

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to George Summerson VAS4639  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

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

To his Excellency Lyttleton Waller Tazewell, Governor of Virginia  
The memorial of George Summerson & Kitty Rose respectfully represents, that they together with James Long, Francis Long, and William Long, are the only children and grandchildren, & heirs at law of the late George Summerson who was as your memorialists have heard and believe, a seaman in the va state navy in the revolutionary war. Your memorialists are natives & residents of Caroline county and James Long also resides in Caroline county, and Francis & William Long reside in the State of Kentucky. The said George Summerson resided in Caroline as your memorialists have always heard at the time he enlisted in the service, and died in the same county. In what vessel or under what officers he served, or how long he served, or how such service ceased, your memorialists are unable to say, as they were both infants, when their father died. They further state that they have never received a warrant for the land bounty due for their father's services, nor do they believe he received it before his death. All which is respectfully submitted.

George hisXmark Summerson    [signed] Kitty Rose

[31 March 1835]

Report upon the claim of the heirs of George Summerson, seaman of the State Navy, for bounty land for his services.

To the Governor            Sir, no proof has been fil'd by the Petitioners. George Summerson was a Seaman, of the State Navy, and belong'd to the Lewis Galley. on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August 1778, sundry orders were made by the navy Board, for the delivery of Articles, out of the public Store, to George Summerson for the use of the Lewis Galley, and for himself. (see Navy Journal, page 454.)

I have no proof of the time when George Summerson enter'd the service; nor of the precise time when he left it. But, I have reported his claim as good, for a service of three years, in doc. No 38 p. 17. Journal of the H. of Delegates 1833-4. I have, at this time, no recollection of any facts other than those above stated, having a bearing upon the claim; and probably reported it good, on the presumption that George Summerson enlisted for a term of three years & serv'd accordingly. This presumption was founded on the well known facts, that there were few or no enlistments in the navy (even before the act of october 1776 – Hen'gs Statutes vol. 9 page 796) for a shorter term, than three years; and upon the other well known fact, that there were very few desertions from the State navy.

An order of the Board of War was made, on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 1779 that the Lewis Galley (and other vessels) should be immediately dismantled, and "that their men, with such of their stores as may be necessary, be consign'd to the use of the other arm'd vessels", &c &c (see minutes of the B'd of War page 3. Vol. 1<sup>st</sup> Army Papers.)            Respectfully submitted/ John H Smith Com'r &c/ April 27<sup>th</sup> 1835