

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Virginia documents pertaining to William Beatley (Beetley) VAS2441

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 13 July 2017.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Beatley, William.]

These are to Certify that William Beatley Inlisted with me Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 1777 to serve in the Navy, and served the term of three years truly and faithfully and is hereby Discharged. Given under my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 1780.

John Thomas [R100] Capt.

Copy

Protector Galley

Samuel Blackwell is hereby Authorized, and Impow'd to receive my Land Warrant as Witness my hand this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 1783

William Beatley

Test

Hannah Beatley

[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Beetley, William.]

District of Columbia     } to wt

County of Alexandria    }

On this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833 personally appeared before the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, Mary Mason, widow of Josiah Mason, and formerly Mary Beetly, lately of the County of Northumberland State of Virginia now of Alexandria District of Columbia, and in the Sixty eighth year of her age Who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain from the state of Virginia or United States, the Bounty Land due to her in Right of her Brother William Beetly deceased. That the said William Beetly deceased with herself, resided in the house with their Father, in the County of Northumberland State of Virginia, when he enlisted to serve as a Seaman for three years on board The Galley No 1 called the Protector Commanded by Capt'n John Thomas, in the Service of the State of Virginia in the Revolutionary War; that he served on board the said Galley No 1 untill she was burnt [June 1779], after which he was transfered to the Ship Tarter [sic: *Tartar*]. The Tarter being afterwards taken by the British the said Beetly was detained by them as a prisoner for one year[?], and that he served his full term of 3 years & longer. She further declares that the said William Beetly died about Thirty years ago in the Western Country where he had removed, and that he left neither Widow nor Children. That she is the only Sister of the said William Beetly, and the only Heir to the said Beetly now living – that he died poor, and no administration was ever taken upon his Estate having left nothing. And that the name of the said William Beetly is placed on the Rolls of the State of Virginia now in the War Department as she is informed                   Mary herXmark Mason

District of Columbia     } to w

County of Alexandria    }

On this 21 day of November 1833 personally appeared before the Subscriber, Justice of Peace in and for the County aforesaid, James Nightingale, who being first duly sworn according to law, deposes and says. That he was personally and well acquainted with William Beetly deceased, and with his Father & Family – that he well recollects that the said William Beetly was a Seaman on board the Galley no 1 called the Protector, during the Revolutionary War; that he always understood that the said William Beetly had enlisted as a Seaman on board the said Galely, then in the Service of Virginia and Commanded by Capt Thomas, for three years or durg the War, and that the said Beetly actually served more than three years. That he continued on board the said Galley untill she was burned at the North Warehouse Northumberland County, after which he was transferred to the Ship Tarter. Which ship was subsequently captivated by the

British and the said Beetly detained for some time as a prisoner, and after having returned, he entered the land service as this deponent believe. The Deponent further says that his own Father [Mathew Nightingale VAS422] was boatswain on board the said Galley while Beetly continued a Seaman, that he has had frequent opportunities of knowing Beetly and his Family as they were often at his Fathers house in Northumberland County, where they resided. The Deponent further says that Mary Mason formerly Mary Beetly who has subscribed and sworn to the [undeciphered word] declaration is the only Sister of the said Beetly and his only Heir now living, and that the said Beetly died many years ago, leaving neither Widow nor Child.

James hisXmark Nightingale

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session, 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 12th dy of April 1784, in the name of William Beatley as a Seaman for £47.6.1, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Sam'l. Blackwell and was given for services prior to the 1st January, 1782.

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this  
16th day of December 1833./ J E Heath AUDITOR.

[The file contains a similar document signed on 29 Nov 1833 by J. L. Edwards, US Commissioner of Pensions.]

Alexandria Dec'r 13 1833

James E. Heath Esq

Dear Sir Enclosed I now beg leave to hand you an application of Mary Mason for Bounty Land due to her brother William Beetly, for services as a Seaman of board the Galley No 1 during the Revolutionary War. I also enclose the Affidavits of James Nightingale, a respectable man, proving the services of the said Beetly, together with the Affidavits of Charles Pascoe and Joseph Harris [not found], both respectable Citizens of this place, shewing the Credibility of Character of both Mrs Mason & James Nightingale. I also enclose a Certificate from the Pension Office in Washington to Shew, that Wm Beetlys name is on the Rolls of Virginia as a Seaman and that he received his pay. And I must now ask the favour of you to take the necessary steps to obtain the Land for the Old Woman. She is very Poor and is in great Want of it. The proof exhibited in this Case conforms as nearly as possible to the Regulations of the War Department and I trust it will be found sufficient, if it should not however, you will oblige me by giving me information of it I am very Respectfully/ Dear Sir/ your O't S't/ Adam Lynn

Alexandria April 17<sup>th</sup> 1834

Wm H Richardson Esq'r

Sir Your favour of 15<sup>th</sup> Ins[tant] is duly received. Mrs. Mary Masons claim to bounty land was founded on the Services of William Beetly decd, of Northampton County Virginia, of whom she is the only Heir now living, and his Sister – William Beetly was a Seaman on board the Gally No 1, called the protector, under Commd of Capt Thomas, in the service of the State of Virginia during the Revolution, his name stands upon the Virginia Rolls in the War Office Washington, a Certificate of which is amongst the Papers. The Papers relating to this subject were transmitted to Mr Heath, not knowing precisely to whom they should be addressed, in December last, and were immediately laid before the Executive, as Mr Heath inform me. The Old Woman is now very Old and very poor, and this bounty land, if it can be obtained, will be of great service to her I would therefore beg the favour of you if it has not been acted upon, that you will have the subject taken up as early as possible. You will also oblige by giving me information by return mail, when it is probable it may be acted upon, as the old woman is exceedingly anxious upon the subject I am very Respectfully/ Sir yours &c &c/ Adam Lynn

Petition for bounty land.

The H'rs of Wm. Beetley – Seaman S. Navy

This Seaman has received one hundred acres of land for his services, for three years. There is no proof of his title to an additional allowance.

It is not necessary, that I should say more to your Excellency respecting this claim. The evidence proves only – That Wm. Beetley was a Seaman, in the State Navy, and enlisted & served for three years, or more. It does not show him entitled to more land than has been already receiv'd.

Resp'y submitted/ John H Smith Com'r &c

To his Excellency Gov'r Tazewell      April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1834