

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to John Sharpless VAS4414
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

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

To the Executive of Virginia

The undersigned who is the only heir at law of John Sharpless, formerly a Surgeon of the Va State Navy in the war of the Revolution, respectfully represents that said John Sharpless was appointed a Surgeon of the navy June 12th 1776, and died in service Dec 21st 1779, then Surgeon of the Ship Tartar.

For this service his heirs have rec'd 600 acres. But by the uniform decision of the Executive, officers who died in the service are considered as entitled to Land Bounty to the End of the War. There is therefore due to said Sharpless an additional quantity of land for one year and five months, and one third – he having served that period over 6 years.

Your petitioner therefore prays an allowance of bounty from June 12th 1776 to the end of the War, subject to a deduction of the 600 acres already rec'd

A copy of original documents on file in the Executive Department, shewing the time of Dr. Sharpless's death, and the period of his death, is herewith filed. Resp'lly &c
Jany 1 1847 Mary C. Ward

I do certify that Doctor Sharpless is chosen a surgeon on board the Liberty, agreeable to order of the committee of safety. Richard Taylor/ June 12, 1776.

A copy/ J. Shackelford C.B.A.

This is to certify that John Sharpless, late a surgeon of the ship Tartar, died on the 1 day of Dec'r 1779 & that he was at that time surgeon of said ship. Given under my hand this 19 of May 1780.

Wm Sanders [William Sanders]

A copy J. Shackelford C.B.A.

15th March '50

Advice. By the act of Nov'r 1781 all the staff officers of the Navy were dismissed. This officer can therefore have no claim to additional bounty.

In May 1782 the Navy was re-organized and many of the officers put into active service It appears to me this claim is certainly just and it is therefore allowed to the end of the war from 12th June 1776 deducting any land which may have been heretofore allowed J B Floyd [Gov. John B. Floyd]/ 14th Sept 1850