

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

Virginia Rejected Claim of John Dudley VAS1068
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#):]

[12 July 1835]

To his excellency Littleton W. Tazwell [sic: Tazewell] Governor of the State of Virginia

The memorial of Judith Dudley, James Wood, Ann Wood and Sarah Wood orphans of John Wood and Ann his wife who was Ann Dudley the three last being minors under the age of twenty one years by the said Judith their next friend sheweth that John Dudley who was uncle to the said Judith and Ann Dudley inlisted in the Virginia Navy during the Revolutionary your memorialist does not pretend to recollect the time he inlisted or term he inlisted or the ship or Vessel on board which he served as from length of time her health and mind has become much impaired but she is certain that he did inlist and served his tour of inlistment she belives that he inlisted in the year 1776 or 1777 for three years she has no recollection of the time he was discharged but she is confident that he did not desert or she never heard him charged with desertion it is impossible for her to designate any Vessel or commander whom he served as most of the Virginia Navy at times was in the waters of the Mobjack Bay on the shores of which the said John Dudley previous to his inlistment to the time of his death she does not recollect the year of his death which took place in the county of Mathews where your memorialist Judith Dudley and the infants she befriends now reside, most of the said Navy inlisted men in the county of Mathews then Kingston Parish in the County of Gloucester but there is not a survivor of them known by your memorialist to be a live she therefore submits her case and pray that your excellency will allow her and her said nephew and neices the land to which the said John Dudley was intitled as bounty in his life time in consideration of his services as aforesaid they being his only heirs &c

Judith Dudley for herself
James Wood }
Ann Wood } Infants
Sarah Wood }

Report on the claim of the heirs of John Dudley, a Seaman, in the State Navy for bounty land for his services –

To the Governor/ Sir,

John Dudley was a Seaman, on board the *Dragon*, in 1779 – He belonged to the *Dragon*, when she was commanded by Capt. Callender, and also when she was commanded by Capt. [James] Markham. Capt. Callender took command of her in Oct. 1777 – & Capt Markham, in June 1779 – (see Navy Journals of those dates.)

The Papers of the ship *Dragon*, in Vol 1st of Navy Papers, shew that John Dudley was a Seaman, on board that vessel. The Books of the *Dragon* are in the possession of David Henderson [pension application S5506] esqr. of Fredericksburg. I have seen, & have a copy of, “a list of officers & Seamen of the State Navy, belonging to the Ship *Dragon* – Captain Eleazer Callender” taken from the said Books. John Dudley’s name is on this list.

The claimants have stated, on oath that they believe the said John Dudley enlisted in the State Navy for 3 years &c.

I have no additional facts to report.

Respectfully submitted/ John H Smith Com[missione]r &c/ August 24th 1835