

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Ralph Falkner BLWt514-400

Margaret Bromley¹ f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/25/12

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

Power of attorney dated February 5, 1808 executed by Margaret Bromley, formerly Margaret Falkner, of the County of Chesterfield Virginia whereby she empowers her attorney to prosecute a claim for the 400 acres of land due her former husband, Ralph Falkner, for his service in the Army of the United States during the revolution under the command of Colonel Febiger.

It appears by the Books of this Office that he Certificate issued on the heat to June 1783 in the name of Ralph Falkner for £167.19.3 being the balance of his full pay as a Major in the State line on Continental establishment.

Audr's Office
20 January 1808

S/ S. Shepard

From a Register in my possession it appears that by an arrangement on the 14th of September 1778 at White-Plains State of New York; – At which a Committee of Congress attended for the purpose of adjusting the Rank of the Officers proportioned to that of the soldiers remaining – That Ralph Falkner was entitled to the grade of a Lieutenant Colonel in the Virginia Continental line, but being the youngest of that grade – was by a rule adopted Compelled to retire as a Supernumerary Officer – Given under my hand this 22nd January 1808

S/ Ro. Gamble – late
a Captain in the 8th Virginia Continental Regiment

1808

a Captain in 8th Va Continental Regt

I do hereby Certify that the foregoing are copies of original vouchers upon which a bounty of

¹ Former Widow

Land was allowed Ralph Falkner – and that they are now filed in the office of the executive.
February 12th, 1808 S/ Ro.l P. Guerrant, AbC [?]

Ralph Falkner is entitled to the proportion of land allowed a Major in the Continental line for his services during the War
Council Chamber
January 23rd, 1808

S/ Saml. Coleman

S/ Wm H. Cabell

[f p. 6: copy of the last will and testament of Ralph Falkner in which she appoints Robert Bolling, Richard Gregory and his wife Margaret Falkner, all of the Borough of Petersburg [Virginia], as executors of his estate and by which she devises all of his property to his wife for her to dispose of as she sees fit. The will was probated in Petersburg on Wednesday April 4th, 1787.]

Being requested to say what I recollect of Ralph Faulkner [sic] a late revolutionary Officer in the American Army – I certify to the best of my recollection Mr. Faulkner rank as Major – I have no recollection of ever to have heard Mr. Faulkner charged with anything unbecoming the gentleman or man of honor given under my hand this 24th April 1810

S/ M. Clay [Matthew Clay, then Congressman from Virginia]

Dinwiddie County May 6, 1809

I do certify that agreeable to an arrangement of Officers at the White Plains in the year 1778 that the late Colonel Ralph Falkner was deemed as a supernumerary officer, & notwithstanding which arrangement I ever deemed the said Ralph Falkner an officer to the end of the Revolution – In witness my hand & seal the day & year above

S/ John Crawford²



The Town of Petersburg to wit

This day Colonel John Crawford appeared before me and Alderman of the said Town & made oath to the truth of the forgoing certificate. 6 May 1809

S/ William Bowden

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I was well acquainted with the late Ralph Falkner Esquire formerly of the Virginia line on Continental establishment. I recollect that he became a Supernumerary at the Arrangement of the Army in September 1778, but was at some loss respecting his rank when deranged, while I had recourse to an old memorandum book of Colonel Gamble's who served in the same Regiment with me, and on whose accuracy I ever had the most perfect reliance. I have no doubt

² FPA S8256

on my mind, that he retired at the time above mentioned, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.
Given under my hand at Richmond this 23rd day of January 1808

S/ James Wood, formerly Brigadier General Continental Army

23rd day of January 1808.
James Wood, formerly Brigadier General Continental Army
Attest: J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of the War Department

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Addendum to Ralph Falkner BLWt514-400

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 29 Nov 2019.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Faulkner, Ralph. Some documents in the file are not legible enough for transcription.]

To The Governor of Virginia

The Petition of Wm. Clarke, (President of the Board of Trustees of the Faulkne School [Faulkner's School for the education of poor and orphan children, founded in 1814 by the will of Margaret Faulkner in Chesterfield County VA]) on behalf of the [undeciphered word] & heirs of Ralph Faulkner, respectfully states he was a Captain of the 5th Va Cont. Reg't. 5 March 1776, was afterwards promoted to a majority and retired as a supernumerary 1778, with the rank of Lt. Col. and so remained to end of the war. He was allowed Bounty for 3 years.

Yr petitioner prays to be allowed the additional Bounty from 5 March 1776 to the end of the war.
respectfully submitted by their atto Thos. Green

It satisfactorily appears in this case that Major Faulkner entered the service as early as 5 Mch 1776 and the claim was originally allowed for the war This would make a service of seven years & eight months But as the claim has been heretofore allowed for the war the Governor does not feel himself authorised to make an additional allowance March 26 1840. DC [Gov. David Campbell]/ Special ord. iss'd.