Virginia documents pertaining to John Townes VAS2167
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia:]

I do hereby certify that Lieut John Townes served three years in the continental service and is entitled to the bounty of Land allowed of of his rank given under my hand this 23rd Nov’r [1783]

[Daniel Morgan] Brigadier General

Reed of Thos. Meriwether a Certificate for Lt. Towne’s land
[signed] Wm M Mechery

[The following are from rejected claims in the Library of Virginia:]

The Memorial of Henry B Westbay and Martha his wife only daughter and heir of Capt Lieut John Townes of the Virginia Continental line to the Executive of Virginia.
Your Memorialist respectfully represents to the Executive of Virginia that the father of the said Martha Wesbay formerly Townes was commissioned a Lieut 1 July 1777 as will more fully appear by reference to the proceedings of the board of officers which reorganized the Virginia Continental line at Chesterfield Feb’y 10 1781 by order of Major Genl Baron Steuben [Baron von Steuben], that it appears from the said proceedings that Captain Lieutenant Townes was an officer in the Virginia Continental regiment old establishment afterwards transferred to the 6th Regt under the command of Col John Green and that the evidence now filed with the petition to Congress for the commutation pay of Capt Lieutenant John Townes [not found] will prove services to the end of the war These facts as stated by your Memorialists they believe to be true. They therefore request the Executive of Virginia upon proper proof being presented to him of the services of the said Capt Lieut John Townes to the end of the war to direct the Register of the Land office of Virginia to issue to us or our attorney in fact John P Dulal a warrant for the additional land bounty due the heirs of Capt Lieut John Townes for services three years as a Capt Lieut for services to the end of the war as Capt Lieutenant signed [illegible]

Jefferson County }
State of Kentucky } Personally appeared before me G. J. Johnston a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid Henry B Westbay and Martha his wife subscribers to the foregoing memorial to the Executive of Virginia and made oath that they believed the facts stated in the said memorial. Signed this 22d day of November 1834

Report upon the Petition of the heirs of Capt. Lieut. John Townes, of the Continental line.

To Governor Tazewell

Sir There is no evidence fil’d with the Papers.

It appears, that Lieut. John Townes of the Continental line received, November 28th 1783, 2666½ acres of land, for a service of three years.

It appears also that Lieut. John Townes receiv’d himself Dec’r 16th 1785 £435.15.6 the bal. of his full pay, pursuant to an act of assembly pass’d Nov’r Session 1781 (see Army Register of the Continental line.) This payment was made for a service from Jan’y 1st 1777 as Ensign & Lieutenant to Dec’r 31st 1781 (for Settlement of of Continental officers accounts by State Auditors – on file in 1st Auditors Office.)

It appears also that a Lieut. John Townes of the Continental line was cashiered. I refer to the Chesterfield arrangement of February 1781 of the 6th Regiment in which is the following entry – to wit – “Lieut. John Townes, formerly of the 7th [several words missing from online image] July 1st 1777.
Cashier’d”
appears not to be entitled to bounty land.

Respectfully submitted/ John H Smith Com’r &c
April 9th 1835