The petition of Nicholas P. Buchan of the County of Lancaster, Virginia, humbly represents, that he is the only heir of Spencer Hinton decd who was a Seaman in the State Navy in the time of the Revolutionary war & that he is entitled to bounty land for the services of the said Spencer Hinton as aforesaid & respectfully asks that the Executive of Virginia will immediately grant him an order to receive the same. For evidence of the just claim of the said Spencer he refers to list No 5 page 13 of John H. Smith Esqr. the agent for the Commonwealth. [signed] Nicholas P. Buchan

Petition for bounty land.
The Heir of Spencer Hinton Seaman S. Navy
I have reported Spencer Hinton, a Seaman, entitled to bounty land, for a service of three years. (see printed list No 5.)
I do not know that I can now refer to the evidence on which I then acted.
He was regularly enroll’d as a Seaman.
He was in the ship Gloster [Gloucester] in July 1779.
He enlisted for three years. There is no reason to believe he deserted, or otherwise left the navy, before the expiration of his term of service. the Books & records of the Navy have been lost, or destroyed, by the public officers to whom they were entrusted, & cannot now be resorted to to prove the service of Seamen. Witnesses have died – and other circumstances combine, to raise a presumption in favour of this claim, and all of the same class. Resp’ly submitted/ John H Smith Com[missioner] &c
To his Excellency Gov. Tazewell May 19th 1834