

# Defiance

Corvette  
Rhode Island Privateer Schooner

Commander Elijah Payne  
16 July 1776-

Commissioned/First Date: 16 July 1776  
Out of Service/Cause:

Owners: John Innis Clarke

Tonnage: 50

Battery: Date Reported: 16 July 1776  
Number/Caliber Weight Broadside  
4/3-pounder 12 pounds 6 pounds  
Total: 4 cannon/12 pounds  
Broadside: 2 cannon/6 pounds  
Swivels: eight

Crew: 16 July 1776: 54 [total]

Description:

Officers: (1) First Lieutenant James Bull [Ball], 16 July 1776-; (2) Second Lieutenant Barzaleel Smith, 16 July 1776-; (3) Master William Tallman, 16 July 1776-

Cruises:

Prizes:

Actions:

Comments: Rhode Island Privateer Schooner *Defiance* was commissioned on 16 July 1776 under Commander Elijah Payne. She was described as a 50-ton schooner, armed with four 3-pounders and eight swivels, and having a crew of fifty men. Serving aboard as officers were First Lieutenant James Bull [Ball], Second Lieutenant Barzaleel Smith, and Master William Tallman.<sup>1</sup> Her owner was listed as John Innis Clarke.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> NDAR, V, 1097 and note

<sup>2</sup> Sheffield, *An Address Delivered by William P. Sheffield before the Rhode Island Historical Society*, 59