

Dispatch

Corvette
Maryland Privateer Sloop

(1) Commander Clement Harrison
18 December 1778-
(2) Commander John Frazier
30 March 1779-
(3) Commander Thomas Walker
21 June 1779-

Commissioned/First Date:
Out of Service/Cause:

18 December 1778

Owners:

(1) Henry Hooper, Joseph Dowson, and John Johnson, all of Annapolis, Maryland; (2) John Johnson and Joseph Dowson & Co., of Annapolis, Maryland; (3) John Johnson and Joseph Dowson of Annapolis, Maryland; (4) Joseph Dowson & Co. of Annapolis, Maryland

Tonnage:

30, 40

Battery:

Date Reported: 18 December 1778
Number/Caliber Weight Broadside

Total:
Broadside:
Swivels: four

Date Reported: 21 June 1779
Number/Caliber Weight Broadside

Total:
Broadside:
Swivels: [no guns]

Date Reported: 29 February 1780
Number/Caliber Weight Broadside

Total:
Broadside:
Swivels: four

Crew:

(1) 18 December 1778: 7 [total]
(2) 30 March 1779: 7 [total]
(3) 21 June 1779: 8 [total]
(4) 29 February 1780: 7 [total]

Description:

Officers:

Cruises:

Prizes:

Actions:

Comments: The 40-ton Maryland Privateer Sloop *Dispatch* was commissioned on 18 December 1778 under Commander Clement Harrison,¹ possibly of Baltimore, Maryland.² She was listed as having a battery of four swivel guns³ and a crew of six men.⁴ Her owners are given as Henry Hooper, Joseph Dawson and John Johnson.⁵ *Dispatch*'s \$ 5000 bond was signed by Harrison and by Joseph Dowson of Annapolis, Maryland.⁶

Dispatch was re-commissioned on 30 March 1779 under Commander John Frazier,⁷ possibly of Dorchester County, Maryland.⁸ Her battery was listed as "110" guns,⁹ an impossible number, but her crew remained at six men.¹⁰ She was said to measure 40 tons. Her owners are given as John Johnson and Joseph Dowson & Co. of Annapolis.¹¹ The new \$ 5000 bond was executed by Frazier and Dowson.¹²

The sloop was re-commissioned again, on 21 June 1779, under Commander Thomas Walker,¹³ possibly of Annapolis. Her crew was now listed as seven men,¹⁴ but she was said to have no guns. She was said to measure 40 tons. Her owners are given as John Johnson and Joseph Dowson of Annapolis.¹⁵ Walker and Dowson signed the \$ 5000 bond.¹⁶

Dispatch was commissioned, again under Walker, on 29 February 1780. Her battery was listed as four swivel guns and her crew as six men. She was said to measure 30 tons. Her owners are given as Joseph Dowson & Co. of Annapolis.¹⁷ Walker and Dowson again executed the \$ 5000 bond.¹⁸

¹ *Archives of Maryland: Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, April 1, 1778 through October 26, 1779*, 21:268

² NRAR, 270

³ *Archives of Maryland: Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, April 1, 1778 through October 26, 1779*, 21:268

⁴ NRAR, 270

⁵ *Archives of Maryland: Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, April 1, 1778 through October 26, 1779*, 21:268

⁶ NRAR, 270

⁷ *Archives of Maryland: Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, April 1, 1778 through October 26, 1779*, 21:332

⁸ NRAR, 270

⁹ *Archives of Maryland: Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, April 1, 1778 through October 26, 1779*, 21:332

¹⁰ NRAR, 270

¹¹ *Archives of Maryland: Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, April 1, 1778 through October 26, 1779*, 21:332

¹² NRAR, 270

¹³ *Archives of Maryland: Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, April 1, 1778 through October 26, 1779*, 21:460

¹⁴ NRAR, 270

¹⁵ *Archives of Maryland: Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, April 1, 1778 through October 26, 1779*, 21:460

¹⁶ NRAR, 270

¹⁷ *Archives of Maryland: Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, 1779-1780*, 43:99

¹⁸ NRAR, 270