



George Roberts and His Travels Veteran Of The War of 1812

George Roberts was born in Baltimore, MD in 1766, his early life wasn't much detailed but when he was 46 he chose to serve Captain Richard Moon's as a privateer on Sarah Ann in 1812. As a privateer, George was a private person whose job was to engage in maritime warfare under war of commission. Sailing overseas was a helpful way for colored men(free or enslaved) to get away from bondage and prejudices of land. Men came from all over the world practicing different religions and representing different ethnicities, even though a colored free man it would be a novelty in Baltimore but at sea he would be a sailor and enjoy his freedom that doesn't exist while he is on land.

George and the rest of the crew members of Sarah Ann successfully captured a British merchant boat which was bringing coffee and sugar from the Caribbean to Canada once they left Baltimore. Then George and five other crew members were accused of being British and they were captured by HMS Statira and was taken to Jamaica in irons and were returned to the British naval fleet, Then, Caption Moon vouched for George because he knew that was a free American with paper to prove it and family back in Baltimore. Captain Moon's actions were successful because George and the other prisoners were released.

For the next two years George and the other crew made their way back to Baltimore, in July 1814 he was signed as a gunner under Captain Thomas Boyd which was called "Pride of Baltimore". They bravely sailed over east to the British isles and spent 10 months the British vessels and sinking them. In April 1815 Chasseur and the crew made their way back to Baltimore after the war, even though they had no role in the Battle of Baltimore. The Chasseur crew including George Roberts had participated in the battle of Baltimore events at Fort McHenry for many years. Then later after George died on January 14, 1861 it was published in the local newspapers and celebrated him as a local veteran.



<https://maryland1812.com/2011/06/01/george-roberts-privateersman-on-the-brig-chasseur/#:~:text=In%20the%20fall%20of%201812,Bahamas%20on%20September%2013%2C%201812>

<https://www.nps.gov/people/george-roberts.htm>

Maggie Mohammed

Fort McHenry War of 1812