Southern Campaign, American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to William B. Bunting VAS2774
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

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

24th CONGRESS [Rep. No. 598] HO. OF REPS.
1st Session.
WILLIAM B. BUNTING.
[To accompany bill H. R. No. 582.]
APRIL 21, 1836.

MR. CRAIG, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims, made the following
REPORT:

The Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to which was referred the petition of the heirs of William B.
Bunting, have made the same under their consideration, and report:

That the petitioners represent that William B. Bunting, their ancestor, was an ensign in the ninth
Virginia regiment of the army of the revolution on continental establishment, and that he died while
engaged as such officer, in that service; and pray Congress to allow them the seven years’ half pay
promised by the resolution of the 24th of August, 1780, to the widows and orphan children of those
officers who had died, or should thereafter die, in that service.

In support of the claim the following evidence has been adduced:

1st. The affidavit of Samuel Waples [W6427], which states that the affiant was a lieutenant in the
Virginia continental line, in the revolutionary war; that William B. Bunting was commissioned as an
ensign in Captain John Cropper’s company of the ninth Virginia regiment in the latter part of 1775, or first
of 1776; that said Bunting marched with the said regiment to the north in December, 1776, and died at the
hospital, in Philadelphia, 1777, or 1778, as he was informed by the soldiers then in the hospital, and of
which fact he has not the slightest doubt.

2dly. The certificate of John Cropper, jun. [W3781] formerly lieutenant colonel commandant of
the eleventh Virginia regiment, (this certificate is extracted from the records of the Executive Department
of Virginia,) which exhibits a list of the names of sundry officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, who
served in the army of the United States to the end of the revolutionary war, in which list is found the name
of “Ensign William B Bunting,” with this remark connected, “no warrant—died in the army.”

And 3dly. An extract from the records of the same department of the State of Virginia which,
together with the extract above referred to, is certified by William H. Richardson, the Secretary of that
Commonwealth.

This latter extract extract exhibits a list of names, among which “Ensign Wm. B. Bunting’s R.”
(the letter R evidently stands for representatives) at the bottom of which list is this remark, “allowed June
15th, 1807.”

The committee are satisfied that the latter list of names was intended to designate those whose
right to bounty land from Virginia had been favorably passed on.

In addition to the foregoing evidence, the committee, in reply to a call for information in regard to
the case, have received a letter from the Third Auditor, by which it appears that William B. Bunting was
appointed a lieutenant in the Virginia line on the 31st of August, 1776, and that he died on the 1st of
April, 1777, and that there is nothing on the files of this office going to show that the widow of William
B. Bunting, or any other person, ever received the seven years’ pay due on account of his death in the
service. The committee, therefore, think the evidence fully established the facts, that William B. Bunting
was first an ensign, and afterwards a lieutenant in the continental line of the army of the revolution, and
that he died in the service whilst he was a lieutenant. And as nothing appears to raise the presumption that
the seven years’ half pay, due in such cases, has been paid, the committee report a bill in favor of William
Core, Edward Core, and Margaret Core, who are, by the circuit superior court of law and chancery for the county of Accomack, in the State of Virginia, certified to be the grandchildren and only heirs of the said William B. Bunting.

To his Excellency D. Campbell Governor &c of Virginia

The petition of William Core, Margaret Cor & Edward Core, grandchildren & heirs of Wm B Bunting, first an Ensign & afterwards a Lieutenant of the Virginia Continental line in the Revolutionary War.

Your petitioners represent that their Grandfather was appointed an Ensign in the 9th Va. Regiment in December 1775 & a Lieutenant in the same Regiment in August 1776 & died in service in 1777 or 1778. These facts are fully proved by the Report of the Com’ee of Congress to whom was referred their petition for 7 years half pay, herewith filed. Congress paid the 7 years half pay, & as the attorney of the present petitioners I rec’d it for their last year. The report of the Com’ee herewith filed being regarded as containing a full statement of the facts on which your petitioners base their claim for additional Land bounty under the rules & principles acted upon by the Executive of Va for years past, they have only to add that in June 1807 the Executive of Va. Allowed their mother (daughter of said W. B. Bunting) 2666½ acres of Land for the War & they now claim for additional services beyond 6 years, towit from 1st January 1776 to 3rd November 1783, a period of 1 year & 10 months over 6 years. All which is respectfully submitted. Vespasian Ellis

Aug 27 1839 for the petitioners