

his bounty on boarding the Royal Naval vessels which plied the Lancashire coast that year, the remaining two-thirds being paid when he left the navy. Totally unsuitable men were sent back from the vessel to their home area.

In 1795, the quota of bounty men required for Lancashire was 599 and 585 (99.3%) were actually enrolled. The Port Act was also passed that year which meant that the number of men the ports had to raise was increased. From Liverpool, for instance, the Royal Navy required 1700 men, from Lancaster 170 men whilst Preston and Poulton-le-Fylde each provided 17 men. The actual raising of the numbers appears to have taken place in 1796.

The success rate that different townships had in raising their quota varied greatly. Rural Lonsdale, for North and South, achieved their quotas in contrast to, for example, more industrialized Blackburn whose quota was unfulfilled. In 1796, Lancashire townships were only able to provide 78% of their quota and so, in 1797, some reverted to impressments and the imposition of ad hoc bounties.

No man with a legitimate family was allowed to sign up. A typical naval seaman was 22-24 years old and had gone to sea at about 15/16 years old. In contrast, the Lancashire quota men were 24 years old on average, the oldest man (outside the official age limit!) was James Gordon aged 48.

The records of the naval quota men for local Lancashire townships, referred to here, are at the Lancashire Record Office. References QVD/10/7 [Chipping, Clayton-le-Dale and Dutton]: QDV/26/5/19 [Ramsgreave and Thornley with Wheatley]: QDV/26/5 [Foulridge, Chipping, Clayton-le-Dale and Church]

Details of the Formal Engagement of the Chipping Quota Man, John Rawsthorn are below.

We, James Whalley and Bertie Markland, two of the Justices of the Peace in and for this County, do hereby certify, That John Rawsthorn hath voluntarily entered himself in the Service of His Majesty's Navy for the Townships of Chipping, Clayton-le-Dale and Dutton and that his Description is as under-written:

Fair complexion, dark brown Eyes, five foot three inches and a quarter in height.
Number: **7**
Name: **John Rawsthorn**
Place of Lawful Settlement: **Livesey**
Age: **17**
Calling: **Weaver**

And we do hereby certify That the sum of Eighteen pounds and Eighteen Shillings hath been agreed to be paid as a Bounty to the said John Rawsthorn on his entering into such Service. And we do hereby direct, That the sum of six guineas, part thereof, shall be paid to the said John Rawsthorne at the time of his inrollment. And we do further certify, That we have ordered the Overseers of the said Townships of Chipping, Clayton-le-Dale and Dutton to pay into the hands of Richard Johnson, the Treasurer of the said County of Lancashire, within the space of Fourteen days from the Date hereof, the sum of Fourteen (crossed out and replaced by Twelve) guineas being the residue of the said Bounty to be applied as the Act in such Case directs. Given under our hands and seals in the Year of our Lord 1796.

**J. Whalley
B. Markland.**

As the War progressed, posters advertising for Volunteers were replaced by posters seeking the whereabouts of Deserters!