

NAME: BERENS, Samuel

PARISH: Berens River+

ENTERED SERVICE: July 1856

DATES: ca. 1829 - 1899

(A.32/21, fo. 329 & 331)

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*	Position	Post	District	HBCA Reference
<i>*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May</i>				
1856, 24 July	Signed contract as labourer	at Norway House*		B.239/u/2, #107
1858, 2 August	Signed contract as middleman	at Norway House		"
1861, 13 April	Signed contract as middleman	at Lower Fort Garry		"
1864, 11 June	Signed contract as bowsman	at Fort Simpson		"
1866, 28 July	Signed contract as bowsman	at Portage La Loche		"
1868, 10 July	Signed contract as steersman	at Salt River		"
1870, 20 June-1889, 31 May	Signed contracts as steersman	at Fort Simpson		B.239/u/3, #129/186
1891, 31 May-1897, 31 May	Signed contracts as general servant	at Ft.Simpson		B.239/u/3, #186; D.38/56, #75
1898, 1 Sept.	Contract cancelled & listed as freeman in accounts			D.33/4
1899, Jan.	Died at Edmonton			<i>The Beaver</i> , June 1942, p. 31

+George Pendleton, in an article on his son, the famous river pilot Johnny Berens, says that Samuel was born at Lower Fort Garry ca. 1829. He was first employed by the Company at the Lower Fort as a dog driver. (*The Beaver*, June 1942, p. 31)

*Contract of 24 July 1856 is annotated: "It is agreed that if Samuel Berens dislike passing the second or last Year of this Engagement at Berens River he will be allowed to go to another part. Geo. Barnston." (A.32/21, fo. 329)

J. McDougall's Inspection Report on Fort Simpson post, 1892, describes Samuel Berens as: "General Servant, 54 [sic] years of age, 31 years service, widower, no children resident with him, wages \$155.75. Had been an excellent Servant, but beginning to be unable for hard work. Proposed for retirement on 1st June next." (B.200/e/23, fo. 14)

