

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant information relating to Presley Neal VAS367

[vsl 5VA](#)

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/7/13 sup'd 1/8/13

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

Virginia Fauquier County: SS

I hereby Certified to his Excellency the Governor of Virginia that James Green of this County this day personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in the County aforesaid and made oath in due form of law that he was very well acquainted with Presley Neal of Westmoreland County Virginia before the War of the Revolution that said Neal lived near the birthplace of General Washington and that he said Neal served in the Virginia State Navy three years or upwards as a Midshipman during the Revolution. Said Green further stated that he was himself a Midshipmen in the State Navy during the Revolutionary war and has a personal knowledge of said Neal and his services in the Navy as stated above. He further states that the said Midshipman Presley Neal is dead, & that the Reverend John Neal of this County is his son.

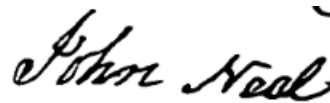
Given under my hand this 8th day of February 1838

S/ Wm Horner [William Horner]

To the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Your Memorialists asks leave to represent to Your Excellency that his father Presley Neal served in the Navy of the State of Virginia as a Midshipman the greater part of the War of our Revolution and died in the month of January 1815. He never received the bounty in land due him for his Services from the State nor has, or did he transfer his right to the same during his life. I am now his only representative & heir and respectfully asked of Your Excellency to allow to me the bounty in land which was due him for his Services as a Midshipmen in the War of the Revolution and as in duty bound I will ever pray.

S/ John Neal



[attested in Fauquier County January 30th, 1838]

1779 October 7th A Return of Sugar and Coffee to be drawn for the Officers on Board the *Dragon*

[Name]	Rank	Coffee	Sugar	?	
James Markham ¹	Capt	4	12	6	

¹ [James Markham R72](#)

Joshua Singleton ²	Lieut.	4	12		
Lieut. Fields [probably Theophilus Field] ³	---	4	12		
Jno Swoope [John Swope] ⁴	Doct. [doctor]	4	12		
John Moor [John Moore] ⁵	Mast [Master]	4	12		
Edwin Eskridge	Mid ^s [Midshipman]	2	10		
Fras. Webb [Francis Webb] ⁶	Do	2	10		
Joshua McWilliams ⁷	Do	2	10		
Iverson Nuttall	Do	2	10		for Augt. & Sept.
Thos. Daissen [?] ⁸	Do	2	20		
Hawson Kennen ⁹	Do	2	10		
Presley Neal	Do	2	10		
Joseph Saunders ¹⁰	M. Mate [master's mate]	2	10		

S/ Joshua Singleton

S/ Jas. Barron

Rec'd 7th October 1779 of William Armistead the above 48 pounds coffee & 200 pounds Sugar for which I am to account & pay for

S/ Thomas Mitchell

the foregoing is truly extracted from a paper filed in the first Volume of papers concerning the State Navy

Given under my hand at the Auditors office Richmond this 12 day of February 1838

S/ Jas. E. Heath, Aud.

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

The Petition of Thomas Rice, Lucy Rice, Elias Edwards & Sophia his wife, who was Sophia Rice, humbly & respectfully represent, that they are the only heirs at law of Presley Neil a Midshipmen in the State Navy during the Revolutionary War, and that they are advised that they are entitled to bounty land & commutation pay for the Services of said Presley, as reported by John H Smith Esquire the Commonwealth's agent in his list No. 5 – Page 7 – to which they beg leave to refer. They earnestly solicit that an order for the bounty land aforesaid & commutation pay may be granted them & they are in duty bound will ever pray &c.

Lancaster County

² [Joshua Singleton S7510](#)

³ [Theophilus Field R60](#)

⁴ [John Swope \(Swoope\) R98](#)

⁵ FPA R78

⁶ [Francis Webb R105](#)

⁷ FPA R75

⁸ 

⁹ This man's first name is variously spelled Houson, Housen, Hawson, Henson, Howson

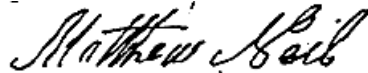
¹⁰ [Joseph Saunders S17073](#)

2nd of April 1834

S/ Thomas Rice
S/ Lucy Rice
S/ Elias Edwards
S/ Sophia Edwards

To his Excellency L. W. Tazewell Governor of Virginia, your memorialists Matthew Neil, heir of Presley Neil would set forth that during the War of the revolution his father Presley Neil served in the Virginia state Navy in the War of the Revolution as a midshipman, your memorialists is not in possession of any evidence to prove his services of his father, but he has frequently heard his mother say that he enlisted on board a Galley in the Great Wiccomico [Wicomico], but your memorialists would refer to the agent of the state Mister Smith for record evidence. He is the only heir of Presley Neil he hopes the record evidence will be sufficient to enable your Excellency to allow him land bounty for 3 years on account of the services of his father & he will ever pray &c.

S/ Matthew Neil



Northumberland County Virginia May 22nd 1835

Petition for bounty land

Heir of Presley Neal Midshipman S. Navy

The pay rolls of the ship Dragon show that in August September & October 1779 (the only time for which there are pay rolls of this vessel which have been preserved in the public offices of this government) Presley Neil was Midshipman on board that vessel. David Henderson Esquire of Fredericksburg has the books & papers of the Dragon in his possession. He was midshipman & clerk in the last mentioned character got possession of those books & papers. I doubt not but they will throw light on this claim & many others.

Governed by the principles which have [indecipherable words] me in reporting on this class of claims (which have been already more than once made known to your Excellency) I have in printed list [image of this document is cut off at the bottom thereof at this point – I will not speculate as to the words which partially appear on the line at which the paper is cut]