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Gloucestershire Militia Men in 1797

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GLOUCESTERSHIRE MILITIA MEN IN 1797

A LIST of balloted men for the Militia in the Hundreds of Britwells Barrow and Bradley in Gloucestershire in 1797 has a special interest at the present time when so many Gloucestershire men are serving in the Great War for the Freedom of Europe. It recalls in some measure the Return of 1608 of 'all the able and sufficient men in body fitt for his Ma'ties service in the warrs within the City of Gloucester . . . and the Hundreds of Dudstone and Barton Regis', compiled by that great Antiquary John Smyth of North Nibley in 1608, and printed from the original in the possession of Lord Sherborne in 1902.

We are able to print the list by the kindness of our Member the Rev. Ponsonby Sullivan, who has presented the Return to the Records Committee of the Gloucestershire County Council for safe keeping. It gives the names of 82 men from the following places:—

Aldsworth (1)	Fairford (3)	Prestbury (1)
Arle (1)	Farmington (1)	Quennington (1)
Avening (1)	Frog Mill (1)	Rendcombe (1)
Bisley (1)	Guiting (1)	Rodborough (1)
Chalford (2)	Kempsford (6)	Southrop (1)
Cirencester (25)	Lechlade (3)	Stow (1)
Cold Aston (3)	Littleworth (1)	Stratton (1)
Coln St. Aldwyn (2)	Minchinhampton (5)	Stroud (1)
Duntsborne Rouse (1)	Minsterwood (1), <i>sic</i>	Whittington (1)
Eastleach Martin (4)	Northleach (1)	Winson (1)
Eastleach Turville (4)	Notgrove (3)	Withington (1)

The ages of the men chosen are from 18 to 49. The chief occupations shown are labourers (52), cloth trade (12)

and cordwainers (6). The particulars given are the place of residence, trade, age, height, appearance, and whether the man serves for himself or another, and for what place balloted.

The Return is signed by Samuel Rudder, the compiler, and the printer of the History of Gloucestershire published in 1779. He describes his office in the matter of the ballot as 'Subdivision Clerk' for the Hundred. It is dated January 14th 1797. The heading is as follows :

County of Gloucester

A List of the Names of balloted Men and Substitutes sworn and enrolled to serve in the supplementary Militia for the Hundreds of Britwells Barrow and Bradley in the County of Gloucester pursuant to an Act lately passed intituled 'An Act for providing an Augmentation to the Militia to be trained and exercised in the manner therein directed and for enabling his Majesty to cause the same to be embodied in case of necessity for the defence of these Kingdoms together with a description of their persons &c. and the Parishes Tythings and Places for which they respectively serve.

FOR THE HUNDRED

Names of Persons sworn to serve	Of what Place	Trade	Age
Henry Hawkins	Cirencester	Hemp Dresser	19 yrs.
Richard Fletcher	Aldsworth	Labourer	30 yrs.
Charles Cooke	Cirencester	Cloth Dresser	20 yrs.
Thomas Bellerton	same Place	Labourer	39 yrs.
John Smith	Chalford	Labourer	18 yrs.
James Bruton	Minchinhampton	Weaver	27 yrs.
Thomas Bartlett	Cirencester	Labourer	18 yrs.
George Casey	Minchinhampton	Narrow Weaver	20 yrs.
James Debank	Coln St. Aldwins	Labourer	22 yrs.
Thos. Newman	Quenington	Labourer	20 yrs.
William Payne	Cirencester	Weaver	49 yrs.
Samuel Dunn	same Place	Edge-tool Maker	37 yrs.
George Pagett	Cirencester	Labourer	23 yrs.
Edward Debank	Coln St. Aldwins	Labourer	19 yrs.
Willm. Porter	Eastleach Martin	Labourer	40 yrs.
William Kite	same Place	Labourer	20 yrs.
Thos. Cotterell	same Place	do.	19 yrs.
William Wood	Cirencester	Tailor	32 yrs.
Edward Stewart	same Place	Sawyer	35 yrs.
Charles Atkins	same Place	Labourer	38 yrs.
John Winstone	same Place	do.	20 yrs.

OF BRITWELL'S BARROW

Height ft. in.		For whom serving	For what place balloted
5 6	rather thin made dark Hair & un- married	Thomas West	Aldsworth
5 5	stout made fresh colour brown Hair a married man—no child	For himself	Aldsworth
5 4	dark Hair & Com- plexion	William Hewer	Barnsley
5 3	stout made—a Wife & 5 Children	Giles Collett	Bibury
5 5	stout made & dark Hair	Thomas Burge	same Place
5 7	stout made dark- brown Hair	William Averis	Ablington
5 7	fair Complexion & dark Hair	Thos. Franklin	Arlington
5 9	light Hair & un- married	William Hall Jun.	Arlington
5 9	fresh Complexion & dark Hair	For himself	Coln St. Aldwins
5 4	Has a Hare Lip	Jerh. Selby	same Place
5 6	fair Complexion and unmarried	John Cox	same Place
5 6	thinly made & dark Hair	John Baylis	Hatherop
5 7	rather stout grown	Thos. Musto	same Place
5 9	fair Complexion brown Hair	John Boyce	same Place
5 11	stout made black Hair	Robt. Greenhalf	Eastlech Martin
5 10	dark Hair	For himself	same Place
5 5	fair Complexion & light brown Hair	Joseph Prater	same Place
5 7		William Monk	Leachlade
5 10½	dark Complexion & pitted with the small Pox	George George	same Place
5 6¾	dark Complexion	Robert Saunders	same Place
6 0	fair Complexion & thin made	Edwd. Edwards	same Place

Names of Persons sworn to serve	Of what Place	Trade	Age
William Stout	Leachlade	do.	
Danl. Young	Cirencester	Cordwainer	39 yrs.
John Turner	same Place	Cordwainer	19 yrs.
James Simpson	Fairford	Cordwainer	21 yrs.
Robert Witts	Cirencester	Labourer	40 yrs.
Joseph Winstone	same Place	Cordwainer	27 yrs.
William Giles	Fairford	Labr.	38 yrs.
William Crew	Cirencester	Labr.	23 yrs.
Edward Clack	same Place	do.	30 yrs.
Willm. Walton	Rodborough	Cloth Dresor	23 yrs.
Richard Ayres	Cirencester	Weaver	32 yrs.
John Bartlett	Kempsford	Labourer	23 yrs.
Thos. Young	Bisley	do.	20 yrs.
George Blackwell	Dunsborne Rouse	Mason	20 yrs.
Richd. Legg	Kempsford	Labr.	44 yrs.
Thos. Hitchings	same place	do.	19 yrs.
Wm. Stanley	same place	do.	24 yrs.
Edwd. Hayward	Kempsford	Labourer	27 yrs.
Wm. Ritchens	same place	do.	23 yrs.
Robert Gibbons	Eastleach Turville	do.	18 yrs.
Abel Kibble	same place	do.	20 yrs.
William Lawford	same Place	do.	19 yrs.
Thos. Wilkins	Eastleach Turville	do.	26 yrs.
Joseph Cooper	Cirencester	Cordwainer	20 yrs.
Thos. Collins	Southrope	Labourer	36 yrs.

Height ft. in.		For whom serving	For what place balloted
		For himself	same Place
5 7	dark Complexion	William Giles	Leachlade
5 6½	dark Eyes & Hair	Richard Godwin	same Place
5 6		Thomas Bosbury	Fairford
5 5	dark Complexion	Robert Maisey	same place
5 10½		Thomas Harvey	same place
5 10	stout made & brown Hair	For himself	same place
5 6	stout made fair Compln. brown Hair	Charles Bishop	same place
5 9	dark Complexion & Hair lately in ye Rutlandshire Fencibles	James Panting	same place
5 4½	dark Hair	James Barrett	same place
5 4	a remarkable red Mark on his left Hand	John Packer	same place
5 9	stout made	Richard Fletcher	same place
5 7	fair Complexion brown Hair	John Ivin	Quenington
5 9		Joshua Carby Rad- way	same place
5 10		For himself	Kempsford
5 7	well grown dark Hair	Philip Couling	same place
5 8	stout made	Thomas Hewer	same place
5 5	stout made	For himself	Kempsford
5 4	stout made fair Comp.	Thomas Shillam	same place
5 6	thin made fair Com- plexion	John Newport	Eastleach Turville
5 7	dark Hair & Com- plexn.	Thos, Eldridge	same place
5 6	brown Hair fresh Complexion	For himself	same place
5 6	stout made fair Complexn.	William Incell	Southrope
5 3	fair Compln. black Hair	Thomas Sparrow	same place
5 8	thinly made & dark Hair	Henry Scriven	same place

FOR THE HUNDRED

Names of Persons sworn to serve	Of what Place	Trade	Age
Richd. Packer	Aston Blank	Labourer	23 yrs.
Benjn. Cherington	Eastleach Turville	do.	19 yrs.
Willm. Holtham	Aston Blank	do.	21 yrs.
Chs. Banning	Notgrove	Tailor	19 yrs.
William Bradley	Leachlade	Labourer	20 yrs.
John Simpson	Farmington	Cordwr.	40 yrs.
John Townsend	Stow	Baker	21 yrs.
John Peacy	Chalford	Weaver	18 yrs.
Danl. Moss	Cirencester	Labourer	45 yrs.
Thos. Rose	Avening	Serge Weaver	18 yrs.
John Haines	Cirencester	Labourer	21 yrs.
William Townsend	same place	do.	19 yrs.
Saml. Clift	Minclinchampton	Scribler	18 yrs.
Stephen Close	same place	Weaver	19 yrs.
John Moss	Cirencester	Labourer	18 yrs.
Philip Carloss	Northleach	This Man since the	
Anthony Roberts	Minsterwood	Labr.	22 yrs.
Thos. Williams	Notgrove	do.	24 yrs.
William Jefferson	Cold Aston	Labourer	22 yrs.
Abraham Telling	Fairford	Mason	35 yrs.
Chs. Holland	Withington	Labr.	24 yrs.
Richd. Shipway	Minchin Hampton	Cordwainer	24 yrs.
John Chew	Stroud	Weaver	33 yrs.

OF BRADLEY

Height ft. in.		For whom serving	For what place balloted
5 3	fair Complexion & light brown Hair	For himself	Aston Blank
5 4	pale Compln. brown Hair	Stepn. Hanks	same place
5 6	stout made dark Hair	For himself	same place
5 6	thinly made	Joseph Miles	Coln Rogers
5 5	fair Complexion	John Hantyman	Compton Abdale
5 7	pitted with ye Small Pox	Philip Woodman	same place
5 6	dark Complexion black Hair	Jas. Harding	Farmington
5 4		John Moss	Dowdeswell
5 6		William Hanks	same place
5 4	pale Complexion	Josh. Hewer	Eastington
5 8½	thinly grown light Hair	Jerh. Saunders	Hazleton
5 5	fair Complexion	Josh. Midwinter	Northleach
5 4	pale Compn. light brown Hair	William Collier	same place
5 4	fair Complexion & brown Hair	John D' Coodere	same place
5 3½	slightly marked with ye Small Pox light Hair	John Bee	same place
return was made to the Depy. Lieutenant & Justices has been put in the Fleet Prison for Debt			
5 6	fair Complexion & light brown Hair	For himself	same Place
5 7	stout made & black Hair	For himself	Notgrove
5 5	dark Compln. black Hair	Thos. Barnfield	Salperton
5 6	dark brown Hair, pale Complexion	Edward Day	same place
5 8	thinly made light brown Hair	For himself	Withington
5 9		Thomas Williams	same place
5 6	fair Complexion light brown Hair	Richard Kersy	same place

Names of Persons sworn to serve	Of what Place	Trade	Age
Thos. Stephens	Littleworth	Cloth Scribler	36 yrs.
Thos. Baylis	Leachlade	Labourer	30 yrs.
Richd. Coomb Senr.	Upper Guiting	do.	23 yrs.
Calvin Evans	Cirencester	do.	20 yrs.
Henry Mills	Presbury	do.	19 yrs.
John Poulton	Arle	do.	44 yrs.
Richard Baker	Notgrove	do.	20 yrs.
Henry Hinton	Cirencester	Carpenter	23 yrs.
Barthm. Nott	Frog Mill	Chaise Diver	
Thos. Day	Winson	Labourer	40 yrs.
Hy. Laurence	Whittington	do.	28 yrs.
Stepn. Price	Rendcombe	do.	20 yrs.
Jno. Chappel	Stratton	Labourer	30 yrs.

January 14th 1797. I do hereby certify the foregoing to be a correct List.

SAML. RUDDER, Subdivision Clerk.

Height ft. in.		For whom serving	For what place balloted
5 6½	fair Complexion dark Hair	George Sells	same place
5 7	fair Compn. light Hair	Timothy Stollard	same place
5 5	fair Compn. brown Hair	For himself	Sevenhampton
5 7	fair Complexion	William Hopkins	same place
		Thomas Denley	same place
5 10		John Rogers	Turk Dean
5 8		Thomas Taylor	same place
5 3		Samuel Williams	Sipton
		For himself	Sipton
5 3	dark Hair	For himself	Winson
5 7	dark Hair	For himself	Whittington
5 5	thin made fair Compln.	Robert Mifflin	same place
5 7		George Harding	Yanworth