

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant of Rawleigh Downman BLWt1917-300                      GA VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 Dec 2014.

State of Virginia            }  
Southampton County } S.S.

I Robert L Downman of Southampton County Virginia a son of Robert P. Downman dec'd who was a son of William Downman a brother of the late Lieutenant Colonel Rawleigh Downman of Dinwiddie County, State of Virginia, do upon oath testify and declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the said Rawleigh Downman was a Lieutenant Colonel in the late Revolutionary War. he served as a Captain in the Georgia Line and being deranged commanded certain Virginia Troops on Continental establishment to the end of the War and I do further declare that I have never received nor do I believe there ever had been received any warrant from the United States for the quantity of Land due the said deceased nor do I believe the said Downman transferred his right to any person during his life time. Therefore Know all men by these presents that I Robert L. Downman one of the heirs at Law of the late Rawleigh Downman do hereby constitute and appoint John Metcalf of Fredericksburg Virginia my true and lawful Attorney for me and in my name to demand and recover from the Secretary of War of the United States for the time being a warrant for the quantity of Land due in right of the deceased – and to ask for and demand and secure any Lands that may be due the said deceased from the State of Georgia and all pay or commutation of pay or any other claim due to the said deceased from the said United States. And my said Attorney I do hereby fully authorise and empower to constitute and appoint one or more substitutes or Attornies under him to act with like powers for the special purpose herein expressed and the same to revoke at will–

In Witness whereof I have herewith set my hand and seal this thirtieth day of November 1832.  
[signed] Robert L Downman

State of Virginia  
Corporation of Fredericksburg To wit–

Personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for the Corporation aforesaid Joshua Long and John Layton both credible and disinterested persons who being duly sworn did depose and say, that they verily believed that Lieut. Colo. Rawleigh Downman named in the within declaration signed by Robert L Downman served in the Georgia and Virginia line during the Revolutionary war as in said declaration set forth, that they have understood and believe he died about thirty one years since viz in or about the — day of — 1801 at — within the County of Dinwiddie without issue and leaving a widow who also died without issue. that he left a brother named William and two sisters Elizabeth & Mildred. That William Downman had three children Viz Robert P. Downman of Sussex County Virginia who died leaving a widow & nine children, Viz John W, Robert L, Henry M, Lucy A, Gustavus A, Sally C, & Rawleigh P [next two interlined] Martha J and Eliza A and two Daughters Agness and Elizabeth. Agness now Agness Blunt is alive in Sussex County – Elizabeth is dead but has left two sons William D Hood and John R Hood both living in Sussex County Virg'a Mildred Downman married a certain Thos Ball of Lancaster Cty where she had the following children Viz't

Geo Ball of Gloucester County Virg'a now dead left 4 Children W. T Ball, Porteus Ball & — & — Edw'd P Ball now living in Campbell County Kentucky  
Elizabeth P. Ball dec'd of Northumberland County Virginia left the following children viz't Ann P Bailey Louisa McAdam Juliet Beane Albert Ball and two grand children (by two daughters now now dead) Harriet Ball & Sarah Garland  
Nancy Ball of Campbell County Kentucky who married a Mr Damron & both now dead & left the following heirs Mary & Edward of Campbell County Kentucky Josep & Louisa of Clermont

County Ohio

Mildred Ball of Gloucester County Virg'a now dead had two husbands – Mr Hall & a Mr Brumly – had the following child viz't Mary Hall who married Samuel D Pullin and he is the only heir of s'd Mildred Mary T Ball who married a Hall dead left Mary, George, Maria J and Sarah C Hall

Elizabeth Downman the other sister married Stokely Towles by whom she had the following heirs Porteus Towles of Lancaster County Virg'a now dead left 5 children viz't William, Mary, James, Porteus, & Oliver

William P. Towles living in Howard County Missouri

Elizabeth M Hughs ditto ditto

Mildred Ellis Spotsylvania County Virginia

Ann Threlkeld ditto ditto

Thomas Towles dec'd of Spots'a Cty Va left Thomas Robert Francis Catharine & Julian

Rawleigh Downman Towles Woodford County Kentucky

and these the above named persons are all the heirs known or believed to be now living –

Given under my hand and seal this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December 1832 Tho. Goodwin Mayor

[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Belle Isle Aug'st 31 1830

Dear Sir, In answer to your letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst. I say that Rawleigh Downman entered the revolutionary army early in the war, & continued until the peace where he commanded I know not, but believe, he left the army a colonel, he afterwards married a widow Dentinack[?] of Dumfries, removed to Dinwiddie and died childless, his Widow married a Mr. Mieu[?] of Dinwiddie, & afterwards died childless. Doc. Robert Downman of Dinwiddie a very gentlemanly, & intilgent man one of the sons of Colo. Downman's brother Wm, can probably give you better information than I can. Colo. D. had two sisters one say Mildred married a Mr. Ball & was mother of George Ball, commonly known as lawyer Geo. Ball, he has left a family in Gloucester, the other Elizabeth married Stockley Towles, formerly of your County, late of this some of the family are probably living in Spotsylvania now, & there are some grand children near this. Mrs. James Young & Mr. Philip Harrison of your town may probably answer your interrogatories. Yrs. Respect'ly/ R. W. Downman

To the Governor and Council of the State of Virginia

The petition of Rawleigh Downman Towles one of the heirs at law of the late Rawleigh P Downman (who was a Lt Colo. in the Virginia line during the revolution on continental establishment and who served to the end of the war) respectfully prays that the claim in virtue of his services may be speedily considered and that your honorable body be pleased to award an order on the Register of your Land office at Richmond to issue a land warrant or land warrants for the usual quantities of bounty land promised to the said Rawleigh P Downman by the various laws of your states and your petitioner for himself and the other heirs of the said Downman, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

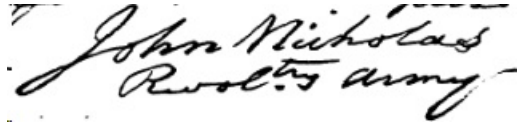
Rawleigh Downman Towles/ For Self & the other Heirs of Rawleigh P. Downman/ March 14, 1833

I Benjamin Alsop [pension application S9269] of the county of Spotsylvania State of Virginia, aged near seventy five years, do hereby certify, that I knew Rawleigh P. Downman during the Revolutionary War & that he was a field officer, either Major or Colonel. I do not distinctly recollect which & attached to the Virginia line, in the northern army, to the best of my recollection, during the years 76 & 77 as I left that army in the year 78. I recollect Mr Downman as a field Officer the more distinctly, from the circumstance of his riding on parades, a Dun colored horse with a black mane & tail.

Given under my hand & seal this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 1832.

*Benjamin Alsop*

I John Nicholas [S46397], an Officer in the Revolutionary Army certify that I knew Lt. Col Raleigh Downman well – In 1780 a corps was organized by the Assembly of Virginia for the relief of S. Carolina, the Field Officers of which were taken out of the Va line. Col. Downman & myself were appointed Lt. Cols by the Assembly of Va & served together in the Southern Army – From the foregoing circumstances I always considered & believed the said Downman to have been a regular officer in the Virginia line anterior to that period, & heard that he served afterwards to the end of the war, but of this fact have no personal knowledge.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Nicholas" on the top line and "Revoluty Army" on the bottom line. The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

NOTE: The claim for bounty land from Virginia was probably rejected because such land was granted only to those who served in the Continental Line.