

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Shadrack Chance VAS2950

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

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

Know all men that I Scarborough Bloxom [W5842] of Norfolk borough [several undeciphered words] Shadrack Chance [undeciphered words] and that he and I served together on board the armed [one or two undeciphered words] the Accomack in the Virginia State navy [several undeciphered words] the said Shadrack Chance was in service at least [several undeciphered words] She sailed from the place where she was built & launched, and he continued to serve aboard the same vessel until she was laid up, just before the close of the war; he and I served on board the said [several undeciphered words] She was in service & [several undeciphered words]. Given under my hand this 2^d of May 1831.

Scarborough Bloxom

The deposition of Washburn Mathews who says that he was well acquainted with Shadrack Chance who enlisted as a quarter master on board of the Accomack, a galley, when the said Gally first went into service & remained in service till the s'd gally was laid up. Washburn Mathews
[24 July 1832]

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#).]

To the Gov. & Council

The heirs of Shadrack Chance pray a reconsideration of their Claim to Land Bounty for said Chance's services as a Quarter Master in the Va State Navy. They file herewith the depositions of two credible witnesses, one of whom was a midshipman on board of the same galley, proving that he was promoted & made a quarter master & served as such. They also file the certificate of the auditor showing that after the war ended, his balance of pay was rec'd as quarter master.

[undeciphered sentence]

Respectfully submitted/ The heirs.

PS/ It appears by the navy records that in 1779 Shadrack Chance was a Seaman, but the galley was not laid up till 1781 as is proved by sundry dep'ns filed in various claims for service on board the Accomack. See also [undeciphered word] affidavits herewith filled on this point. The heirs

The affidavit of Elkaney Andrews [Elkanah Andrews S6507] who served on board the "Accomack" galley in the Revolutionary War, & who being duly sworn says that Shadrack Chance served on board said galley in the capacity of quarter master during all the time the said galley was in service & till she was dismantled & her crew discharged. This affiant says he is confident in the belief that s'd galley went into service early in the Spring of 1777 & was laid up in the winter of 1780 & 81 having been in service more than three years.

Elkaney Andrews hisXmark

[30 July 1832]

I certify that Shadrack Chance served on board the galley Accomack as a quarter master during the whole of the time that I was in service on board said galley as a midshipman, & that I have been allowed bounty land for my services on board said galley as a midshipman for three years.

[18 Oct 1832]

Scarborough Bloxom

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 26 day of April 1785, in the name of Shadrack Chance as a Quarter Master for £113.18.6, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Colo Cropper [John Cropper W3781]

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
17 day of November 1832./ Jas E. Heath AUDITOR.

I certify that I enlisted on board the gally Accomack as a midshipman, for three years, before she was equipped for service, & served till compelled by ill health to leave the gally, which I did, on condition of serving again if required, & that I was well acquainted with Shadrack Chance, who enlisted as a Seaman on board said galley, about the same time, for 3 years, & remained in service when I left, and was afterwards made a Quarter Master, & served some time as such

Scarborough Bloxom
Norfolk Borough
July 5 1833

Scarborough Bloxom

Senate Chamber/ April 3^d 1838

To his Excellency Gov. Campbell. In June 1833 the Executive of Va. allowed the land claim of Shadrack Chance as a Seaman, & as the atty of the heirs I subsequently drew a Warrant for 100 acres of land. The evidence then filed proved that he was a quarter master but either by inadvertence, or because the Gov'r. thought the proof unsatisfactory the claim was only allowed as a seaman. It appears from a list of the officers & men of the Galley Accomack (or Diligence) that in 1779 Shadrack Chance was a Seaman, and it is possible this list governed the Executive in their former allowance. I was not at Richmond at the time of the allowance or I should then have called the attention of the Executive to the case again. It is respectfully submitted that the fact that he was a seaman in 1779 or 1780 is no evidence that he was not thereafter a quarter master. The galley in which he served was dismantled & laid up, & its officers discharged in May 1781. The Auditors certificate herewith enclosed [above] must certainly be regarded as conclusive in regard to Chance's grade when he left the service, & this proof corresponds with that filed in 1833. In behalf of the heirs I respectfully ask a reconsideration of the case, & an allowance of the claim as a quarter master, deducting from the allowance due a quarter master, the 100 acres which his heirs have heretofore received.

The case of Martin Norris [VAS428] Lieut. is a case in point as to principle. Martin Norris's heirs were allowed about 1831 the quantity of land due for his services as Serjeant, & 200 acres of land issued to his heirs. Subsequently & about 1832 or 1833 I asked a reconsideration of the case & produced the certificate of the Auditor like that now presented shewing that Norris rec'd the balance of his pay as Lieutenant, & the Gov'r allowed the claim as Lieut; on this certificate deducting the 200 acres his heirs had before received. Many other similar cases might be cited, but it seems to be a clear principle & upon which no further argument is deemed necessary.

Respectfully submitted V Ellis Atty for the heirs of S. Chance