

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Bounty Land Warrant of Samuel Colston BLWt2294-300 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[The first document below refers to the reorganization of Virginia Continental Regiments at White Plains NY on 14 Sep 1778, which was necessitated by heavy losses. In this new "arrangement" older officers were retained, while younger ones were retired as supernumerary (not having troops to command). The complete, original document is at <http://www.fold3.com/image/#9946998>. File numbers of pension and bounty-land applications are shown in brackets.]

Extract from a paper headed, "Arrangement of the several Reg'ts. in the first Virginia Brigade commanded by Brigd'r. Gen'l. [William] Woodford, 14th Sept'r. 1778, and contained in a volume of the Washington Papers marked, "Arrangements of Officers, &c. Vol. 7. Virg'a."

 "2^d Virg'a. Reg't.

Christian Febiger Colo. ...

 Supernumerarys

Alexander Rose [BLWt1863-300]	}	Cpts. retiring thro' choice upon the
Nath'l Fox [Nathaniel Fox S39535]	}	provision of Congress – all good men, &
Peter Garland [BLWt524-300]	}	have fill'd their posts with Cr. [credit] to
Richard Apperson [BLWt386-300]	}	themselves.
Benj'n Hoomes [Benjamin Hoomes BLWt977-300]	}	
Samuel Cobbs [BLWt355-200]	}	Lieuts. retiring upon the same principle, &
Rich'd Taylor [Richard Taylor]	}	recommended as above, except John Bell of the 6 th . Reg't.
James Barnett [W391]	}	whose character is too exceptionable to deserve a
Wm Hudson [William Hudson]	}	recommendation.
Austin Sandridge [BLWt2295-200]	}	
John Bell [X943]	}	

[The complete original of the following is at <http://www.fold3.com/image/#9946999>.]

 3^d Virginia Reg't

Wm. Heth [William Heth] Colo. ...

 Supernumerarys ...

Capt. Colston. 5th Reg't. ...

 Wm. Woodford Brigd'r. Gen'l.

White Plains }

15th Dec'r. 1778 }

[Among [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) are many papers relating to claims for bounty land by the heirs of Samuel Colston. The claim was apparently rejected because it was thought Colston had not served the minimum of three years. The following items are the most informative regarding his service.]

Department of State

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

I Certify. That the [two] papers hereunto annexed contain true extracts from "The Washington Papers," which are among the archives of this Department.

In Testimony whereof, I Daniel Webster Secretary of State of the United States, have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the seal of the Department of State to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this twenty fifth day of June A.D. 1841 and of the Independence of the United States the sixty fifth.

Daniel Webster

[The complete original of the following is at <http://www.fold3.com/image/#9649842>.]

A Return of Officers, with their Rank, date of Comm[ission]s, and time of vacancies in the 5th Virg'a. Regiment Commanded by Colo. Josiah Parker. Aug'st. 13th 1777.

Officers	Names	Date of Commissions	Time of vacancies
Capt	Thomas Gaskins	Feb'y 26 1776	
Capt	Wm. Mosby [William Mosby]		Decr 17 th 1776
1 st Lieuts	Sam'l Colston ^{Capt}	Feb'y 26 1776	

I do hereby certify that the within list is a true state of the Officers of the 5th V. Batt[alion] August 13th 1777.

J. Parker/ Colo.

Please to issue the commissions for the fifth Virginia Regiment agreeable to the within return.

Nath'l Greene M.G. [Nathanael Greene, Major General]

To His Excellency/ General Washington.

[The following is a different extract from the same document in the federal file found at <http://www.fold3.com/image/#9946999>.]

Arrangement of the several Reg'ts in the first Virginia Brigade commanded by Brigad'r. Gen'l. Woodford. 14th Sepr 1777.

3rd Virginia Reg't.

Com. Heth Col'l.

Supernumerary

Capt. Davis 3^d Reg't as a sub. no man could be more industrious, give greater application, or shew more anxiety to do his duty as a brave officer now left out as Jun'r.

Capt. Colston. 5th. Reg't.

Wm. Woodford/ Brigd'r Gen'l.

White Plains/ 15th Decr. 1778.

I [George Eskridge S8428] do hereby certify that I was intimately acquainted with Samuel Colston, who resided partly in Northumberland and partly in Richmond counties Virginia – that he entered the army in the year seventeen hundred and seventy five as a Lieutenant in Burgess Ball's [BLWt252-500] company – a short time after which he was promoted and served as Captain until late in the year seventeen hundred and seventy eight when he left the army and went to France. I have no hesitation in saying that Capt Colston served in the army at least three years and was always looked upon as a brave officer and a popular man. I served as an ensign in the army at the same time. Given under my hand and seal at Winchester in the County of Frederick State of Virginia this 29th day of August 1837

[signed] Geo. Eskridge

Captains who are Prisoners, Youngest in Commissions, and left out.

Notes. Amongst many others the following names appear.

Reuben Brisco [Reuben Briscoe BLWt81-300]	3	Jan'y 13 '77	Intends Resigning
John MtJoy [John Mountjoy S36175]	10		do do
Nath'l G Morris [Nathaniel G Morris S36178]	9	Feb'y 10 "	
Joseph Hull	15		
Sam'l Colston	5	21 Feb'y "	Prisoners
John Spotswood [VAS452]	10	25 do "	

I hereby certify that the above Caption, and the name of Reuben Brisco and the 5 following with dates &c &c are correctly copied from a Book called Colonel Gambles Book, which is bound up in the 2nd Vol of papers concerning the Army of the Revolution.

Given under my hand at the Auditors Office Richmond this 13th day of December 1837

Jas. E. Heath aud

Berkeley County Sct'

At the request of Col H Northup I Edwd Colston a justice of the peace for said county do certify in addition to a former deposition given by me upon the subject, that my late father Rawleyh Colston [Raleigh Colston], was appointed by the state of Virginia a commercial agent and proceeded in his employment to the island of Curacao, then a neutral island, where he received consignments from the state, and purchased arms clothing &c for the state; that he was residing there in that capacity when his brother Samuel Colston a captain in the army visited him & died; but [illegible word] the relation to the circumstances attending that visit the subscriber is not acquainted. Given under my hand this 3^d day of Novr 1845[?]

Edwd Colston

NOTE: On 12 Jan 1842 Alexander and Carolianna McGrew of Cincinnati OH assigned power of attorney to obtain bounty land from the US government for the services of their great uncle, Capt. Samuel Colston, deceased. The following was filed in connection with the application:

In Henrico County Court October 3^d 1842

This Court doth certify upon satisfactory evidence adduced before it, that Samuel Colston late a Captain in the revolutionary army died about the year 1778 or 1779 intestate and without lawful issue, leaving his eldest Brother William Colston his only heir at Law. That the said William Colston died in the year 1780 having made a will duly executed and recorded, and leaving three children namely, William Traverse Colston, Elizabeth L. Colston and Susan Colston his only heirs at law and residuary Legatees and devisees under the Will aforesaid that the said William Traverse Colston died many years ago in the County of Frederick in Virginia leaving four children, namely, William, Armistead, Lucy S. who intermarried with Dr. Joshua H. Thomas, and Susan P. N. Colston now the wife of Jefferson Jennings his only heirs at law, all of whom are now living; William & Armistead Colston in Virginia; and the said Lucy S. and Susan P. N. in the State of Kentucky. That the said Elizabeth L. Colston intermarried with Dr. Benjamin H. Hall and died many years ago in Kentucky leaving three children namely William E. Hall, Caroline C. Hall now the wife of Alexander McGrew and Lucy Hall her only heirs at Law. That the said Wm. E. Hall and Lucy Hall have since died intestate and without issue leaving the said Caroline C. their sole heir at law. And that the said Susan Colston daughter of said Wm. Colston intermarried with a Gentleman named Turner who is since dead; So that the said Wm. Colston, Armistead Colston, Lucy S. Thomas, and Susan P. N. Colston children of William Traverse Colston and William E. Hall, Caroline C. Hall and Lucy Hall children of Elizabeth L. Colston, and Susan Turner daughter of William Colston are the only heirs at law of the aforesaid Captain Samuel Colston now living.