), 111; Cato (Concord, Mass.), 112; Cato (Middlesex/Newton, Mass.), 112; Cato (Northborough, Mass.), 112; Cato (Pa.), 413; Cato (Providence, R.I.), 214; Cato (Rowley, Mass.), 112; Cato (served in N.Y.), 112; Cato (Stoneham, Mass.), 112; Cato (Watertown, Mass.), 112; Cato (Westborough, Mass.), 112; Charles (Amelia Co., Va.), 518; Charles (R.I.), 214; Chatham, 277; Coll, 277; Cornwallis, 112; Cuff (Conn.), 277; Cuff (Dedham, Mass.), 112; Cuff (Frigate Boston), 112; Cuff (Kent, Conn.), 277; Cuff (Norton/Bristol, Mass.), 112; David, 277; Devonshire, 277; Dick, 277; Doss, 112; Edward (Groton/Plainfield, Conn.), 277; Edward/Ned, 277; Edward (Va.), 518; Fortune (Boston, Mass.), 112; Fortune/Fortain/Fortin (3), 112; Fortune (Grafton/Havervill, Mass.), 112; Fortune (Hingham, Mass.), 112; Fortune (Newbury, Mass.), 112; Fortune (Topsfield/Salem, Mass.), 112; Fortune (Tyringham, Mass.), 112; Francis, 462; Isaac, 518; Jack, 112; Jack (Colchester, Conn.), 277; Jack (Conn.), 277; Jack (Groton/Preston, Conn.), 277; Jack/Jock, 656; Jack (Stratford, Conn.), 277; Jacob, aka Jacob Rathbun, 277; James (Colchester, Conn.), 277; James (Groton, Conn.), 277; Jethro, 277; John (Army), 518; John (Colchester, Conn.), 277; John (Dorchester Co., Md.), 467; John (Ipswich, Mass.), 112; John (Mass.), 22; John (Navy seaman), 518; John (N.H.), 53; John (R.I.), 214; John (Washington Co., Md.), 469; Jonas, 112; Jordan, 258–59; Joseph, 112; Jube, 277; Jube/Juba, 277; Jube/Jubal, 112; Jube/Jubel, 277; Kedar, 214; Micael, 277; Nero, 112; Paul, 277; Peter, aka Peter 2nd, 277; Peter (Conn.), 277; Peter (enslaved man of Isaac Miller), 277; Peter (Lyme, Conn.), 277; Peter (private in Capt. Willis' Co.), 214; Peter, see also Peter Bartlett, 52; Peter (Windsor, Conn.), 277; Phil, 277; Philemon/Philo, 278; Phillomon,
Glasgow (Va.), 518
Glass/Glasgow, Silas, 279
Glen, Cornelius, 319
Glines, Robert, 54, 64
Gloster (Barrington, N.H.), 54
Glover, Caesar, 113
Goddard, Calvin, 258, 260
Godfrey, Caesar, 113
Godfrey (arsenal worker), 518
Goen, Frederick, 518
Goens, David, 518
Goff, Abraham, 491, 518; Daniel, 491, 518; Moses, 491, 518; Zachariah, 491, 518
Gogoing, James, 279
Goin/Gowin, John, 518
Going, Drury, 518; Edward, 562; Prince, 113; Rob, 518
Going/Gowan/Goin/Gowen/Gowing, Sherdar/Sherwood/Shadar/Shered/Sherod, 518, 535
Goin/Gowin, Joshua, 518
Goin/Gowing/Wiving, William, 518
Going/Gowing, Raverly, 518
Golac, Neel, 662
Gold/Gould, Benjamin, 113
Goldsmith, Caesar, 279; John P., 279
Gomer, Pharoah, 279; Quash, 279; Saul, 279
Gomey, John, 141
Gondan, Lou, 22; Nichola, 22; Nichola, Jr., 22
Gondau, Antoine, 22
Gooch, Primy, 518
Good, Robert, 141
Goodale, Primus/Prince, 113; Primus/Prince (Wells, Me.), 22
Goode, Jack, 490
Gooding/Goodwin/Gooing, Cuff, 113
Goodluck, London, 279
Goodridge, Daniel, 84; William (Capt.), 85
Goodwin/Gooden/Gooding/Gooding, Prince, 215
Gorde, Congo, 279
Gordon, Thomas, 141
Gorham, Joseph (Lt. Col.), 14
Gorton/Gordon, Prosper/Prosperous, 215
Gorum/Gorhem/Goram, Robert, 215
Goss, Thomas, 141
Gott, Caesar/Cuff, 113
Gould, Benjamin, 113; Brister, 113; Camaralzaman/Camaramsawde, 113; Charles, 113
Gould/Gold, Frank/ Francis, 216
Gouvion, Jean Baptiste, 324
Gowen, Jenkins, 554, 562
Gowen/Going, Prince, 113
Grace, Matthias, 279
Grace (slave of Robert R. Livingston), 405, 413
Graham, Phasso (Pharo?), 333
Granger, Asher, 279; Frederick, 141
Grant, Jehu, 279; John (Talbot Co., Md.), 469
Grasshopper, see also Ojistatale, 324, 333
Gratias, Jesse, 279; Prince, 279
Graves, Ezekiel, 562; Jocko, 384
Gray, 113; Cato, see also Cato
Dunnett, 113; Cyrus, 114; Ebenezer, 216; Edward, 141; Mr., 613; Scipio (Amesbury, Mass.), 114; Scipio (Portsmouth, N.H.), 54; William, 413; William (Bohemia Manor Hundred, Md.), 465
Grayham/Graham, Narcissus, 279
Greace/Grace, James, 141
Green, Cato, 216; Cato (Stoneham, Mass.), 114; Jack, 279, 316, 333; Jack (Reading, Mass.), 114; James (Frederick Co., Md.), 468; James, see also James Weeks, 333; John, 141; John/Jack, 114; John, Jr., 141; Joseph, 630, 633; Joseph (Easton, Mass.), 114; Joseph (Pa.), 413; Newport, 114; Peter, 317, 333; Peter (Salem, Mass.), 114; Pomp, 114; Primus/Primas, 114; Richard, 142; Robert, 114; Samuel, 142; Thomas, 142; Tom, 279; Warwick/Norwich, 114; Williams, 114
Green/Greene, Cuff/Cuffe, 192, 216; Jack, 216; James, 216; Newport, 216; Primus/Prime, 216
Greene, Caesar, 655; Cato/Cator, 216; Christopher (Col.), 189, 192–93; Cuff, 114; Jeremiah/Jere, 216; John, 114, 216; Nathaniel (Gen.), 189, 555; Prince, 216; Robert/Prince, 216; William, 216; William (Gov. of R.I.), 194
Greene/Green, Pero/Peroah/Pero/Perry, 216
Greenwich, Thomas (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 468
Greet, Many, 22
Greger/Griger/Griger/Grager, Cato, 114
Gregory, John, 562
Grenades, Francis, 413
Grier, John, 216
Griﬃn, Bristo/Bristol, 22; Ned, 562
Griﬃn/Griﬃn/Griﬃn/Grisson, Premium/Primas, 592
Griﬃn, Gideon, 592, 597–99; Gideon, Jr. (son of Gideon Griﬃn), 597;
Morgan, 592, 596, 599; Oliver, 518; Sophia (daughter of Gideon Griﬃn), 597; Thomas, 114
Griﬃth/Griﬃth, Anthony/Tone, 217; Stephen (son of Gideon Griﬃn), 597
Griﬃth, John, 142; Thomas (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 468; William, 54
Grime (Conn.), 279
Grimes, John (Washington Co., Md.), 469; Moses, 518
Grimmage, Benjamin, 462; Benjamin (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 468
Grinnell, Cambridge, 217; Cambridge (‘boy, sloop Providence’), 114
Griswold, Cesar, 279; David, 256
Gros, Juan, 669
Grosvenor, Asaba, 279
Grote, Eleazar, 279
Grounsill, Titus, 114
Grove, James, 413
Grover, Cato, 279; John (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464
Grusha/Gerusha, Blaney/Brinney, 114
Guana/Guance, Abraham, 518
Guilhaume (‘negro slave of Mr. Beinvenue serving in Mobile’), 669
Guillebeau, 662
Guillemotte, Joseph, 662
Guim, George, 669
Guinea/Gunnia, Abraham, 519
Gull, Joe, 22
Gumbo, William, 519
Gun, Joe, 22
Gundaway, Richard, 114
Gunn, Moses, 114; Peter, 114
Guurley, Francis, 462
Guy, John, 383; William, 490, 519
Guy (Sheffield, Mass.), 114
H
Habens, Wm., 114
Habins, Thomas, 114
Hacaket, John, 114
Hackett, James, 43; Peter, 519
Hacster (Mass.), 114
Hadad, Benjamin, 114
Hafford, Prince, 114
Hagar (wife of Antigua), 585
Haggton, London, 114
Haise, Cuff, 114
Haithcock/Hethcock, Holiday, 562
Hale, Aesop, 114; Cato, 54; Newport, 279
Haley, Peter, 519
Halilax, Lord, 15
Hall, Agrippa, 114; Boston (private in Pawling’s Regt.), 333; Boston
(seaman on the ship Protector), 114; Caesar (R.I.), 217; Caesar (Salisbury/Berkshire Co.), 114; (Capt.), 586; Cato, 279; Caesar, 656; Daniel, 142; Frederick, 462; Frederick (Montgomery Co., Md.), 468; Hugh, 617; Isaac, 279; James, 114; Joseph, 217; Jude, 43, 54, 61–63; Jupiter, 114; London, 217; Nathaniel, 217; Pero/Peer/Peter, 114; Primus, 217; Primus, aka Primus Trask, 114; Prince (Dartmouth, Mass.), 114; Rhoda (wife of Jude Hall), 43; Richard (Charles Co., Md.), 466; Seneca, 54; Spine, 114; William (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464
Hall/Hull, Prince (Medford, Mass.), 114
Halley, Manchester, 279; Robin, 333
Halt, John, 22
Ham (Brigantine Marshall), 261, 279
Ham (seaman on brig Marshall), 279
Hambleton/Hamilton/Hamilton/ Hamilton/Hamilton York, 114
Hamelton, York, 114
Hamilton, York, 114
Hamlen, Africa, 142
Hamlen/Hamlin, York, 114
Hammon, Jack, 115
Hammon/Hammond, Caesar, 115
Hammond, Isaac, 562; Jack, 115; Japhet, 279; John, 562; Prince, 115; Samuel (Col.), 583
Hammond/Hammond, Prince, 217
Hamon, John, 115
Hamond (Conn.), 279
Hanabell/Hanover/Hannoble, York, 217
Hancock, John, 85
Hand, Edward (Gen.), 628; John (Charles Co., Md.), 466
Handerson, David, 142
Handricks/Hendricks, Johannes, 142
Handiutit (Soldier in Capt. John Montour’s Co. of Indians), 633
Handy, Freeman, 115
Haney, Samuel, 115
Hanibal, Joseph, 279
Hanker, Cato, 115
Hanly, Charles, 217
Hannet, Samuel, 115
Hannibal, Job, 279
Hanobel (Mass.), 115
Hanscomb, Stephen, 142
Hanson, Isaac, 142; Luke, 115, 404, 413; Robin, 54
Hanyerry, 333
Happy/Hobbe, John George, 142
Harden, Adonis, 115; Aesop, 115; Prince, 115
Harden/Hard, “Charlestown”/ Charlestown/Charlis, 115
Hardin, Abraham (Baltimore Town, Md.), 464; John (Lt.), 630
Hardy, Joshua, 142
Harley/Horley, Henry (Charles Co., Md.), 467
Harman, Edward, 438; George, 519; James, 437; Lazarin (Washington Co., Md.), 469
Harman/Harmon, Lazarous/Lazarin, 462
Harmon, Abel, 462; Charles, aka Greyhorse, 519; Nimrod, 462
Harrase, Thomas, 115
Harris, Bristor/Bruster, 279; Caesar, 217; Edward, 562, 592, 598; Edward (Chesterfield Co., Va.), 519; George, 592; Gibson, 554, 562; Giles, 613; James (N.C.), 562; James (Va.), 519; Jas., 519; Jesse, 562; John (N.C.), 562; John (Va.), 489, 519; Joseph (hired by British to pilot HMS Otter), 491; Peter, 588, 592; Peter (Providence, R.I.), 217; Sherrod/Sherwood, 562; Squire, 656; Valentine, 115; William, 519
Harrison, Czar, 279; Reuben, 279
Harry, Ammon (Stonington, Conn.), 279; Andrew, 217; Christopher, 217; Daniel, 217; Edward, 217; Ephraim, 280; George, 280; Gideon, 217; John, 217; Silas, 217
Harry (Conn.), 279
Harry (deserted from the Norfolk Revenge galley), 519
Harry (enlisted man of Capt. John Cooper), 519
Harry (enlisted man of Gen. William Floyd), 333
Harry (Ga.), 613, 617, 619
Harry (S.C.), 592
Harry (servant to Capt. Goodwyn), 592
Harscol/Haskell/Haskell, Cicero, 115
Hart, Job, 217; Pharaoh/Pharo, 280; Thomas, 115
Hart/Harts/Heart/Hearts, Cato, 115
Hartless, Henry, 519; Peter, 491, 519; William, 491, 519
Hartwell, Jeffrey/Jesse Freeman, 115
Harvey, John, 115; Phineas (Cecil Co., Md.), 465
Hary, Daniel, 280
Hascoot, Samuel, 280
Hase, Plny, 115
Hasens, William, 115
Haskell, Peter, 115
Haskell/Haskell, Bar’s, 115
Haskell/Haskell, Cicero, 115
Haskell/Haskell, Charles, 115
Haskell, Peter, 115
Haskell, Cabinah, 115
Hassard/Hazard/Hazzard/Hazoard, Bacchus/Backus/Barcus/Baccus/ Bachu, 217; Bristol, 217
Haston, Bernhard/Christ’o, 142
Hazard, Duke, 217; Freeborn, 217; Sylvester, 218
Hazard/Hasard, Jacob, 218
Hazard/Hazard/Harzard, Dick/Richard, 217
Hazard/Hazard/Hazzard, Peter, 218; Pharaoh/Pharaoh/Pharaoh/Pharah, 218; Sampson/Samson/Sampsom, 218
Hatch, David, 115; Prince, 342; Thomas, 115
Hatch/Howe, Joel/James, 22
Hatcher, David, 554, 562
Hatchett, John, 280
Hathaway, Benn/Benone/Benon/Bennoi, 218; Job, 86, 115, 166–67; Prince, 115
Hathcock, James, 519; John, 519
Havens, Pero (2), 218; Sylvester, 218
Havine, Francis, 22
Hawawesh, Francis Joseph, 22; James Louis, 22; Joseph Marie, 22
Hawkins/_, 115; Henry, 562; John, 519; Robert, 142
Hawkings/Hawks, James, 518
Hawle/Hauley, Nero, 280
Hawley, Benjamin, 562; Gideon (Rev.), 86; Joseph, 562
Haws, Peter, 519; William, 519
Hawwawas, Joseph, 22; Joseph Nicholas, 115; Nicholas, 15, 115; Tomma, 22; Zach Pavier, 22
Hay, Thos. (Frederick Co., Md.), 468
Hay/Hays, Cuff/Cust, 115
Hayard, Benjamin, 115
Haycock, Solomon (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 468; William (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469
Hayden, Ebenezer, 142
Hayes, George, 54
Haynes, Lemuel, 45
Haynes/Haines/Hanes, Lemuel/Lamuel, 83, 115
Hayward, Bristol, 115; Titus, 115
Hazard, Benjamin, 115; Benjamin/Ben, 218; Harry, 218; Harry, Jr., 218; Jabin, 218; James, 115; London, 218; Moses, 218; Quaco/Zuaco, 218; Quashy, 116
Hazard (Hartford Co./East Windsor Co., Conn.), 280
Hazard/Hasard/Hazzard, Jack, 218
Hazard/Hasard, Jacob, 218
Hazard/Hasard/Hazzard, Henry, 218
Hazard/Hazzard, James, 218;
Jeffrey/Jefral/Jeffry/Jeffery, 115;
Peter, 115
Hazard/Hazzard/Hasard, Thomas, 116
Haze, James, 54; "Jerim", 116; Pliny, 116
Hazeltine/Hazelton/Hezzleton, Prince, 116
Hazen, Moses, 47
Hazzard, Levi, 116; William (Lt.), 585
Hazzard/Harzard/Hazzard, Jeffrey/Jeffry, 280
Heard, John, 377
Hearn, Ephraim, 489, 519
Heart/Hearts, Cato, 116
 Heath, William (Gen.), 86
Hector, Edward, 405; Edward, aka Negro Hector, 413; John, 116;
Monday, 116
Hector (N.Y.), 319, 333
Hector (S.C.), 585, 592
Hedgepeth, Peter, 562
Heithcock, Frederick, 562
Helle, Primus, 218
Helmes, Cudjo, see also Cudgo
Homes, 280; Peleg, 218
Helms, Thomas (Capt.), 489; William, 489
Hemings, Mary, 519
Hemingway, Samuel, 257
Hemingway/Hemenway, Jeffrey, 116
Hempfill, Cust, 116
Henderson, David, 116; William, 142
Hendrick, Benjamin, 116; Caesar, 116;
Charles, 116; Richard, 280
Henley, John, 142
Henley/Hendly/Handley/Henly, Charles, 218
Henrick, see also Shawneghstores, 333
Henry, Charles, 116; James (Bohemia
Hundred, Md.), 465; William
(North Millford Hundred, Md.), 465
Hercules/Archules, James, 218
Herrick, Charles, 116; Scipio/Sip, 116
Hersey, William, 562
Heth (Cornwall, Conn.), 280
Hethcock, Holiday, 519
Hethcock/Hathcock, John, 562
Hetoscobuit, Sabattis, 22
Heuston, Francis, 22
Heward/Howard, Mathew, 496, 519, 680
Hewtanack, Francis, 280
Hibbery/Hibray, Abner, 116
Hich/Hitch, Pleasant, 116
Hick/Hicks, James, 556, 562
Hicks, "Casham", 116; "Choice", 116;
Dobbin, 219; John (Charles Co.,
Md.), 467; Mijach, 562;
Williams/William, 219
Higgins, Isaac, 280; Prince, 116
Hikumon, Thomas, 116
Hill, Billous, 116; Caleb, 519; David,
116; David (Easton, N.H.), 54;
Geo. (Frederick Co., Md.), 468;
Henry (N.J.), 383; Henry (Orange
Co., Va.), 519; James, 43; James
(Baltimore Town, Md.), 464;
James (Elk Neck Hundred, Md.),
465; James (Mass.), 116; John, 116,
142; Lancaster, 116; Newport
(Charles Co., Md.), 467; Primus,
116; Primus/Ebenzer, 280; Prince,
116; Richard, 116; Samuel, 116;
Toney/Tony, 280; Tower, 585, 592;
Tower (Wilbraham, Mass.), 116;
William, 116; William (Charles
Co., Md.), 462; William (Charles
Co., Md.) (2), 467
Hiller, A.D., 570
Hilman, "Sash", 116
Hingwulapa (Soldier in Capt. John
Montour's Co. of Indians), 633
Hinkley, Adino, 116; Ebenezer, 142
Hinman, Elisha, 404
Hinton, Lewis, 519; William, 519
Hitch, Pleasant, 116
Hitchcock, Daniel, 189
Hitt, James, 219
Hoaire, Bristol, 116
Hobart, Simon, 260, 280
Hobby, Richard, 116
Hodgdon/Hodgdon, Caesar, 116
Hodge, Cato, 116
Hodgkins, Joseph, 142; Moses, 142
Holbrook, Felix, 219
Holcomb, Plin, 280
Holden, Jacob, 219
Holdridge, Rufus, 280
Holet, Jam, 22
Hollan, Jeptha, 116; Reuben, 142
Holland, Caesar, 116; Fortune
(Sandwich, Mass.), 116; Fortune
(Springfield, Mass.), 116; Jacob
(Arne Arundel Co., Md.), 464;
James, 116
Holles, Ebenezer, 142
Holley, Manchester, 219
Hollis, Pompey, 462
Holloway, Samuel, 142
Holman/Homan/Homer, Titus, 116
Homes, Ebenezer, 142; PIliny, 116;
William, 378, 383; William (King
William Co., Va.), 519
Holmes/Helms, 519
Hussey, William, 116
Hubbard, Benjamin, 280; Cipio, 54;
Elisha, 54; Humphrey, 117; Isaac,
117; Joshua, 142; Prime, 333;
Prince, 333
Hubbard/Hobart, Simon/Simeon, 280
Hubbard/Hubbart, Cato/Keto, 117
Hubbel/Hubble, Cato, 117
Hubbell, Prime/Primus/Pripe, 280;
Prince, 280; Sip/Sep, 280
Huchens, Samuel, 142
Hughes, Hugh (Deputy Quarter
Master General), 319; James
(Dorchester Co., Md.), 467; Luke,
Indian Joe (N.Y.), see also Joseph Lewis, 321, 334
Indian Johnny (Ga.), 617, 620
Indian Robin (Va.), see also Robin Loyd, 520
Indians (on the Spanish expedition from St. Louis against Detroit), 633
Indicott/Encicott, James, 143
Ingals, James, 143
Ingraham/Ingram, Prince, 219
Inon/Rivion/Inyon, Benjamin, 219
Irwin/Erwin, Robert, 143
Isaac (Methuen, Mass.), 117
Isaac (N.C.), 563
Isaac (Pa.), 413
Isaac (S.C.), 592
Israel (Pa.), 413
Israel (Welapachtschiehen), 633
Ives, Cesar, 281; Sipp, 117
Ivey, David, 563
Ivy, David, 555
J
Jabez, Jolly, 117
Jack, Andrew, 281; Black, 342; Francis, 563; John, 342; John (Cumberland Co., Me.), 23; John (East Haddam, Conn.), 281; John (Greenland/Hampton, N.H.), 54; John (Ipswich, Mass.), 117; John (Plainfield, Conn.), 281; John (seaman brig "General Gates"), 117; John (Suffolk Co., Mass.), 117; Negro, 342; Peter, 117
Jack (Conn.), 281
Jack (Danbury, Conn.), 281
Jack (Del.), 437
Jack (enslaved man of John Calvert), 585, 592
Jack (Ga.), 617
Jack (Goshen, Conn.), 281
Jack (Grotton, Conn.), 281
Jack (Hebron, Conn.), 281
Jack (Killingly, Conn.), 281
Jack (Laborer at the Public Rope Walk), 592
Jack (Leicester, Mass.), 117
Jack (Litchfield, Conn.), 281
Jack (Mass.), 117
Jack ("Navy seaman"), 520
Jack (New Haven, Conn.), 281
Jack (Newtown, Conn.), 281
Jack (N.J.), 378, 383
Jack (N.Y.), 318, 319
Jack (N.Y.) (5), 334
Jack (Pa.), 404, 413
Jack (private in Capt. Visscher's Co. Bateaumens in Continental Troops), 656
Jack ("Public Negro"), 520
Jack (Redding, Conn.), 281
Jack (Ridgefield, Conn.), 281
Jack (Sandwich, Mass.), 117
Jack (S.C.), 592
Jack (slave of Caleb White), 553, 563
Jack (slave of Thomas Ivers), 281
Jack ("slave of WM. Gray"), 520
Jack (Stratford, Conn.), 281
Jack (Woodstock, Conn.), 281
Jackall, Primus, 83, 117
Jacklin, Ebenezer, 281; Edward, 219; Lewis, 281; Ned, 281; Pomp, 118; Thaddeus, 281; Thomas, 281
Jackson, Abednego, 462; Abednego (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Barton (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Benjamin, 462; Caesar, 23; Hannibal, 317, 334; James (Charles Co., Md.), 467; John, 117, 462; John B. (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Jonathan, 81; Luther, 486; Pomp, 81; Pomp/Pompey, 117; Prince, 219; Prince (Mass.), 117; Prince (Sandwich, Mass.), 117; Rachel, 317; Robert, 23; Samuel (Charles Co., Md.), 467; William (Albemarle Co., Va.), 520; William (Amherst Co. and Bedford Co., Va.), 520; William (Charles Co., Md.), 467; William (Goochland Co., Va.), 520
Jackways, Joseph, 219
Jacob, Francis, 383; Francis Xaviere, 23
Jacob (crew member of the brigantine Famey), 219
Jacob (former slave of Hancock Jacobs), 520
Jacob (former slave of Robert Clark), 520
Jacob (slave of James Gordon), 334
Jacob/Jack (Conn.), 281
Jacob/Jacques, 117
Jacob (Leadminers), 520
Jacob (N.C.), 553
Jacob (slave of Henry Laurens), 592
Jacob (Surry Co., Va.), 520
Jacob, James, 87, 143; Primus (Danvers, Mass.), 117; Primus (New Hanover Co., N.C.), 563; Silas, 219; Thomas, 563; Tobe, 219; Zachariah, 563
Jacobs (Pittsburgh, Pa.), 519
Jacques, Joseph Burb, 563
Jaha, Eliahim, 118
Jahar/Jahor/Jehah/Jehar, 283
Jambell, Francis, 219
Jambers, James, 281
Jambres (St. Domingo volunteer), 662
James, Benjamin, 563; Elisha, 555, 563;
Jeffreys, 563; Joseph, aka Thomas Rosaenkranz, 334; Joseph (Conn.), 260, 281; Peter, 334; Pharoah, 118; Prince, 282; Samuel, 334; Shubael, 282; William, 143; William (Berkshire Co., Mass.), 118; William (Newport/Lanesborough, Mass.), 118; William, (Sir), 46; Wm. (Washington Co., Md.), 469
Johnson/Johnston, Bristol/Briston/Brister/Bristo, 282; Primus, 118; Prince, 334
Johnson/Johnson, Cato, 383
Johnston, Brutus, 563; Cato, 405, 413; Charles, 520; George, 118; William, 143
Johnston/Johnston/Johnson, Samuel, 220
Johnston (Pa.), 413
Johonnot, G., 83
Johonnot/Johonnot/Johonot/Jonnot, Prince, 118
Joice, Caesar, 282
Joli, John, 118
Jolley, Jabez, 87, 118
Jonah, David, 118; Jeremy, 118; Thos., 118
Jonah (Conn.), 282
Jonathan (N.Y.), 324, 334
Jones, Abraham (Granville Co., N.C.), 554, 563; Abraham (Pa.), 413; Benjamin, 118; Briton/Britten, 520; Burwell, 520; Caesar, 118; Cato, 655; David, 316; David (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469; Edward, 220; Francis, 563; George (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464; Ichabod (Capt.), 12; J./Jack, 220; James, 413, 563; Jasper, 282; Jeremiah, 118, 143; Jethro, 118; John (Kent Co., Md.), 468; Jonathan, 554, 563; Michael (Montgomery Co., Md.), 468; Nathaniel, 118, 220; Philip, 563; Rolling, 490; Samuel, see also Samuel Chappel, 143; Scipio, 655; Tim (Fluvanna Co., Va.), 490, 520; William, 143; William (Spotsylvania Co., Va.), 520
Jong, A., 23
Jonston, George, 118
Jordan, John, 413
Jordon, John, 143
Joseph, “Domindo”, 118; Francis, 23; Francis (Mass.), 119; Pierre, 23; Socis, 17
Joseph (Mohawk Indian), 23
Joseph (N.Y.), 319, 334
Joseph (on the brig Hazard), 118
Joseph (Pa.), 413
Joseph (servant to Capt. Warley), 593
Personal Name Index

Joseph (St. Francis), 69
Joseph (St. John’s Indian), 23
Joseph (Stratford, Conn.), 282
Josephus (Brigantine Marshall), 261
Josephus (sailor on the Brigantine Marshall), 282
Josephus (seaman on the Brigantine Marshall), 282
Joshua, Bristol, 282
Joshua (Christian Indian), 629
Joshua (Pa.), 413
Josiah (Plainfield, Conn.), 282
Josman (Stratford, Conn.), 282
Jotham, Calvin, 23; Calvin/Luther, 119
Joue/Jove, 593
Jovan (Canterbury, Conn.), 282
Jowler/Jouzlar, Caesar/Sesar, 282
Joy, Caesar, 119
Joye, Joe/John, 220
Joyes (King George Co., Va.), 520
Joyner/Joiner, Britton, 520
Juba (Conn.), 282
Juba (Leadminer), 520
Jubb (N.Y.), 334
Jube (Danbury, Conn.), 282
Jube (Milford, Conn.), 282
Juber (Norwich, Conn.), 282
Juber (served in Col. John Durkees Co.), 282
Jucab, Randon, 342
Juches, Cato, 119
Judd, Alexander/Alex, 282; Andrew, 282
Judd/Judson, 282
Judd/Judson, 282
Judith (slave of Robert R. Livingston), 405, 413
Juennis, Att, 23
Julius (enlisted man of Henry Brown), 520
Julius (servant to L.t. Frierson), 593
Jupiter, Alexia, 662
Jupiter (Conn.), 282
Jupiter (saved guns from the British in Richmond, 1781), 520
Jupiter (Worcester, Mass.), 119
Jupiter/Jupeter/Jupiter/Jupeter/Jupiter, Silas, 334
Jusnuck/Tusnuck, Jacob, 119
K
Kady, Caesar, 220
Kaghan/Tagheksko/Kakhatatse/Kaghanakhan, Nicholas, 321; Nicholas, see also Nicholas Cusick, 334
Kahittotow/Kahektotow, Cornelius, see also Cornelius Rakikowtow, 334
Kanaghgweaga (N.Y.), 334
Kanaghgonon (N.Y.), 334
Kanaanthy (N.Y.), 334
Kanough (N.Y.), 334
Kantwiw, Nicholas (N.Y.), 334
Karundaw (N.Y.), 334
Kaukewenaunant, Benjamin, 119
Kaunkapit, Jacob, 119
Kayatshe, Nicholas, 334
Kaydothe (N.Y.), 334
Kayendarongura (N.Y.), 334
Kayelamund, see also John Killbuck, 633
Keach, Jack, 220
Kedar (Norwich, Conn.), 282
Keder, James, 119
Keen/Keene, Prince, 220
Keeter/Heter/Ketow, James, 87, 119
Keeter/Ketow, Elisha, 119; Jacob, 119;
Joseph, 86, 119
Keeth, John, 119
Kegg, Billy, see also Billy Cagg, 593;
John, see also John Cagg, 593
Kehorat (Maliseet/Passamaquoddy Indian), 23
Kelley, Jesse (Prince Co., Va.), 520
Kelliah, John, see also John Celliah, 593
Kellogg, Dolphin, 282
Kelly, Jesse (Surry Co., Va.), 521; John (Col.), 407
Kelsey, Zach, see also Zach Robinson, 54
Kench, Thomas, 81
Kendall, Reuben, 119
Kendall (Deerfield, Mass.), 119
Kennebec, "Dublin", 119
Kennedy, John, 323, 334
Kent, Cato, 282; Cyrus, 119; Peter, 54; Titus, 282
Kerr, James (South Susquehannah Hundred, Md.), 466
Kersey, James, 563
Keth, Freeman, 119
Kettle, Caesar, 119
Key, John, 521
Keyes, Aaron, 282
Keyhole, Peter, 282
Kidder, William, 143
Kiether, James, 119
Kilburn/Kilborn, York, 119
Killbuck, Chief, 407;
John/Kayelamund/Caylaylameun/Gelelemund, aka Col. Henry, 628–30; 633; Thomas, 629
Kimball, Thomas, 54
Kimble, John, 119
Kindell, Reuben, 54, 119
King, Benjamin, 143; Charles, 143;
John, 143; William, 220
King George III, 192
Kingbury, Tilly, 282
Kings, Bangs, 119
Kingston, Reds, 220
Kingston (Va.), 521
Kingwood (Mass.), 119
Kinked, John (Cecil Co., Md.), 465
Kinnecut, Anthony, 119
Kitridge/Kitteredge/Kitteridge, Cato, 119
Kitt (Brunswick Co., Va.), 521
Kitt (Leadminer), 521
Kittle, Caesar/Cezar, 119
Kittridge, Thomas, 119
Klock, John (Col.), 321
Kneller/Neller (servant to Col. Henderson), 593
Knight, A. H. (son of Moses Knight), 584; Bone, 54; Jack, 521
Knight/Sharper/McIntosh, Moses, 584, 593
Knights, George, 143
Knoke, Disco, 119
Knott, Jesse, 54
Knox, George, 45, 54; James, 119;
John, 143
Konkapot/Konkpot, Jacob, 119
Konkhaupot, David, 119
Konkkaupot/Konkpot, Abram/Abraham, see also Abraham Ronkopot, 119
Konkopot, John, 119
Koshas, see also Weyleycapaland, 630, 633
Kuffie (Va.), 521
L
La Bastierre, Augustin, 662
La Gesse/Lajes/The Quail (Potowatomie Indian with Spanish forces in St. Joseph Campaign), 633
Labius, Caesar, 220
Lafayette, James (Armistead), 490, 493, 521; Marquis de, 324, 408, 487, 496
Laha/Laha, George, 434, 437, 439–40
Lahaube, Simon, 662
Laiton/Laden, John, 54
Lain/Lane, Primus, see also Primus Coffin, 54
Lamb, Pomp, 119; Pomp/Pompy, 334
Lambert, Jean-Pierre, 662
Lambert/Lambord, 662
Lambert/Lambord, Plato, 119
Lamme (Pensacola Campaign), 669
Lamphere, Scipio, 220
Lamson, David, 119
Landing, Cazar, 282
Landy (S.C.), 593
Lane, Amos, 282; John, 13; Primus, 54;
Prince, 54
Langdon, John, 43
Langley, Paul, 220
Langston (King William Co., Va.,), 521
Langworthy/Longworthy, Southcoat/Southcate, 220
Lankton, Jonathan, 282; Nathaniel, 282
Lanuit, Luis, 669
Lapont/Laport, Jean Baptist, 23
Lape/Sabo, Sababbi, 23
Larcom, Cesar, see also Cesar Thistle, 119
Lassiter, Tobias, 563
Latariff, Eve, 220
Latchom, George, 521
Latham, Lambert/Lambo/Sambo, 258–59, 282
Lathrop, Job, 282; Neal, 282
Lathrop/Latham, Lambo, 282
Lathrop/Lothrop, Backus/Bacchus, 119; Cato, 119
Lattamore, Henry, 521
Lattimore, Semmico/Senia/Senica, 521
Lattimore/Latimer, Benjamin, 317, 334
Laurens, Henry, 582–83; John (son of Henry Laurens), 582
Laurent, Michel, 662
Laurent (Maliseet/Passamaquoddy Indian), 23
Law, Benjamin, 143
Lawrence, John, 143
Lawrence, Amos, 220; Drury, 521; Samuel "Major," 154
Lawrence/Lawrence, Jack, 656
Lawrie, James (Capt.), 378
Laws, John, 521; Timothy, 521; William, 521
Leaming, Pomp, 282
Lear, Caesar, 43, 54
Leathercoat, Jonathan, 282
Leavitt, Joab, 143
Lebbeus, aka Quy, 282
Lee, Caesar (brig Union), 119; Caesar (Frigate Boston), 119; Caesar (Manchester, Mass.), 119; John, 143; Jupiter (Mass.), 119; Jupiter (N.Y.), 319, 334; Paul Ram, 583; Simon, 521; William, 490, 521-22, Leet, Richard, 282
Leeve (Penobscot Indian), 23
Lefavour, Thomas, 220
Lefount, John, 143
Leivey, Colo, 23
Lelingoekwen, 630, 633
Lemon, Patrick, 405
Lemon/Lemmon, John, 143
Lenkin, Henly (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Townly (Charles Co., Md.), 467
Lenox, Cornelius, 119
Leoman, John, 403, 413
Leonard/Leonard/Lenard, Cuff, 119
Leonard (N.Y.), 334
Levitt, Pero, 119
Levy, Morden, 521
Lew, Barzillia, 120
Lew/Lue, Peter, 283
Lewa, Black, 46, 54
Lewe (Penobscot Indian), 23
Lewes/Lewis, Mingo, 283
Lewey, Or, 23; Venison, 23
Lewis, Ambrose, 521; Andrew (Commissioner), 628; Asa, 120; Cain, 120; Cato, 120; Charles (Spotsylvania Co., Va.), 521; David, 120; Job, 120; John (Boston, Mass.), 144; John (Charlestown, R.I.), 220; Josiah, 321; Joseph, see also Indian Joe, 334; Morgan, 563; Peter, 283; Phillip, 283; Thomas (Commissioner), 628
Lewis (former slave of Robert Langley), 521
Lewis (Laborer on Brig Comet), 585, 593
Lewis/Luis (Pontrev, Conn.), 283
Lewis (N.H.), 54
Lewis (Va.), 521
Liberty, Cuff, 283; Dick, 120; Francis, 120; Jeff/Jeffer, 283; Jeffery/Zephaniah, 283; Joseph, 283; Peto, 283; Pomp, 283; Prince, 54; Sharp, 283
Liberty/Liberty, James, 283
Libety, Cato, 120
Lied, George, 582
Ligel Francois (St. Domingo volunteer), 662
Light, Prince, 54
Lightburn, (Capt.), 318
Liley/Lille/Lilley, Prince, 283
Limas/Limers/Limus/Lymos/Lemius, Prince, 220
Limbo (Saybrook, Conn.), 283
Lincoln, Cuff, 120; Freeman, 220
Lindal, Cato, 120
Lindon, Macey/Macy/Masa, 120
Lindsey/Linzee, Thomas, 120
Lines, John, 283
Lines/Lynes, Charles/Charlestown, 120
Linkhorne/Linkon, Coffee, 120
Linkon, Freeman, 120
Lion/Lions, London, 120
Lionard, Pliny, 120
Liptitt, London, 220
Liptitt, Juba, 220
Liptitt/Lipett, Prince, 221
Liscomb, Aesop, 120
Little, Alack/Aleck, 593; Jack, 283; Lot, 54; Mick, 593; Prince, 283; Stephen, 593; Winsor, 120
Little Charley (S.C.), 593
Littlebreeches, Augustin, 23
Littleman, Samuel, 120
Littleton, Stevens, 462
Lively, Thomas (Chesterfield Co., Va.), 521
Lively (Stratford, Conn.), 283
Livingston, Robert R., 405; William (Gov. of N.J.), 376
Livois, Joseph, 669
Livy (Brigate Delight), 261
Livy (seaman on the Brig Delight), 283
Livy (seaman on the Brigate Delight), 283
Lock, Caesar, 120; Nimshi, 54
Lockett/Lockhart, Thomas, 251
Lucas, Valentine, 563
Lodwick (New York City, N.Y.), 335
Logan, Quash, 120
Login, Cato, 283
Lomack, William, 555, 563
Lomaittron, Claude, 521
Lombard/Lomboard, Plato, 120
London, James, 120; Sampson, 120
London (Leicester, Mass.), 120
London/London, Pomp, 283
London/London, Eden/Edom, 84, 120
London (New York City, N.Y.), 335
London (N.Y.), 3, 334–35
Loney, Daniel, 521
Long, Job, 120; Paul, see also Paul Jennes, 54
Long/Loney, Caesar, 54
Longdon, Joseph, 521
Lonnaon (Windham, Me.), 23
Lonson (Penobscot Indian), 23
Look, Adam, 120; James, 120; Job, 120
Loomis, Dick, 283; Silas, 256
Lope, John, 120
Loreem/Loram/Loring/Lorom/Lorum, Pomp, 120
Lot (Haverhill, Mass.), 120
Lothrop, Tom, 144
Lott, Job, 563
Louden, Ephraim, 120; Negro, 342
Louder, Chandler, 120
Lounge, Moses, 54
Louis, Pierre, 662
Louis (St. Francis), 69
Lovejoy, Dick, 120; Peter, 120; Pomp, 120
Lovett, Peter, 221
Lovejoy/Lowell, Stephen, 54
Lowdon, John (Capt.), 406
Lowe, Thomas, 144
Lowell/Lowell, Peter, 144
Lucy, John, 521; Joseph, 521
Lucy (Va.), 521
Ludwig (N.Y.), 335
Lyu (former slave of William Keeling of Princess Anne Co., Va.), 521
Lucens, William, 404, 413
Lull, William, 324
Lumix, Scipio, 120
Lunier (french merchant), 15
Lynn, Ormelius, 120
Luther, Brister/Bristol, 221
Lutter, Cuff, 335
Luvis, Job, 120
Luzignant, John Francis, 144
Lyndall/Lindall/Lyndon/Lindon, Cato, 221
Lynne, Charlestown, 120
Lyon, London, see also London Atis, 23; Moses, 283; Tony, 283
Lyon/Lion, Peter, 283
Lyons, William, 12

Maca (negro slave serving in Mobile), 669
McCall, William, 221
McCarter, John, 121, 144
McClanning/McClellan/McClannin/McClannel, Plato, 221
McClary, Michael, (Gen.), 44
McClean, John, 284
McClellan, Plato, 121
McClure, Richard, Jr., 144
McConnell, Saml. (Frederick Co., Md.), 468
McCoy/McKoy, Bennett, 523
McCoy, Alexander (South Susquehannah Hundred, Md.), 466; George, 523; James, 523
McCuff, Pomp/Pompey, 284
McCulley, James, 144
McCune, Richard, 144
McDaniels, Andres, 54
McDonald, Chas (OCTORARO Hundred, Md.), 466
McDonagh, John, 221
McElavin, Cato, 221
Macey, John, 144; Sovis, 120
McFee, Malcolm, 462; Malcolm (North Sasquehannah Hundred, Md.), 465
McGarger, Thos., 121
McGee (King George Co., Va.), 523
McGoldsmith/Goldsmith, John P., 284
McGoldsmith, Pelatiah, 83, 121
McGraw, Levin, 455
McGregor, London, 121
McIntash, John, 144
McIntosh, Alexander (Gen.), 584; Lachlan, 611; Moses, see also Moses Knight, 593
McIntyer, Primus, 54
McIntyre, Primus, 54
McKawes, Hugh, 144
Mackay/McKay, 120
McKenzie, Hector, 593
Mackey, John (North Sassafras Hundred, Md.), 465
Mackey (N.Y.), 316, 335
McLain/Macling, 54
McLeland, Alexander, 144
McClellan, Joseph, 144; Plato, 23; Prince, 12, 23
McClellan, Joseph, 121
McNight, Thomas, 553
McPherson, Christopher (David Ross' principal clerk), 523
McSparrow, James, 221
McVandoore, Mink, 335
Maclin, Thomas, 521
Maetten (Micmac Indian), 23
Maffett, John, 617
Magira/Megira/Majira/Begira/McGurley, Peter, 283
Magos/Magus/Mungus, Pomp, 120
Mahingwpooses (Captain in Capt. John Montour's Co. of Indians), 633
Mahorney, Thomas, 521
Mail/Male, Wilmore, 521
Major, Andu, 23
Makens, Dick, 283
Makepeace, Coeser, 221
Makepiece, Cesar, 120
Malcolm, John Reed, 120
Malcolm/Malcome, Caesar/Casar, 120
Malcomb, Michael, 144
Mallory, Dan, 283
Mally, Joseph, 54
Malvein, John, 144
Mamannah/Maminash, Joseph, 121
Mammy Kate (slave of Stephen Heard), 617
Man of Mixed Descent (2 enslaved men of Mr. Woodson), 521
Man of Mixed Descent (enslaved man of Mrs. Hughes), 521
Manasseft, Ebenezer, 121
Manuel/Manuel/Manuell, Antona/Antony, 121
Manley, James, 563; Littleton, 563; Monday, 121; Moses, 563; William, 563
Mann, Christopher, 121
Mannola, Antona, 121
Mantignois/Matiouoso (Penobscot Indian), 23
Mantohkamun/Mantoskanmun/Mattuckman/Metacamen, Benjamin, 121
Mantua, 14
Manuel, Christopher, 563; Jesse, 563; Nicholas, 563
Many/Marey, Soviss, 23
Mapia/Mapix, John, 121
Maqua/McWay/Majus, Silas, 283
Marble, Sampson, 283
March (Ga.), 617
Marchel/Marshall, David, 144
Marcus ("negro in service at the Mobile plaza"), 669
Marcy/Mercy, Cato, 55
Marie, Joseph, 23
Marie (cook), 659
Mariner, Hurcules, 342
Marion, Oscar/"Buddy", 593–94
Mark, Thatcher, 121
Mark (Andover, Mass.), 121
Mark (Andover, N.H.), 54
Mark (Coventry, Conn.), 283
Mark/Marks, Anthony, 523
Mark (Mass.), 121
Mark (Sandwich, Mass.), 121
Marlin (N.Y.), see also Marlin Brown and Roorker Marlin, 318, 335, 344
Marquart, Boston, 523
Marrie, Joseph, 23
Marriner, Joffrey, 523; Laban/Levin, 523
Marrinor, Constantine, 437
Mars, Jupiter, 283
Marsh, Robert, 523
Marshall, John (Chief Justice of the U.S.), 613; Kingston, 523
Martain/Martin, Sider/Sidon, 54
Marten, Isaac, 23, 121; William, 523
Marten/Marterein, John, 144
Marther/Martha, Solomon, 221
Martick/Maverick, Quorck/Quack, 121
Martin, Absalom, 378; Absalorn (N.C.), 564, 567; Boston, 523; Caesar, 656; Jesse, 564; Jetrho, 283; John, 564; Josiah (Royal Gov. of the Province of N.C.), 552; Jubil, 54; Lewis, 283; Quocko, 413; Scipio/Sip/Sippo, 54; Thomas, 377–8, 383
Mary (slave of Robert R. Livingston), 405, 413
Mason, Abel, 523; Cato, 121; Charles,
Merrill/Merril, Juba, 121
Merrill, Caesar, 121
Merry, Joseph, 221
Meser/Messer, French, 23
Methricks, John, see also Josiah Soul, 121
Meulon, Jeanote, 669
Metheusa, Francis, 121
Mhteochin/Mtokesen/Mtocksin/
Mtohksin, Johockim/Jahoiakim/
Johannis, 121
Mhtocksen, Wharmnuss, 121
Micha (Norwich, Conn.), 284
Michael, Sharpier, 121
Michael (Md.), 456, 462
Michael/Mitchell, French, 23
Michael (Pa.), 413
"Michael the Huron", 628
Michaels, Isaac, 221
Michal (Md.), 462
Michaut (Pensacola Campaign), 669
Michel, Cato, 121
Michell, London, 121
Middleton, George, 153–54, 259; Kit, 284
Miers, Nick, 617
Migass/Mingo/Minges/Mings,
Moses/Mosis, 656
Milburn, Robert/Reuben, 144
Miller, Bristol, 221; Ishmael, 413;
Jonathan, 55; Joseph (Frederick
Co., Md.), 468; Philip, 144; Robert,
55; Samuel, 144;
Tortunatus/Fortunatus, 121
Mills, Caesar, 122; Daniel, 564
Mimucan, Hunt, 523
Minga, Morris, 335
Mingo, Charles, 122; Joseph, 335, 462;
Marting, 335; Robin, 122; Royal,
284; Samuel, 122; Thomas, 122;
William, 122, 221, 335
Mingo (enslaved man of of Richard
Booker), 523
Mingo (Farmington, Conn.), 284
Mingo (N.C.), 555, 564
Mingo (Pa.), 405, 413
Mink, Paul, 23
Minny (Navy pilot), 523
Minor, Drover, 122; Titus, 284
Minot, Caesar, 122
Minturn/Minthorn/Minthom, Jack,
221
Mintus (R.I.), 221
Mirk, Richard, 122
Mirk/Mirrick, Caesar, 122
Mitchel, Samuel, 144
Mitchell, Abner, 122; Isaac, 122;
London, 23; Oliver, 284; Peter,
122; William (Mr.), 488
Mitchell/Mitchel, Cuff, see also Cuff
Ashport, 122
Mix, Brister, 284; John, 221; Peter, 284
Mixed, Wally, 23
Mkinnny, Littleberry, 523
Mobbone/Molbone/Melbone, Cato, see also Cato Boston, 69
Mocan, Anthony, 221
Moffatt, Windsor, 55
Mogg, Petter, 659
Mohack, see also Isaac Woolsey, 413
Mohawk, Peter, 260, 284; Pierre, 24;
Susuph, 55
Mohawk/Mowhawk, Peter, 284; Piel,
24
Mohegh/Mohigh, Philip, 122
Mohewch, Andrew, 122
Moho, George, 122, Samuel, 122,
William, 122
Moho/Maho, Asa, 122
Moho/Mohow, Jeremiah, 122; John,
122
Mohock, Peter, 284
Molat, Gideon, 383
Molatto, Adam, 284; Ephraim, 284;
Newport, 284
Molatto/Mulatto, Adam, 284; Cyrus,
284; Dick/ Dick P., 284; Job, 284;
Michael, 284
Molier, Lewis, 221
Molley, Loviss/Soviss, 24
Molton, Caesar, 122
Momosuch/Monosuk/Mosock/
Mossack/Mossock/Mussuck,
Daniel, 284
Monday, David, 613, 617
Mongo, Jonathan, 284
Mongumery/Montgomery/
Mongommy, Cato, 24
Monjo, Joseph, 284
Monk, William (Kent Co., Md.), 468
Monogon/Monghon, George, 523
Monroe, James (Maj.), 489
Montaguesco/Montagusos/
Matiguoso, Joseph, 24
Montgomery, Cato, 122
Month, Ambrose, 494, 523
Montour, John, 413, 416–17; John
(Capt.), 407; John (Captain in his
Co. of Indians), 630, 633, 635;
Montgomery, 417
Moody, Pero, 122, 284; Pichol/Pico,
284
Moor/Moore, Cambridge, 122;
Sampson, 55
Moore, Abraham, 404, 413, 418–19;
Adderson, 523; Augustine, 404;
Benjamin, 318; Cambridge, 24;
Daniel (Kent Co., Md.), 468;
Fortune/Fortunatus/Fortain, 55;
John (Octoraro Hundred, Md.),
466; Joshua, 46; Limeford, 523; Sampson, see also Samson Battis, 52; Simeon, 564
Mordock/Moredock, Prince, 284
Morey, Anthony, 122; Caesar/Casar, 122; _ (enslaved man of Samuel Morey), 122; London, 122
Morgan, George (Col.), 407, 627–30; James (St. Mary’s Co., Md.), 469; John, 221; William, 564
Morrill/Morrrell/Morrell, 222; Morrill, Juba, 122
Morin, Pierre, 663
Moroson, Thomas, 144
Morris, Benjamin (slave of Robert Scofield), 523; Charles, 523; Francis, 523; Harry, 221; John (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469; Mowrey, 221; Phillip, 221; Robert, 405, 413
Morrison, Anthony, 523
Morrison (S.C.), 593
Morse, Pomp, 284
Morse/Mores, Cambridge, 122
Morte, Henry, 144
Mortimer, Prince, 284
Morton, James, 523
Morton (Great Barrington, Mass.), 122
Mory/Maury, Cain, 221
Moseley, Jacob (Octoraro Hundred, Md.), 466
Moseley/Mosley/Mosely/Negro, Sifax/Syfac/Cyphax, alias Freeman, 284
Moses, Eli, 122; Ezekiel, 523; Negro, 342; Samuel, 122
Moses (on the brigantine Hazard), 122
Moss, Henry, 523
Moss/Morse, Pomp, 284
Mossuck/Mossock, Daniel, 284
Moucko (Ga.), 617
Moulen, Lewis, 221
Moulton, Cato, 55, 335; Johnson (Capt.), 12
Moultrie, William (Col.), 582
Mounney/Mannen/Mawney/Manuny/Monny, Cyrus/ Silas/Silas, 222
Mouth, Parm, 122
Mowat, Henry (Capt.), 12
Mowhawk, Peter, 222
Mowney/Mawney, Cuts/Cato, 222
Mowney/Morrey/Mawney/Morey, Caesar/Caesar, 222
Mowrey, Esek, 222; John, 222; Peter, 222
Mowry/Money/Morwry, Pero/Pero, 222
Moxes, Joseph, 24
Moxes/Moxis, Francis, 24
Mtohskin, Jehoiakim, 85
Mule, Phinehas, 284
Mullan, Robert, 404
Mumford, Cato, 222; Ebenezer, 222; John, 222
Mumford/Momfree/Momfrey, Cato, 122
Munford, Cuff, 122
Munger, Billa/Billy, 284; Peter, 284
Munn/Mun, Joseph, 284
Munro, Isaac, 122
Munro/Munrow, Nememiah, 284
Munro/Munrow/Monroe, John, 222
Murson, Lent, 285
Murdock/Murdock/Murdwick, Pero/Pero, 122
Murphy, William (Montgomery Co., Md.), 468
Murphy, James, 144; Milan, 122
Murray, Jack, 335; John (Royal Gov. of the Province of N.Y. and the Virginia Colony), see also Lord Dunmore, 316, 402, 581; Mark (Carolina Co., Va.), 523; Mark (Cumberland Co., N.J.), 383; William (Kent Co., Md.), 468
Murray/Murrin, Valentine, 462
Murry, Daniel (North Sasquehannah Hundred, Md.), 465; Warrop, 285
Murs/Mush, Elizabeth (wife of Robert Mursh), 495; Robert, 495, 523
Musician, Anthony, 413
Musqui, Antonio, 342
Mussus, "Fortus", 122
Musteen, William, 523
Muttoneom/Matancomin, Benjamin, 335
N
Nack, Dippen, 342
Nails, John, 285
Nanaotock, Jacob, 322, 335
Nanawoland, aka George Wilson, 630, 633
Nanhand, Zacheus, 122
Naquiguen/Naakewoin/Wind Striker, 634
Narbone, Phelipe, 669
Nash, Enoch, 145; Joseph, 122; Peter, 285
Natilanes/Nattanis (Penobscot Indian), 24
Natt (Md.), 462
Nattanis (Mass.), 122
Nauchutwat/Naukauwot/ Naunkauwat, Abraham/Abram, 123
Naunaelmink, Jehoikim, 123
Naunamplhtanky/Naunauapatied, Jehoiakim/Johoikim, 123
Naunauneck/Naunauneckanuch/Nauanecknack, David, 123
Naunaueek, David, 69
Naunaueekanuik, David, 335
Naunaunontke, Jacob, 335
Naunaupertonk/Naunaupontonk, Jacob, 122
Naunaupetonk, Jacob, 69
Naunauptaunk, Jehoiakim, 123
Naunauptaunx/Naunaupontonx, Abraham, 123
Naunawrshen, David, 335
Naunpauh, Jacob, 123
Nawohnhstenh, Jacob, 123
Neagus, John, 285
Ned, Black, 413; Solomon, 222
Ned (4th Artillery Regt. Cont. Troops), 656
Ned (Conn.), 284
Ned (Conn. Sufferer), 284
Ned (Fairfield, Conn.), 258, 285
Ned (Hartford, Conn.), 285
Ned (Leadminer), 488, 523
Ned/Nedd/Nedem/Jack/Jack, 222
Ned (Norwalk, Conn.), 285
Ned (Norwich, Conn.), 285
Ned, P., 285
Ned (Plainfield, Conn.), 285
Ned (Redding, Conn.), 285
Ned (Salem Co., N.J.), 383
Ned (S.C.), 593
Nedd, Reuben, 123
Nedson, Edward, 285; John, 285; Robbin, 285
Nedson/Nesnon, Robert, 285
Nedson/Nodson, James, 285
Neegro, Jube/Juba, 285
Negars/Niggars/Negus, Benjamin, 222
Negar/Niger, Cuff, 285
Negers/Negros/Nergus/Negro, William, 222
Negor, Bacus, 523
Negor (Sharon, Conn.), 285
Negre, George, 659
Negro, Cato (N.J.), 383; Dick (N.J.), 383; Pomp, 222; Timon, 258
Negro Man of Daniel Hawley, 285
Negro Man of Gen’l Putnam, 285
Negro Man of John Beach, 285
Negro Man of John Turney, 285
Negroe, Frank, 342; James, 342
Nehahrompot, Peter, 123
Nelson, Isaac, 285; Uriah, 145
Nelson (servant to Lt. Col. Henderson), 593
Nemro/Nimroo, Cuff, 123
Nepo, Peter, 123
Nepey, Peter, 123
Nepton, Frans Jost, 24; Peter, 123
Nepton/Neptune, John, 15, 24, 123
Neptune, Assong, 24; Aussones, 24; Charles, 24; Chief, 55; J. Baptiste, 24; Jean Baptiste, 24; Jequevesom, 24; Joseph (Maleisit Indian), 24; Joseph (St. John’s Indian), 24; Louis (St. John’s Indian), 24; Paul Schesh, 24; Pierre/Paul, 24
Neptune (Boxford, Mass.), 123
Neptune (S.C.), 593
Nerchwat, Abraham, 123
Nero (boy, ship Mars), 123
Nero (prisoner of war), 335
Nero/Nauro, Enos, 222
Nero/Neron, Corodon, 285
Nero (Stratford, Conn.), 285
Nerow, Festus, 123
Nesankanuk, David, 69
Nesanaukiah/Nesanauhk, David, 123
Netobcobroit/Netobestwit, Sabbits/Sabatis, 14, 24
Nettles, John, 593
New River (S.C.), 593
Newcomb, Cato, 123
Newcook, Charles, 24
Newell, Benjamin, 523; Cato, 123; Lewis, 24; Newelis, 24; Pierre, 24; Simeon (Capt.), 322
Newkirk, Henry, 318
Newman, Benjamin, 462; Joseph, 335, 347; William (Charles Co., Md.), 467
Newmarch, Cato, 55
Newport, Daniel, 123; Rufus, 222; William, 123
Newport (Conn.), see also Newport Hale, 285
Newport (Leicester, Mass.), 123
Newport/Newport, Prince, 123
Newport/Newport, Rufus, 285
Newport (slave of Mr. Wanton), 655
Newson, Booth/Boothbe, 564; Moses, 564
Newson/Nusum, Ethelred/Nethelrid/Natherid, 564
Newton, Primus, 123
Nic/Nice, Magnous/Magnus, 222
Nichels, Isaac, 123
Nichens/Nickens, James, 524
Nichola, Jean, 24; Pierre (Maleisit/Passamaquoddy Indian), 24; Pierre (St. John’s Indian), 24
Nichola (Micmac Indian), 24
Nichola (Penobscot Indian), 24
Nicholah, Piel/Pel/Pearl, 24
Nicholas (Micmac Indian), 24
Nicholas (N.Y.), 322, 335
Nichols/Nicholls, Bristol/Brister, 285;
Peter, 24; Pomp, 222; Thomas, 222–23
Nichols/Nicholes, Briton/Britain, 123
Nichols/Nikols, Peter, 123
Nickels, Isaac, 123
Nickelson, Luke, 123
Nickelson/Nickerson, Luke, 24
Nicken/Nickens, Amos, 492, 523; Hezekiah, 492, 523; John, 492, 523
Nicken/Nickens/Nicking, Edward, 492, 523; James, 524
Nicken/Nickens/Nickins, Richard, 492, 524; Robert, 492, 524
Nicken/Nickens/Nickings, James, 492, 524, 534
Nicken/Nickens/Nickins/Nickins, Nathaniel, 492, 524; William, 492, 524
Nicks, Carter, 564; Edward, 564; Malachi, 564
Nicks/Nickens, James, 524
Nickerson, Prince, 123
Nickols, Bacchus, 123; Britain/Britton, 123
Nicktawboit, Attien, 24
Nicola, Lewis (Col.), 404
Nig/Nigh, Jack, 123
Nigar/Niger, Cuff, 285; Philip, 285
Nigar/Niger/Negro, Caeser, 285
Niger, Joffe/Toffe, 285; Theos, 285
Night, William (Kent Co., Md.), 468
Niles, Benjamin, 223; George, 223; Haszard, 223; Henry, 223; Jaleb, 223; James, Jr., 223; Martin, 223; Mingo, 223; Robert, 223, 679; Samuel, 223; Samuel, Jr., 223; Silas, 223; Simeon, 223; Spencer, 223
Niles/Nilds, James, 223
Nimham, Aaron, 335; Abraham, 86, 123; Daniel, 123; Daniel (N.Y.), 335; Isaac, 335; John, 123; John (N.Y.), 335
Nimham (Conn.), 285
Nimrod/Nimro/Nimroe/Nimroo, Cuff, 123
Nincambo, Moses, 123
Nishumond/Nishunman, Isaac, 223
Noble, Enoch (Capt.), 45; Paul, 123
Nocake, James (Falmouth, Mass.), 123; James (R.I.), 223; John, 223; Josiah, 223
Nocake/Nocack, Gideon, 223
Nocake/Nocage, Joseph, 223
Nochota, Piel, see also Piel Encouler, 123
Nock/Newk/Newk (Pa.), 413
Nocktelsuch, John Baptist, 24
Noellis, Loui, 24; Noel, 24
Nokehingk, Nokeheingk/Nokeheingk/Nokeahg/
Nocake, Robert, 223
Nokes, Timothy, 124
Nonekom, Benjamin, 335
Nonehema, aka Shawnee Woman or “Grenadier Squaw”, 634
Nonsuch/Nonesuch/Nonsuck, Jonathan, 285
Nonsuck, John, 285
Nook, Esquire, 124
Noonday (Washington Co., N.C.), 564
Nora (Captain’s servant), 462
Nordmeyer, Hen, 145
Norman, William, 523
Norsa (R.I.), 223
Northgate, Abraham, 124
Northrup, James, 224; Stutely, 224
Northrup/Northup, Icabod/Ichabod, 223
Northup, James, 224
Norton, Jacob, 564
Norwood, Obed, 564; Theophilus, 564
Notanksion/Notanksin, William, 124
Notanksion/Notankshon/Notonskin, William, Jr., 124
Notieo, Michael, 413
Notonskin/Notonsion/Nontonsham, William, 322, 335
Newell/Newell, Kittery, 124
Nubb, Peter, aka Peter Chesborough, 285
Numcoot, Ettienne, 24
Nunes, Moses, 613–14
Nye, Ichabod, 124
O
Oakman, Sampson/Samuel, 224
Oats, William, 524
Obadiah/Obediah, Benjamin, 124
Obgawn/Ohogan (Penobscot Indian), 24
Obscow, Jonas, 124
Occum, David, 285; Jonathan, 285
Ocker, Jeremiah, 124
Odiorne, Jack, 55
O’Hara, (Gen.), 583
Ohogan (Penobscot Indian), 24
Ojitatale, see also Grasshopper, 324, 335
Okenyota/Okenyota, Cornelius, 335
Olaavighton, John, 335
Olive, Bernard, 663
Oliver, Aaron (Temple, Mass.), 124; Aaron (Temple/New Ipswich N.H.), 55; Adam, 145; Benjamin, 124; Cromwell, 124; Peter, 124
Oliver (Epping, N.H.), 55
Olivier (S. Domingo volunteer), 663
Olney, Bristol, 224; Jeremiah (Capt.), 189, 193; John, 224
Omchaters, Gabriel, 413
Onastose/Onasteas, Vincent, 55
Onesimus (Sutton, Mass.), 124
Onesteia Egat, 335
Onkshun, John, 285
Ontrance/Ontrani, Matthew/Mattahu, 24
Oosterhout, Johannes Jr., 322
Orange (Pa.), 404, 413
Orbane, Principe, 669
Orcutt, Stephen, 145
Order, Peter, 564
Ordway, Aaron, 494
Ormond (Pa.), 413
Ormsby, Titus, 124
Orono/Orino (Penobscot Indian), 13, 15, 24
Orr, Boston, 124
Osborne, Boston, 124
Osgood, Primus, 124
Osiero, Leard, see also Leard Auserly, 24
Osson, Che/Esq'/Elqr, 24
Ossoro, Scard, 24
Otaawighton/Ottawightow, John, 335
Otis, Jesse/Joshua, 285; Joseph/Jo, 285
Otter, Biley, 593
Oto (N.H.), see also Cato, 55
Overhill, Brister, 124
Overtown, John, 564; Jonathan, 555, 564;
Lemuel, 564; Samuel, 564; Titus, 564
Ovid, Scipio, 124
Owens, David (North Sasqueannah Hundred, Md.), 465
Owings/Owen, Jonas (Charles Town, Md.), 465
Oxford, Derrick, 43, 55; Luke, 124
Oxford (Newmarket, N.H.), 55
Ozbon, John, 617

P
Packer, Isaac, 145
Paddock, Apolos/Appollos, 224
Pagan, Josiah, 285
Pagan/Pagon/Peggin/Piggin, Thomas, 224
Pagan/Payon/Piyon, Eleazer, 285
Pagan/Peagan/Pegan, Joseph, 285
Page, Daniel, 224; Primus, 224; Scipio, 55; Simon/Simeon, 145
Pain, Edward, 124
Paine, Nathan, 145; Robert Treat, 84
Pallentine/Pallatine/Palingtine, Cash, 286
Paley, Thomas, 145
Palfray, Hunlock, 145
Pall, James, 224
Palmer, Aaron, 335; Bristow, 286;
Prince, 124; Zadox/Zadoc/
Zadoch, 145
Pamonet, Joseph, 24
Paine/Paine, Charles, 124
Pannis, Baziel, 24
Papoon, Benjamin, 124
Parala, John, 286
Pardieu, Joseph, 663
Parker, Chester, 124; Elisha, 524, 564;
Fortune, 655; John, 145; Robert, 124
Parkham, Thomas, 145
Parkhurst, Cesar, 286
Parkis, Caesar, 286
Parks, Cuffie, 124
Parmer, Scipio, 124
Par, Joseph, alias Liberty, 286
Parsons, Josiah, 145; Pomp, 124;
Samuel, 124; Samuel H. (Gen.),
257
Partyfall (Md.), 456, 462
Paslet, Joseph, 24
Paterson, John (Col.), 85; Thomas, 145
Patricot/Labricot, Joseph, 663
Patterson, John, 317, 335, 345
Patty (S.C.), 593
Paugenit, Joseph, see also Joseph
Pognet/Pognit/Pognot, 124
Paul, John, 286; Lodewick, 286; Peter,
286; Pierre, 25; Stephen, 43;
William, 286
Paulli (Rochambeau's American
Wagoners), 659
Paunce, Scipio, 124
Paupaumham, Cornelius, 124
Pautepeet/Patauwanpeet/
Pauluwautee, Jacob, 124
Pawling, Seas, 286
Payne, Benjamin, 524; Evan, 524;
Joshua, 524; William, see also
Negro Waterman, 524
Pazel/Pazl (St. John's Indian), 25
Peace, Joseph, 25
Peacock, Adjoiyak, 383
Pearce, Adam, 462; John, 124; Squire,
124; Warwick, 224
Pearce/Pierce, Prince, 124
Pearth/Pierce, Israel, 564
Pearman/Peaman/Pierman, Grief,
524
Pearth, Charles, 524
Peas, Tom (slave of Henry Laurens),
593
Pease, Honyost, 124; Michael, 25, 124
Peaue, David, 124
Peavey, Thomas, 564
Pebbles, Andrew, 524
Pebody/Peebody, ick, 124
Peck, Bristol, 224; Gaius, 224; Nat
(Baltimore Town, Md.), 464
Peckham, Cuff, 224
Peckham/Peckham/Pekum,
Pompey, 124
Pedro (negro slave serving in Mobile),
669
Peel, Primus, 413
Peene/Peney/Penny/Perpeaney,
Simon, 124
Peepon [Pequon?], Benjamin, 286
Pegan, Eleazer, 286; Joseph, Jr., 286
Pegun, Josiah, 286
Pekkeland, 630, 634
Pekkeland (Pa.), 413
Pelham, Cato, 125
Pelham/Pellom/Pellon, Edward, 286
Pemberton, Cato, 125
Pemewaioth, Joseph, 25
Pendall, Toby, 286
Pendarviet, Brand, 593; James, 593;
Thomas, 593; William, 593
Pendergrass, Richard, 564
Penn/Pinn, Raleigh/Rolly/Rawley,
524
Pennewett/Pernewett (Penobscot
Indian), 25
Pennington, James (Talbot Co., Md.),
469
Penny, Daniel, 224; Simon, 86
Pepena/Pepenopopeny/Perpeaney,
Simon, 125
Pepener, Solomon, 125
Pepeh/Pepera/Pepener, John, 125
Pepeh, Silas, 125; Timothy, 286
Peregrino, Manuel, 125
Pergnes (Melisett/Passamaquoddy
Indian), 25
Perham/Purham, Asa, 55
Perigoeu (St. Domingo volunteer), 663
Perigo/Parigo/Perrigo, Joseph H., 224
Perkins, George, 564, 593; Isaac, 554,
564; Jacob, 593; Nimrod, 524;
Thomas, 145; York, 286
Perkins/Purkins, Cudjo/Cudgo, 286;
Joshua, 524
Perrunmut, Joshua, 224
Pero, Joseph, aka Liberty or Pero
Liberty, 286; Nathan/Nathanial,
224; Peter, 286; Tobias, 286;
William, 224
Pero/Perow, Prince, 125; Prince (R.I.),
224
Pero/Perowood, Simeon/Simon, 25
Peroe (Md.), 462
Perry, Abram, 224; Caesar, 124; Cuff,
125; Daniel, 224;
Garret/Narranganset/Ganset, 224;
John, 224; William, 145
Perry (Caroline Co., Md.), 462
Perryman (Ga.), 617
Pete, Lemuel, 286
Personal Name Index

Peter, 2nd, see also Peter Freeman, 286; Jack, 564; John, 125; Jonathan, 125; Moses, 125; Prince, 125
Peter (6th S.C. Regt.), 593
Peter (Andover, Mass.), 125
Peter (arsenal worker), 524
Peter (Brig Defence), 260, 286
Peter (Brigantine Minerva), 260, 286
Peter (Conn.), (2), 286
Peter (Dedham, Mass.), 125
Peter (East Windsor, Conn.), 286
Peter (enslaved man of Benj. Moore), 335
Peter (enslaved man of Cn. Lighburn), 335
Peter (enslaved man of General William Floyd), 335
Peter (Epping, N.H.), 55
Peter (Fairfield, Conn.), 286
Peter (Farmington, Conn.), 286
Peter (former slave of Elizabeth Read), 488, 524
Peter (former slave of Robert Keeling), 524
Peter (Galley Trumbull) (2), 286
Peter (Hebron, Conn.), 286
Peter (Lancaster, Mass.), 125
Peter (Lee, Mass.), 125
Peter (Mass.) (2), 125
Peter (Milford, Conn.), 286
Peter (Navy "able" seaman State Navy), 524
Peter (N.Y.), 318, 335
Peter/Peters, Pompey, 125
Peter (Plymouth, Mass.), 125
Peter (servant of Lt. Evans), 593
Peter (servant to Capt. Mazyck), 593
Peter (servant to Capt. Shubrick), 593
Peter (servant to Capt. Uriah Goodwyn), 593
Peter (Wallingford, Conn.), 286
Peter (Woodbury, Conn.), 286
Peter (York, Pa.), 413
Peters, Aaron, 225; Aaron (S. Kingstown, R.I.), 224; Amos, 25; Galloway, 286; James, 524; John (R.I.), 225; John (Southwick, Mass.), 125; Peter, 286; Pompey (Charlton, Mass.), 125; Pompey (Western, Mass.), 125; Pompey, 335; Thomas, 125
Peters/Petibus, Pompey, 125
Petit Jean (commander of a black company "Compania de Negros de la Mobilia"), 669
Petre (Del.), 437
Petter (S.C.), 593
Petters, Pomp, 125
Petitbone, Prince, 125
Petitford, Drury, 524; Drury (Stokes Co., N.C.), 564; Elias, 564; George, 564; Philip, 555, 564; William, 554, 564
Petty, Abiel, 145
Pharaoh (N.Y.), 319, 335
Pharaoh/Pharaoh/Pharaoh/Pharow, Manuel, 286
Pharaoh, William, 25
Pharaoh (Farmington, Conn.), 286
Pharaoh/Pharoh/Pharow, Abraham/Abiah, 286
Pharaoh (York Co., Me.), 25
Phee (at the lead mines), 524
Pheleipe (negro slave serving in Mobile), 669
Phelix (Woodstock, Conn.), 286
Philip, Captain Philip, 25
Philip (Conn.), 286
Philip (enslaved man of General William Floyd), 335
Philip (Guilford, Conn.), 286
Philip (private in Corps of Invalids in Cont. Troops), 656
Philip (served in Col. John Durkees Co.), 286
Philip (Simsbury, Conn.), 286
Philips, Jean Baptiste, 663
Philips/Phillips, Boston, 125
Phil/Phillip (Norwich, Conn.), 287
Phillip/Philip (Norwich, Conn.), 287
Phillip, Jack, 125; Jeruel, 287; John (Kent Co., Md.), 468; Joshua, 655; Philip (Culpeper Co., Va.), 524; Philip (Windham, Conn.), 287; Richard (Caroline Co., Md.), 465; Stephen, 462
Phillips/Philips, Reuben, 287; Samuel, 287
Phillips/Philips, Philo/Philon/Philop/Philou, 225
Phillips/Phillips/Philips/Tone, 225
Phillis/Philis, Pompey/Pompey, 125
Philis (Va.), 524
Philotougi (Ga.), 617
Pickens, Dick, see also Old Dick, 593
Pickering, Boston, 55; Tumbrel, 55
Picket, Martin (Col.), 490
Pickhorn, Pompey, 125
Pierce, Loviss, 25
Pierce, Adam, 377, 383; Anthony, 383; Francis, 524; Joseph, 524; Prince, 125; Richard, 383; Titus, 125; William, 564
Pierce/Pierce, Titus, 225
Pierpont, Joseph, 145
Pierpont, Charles, 525; Jack, 125
Pierre, Grand, 25
Pigan, Eleazar, 287
Pimeelaoughan, 634
Pingo, Calbe/Killing, 525
Pinkerton, James (deacon), 44
Pinn, Billy, 525; James, 525; John, 494, 525; Rawley, 525; Robert, 525; Thomas, 525
Pintnogte, Jorge, 287
Pinto, Abraham, 287
Pipe, Chunkey, 593
Pipsico, John, 525
Pisguish/Pisquish, Henry, 225
Pisquish, Hosea, 225; Joshua, 225; Mowry, 225
Pistolet (Passamaquoddy Indian), 25
Pitkin, Prince, 287
Pittman, William, 125
Pitts, Boston, 125
Placey, William, 287
Plansay (Penobscot Indian), 25
Platio (seaman on the sloop Republic), 125
Plato (Bolton, Mass.), 125
Platt, Samuel, 145
Platto, Thomas, 335
Plumley, Obadias, 525
Plummer, Cupid (Prince George's Co., Md), 468; Cupit/Cupid, 462, 470; Obedia, 462, 470
Pluto (Norfolk Co., Va.), 525
Pluto (sailor in the Navy), 655
Plymouth (Conn.), 287
Plymouth (Hartford Co., Conn.), 287
Plymouth (S.C.), 593
Plymouth (Windsor, Conn.), 287
Pocencum, Nimrod, 525
Pock, Frederick, 225
Pockneth/Pocknot, John, 335
Pocknetts, Jacob, 125
Pocknett/Pocomut/Ponocott/Pocconott, Samuel, 125
Pocknit/Pognit/Pognet, Daniel/David, 86, 125
Pognot, Robert, 125
Pognet/Pognit/PognotPequet, Joseph, 125
Pognot/Pognot/Ponagenit, Joseph, 126
Pognit/Pocknit/Poknett/Pockenut, Joshua, 126
Pognit/Pocknot/Poknet/Hosea, 126
Poheague/Pawhig/Paugheage/Paugheage/Pauneage/Poneague, Jonas/Josias/Josiah/Seas, 287
Poheegh, Thomas, 287
Pohiatauwa puppet/Pohiatauwaput/Pahtohwaupt, Jacob, 126
Pointer, Richard, 525
Polaina, John, 126
Poland, Samuel, 145; William, 145
Poles (N.Y.), 336
Polley/Polloy, Quash/Squash, 126
Pollock, Mingo, 287
Polly (servant to Gen. Thomas Sumter), 593
Pollock/Pollock/Polluck, Asher, 225
Polydore (Pa.), 414
Pomet, Francis, 414
Pomeroy, Phiney, 287
Pomeroy/Pomeroy/Pomroy/Pumroy, Phebus, 287
Pompy, Joseph, 287
Pomp, Caesar, 378, 383;
  Ebenezer, 287; Elisha/Elus, 287;
  Jacob, 287; John (Groton, Conn.), 287; John (R.I.), 225; Joshua, 225;
  Peter, 55; Pollas/Powlas, 126;
  Richard, 225; Titus, 125
Pompy, (Conn.), 287
Pomp (Danvers, Mass.), 126
Pomp (East Haven, Conn.), 287
Pomp (enslaved man of Benjamin Sawyer), 336
Pomp (enslaved man of Mr. Lott), 336
Pomp (Mass.), 126
Pomp (Norwich, Conn.), 287
Pomp/Pomeroy (R.I.), 225
Pomp/Pompey, Jehu/Jehu, 225
Pomp/Pompy/Pompy, David, 287
Pomp/Pompy/Pompy/Pompey, Cato, 126
Pomp, see also Pompy Allen, 126
Pomp (servant in Freer's Regt. of N.Y. Mil.), 336
Pomp (served in Col. John Durkees Co.), 287
Pomp (Stratford, Conn.), 287
Pomp (Sturbridge, Mass.), 126
Pompey, Elisha, 287; John, 404, 414;
  Lemuel, 287
Pompey (Pa.), 414
Pompy/Pompy, John, 287
Pompy/Pompy/Pompy, Samuel, 287
Pompy (S.C.), 585, 595
Pompy (slave & servant to Marquis de Lafayette), 595
Pompy, Andres, 126
Pompy (Brantree, Mass.), 126
Pompy (Conn.), 287
Pompy, (GUILFORD, Conn.), 287
Ponce, Scipio
  (Bridgewater/Providence, Mass.), 126; Scipio (R.I.), 225
Pond, John, 126
Ponds/Pons, Peter, 126
Ponn, Peter, 126
Ponnie, Scipio, 126
Ponsley, Ferdinand, 414
Pontius, 630, 634
Pontius (Pa.), 414
Poor/Pore, Salem, 81–82, 126
Poor/Power, Peter, 55
Popem ¬oughwe (Pa.), 414, 629
Potemnah, Solomon, 287
Poppoonuck, Ebenezer, 126
Porcy, Anthony, 655
Porcy/Povey/Percy, Anthony, 595
Poriss (Lt. Andrew Gilman's Co. of Indians), 126
Poriss (Penobscot Indian), 25
Porre, Joseph, 663
Porter, Caesar, 126; David (Capt.), 653; Ezra, 145; Neptune/Neptuen, 126; Sciope/Si peo, 126
Porter (East Windsor, Conn.), 287
Porterfield, Charles (Col.), 490
Portius, Rene, 25
Post, Bristol/Augustus, 287
Poteima/Potamie/Potamy/
  Putamy, Job, 126
Potage, James, 287; Samuel, 287
Pottage/Pottage, Jabez, 287
Potter, David, 225; Ephraim, 145;
  Mingo, 225; Prince, 126, 225;
  Richard, 225
Potway, George, 287
Pouche touchdown/Pachetchouch/
  Pochatauch/Ponchalanch, Charles, 225
Potkeeg/Pouheeg, Thomas, 287
Powarey/Power, Caesar, 126
Powars/Power/Powers, 126
Caesar/Cesar/Cesar, 126
Powars/Power(s), Prince, 126
Powell, Jeremiah, 15; Stephen Jr., 564
Power, Prince, 226
Power/Powars, Caesar/Cesar, 226
Powers, Scipio, 226; Thomas, 126
Powlis, James, 323; James, see also
  James Wakarantharaus/Warontharane, 336
Poynos, Christopher, 463
Prat/Pratt, Caesar, 126
Pratt, Bristol/Brister, 126
Prebost/Prevost, Batiste/Baptiste, 669
Prescot, Titus, 287
Prescot/Prescott/Prescott, Fortunatus, 126
Prescott/Prescot, Caesar/Cesar, 126
Presson, Simon, 145
Preston, John, 145; Samuel, 145
Price, Cromwell, 656; Isaac (Carbon
  Co., Md.), 465; Jabez, 126; Jere
  (Octoraro Hundred, Md.), 466;
  Peter, 126
Prichard, Jeremy/Jeremiah, 145;
  Richard, 226
Priest, Noel, 25
Primas (enslaved man of John Calvert), 585, 595
Primas (N.H.), 55
Prime, Asa, 288; Black, 383; Bristol,
  Quash, 126; Thompson, 226;
  Titus, 226
Prime (Fairfield, Conn.) (2), 287
Prime (Salem Co., N.J.), 383
Prime (Somerset Co., N.J.), 383
Primes, Record, 564
Primor, Cato, 126
Primos, Peter, 226
Primos (Plymouth Co., Mass.), 126
Primos/Primus/Primas,
  Jeffrey/Jeffrey/Jesse/Jeffery, 288
Primus, Dr., 288; Edward, 226; Jabez,
  226; Jeffrey, 127; Jesse, 288; Job,
  see also Job Lathrop, 226; Negro,
  226
Primus (Middleton, Mass.), 127
Primus (S.C.), 595
Prince, Abijah, 45; Amesbury/Amy
  25, 28; Blackinbery, 145; Bristol,
  226; Caesar, 127; Cato, 81, 83, 127,
  164–65; Charles, 288; Ebenezer,
  127; Festus, 45, 127;
  Garshom/Gershom, 414; John, 83;
  Negro (N.Y.), 318, 336, 342; Philip,
  288; Richard, 83; Salem, 127;
  Scotipede, 127; Timothy, 288;
  Titus, 226; William, 288;
  Zachary/Zacker/Tukry, 288
Prince (1st N.H. Regt.), 55
Prince (Albany, N.H.), 55
Prince (Amesbury, Mass.), 127
Prince ("battered the door down with his head"), 226
Prince (Brookline, Mass.), 127
Prince (Canterbury, Conn.), 288
Prince (Conn.), 288
Prince (Farmington, Conn.), 288
Prince (Lexington, Mass.), 127
Prince (Norwich, Conn.), 288
Prince (on the armed boat Ranger), 404, 414
Prince (Pittsfield, Mass.) (2), 127
Prince (Portsmouth, N.H.), 55
Prince (R.I.), 226
Prince (seaman; prisoner exchanged), 226
Prince (servant of General Whipple), 55
Prince (served in Col. John Durkees Co.), 288
Prince (Somerset Co., N.J.), 283
Prince (Suffolk, Mass.) (2), 127
Prince (Wallingford, Conn.), 288
Prince (Winchester, Conn.), 288
Prince (Windsor, Conn.), 288
Prince (York Co., Mass.), 127
Proctor, Cesarus/Cyrus, 226; Charles, 463; Daniel (Tafton Co., Md.), 469; Francis, 463; Henry, 463; James (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Leonard (Charles Co., Md.), 463, 467; Thomas (Charles Co., Md.), 463, 467; William, 463
Prophet, Thomas, 226
Prophet/Profit, James, 226
Prou, King, 587, 595
Proviando, Ferdinando, 127
Providence, Robert, 414
Providence (Windsor, Conn.), 288
Pruway/Pruynay, Pierre, 25
Pruther, Fortin, 127
Prutt, Caesar, 127; John, 127; Levi, 127
Puffer/Puffor (Conn.), 288
Pugh, Arthur, 564; David, 565
Punham, Ephraim, 288; Joseph, 288
Punshin, Daniel, 336, 347
Purkins, Ninord, 525
Purinton, Hezekiah, 145
Purtamcy/Purtamey/Purtamy, Job, 127
Putman/Putnam, Scipio, 127
Putnam, Primus (Lunenburg, Mass.), 127; Primus (R.I.), 226; Richard, see also Richard Fortune, 288

Q
Qavno, George, 336
Quacheats, Thomas, 288
Quacheats/Cocheats, Thomas, 288
Quacheats/Cocheats/Sheets/Sheets, Isaac, 288
Quacheats/Quacheats/Quochecks/Quochecks, Peter, 288
Quacheats/Quocheck/Quocheats/Cockkets, Cyrus, 288
Quacheats/Quocheats/Chocheats, Jacob, 288
Quacho, John, 226
Quaco, Fortune, 226
Quaco/Quacco/Quacoe/Quachoe/Quachoe, Jehu/Jahew/Jehue, 226
Quaco/Quoka, Caesar, 127
Quago, George, 127
Quaker, Alexander, 525
Quako/Quaco, James, 226
Quam, Charlie, 127; Edward, 226; James, 226; Joshua, 226; Prince, 127; Sharp, 127
Quame/Quanne, John, 288
Quamene, Charles F., 288
Quamhos/Quamhouse/Quamhous, James, 127
Quamino, Humphrey, 288
Quammo/Quamont, Fontain, 288
Quamps, Moses, 288
Quando, Quash, 127
Quanwell/Quanaway/Quanaway, Peter, 226
Quapos/Quashish, Alexander, 127
Quauquiamps (North Stonington), 288
Quaret, Andre, 25
Quarles, John, 498–99
Quarrey/Quarry, Richard, 226
Quary, George, 226
Quas/Quash, Gideon, 226
Quas/Shaque, Burke, 226; Phinehas/Primus/Prime, 127; Quomoy/Quamony, 127
Quash (Plymouth, Mass.), 127
Quash/Quass/Tuas, Gideon, 288
Quash/Quasha/Quashy/Cush, Cato/Catoy, 288
Quash/Quosh, Ephraim, 288
Quash (S.C.), 595
Quash (Salem Co., N.J.), 383
Quash (slave of Lehansi Dekeyser), 565
Quasine, Jo, 25
Quasmas, John, 127
Quawco, Caesar, 127
Qui/Quie/Quy/Quye/Quig, Lebb(eus)/Leibus, alias Negro, 288
Quiba, Thomas, 288
Quibo, Paul, 525
Quick, Priest, 55
Quillpukamen, 634
Quinegum, Joseph, 127
Quinere, William, 145
Quoco, James, 288
Quocoto, Fortunio, 288
Quomany/Quominy/Quameny, Charles, 288
Quos/Quas/Quaws/Quash, James, 226
Quyam, Jeaque, 25

R
Ragen, Guille, 663
Rainey, Thomas, 127
Rakikotow, Cornelius, see also Cornelius Kahiktotow, 336
Ralls, Kenaz, 525
Ralls/Rollis, John, 525
Ralph, Charles, 127; Thomas, 127
Railwater (Penobscot Indian), 25
Rambour, Louis, 663
Rand, Jack/Austin, see also Jack Austin, 127; Jack (Medford, Mass.), 127; Jack (Mystic, Mass.), 127
Randal/Randale/Randall, Prince, 227
Randal/Randel, David, 463
Randall, Jack, 227; Robert, 127, 227, 525
Randel, David (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464
Randol, Jack, 127; Waterman, 127
Randolph, Asher Fitz (Capt.), 377; David Fitz, 377
Ranfree, John, 128
Ranger/Rantger, Joseph, 525
Ranken, Daniel, 128
Ranken/Rankin, James, 145
Rann/Ran, Crisp, 288
Rann/Ranne, Jacob, 289
Ranney, Richard, 128
Rasary/Razaray, Cuff, 128
Rasin, Robert (Kent Co., Md.), 468
Rathbun, Jacob, see also Jacob Freeman, 289; Paris, 227
Rathburn, Scipio, 227
Rattletrap (N.Y.), 323, 356
Rawlinson, James (brother-in-law of Gideon Griffin), 598
Rawson, Cato, 128
Ray, Charles (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Daniel (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Jack, 227; James, 383; James (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Thomas, 227; Thomas (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Warwick/Warrick, 289
Raymond, Caesar, 128; Joseph, 663; Pomp (Conn.), 289; Pomp (Ticonderoga, Mass.), 128; Scipio, 289
Raymond/Raimond, Ebo/Eber, 289
Read, Abram, 491, 525; Amariah, 491, 525; Amos, 491, 525; Brackley, 145; William, 128
Read/Reed, Dick, 289; John/Jack, 227; Joseph, 289
Readan, Kias, 227
Readhead, Billy, 595; Patrick, 595
Readington, Aaron, 145
Reaves, Pom (Hatfield, Mass.), 128; Pom (Rehoboth, Mass.), 128
Reckards, Jack, 128
Redcross, Daniel, 525; John, 495; John (York Co., Va.) (2), 525
Redington, Daniel, 128
Redman, John (gunner on the Tarter), 525; John (Hardy Co., Va.), 525; Richard (Hardy Co. Va.), 525, William, 565
Redman/Redmond, John, 525
Redman/Rodman, Polydore, 403, 414
Redwood, Prince, 128, 227, 336
Reed, Benjamin, 565; Dempsey, 565; George, (Capt.), 44; Hezekiah,
845

Roaden, Richard, 463
Rob/Robinson (Danbury, Conn.), 289
Robins, Robin/Robbins/Robins, 228; Joseph, 289
Robbins/Robins, Caesar, 128; Joshua, 128
Robby, Richard, 128
Robee, John, 145
Roben/Robert (slave of Mary Jones), 525
Robers, Heman, 289; Ptolomey/Ptolomy, 128
Roberson, Reuben/Robinson/Robertson/Robinson, Cato, 289
Robert, Louis, 663; Reuben, 55
Roberts, Benjamin, see also Benjamin Simmons, 289; Cuff, 128; Cuff/Cuflee, 288; Fortune, 128; Hezekiah, 525; Ishmael (Dobb Co., N.C.), 565; Ishmael (Northampton Co., N.C.), 565; James, 565; John (Accomack Co., Va.), 525; John (N.C.), 565; Jonathan, 565; Reuben (Foster, R.I.), 228; Reuben (Mass.), 128; William, 565
Roberts/Robert, Esek, 228
Roberson, David, 525
Robin, George, 228
Robin (crew member of the brigantine Famey), 228
Robin (Danbury, Conn.), 289
Robin (N.Y.) (3), 336
Robin/Robbin (Woodbury, Conn.), 289
Robin/Roben (Sandown, Mass.), 128
Robin/Robines, Samuel, 128
Robin (Sandown, N.H.), 55
Robin (servant to Lt. Mazyck), 595
Robins, Caesar, 128; Joshua, 289
Robinson, Amos, 228, 289; Caleb, (Capt.), 44; Cato, 289; Isaac, 128; Jack, 128; James, 463, 525; Obed, 145; Peters, 129; Prince (Mass.), 55; Prince (R.I.), 228; Quaco, 228; William, 336; Zach, see also Zach Kelsey, 55
Robinson/Babson, London, 128
Robinson/Roberson/Robertson, Mingo, 228
Rock, Jack, 565
Rockafeller, William, 318
Rodman, Caesar, 228; Isaac, 228; Mingo, 228; Philip, 229; Polydore, 229; Prince, 229; Sias, 229
Roe, Charles, 555, 565; Hugh (Lt.), 434; James, 565; John, 489, 525
Rofy/Robey/Ropher/Robee/Ropbee, Solomon, 229
Roger, Isaac, 129; John, 289
Roger (Danbury, Conn.), 258
Roger (Danbury, Conn.) (2), 289
Rogers/Rogers, Benjamin, 229; London, 129
Rogers, Cato, 25; Cato (Durham, Mass.), 129; Cato (N.H.), 55; Crisp, 129; Cudgo, 289; Cuggio, 289; Ephriam, 229; George, 229; Isaac, 229; John (R.I.), 229; John (Served in Capt. David Humphrey's Company of Colored Troops), 289; Josiah, 289; Parker, 565; Perley, 129; Pharaoh, 55; Sharp/Sharper, 289
Rogers/Rogers, Thomas, 145
Rogers/Rogers (former slave of Enoch Jones), 525
Rolings/Rawlings, Eliphalet, 145
Rolls, John, 525
Roman (Conn.), 289
Romeo (Marblehead, Mass.), 129
Romeo (may have been Peter Smith), 25
Romeo (N.Y.), 319, 336
Ronkoport, Abraham, see also Abram/Abraham Konkaupot/Konkop, 129
Rooback, John, 318; Marlin, see also Marlin, 336
Room, Cato, 655
Roosa/Rosa, Jack, 336
Root, Peter, 25
Rosbotham, Primus, 229
Rose, Abraham, 229; Ned/Edward, 229; Simon, 289; Tony, 128
Rose/Ross/Roney, Toney/Jonas, 229
Rose/Rove, Caesar, 229
Rosier, Cuff, Jr., 129
Rosier/Rosarea/Rotecery/Rosary/Rozaro/Rozery, Cuff, Sr., 129
Rosier/Rosara/Roserey/Rosary/Roserery, Silas, 129
Ross, Alexander, 145; David, 526; Reuben, 526; Robt. (Frederick Co., Md.), 468
Rouse, Cornelius, 595; Peter (Bedford Co., Va.), 526; Peter (Dinwiddie Co., Va.), 526
Rouviere, Francois, 663
Rovardie/Revande, Ferdinand, 129
Rowe, Tony, 129; Wm., 526
Rowland, Jack, 289
Royal, Samuel, 129; Silas/Ryal Varnum, 129
Ruben, Felipe, 669
Personal Name Index

Ruby, Salvador, 669
Ruby (Gray, Me.), 25
Ruggles/Rugles, York, 129
Runnels, Peleg, 229
Russel/Russell, Caesar, 129; George, 526; Pomp, 55
Russell, Cato, 129; Pomp, 129; Prince, 129
Russen, Andrew, 145
Rutledge, John (Gov. of S.C.), 585
Rutley, Pompey, 342
Ryll, Caesar, 129
Rymes, Thomas, 55
S
Sabattis, Jr., 25
Sabattis (Penobscot, Me.), 25
Sabattis, Baziel, 69; John, 69
Sabattist, Apom, 69; Joseph, 69
Sabbins/Sabens/Sabins, 129
Sables/Sabin/Sabins, Isaac, 129
Sabens/Sabin/Sabins, Cesar/ Caesar, 229
Sabin/Sabins, Billin, 289
Sabitis/Sebastian/Sebatis, Little, 25
Sabuck, William, 289
Saby, Jonathan, 129
Sachamus/Sachems/Sachmus/Sechum/Sechemi, Jeffrey/ Jeff, 129
Sachem, Thomas, 229
Sacket/Sakett, Prince, 317, 336
Sackett, Richard (Capt.), 317, 324; Thomas, 289
Sacknott, John, 336
Sacomick/Scacmiek (Penobscot Indian), 25
Sacotear/Sacotiar (Penobscot Indian), 25
Saderykros (N.Y.), 336
Sadler, William, 145
Saffe (escaped enslaved man from the Amelia Co. owned by Capt. Munford), 526
Sagoharasis/Sagoharase, John, 321, 336
Sailes/Sayles, Fortune, 230; Prosper, 230
St. Aubin, Ambrose, 26; Noel, 26; Toma, 26
St. Clair, (Gen.), 614
St. John, Dover, 291
Salem, Peter, 81, 88, 129
Salem/Salome (Wells, Me.), 25
Salome/Salom (Wells, Me.), 25
Salomess (Penobscot Indian), 25
Saltenshall/Saltstonhall/Saltonston/Salterson/Saltnors, Britton/Brittain, 230
Saltonhall, Dudley (Commodore), 12
Sam, Black, 617; Yellow, 617
Sam, aka Negro Sam/Miller Sam, 595
Sam (crew member of the brigantine Famey), 230
Sam (Del.), 437
Sam (enslaved man of Benj. Moore), 336
Sam (misc. service), 656
Sam (Norwich, Conn.), 261, 289
Sam (N.Y.), 318
Sam (Surry Co., Va.), 526
Sam (Va.) (2), 526
Sambo, Negro (N.J.), 383; Newport, 129; Thomas, 129
Sambo (Leicester, Mass.), 129
Sambo (Md.), 456, 463
Sambo/Sambow, Thomas, 230
Sambo/Simbo, George, 230
Samms, Edward, 129
Sampson, Benjamin, 129; Bristol, see also Bristol Budd, 289; John, 55; John Amos, 289; Sanders, 230; Setto, 129
Sampson (Canterbury, Conn.), 289
Sampson (King William Co., Va.), 526
Sampson (Newton, Conn.), 289
Sampson/Sampson/Samson, Studley, 129
Sampson/Samson, Nehemiah, 129
Sampson/Samson (Wallingford, Conn.), 289
Sams, Cato, 129; Edward, 25
Samson, Caleb, 145; Marie, 659
Samson/Samson, Deborah, 154
Samson (Stoughton, Mass.), 129
Samuel, Charles (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Collins (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Francis (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Henry (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Joseph (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Thomas (Charles Co., Md.), 467; William (Charles Co., Md.), 467
Samuel (Conn.), 289
Sanawagant (N.Y.), 336
Sanders, William, 145
Sanders/Sanders, John, 526
Sands, Edward, 129
Sandy, Old, 595
Sanford, Fortune, 289; Phoenix, 129
Sanger, Black, 617
Sangshang (Penobscot Indian), 25
Sankee/Sankey/Sankor, Caesar, 55
Sanno, Peter, 55
Sanquerquot, Joseph, 129
Sanquesquat, Josiah, 129
Sanson ("Negro slave serving in Mobile"), 669
Santee, Caesar, 565
Santiago (enslaved man of Mr.
Dingerard), 669
Sapawmanken, John, 129
Sarah (Va.), 526
Sarle/Sayles/Searles/Serle/Searles/Sears, Stanley/Standley, 230
Sarragoshah, _ (seaman on the ship Franklin), 129
Sarrase, Juan Bautista, 669
Sasar (slave of Esik Hopkins), 230
Sash, Moses, 129
Saul (soldier and spy), 526
Saunders, Cuff, see also Cuff Wells, 289
Saunders/Sanders, Sampson, 230
Sauquayunk, Cornelius, 322, 336
Saquesquot, Joseph, 129
Saurmog/Sermug/Sourmugg, Jethro, 290
Sasonkhol, Aaron, 129
Savage, Daniel, 145; Jube, 129
Savel, Samuel, 414
Savy, Archibald (Charles Co., Md.), 463, 467; Philip, 455, 463; William, 463; William, 467
Sawyer, London, 290; Solomon, aka London Sawyer, 290
Sayers, Cuffe, 342
Sayward, Prince, 25, 29–35, 130
Scaramouch (slave of Henry Laurens), 595
Scheausucks/Skespicks, Reuben, 290; Thomas, 290
Sches, Paul, 25
Schiaupch, Scheebuck, 130
Schureman, Hercules, 318, 336
Schutt, Solomon, 317
Schuyler, Philip (Gen.), 319, 322, 323, 324
Schuyler/Skyler, Charles, 230
Sceipo, Solomon, 69; Zadock, 45
Sceipo/Cipeo/Sippeo, Ceasar, 290
Sceipo/Sipio/Scipio, Abel, 290
Scipio, Caleb, 290; Hill, 566; Isaac, 130; John, 130; Salem, 130; Solomon, 45
Scipio (Ashford, Conn.), 290
Scipio (Mass.), 130
Scipio (Middleton, Mass.), 130
Scipio/Scepio, Joseph, 617
Scipio/Scepio (Plainfield, Conn.), 290
Scipio (Wells, Me.), 25
Sceipo (Littleton, Mass.), 130
Scodaub/Shandaup/Charley, Charles, 290
Scofield, Ceazar, 336
Scoffel, Ceasar, 290
Scot, Abraham, 595
Scott, Billey, 595; Caesar/Ceazar, 130; Drury, 526; Emanuel, 565; Exum, 565; Isaiah, 565; Jacob (2), 595; Jesse, 526; John (Boston,
Sekesucks, Sharp
Severan, Semor, Segigoteyota Sharp/Sharpe, Sharp
### Personal Name Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cipas, Cesar/Cesar</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisco, Francis</td>
<td>130; Moses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisco/Cisco/Siseo, Dick</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisco/Sisko/Siscow, Ebenezer</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siscow, Nicholas</td>
<td>318, 336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisko/Cisco/Cisco/Siscow, Joseph</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisson, George</td>
<td>231; Tack/Jack/Task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skeeter, Moses</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skeezoucks/Skeesucks/Sheezuck, Moses</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skenandoah (N.Y.)</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skesocks/Skesucks/Skesux/Skesuck/Skenandoah</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siscow</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skesucks/Skesux/Skescocks</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skesuck/Skesux</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sly</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slaitor, Bar</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slave (slave of David Ambrose)</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slenser</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slocum, London</td>
<td>231; Pero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slocum/Slocumb, Prime/Primus</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sly, Randolph</td>
<td>526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small, Caesar</td>
<td>56; Nathaniel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smallwood, William (Gen.)</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Smith, Abraham | 231; Amos | 232; Benjamin | 147; Caesar | 131; Caesar | 291; Cato | 56; Cezar | 291; Cezar | 291; Chance | 232; cuff | 291; Cuff/Cuffee | 291; Elijah | 526; Henry (Dutchess, N.Y.) | 336; James (Bedford Co., Va.) | 526; James (Boston, Mass.) | 147; James (deserted from Capt. Shem) | 526; James (Ga.) | 617; James (Hartford Co., N.C.) | 565; James/Sharper | 291; John | 147; John, alias John Short | 291; Johnson | 526; Jonathan | 147; Joseph | 232; Joseph (Dinwiddie Co., Va.) | 526; Joseph (Montgomery Co., Md.) | 468; Jube/Juba/Juby | 232; Lewis | 526; Pelatiah | 131; Peter | 26; Pomp | 232; Primus | 131; Sampson | 291; Solomon | 291; Thomas | 232; Thomas (Chesterfield, N.H./Richmond, Mass.) | 131; Thomas (Richmond, Mass.) | 131; Tobey | 232; Toby | 131; Tone | 291; William (deserted from the ship Gloucester) | 526; William (Montgomery Co., Md.) | 468; Smith (enslaved man of Sarah Minis) | 617; Smothers, William | 526; Snell, George | 131; Snelling, Asa | 26; Snow | _232; Aaron | 232; Socidyx, Jeffrey | 131; Sock, Piel/Pearl | 26; Sockner/Socunter (Penobscot Indian), 26; Sootmah, Selmore | 26; Sogoharase, John | 336; Sokaday (N.Y.) | 317, 324, 337; Sole, Adam | 232; Josiah | 232; Sole/Soul, Josiah | 232; Solomen/Solomon/Solomone, Scipio | 131; Solomon, Amos | 291; John | 131; Joseph | 291; Solomon/Solomon/Solomon, Solomon | 131; Solomnes (Penobscot Indian), 26; Somersett, Cuff | 131; Songo, James | 437; Sonk/Sunk, Joseph | 232; Sonseir/Sensor (Penobscot Indian), 26; Sonughis (N.Y.), 337; Sooduck, Ephraim | 131; Soper, Samuel | 147; Sopuge, Latten | 337; Sorabo/Scrabbo, Jeremiah | 463; Sorrell, Edward | 490, 526; James | 526; Sorrell/Sonell, Thomas | 526; Sorvers/Sowers, William | 291; Soto, Manuel | 131; Soucsonkho, Aaron | 131; Soul, Josiah, see also John Methricks | 131; Soward, Cato | 131; Prince | 26; Sowers/Sowas, Dick/Richard | 291; Sownowkoe/Sowanocke (Penobscot Indian), 26; Sownomog, Jehro | 131; Sowtricie/Southrie/Sowtie/Souttie/Soutree, Solomon | 291; Sparge/Sprague, Cuff | 131; Sparks, Diggynon | 414; Spaulding, Edward (Charles Co., Md.) | 467; Spean/Speen, Jacob | 131; Spein, Samuel | 131; Spelman, Aaron | 565; Spelman/Spelmore, Asa | 565; Spencer, Shubael | 131; Thomas | 322; 337; Thomas (R.I.), 232; Spencor, Cezar | 291; Spiat, Solomon | 291; Spindlow/Spindlow (Talbot Co., Md.) | 463, 471; Sprague, Benjamin | 232; Caesar | 131; Cuff | 83, 130; John (Dr.) | 83; Pero | 232; Spratt, Thomas | 586; Sprawhak, Timothy | 131; Sprigg, Thomas (Lt.) | 457; Spriggs, Abel (deserted from the Dragon) | 526; Spring, Cato | 291; Spry, Jack | 291; Spraywood, Jonathan | 232; Nehemiah | 131; Samson/Sampson, 232; Squadob, Benjamyn | 291; Squant, Joseph | 56; Squatpan, Tomo (Mass.) | 131; Tomo (Me.), 26; Squeyah, Daniel | 131; Squire, Christopher | 291; Squib/Squeeb/Squible/Squip, Joseph | 291; Squibb/Squibs, Dumps | 131; Squintoop/Squntrop, Samuel | 131; Squire, (British Capt. of the HMS Otter) | 491; Squire (Hingham, Mass.) | 131; Sunkunckum, Carilleaus | 131; Squntop, Jeremiah | 291; Stacy/Stacy, Oliver | 131; Stacy, William | 414; Stadeland, Fortune | 232; Stafford, Primus (marine on the ship General Putnam) | 131; Primus (Me.), 12; 26; Primus (Tiverton, R.I.), 232; Prince | 131; Stake/Stokes, Bridget | 232; Standley, Sladly/Salady (Dorchester Co., Md.) | 467; Standley/Stanley, Cato | 232; Stanford, James | 147; Stanhope, Isaac | 147; Richard | 414; Stanley/Standley, Charles (son of Saladdy Stanley) | 455; Garretson (son of Saladdy Stanley) | 455; Jim (son of Saladdy Stanley) | 455; Joe (son of Saladdy Stanley) | 455; Mary (daughter of Saladdy Stanley) | 455; Priscilla (daughter of Saladdy Stanley) | 455; Saladdy/Saladdy/Sladly/Saladdy, 454, 463; Sally (daughter of Saladdy Stanley) | 455; Stannard, Limbo | 291; Stanton, Cuff | 291; Starkweather, Prince, see also Prince Williams | 291; Starlins, "Captain," 526; Stars, Ephram | 131; Timothy | 147; Starr, Robin | 291; Williams, 147; Start, John | 147; Stears, Peter | 56; Stebbins/Stebbens, Darius | 147; Stedman, Cato (Cambridge, Mass.) | 131; Cato (Conn.) | 291;
Streeter, 337
Storum/Stourman/Stournan, 337
Storm, 337
Stringer, 337
Storey/Story, 337
Strother, 337
Stepney (Barre/Worcester Co., Mass.), 131
Stepney (slave of John Laurens), 595
Stepny (N.Y.), 337
Steuben, Baron von, 614
Steveard, Edward, 527
Stevens, Cuff, 131; Daniel (Pa.), 404, 414; Daniel (Worcester Co., Md.), 565; Ephraim, 56; Major, 463; Peleg, 87; Richard, 26
Stevenson, Benjamin (Capt.), 317; James, 131; Moses (Baltimore Town, Md.), 464
Steward/Stewart, Caesar/Ceasar/Ceaser, 292
Stewart, Charles, 147; Charles (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469; Dempsey, 565; Edward, 527; John (Dinwiddie Co., Va.), 527; Jordan/Jordan, 565; Peleg, 87; Richard, 26
Stines, Jeff, see also Jeffrey Brace, 291, 297
Still, Joseph, 292
Stillman, Robin, 131
Stoakham/Stokeham, Justus, 131
Stockbridge, John (Cheshire Co., N.H.), 56; John (N.Y.), 337
Stoddard/Stoddard, Fortune, 232
Stoddard, Ebenezer, 147
Stone, Josiah, 147; William, 131; Zubal, 131
Storey/Story, Primus, 131
Storm, James, 132
Storum/Stourman/Stournan, Charles, 337
Strang, Jack, 292
Strange, Jack, 132
Stratton/Stroton, Joseph, 147
Streeter, Barzillar, 232
Stringer, Hezekiah, 565; Mingo, 565
Strong, Phineas, 292
Stroth, Daniel, 490
Strother, Daniel, 527
Stuart, Charles, 132; Jack (deserted after being drafted out of Prince George Co., Va.), 527
Stull/Hull/Shell, Gideon, 147
Sucanox/Succanox/Suckanox, Daniel, 337
Succamux/Sucknuck, Daniel, 292
Sucknuck, John, 337
Suckin, John, 337
Suckkush, see also White Skin, 324, 337
Sullivant, John (Gen.), 317; Noble, 56
Summerset/Sumersett/Summerset, Cuff, 132
Summit/Summits/Summitt, Prince, 292
Sumner, Newport, 132; Saul, 132
Sunax, William, 132
Sunchiman, Aaron, 232
Sunchimon/Cinnamon, Joshua, 292
Sunchimon/Cynamon/Sinemon, Thomas, 292
Sunchimon/Suncimen/Cunsamon/Sumscimon/Sunsiman, Moses, 292
Sunchimon/Sunsamon/Sunseman/Sumsamon/Sunsimon, Nathaniel, 292
Sunchimon/Sunsemen/Sunsomon/Sunsmamon, Aaron, 292
Sunchimon/Sunsemen/Sumsomon/Sunsamon/Sunsmamon, Jonas, 292
Suncoson/Sunscon, James, 132
Sunday, John, 232
Sunjuice/Sunjuise, Robin, 132
Sunseman/Sansimon, Joseph, 292
Sunsiman, Josiah, 292
Sunsimon/Sunsamon/Sunseman/Sunsimon/Senshemon/Cinnamon/Sauceman, John, 292
Supondes, Natus, 232
Suppawon/Supposon/Supposion/Suspanson/Sopposen, Abel/Abiel, 132
Surcom/Circum, Caesar, 132
Surrinam (slave of Mr. Wanton), 655
Susap, Peal (Ranger), 69; Peal (St. Francis), 69
Sussex/Sussox, Isaac, 132
Sutphin, Samuel, 383, 390–91
Sutton, Prince, 132; Zeba, 132
Swayn, William (Charles Co., Md.), 467
Swanson/Simonson, Samuel (or Negro Sam), 383
Swanson/Swamash/Captain Swasson (buried in Fryburg, Me.), 26
Swartwout, Jack, see also Jack Thompson, 337
Swashan (St. Francis), 69
Sweat, Abraham, 565; George, 565; Pompey, 12, 26; William, 565
Sweat/Sweatt, Pomp, 43, 56
Sweat/Sweatt/Sweet/Swett, Cicero/Ciscero, 81, 132, 168–70
Swett/Sweat/Allen, 565
Sweton/Sweeten/Sweat/Sweeting, Caesar, 132
Swet/Swett/Sweet, 132
Syphax, Carey, 132; Price, 132
Syphax (Norwalk, Conn.), 258, 292
T
Taber, Jack, 233
Taber/Tabor, Henry, 233
Tabor/Tbour/Taybou/Taybour/Tayboar, Henry/Harry, 233
Taborn, Allen, 565; Burrell, 565; William, 554, 566
Taborn/Tabum, Nelly (wife of William Taborn), 554
Taborn/Taburn, Joel, 555, 565
Tabum, Drury, 555
Tackanash/Tuckanash, John, 132
Taco, Jean Baptiste, 663
Taggar, Flora (bride of Pompon Sherburne), 44
Talbert/Tarbett/Tarbet/Tarbell/Tarbitt/Tarbol/Tarbot, Toby, 132
Talbert/Tolbot/Talbot, Abraham, 132
Talbot, Caesar, 132; E., 233
Talbot/Talbut, Sigby, 233
Talbury/Talbot/Salbot, Simon, 233
Talbut/Talbut/Taulbert/Talburt, Caesar, 233
Talman, Seasar, 233
Talor, Prince, 292
Tamenick (St. Francis), 56
Tamerick (N. Newport, Vt.), 69
Tampum, Job, 132
Personal Name Index

Toney, 338
Tom (enslaved man of Derish Wincoop), 338
Tom (enslaved man of Fredk. Bassett), 337
Tom (enslaved man of Joseph Wills), 527
Tom (enslaved man of Mary Jones), 527
Tom (enslaved man of Peter Smedus), 338
Tom (Farmington, Conn.), 293
Tom (former slave of Enoch Jones), 527
Tom (Killingly, Conn.), 293
Tom (Mass.), 133
Tom (Md.), 463
Tom (N.J.), 383
Tom (N.Y.), 319
Tom (N.Y.) (7), 337–38
Tom (pay drawn by W. Wilson), 527
Tom (S.C.), 595
Tom (servant of Paymaster Gray), 595
Tom (slave of John Lefever), 337
Tom (slave of Mr. Pyke), 337
Tomas/Tomases (Penobscot Indian), 26
Tomases (Indian under Lt. Andrew Gilman), 133
Tomma, Jack, 26; Pierre (Maliseet Indian), 26; Pierre (St. John's Indian), 26
Tomma/Tomo, Joseph, 26; Joseph, Jr., 26
Tommas (Penobscot Indian), 26
Tomes, Jeaque, 26
Tomkins, Somerset, 234
Tompson, Alexander (Charles Co., Md.), 467; Caesar, 56; Geor, 133; John, 595
Toms, Caesar, 133; Jupiter, 133
Tomson, Amos, 383; Jack, 133
Tomson/Tomson, John, 133, 148
Tone (Ashford, Conn.), 293
Tone (R.I.), 234
Tone/Ton, Loc, 234
Toney, Anthony (Bertie Co., N.C.), 566; Anthony (N.Y.), 338; Arthur, 566; John, 555, 566
Toney (N.Y.), 338
Toney (servant to Capt. Mazyck), 595
Toney (Stratford, Conn.), 293
Toney/Tony/Tona, Jethro, 293
Toney (Wallington, Conn.), 293
Tony, Mark, 133
Tony (Woodbury, Conn.), 293
Torbit, Toby, 133
Torrey, Thomas, 133
Towyaneahani (N.Y.), 321
Touingham, Gideon, 133
Toupaopeet, Peter, 133
Tourron, Alexandre, 663
Tousard, Louis de (Capt.), 324
Tower, John, 148
Tower (Harford Co., Md.), 463
Townsend/Townsend, Jethro, 133
Townsend, Cuffey, 134
Towsen, Benjamin, 134
Toy, Jack, see also Jack Tay, 134
Toyer, Peter, 527
Tracy, William, 293
Train, Primus, 134, 234; Robert, 134
Trantan, Jean Baptist, 26
Tranus, John, 414
Trash/Trask, David, 148
Trason/Trafton, George, 26
Trasson, George, 134
Trasy, Jury, 26; Prince, 134
Travers, Levin (Dorchester Co., Md.), 467
Trayner, Francis, 148
Treat/Treet/Treet, Mingo, 293
Tredwell/Treadwell, 293
Tree, Jupiter, 134
Trenier, Bautista, 669
Tripp, Caesar, 234
Troy, John, 134
Truillet, Will, 669
Trumbull, Jonathan (Gov. of Conn.), 255–56
Tuckerman, Kittindge, 56
Tudor, Caesar, 134
Tudor/Tuda, Cato, 134
Tuenis, Att, 26
Tufts, Simon (Capt.), 585
Tufts/Turfts, Cato, 134
Tuis, Dennis, 293
Tull (Brunswick Co., Va.), 527
Tumalek/Toomalek/Tameleck/Tumerick, Benjamin, 69, 71–72
Tumrack/Tumenick (Me.), 26
Tumption, Gideon, 134
Tunape (Florida Indian Chief from Appalachee region), 670
Tupham/Tuphand/Tophand, Ezekiel, 293
Tupper, Benjamin (Col.), 12
Turkins, Tyrus/Tyra, 293
Turley/Tuley, John, 234
Turner, Andrew (North Millford Hundred, Md.), 465; Charles, 566; Elisha, 148; Ishmael, 134; Jesse (Cecil Co., Md.), 465; Leonard, 463; Thomas, 26, 134
Turner/Tuner, Plato, 134
Tusnuck, Jacob, 134
Tuson, Robert (Charles Co., Md.), 463, 467
Tuttle, Adam (Chelsea, Mass.), 134; Adam (Medford, Mass.), 134; Titus/Titus, 134
Twilight, Ichabod, 56, 134
Twogood/Tewgood/Toogood, Samuel, 234
Twomiwos, Jacob, 293
Tyack, William, 293
Tyger, Man, 527
Tykins, Titus, 293
Tyler, Bartlet, 566; George, 527; Joseph, 527
Tyner, Asa, 566
Tyng, Boston, 134; Cato, 293; Cornwell, 134; Primus, 134
Tyorhansera, Little Abraham, 338
U
Uhhanauanwanum, Solomon, 85, 134
Umpaumut, Hendrick, 134
Umph (Vt.), 45, 70
Umph'y (Mass.), 134
Uncas, Martha (wife of John Uncas), 298
Uncas/Unchus, David, 293
Uncas/Unckas/Unkas/Unchous, Benjamin, 293
Uncas/Unckes/Unies/Unius, John, 260, 293, 298
Uncas/Unkar, Noah, 293
Uncas/Unncor/Unkee/Unkus, Abimeleck/Abimelech/Ebunilech/Bimeleck, 293, 299
Uncills/Uncles, William, 134
Underwood, Boston, 56; Cato, 134; David, 148
Unket/Unkett/Unckett, Benjamin, 134
Unkus, Abraham, 293
Uno, Gabriel, 527
Uny, Antoine, 26
Upaub, Dappo, 293
Updike, James, 234; Moses, 234
Updike/Updik/Updick, Caesar/Cesor/Cesar, 234
Upton, Cesar, 134; Juba/Jube, 134; Timothy, 148
Uriah/Variah (Danbury, Conn.), 293
Usesulo, Joseph, 70
Usher, Henry, 148
Usurp, Joseph, 293
V
Valentine, Anthony, 527; Charles, 527; Daniel, 566; Edward, 527; Isham, 527; Luke, 528; Peter, 566; Sam(?), 528
Van Aken, Cato, 338
Van Antwerp, Douw, 321
Van Courtland, Philip (Col.), 317
Van Doorn, Anthony, 234
Van Huff, John, 134
Van Schaick, Garret, 319, 338
Van Steenbergh, Abraham, 148
Vandoosen/Vandooser, Prince, 134
Vandorrum/Vandorom/Vandor/Vandorn/Vandoorn, Plato, 234
Vane, John, 455
Var, Ambrius, 26
Varanque, Jean, 670
Varriah (Conn.), 293
Varnon, James, 134
Varnum, James Mitchell (Gen.), 189, 191
Varnum/Vernon, Cato, 234
Varrell, William, 56
Vaughn, Prince, 234; Reuben (Capt.), 490
Vearzie, Joseph, 148
Velson, Plato, 134
Venable, Robert, 414
Ventrom, Nicholas, 56
Verpson/Nergson, Jno., 293
Vibrige/Ybrige, Domina, 134
Viers, Benjamin, 528
Villard, Daniel, 665, 670
Villatte, J-B, 663
Vincent, John, 47, 70; John (Capt.), 48; Lewis, 47, 293; Olivier, 663
Vinsin/Vincent, John Junr. (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469
Vinson/Venison/Vincent, Lewey/Lewis, 26
Violet, Dick, 293
Virginia, Jeremiah, 293
Vomhavi, Henries, 85, 134
Vorce, Franche, 134
Vose, Jesse, 293; Samuel, 148

W
Wadsworth, Liverpool/Liverpole, 293; Prince, 134
Waggs, Simon, 234
Waggs/Waggo, Elijah, 234
Waggs/Woggs, Samuel, 294
Waginer, Will, 528
Wagoner, Bostian, 414
Wahlee, Mel, 294
Wai, Samuel, 134
Wakaranthrow/Warthonthare, James, 323; James, see also James Powlis, 338
Wakefield, Joseph, 148; Matthew, 148
Walden, Drury, 555, 566, 569; Rob’t, 528
Waldo, London, 26
Waldron, Samuel, 586, 595
Walker, Isaac, 404, 414; John, 148; Mingo, 134; Pomp, 134; Prince/Primus/Prentice, 134
Wallace, Caesar, 134, 234; James (James City Co., Va.), 527; James (private and cook), 528; Joseph, 528; London, 294
Wallace/Wallas/Wallis, Caesar/Seaser, 44, 56
Wallas, London, Jr., 294
Walle, Pomp, 134
Walle, Prince, 294
Walle/Wailies, Prince, 56
Wallington, Cato, 56
Wallis/Wales/Pompy/Pomp, 134
Wallis/Wallace, Noel/Newell, 26
Walton, Jack, 234
Walme, James, 134
Wampee, Isaac, 322; Josh, 294
Wampee/Wamer/Wompee, John, 294
Wampee/Wampey, Samuel, 135
Wampee/Wampey, Isaack, 338
Wampee/Wompey/Wampa/Woompee, John, 135
Wampey, Samuel, 294
Wamphy/Warsmley, Fuller, 234
Wamphy/Wappy/Wharpy/Whappy/Wapeye/Whompy/Wampog, John, 234
Wampy, Samuel, 235; Solomon, 294
Wampy (Conn.), 294
Wamsley, Joseph, 294; Powers, 294
Wamsqua/Wamsquan/Wamzquam/Wormagurn, Solomon, 135
Wamtet, Joseph Marie, 26
Waney/Winer/Wainer, Solomon, 294
Wannehnauweet/Waunichoruweet, Benjamin, 135
Wannutt/Normett/Nornell/Vemott/Vomell, Joseph, 135
Wansuc, Tom/Thomas, 294
Want, Pomp, 135
Wanton, Jeremiah, 235; Prince, 135, 235; Quaco/Quacho, 235; Saul, 235; Solomon, 235; William, 235
Wantucyant, John, 322, 338
Wanute/Vanute, Cha’s/Charles, 338
Wappy, James, 235
Ward, Artemus (Gen.), 79; Cudjo, 135; Jack, 235; Jacob, 135; Jeptha, 135; Nancy, 566; Quorko/Quacco/Quacho, 235; Samuel, 189, 191; William (Lt.), 585
Ward/Word, Cutty, 528
Warden/Wardeen, Jack, 235
Warden/Worden, Cesaro/Sezer, 235
Wardwell, Bristol, 235
Warner, Cato, 56; Cuff, 383
Warner/Warren, Cuff, 414
Warren, Aaron, 148; Mordecai, 135, 338; Peter, 135
Warrups/Warroops/Warrows/Worrups, Tom/Thomas, 294
Warwick, Abraham, 528
Warwick/Warrich, Joseph, 135
Washburn, Salmon, 135
Washington, George (Gen.), 14, 79, 80, 191–92, 256, 313–14, 322, 378, 408, 455, 490, 521, 533; Orgamett, 26
Washunks/Washaucks/Washunks/Wasson/Wawshunks/Woshunks, Abel, 294
Wate, Toby/Jobe, 235
Waterford (brigantine Resistance), 235
Waterman, Amasa, 294; Benjamin, 135; Israel, 135; Silas, 135
Waters, Scipio, 135; York, 463
Watson, Castilio, 528; Edward, 528; Fortune/Forting/Fortin, 235; Gloster, 43, 56; Guy/Gug, 235; Jack/John/Tack, 235; Joab, 235; Pomp, 235; Primus/Primus/Prime, 236; Prince, 236; Spe/Sipeo/Sip/Zip, 294; Thomas, 236, 294
Watts, Charles, 135
Wauby, Roger, 294
Waucett/Waucutt/Wauckett, Samuel, 528
Waucus, Benjamin, 294
Waug, John, 294
Waumankey/Waumangy/Wamonky/Waumohweh, Andrew/Andres, 135
Waunechnauweet, Benjamin, 135
Waapeake/Weapick/Waypick, Isaac, 135
Wauvaunt, Daniel, 135
Wautaukawot/Wautonkauwot, Hendrick, 135
Wautonquat, Timothy, 135
Wautuhynnaut/Wanterhyunn, John, 338
Wauwauquenuanunt/Wauvaump/equennant/Wauwauqaquinnaunt, Daniel, 135
Way, Frederick, 148–49; John, 135
Weab, John, 56
Weaump/Weaump/Weyump, David, 135
Weare, Joseph, 13; Scipio, 135
Weare/Wear/Wear/Wear/Wire, John, 149
Weasel/Wesel/Wessel, Caesar, 236
Weaver, Aaron (Lancaster Co., Va.), 528; Aaron (Princess Anne Co., Va.), 528; Duty, 236; Elijah, 527; Elisha, 528; George, 236; John, 528, 566; Richard, 528
Weax, Richard, 294
Webb, Jephey, 528; John (Mass.), 135; John (Stoneham, Mass.), 135; Primus, 135; Samuel, 566
Webber, Thomas (Charles Co.,
Personal Name Index

Prince, 467
Webster, Prime, 135
Webqush/Websquish/Wepquish, Francis, 135
Webster, Cato, 236
Wedgwood, William, 528
Weeden, Amintus, 236
Weeks, James, 338
Weir, Samuel, 56
Weissenfels, Frederick (Col.), 318
Welapachtischieken/Capt. Johnny/Israel, 629, 634
Welch, Dennis, 149; Henry, 528; James, 149; Prince, 236; Titus, 149; William, 149
Welding, Boston, 135
Welf, Samuel James, 135
Wellington, Pomp, 135
Wellman, Silas, 149
Wells/Welles/Wills, Wenompee, 149
Wells, Jacob, 149; John, 585; Prince (private in Albert Pawling's Regiment New York Militia), 338; Prince (seaman ship Protector), 135
Wells/Welles, Cuff, aka Dr. Cuff/Cuff Saunders, 294
Wells/Welles/Wills, Caesar/Cesar, 236
Welsh, Joseph, 149
Welsh/Welch, James (Charles Town, Md.), 465
Wenaumpeh, Jacob, 135
Wenaumpeh/Wenaumpeh/Wenaumpen, Isaac, 135
Wench, Charles, 135
Wendell, Jacob, 149
Wenompee, Isaac, 338
Wentworth, Samuel, 56
Werk, Charles, 135
West, Alexander, 528; Benoni, 236; Cudjo, 236; Ishmael, 236; James (Seaman), 528; James (Spotsylvania Co., Va.), 528; Nathan, 236; Samuel, 236; Timothy, 236
Westcot, Charles, 236
Weston, Nathan, 56, 149
Wetherbee, Caesar, 136
Wexford, Negro, 585, 595
Weyleycapaland, see also Koshias, 634
Weyman, Joseph, 414
Weyump, David, 135
Whalles, Jack, 294
Whateley, Phllis, 135
Whateley/Whately/Whelley, Prince, 136
Whaten, Caesar/Cesar, 236
Whedon, Daniel, 236
Wheeler, Fortunatus, 136; John, 136; Joseph, 236
Wheeless, Wheeler/Whealor, Plato, 236
Wheeler/Wheelor, Plomer/Plummer, 56
Wheeler/Whelerr, Primus/Prime, 56
Wheelock, Eleazer, 46
Wheelon, Ichabod, 149
Whelen, Boston, 136
Whenuppansuk, Cornelius, 70
Whenuppusek/Whenuppasuk, Cornelius, 136
Whipple, Cuffee, 42, 56; Prince, 42, 44, 56; Simon, 236; William, 42
Whister, Alex, 528
Whistler/Whister, Sawney/Sawny, 528
Whitcombe, Peter, 136
White, Archelaus, 44, 56, 136; Benjamin (Baltimore Town, Md.), 464; Boston, 136; Caesar, 136; Caleb, 553; Forton/Fortin, 294; Francis, 26; George, 595; Henry, 595; James, 44; Levi, 136; Peter, 136; Phyllis, 44; Pliny, 136; Pomp, 56; Reuben, 136; Samuel, 56; Solomon, 338; Sunday, 136; Thomas (Caroline Co., Md.), 465; Toby, 136; William (N.Y.), 338
White Eyes/Grey Eyes/Coquetakeighton, 407, 628–30, 634
White Skin, see also Sughnagearah, 324, 338
Whitcuff/Whitcuff, _brother of Loyalist Benjamin Whitecuff_, 338; _father of Loyalist Benjamin Whitecuff_, 338
Whitemor, Pelatiah, 149
Whitemore/Whitemore/Whittermore/Whitmore, Cuff, aka Cartwright/De Carteret, 136
Whitney/Whitney, Case, 136
Whitmon/Whitman, Prince, 136
Whiting, Prince, 136
Whitmarsh, Samuel, 149
Whitmore, Benjamin, 528; Enoch, 149
Whitney, Robert, 136
Whitson, Chas, 528
Whompeg/Whompig, Samuel, 136
Wicket, Benjamin, 237; Obed/Obadiah, 136
Wicket/Wickett, Obadiah, 237
Wickey, John, 584
Wickham/Wickums, Isaac, 136
Wicks/Wecks, Saul, 237
Wicks/Wecks/Weers/Weeks, Nat/Nathaniel, 237
Wicks/Wikes, Richard (Queen Anne's Co., Md.), 469
Wier, Samuel, 56; Scipio, 136
Wigborn(?), William, 528
Wigeon, Francis, 149
Wigg, Cocker/Cooker, 136
Wigg/Wiggon, Coker/Coko/Cooker, 294
Wiggins, Absalom, 566; Arthur, 555; Cooker, 56; Henry, 566; Matthew, 566
Willbour/Willbour/Willber/Willbor/Willen, Boston, 237
Willbrow/Willbour/Willbrow/Williams, Cato, 294
Wilcox/Willcox, James/John, 237
Wild(e), Philip, 149
Wiley, Primus, 338
Wilkinson/Wikinson, Cudjo, 237
Wilkins, Sambo, 136
Wilkinson, Jacob (Baltimore Town, Md.), 464; John, 566
Will (Leadminer), 528
Will (Navy seaman on the Heart galley), 528
Will (N.J.), 378, 383
Will (Oxford, Mass.), 136
Will ("servant of Capt. Baker"), 595
Willard, Pete, 149; Peter, 136
Willett, Marinus (Col.), 318, 322–23
William, Betsey, 323; James' Son, 338; Prince, 237; Prince, aka Prince Starkweather, 294; Tall, 323, 338; Thomas (Kent Co., Md.), 468
William (Danbury, Conn.), 294
William (Navy Seaman), 528
William (N.Y.), 324
William (N.Y.) (3), 338
Williams, Benoni, 135; Billey, 595; Cato, 342; Daniel (Accomack Co., Va.), 528; Danl. (Washington Co., Md.), 469; Francis, 237; Harry, 294; Hector, 294; Henry, 463; Isaac, 136; John, 136; John (Charles Co., Md.), 467; John (Needham, Mass.), 149; John (Ulster, N.Y.), 149; Mathew (Southampton Co., Va.), 528; Peter, 27, 377, 383; Plato, 136; Pomp/Pompey/Pomp, 136; Prince, 294; Prince (Boston/Sandwich, Mass.), 136; Prince (sloop Providence), 136; Prince (Weston, Mass.), 136; Pump, 338; Stacey, 403, 414; Uriah, 27; Uriah (Berwick, Mass.), 136; Uriah (Middleborough, Mass.), 136
Williams (S.C.), 595
Williamson, Andrew (Capt.), 587
Willington, Pomp, 136
Willis, Jesse, 237
Willis (S.C.), 595
Willms/Williams, John, 149
Wills, London, 136
Willson, David (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469; James (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469; Richard (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469; Robert (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469; Samuel (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469; William (Queen Anne’s Co., Md.), 469

Willson/Wilson, Myrick, 136; Titus, 56

Wilson, Dick, 136; Javan, 294; Kudgo, 237; Thomas (South Susquehannah Hundred, Md.), 466; Titus, 43; William, 628; William (S. Kingstown, R.I.), 237

Wilson/Wilson, David, 454, 463; John, 237

Wiman, Caesar, 136

Wimpsey, Elijah, 260, 294

Wimpuss, Elijah, 294

Wincheboo, Peter, 27

Wind, Thomas, 136

Windsor/Winsor, Cuff, 137

Wingate, Cesar/Caesar, 56

Wingfield, Nephene, 136

Winslow, Jamaica, 136; Peter, 137

Winslow/Windslow, Pero, 237

Winsor, Anthony, 137

Winsor/Winsour, Duty, 137

Winter, Levi, 237

Wire, Robert, 237

Wisco/Wisso/Wissow, Lewis, 56

Wisel, Cezar, 237

Wiseman, James (Charles Co., Md.), 467

Wistcot, Charles, 237

Wiswall, Daniel, 149

Wite, Abijah, 137

Witherel/Witherell/Witherly/Withrel/Withrel, Prince, 137

Withington, James, 149

Witt/Wittes, Scpio, 137

Wnaumpey/Wnaupeek/Wnunpey/Wunaujeepey, Isaac, 137

Wnauphe, Isaac, 70

Wobbin/Wobbon/Woben, John, 137

Wolfe, Fielder, 319

Wollis, Pompey, 137

Womble, John, 566

Wongonet (Penobscot Indian), 27

Wonton, Prince, 137

Wood, 617; Asahel, 137; Caesar/Cesar, 56; Cato (Charlestown, Mass.), 137; Cato (Ipswich, Mass.), 137; Charles (Lancaster Co., Va.), 528; Cuff, 137; Eber/Allis, 137; Jesse/Jessey, 528; Phillip, 528; Scipeo/Sipo, 294; Thomas (deserted from the Dragon), 528; Thomas (Lancaster Co., Va.), 528

Wood/Woods, Primus/Primos, 137

Woodard, Bazel (Anne Arundel Co., Md.), 464

Woodard/Woodward, Topsal/Topsail, 149

Woodard/Woodward, Topsal/Topsail, 137

Woodbury/Woodbery/ Woodbry/ Woodbry, Prince, 137

Wooden, James, 150

Woodman, Dan/Daniel, 44, 56

Woodmore, Cornelius, 338

Woodward, Pompey, 137

Woodyard, Neptune (Back River Upper Hundred, Md.), 464

Woolsy, Isaac, 407, 414, 415

Word, Samuel, 137

Worden, John/Jack, 237

Wornton, Tobias/Bacchus/Backus, 137

Wounkounguta, John, 321, 338

Wout/Woutmy, 338

Wrentham, Prince, 137

Wright, Alpheus, 295; Bossen, 27; Daniel, 295; Freedom, 295

Wright/Write, Cuff, 295

Wyampe, Charles, 295

Wyatt, Nero, 137

Wyax/Wyauge/Wyyaung/Gurdon/Guardin, 295

Wyman, Caesar, 137; Cato, 137

Wymon, Pompey, 137

X

Xavier, Francois, 663

Xaviere, Andrew, 27; Francoise, 27; Frans, 27; Herod Frans, 27

Xerxes, Moses, 56

Y

Yale, Sharp/Sharpe, 295

Yammas, Bristol, 237

Yannakie, Cornelius, 322, 338

Yappion/Yawpon/Youpon, Jason, 295

Yarney, Sambo, 137

Yeaten/Yeaton, Jacob, 150

Yerby, Richard, 528

York, John, 150; Livy/Levi, 137; Sawney, see also Sawney Crosley, 295

York (enslaved man of Thomas Betts), 338

York (Goshen, Conn.), 295

York (Leadminer), 528

York (Md.), 463

York (Pa.), 414

York (servant to Lt. Kolb), 595

York/Yorke, John, 237

Young, Cluff/Cuff, 295; Joseph, 137

Yow/Yaw/Yeah, Oliver, 150

Yukon/Youkon, Timothy, 135

Z

Zach (Barrington, N.H.), 56

Zacko, Joshua, 237

Zado, Congo, 295

Zado/Zada/Fado, Congo, 295

Zeulon (Hampshire Co., Mass.), 137

Zeisberger, David (Rev.), 629

Zibarre, Bristo, 295

Zon/Xone/Zor, Lewis, 137

Zon/Zone, Loui/Lewee/Luie/Loe/Lew, 237

Zumerick/Zumenick (Vt.), 70
“Evacuation of New York by the British, November 25, 1783.”
New York: Issued by the Office of Pictorial War Record, 1883.
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