[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.]


“2\(^{d}\) Virg’a. Reg’t.
Christian Febiger Colo. …
Supernumerarys
Alexander Rose [BLWt1863-300] } Capts. retiring thro’ choice upon the provision of Congress – all good men, &
Nath’l Fox [Nathaniel Fox S39535] } have fill’d their posts with Cr. [credit] to
Peter Garland [BLWt524-300] } themselves.
Richard Apperson [BLWt386-300] } recommended as above, except John Bell of the 6\(^{th}\). Reg’t.
Benj’n Hoomes [Benjamin Hoomes BLWt977-300] } whose character is too exceptionable to deserve a recommendation.
Samuel Cobbs [BLWt355-200] } Lieuts. retiring upon the same principle, &
Rich’d Taylor [Richard Taylor] }
James Barnett [W391] }
Wm Hudson [William Hudson] } 
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. 5\(^{th}\) Reg’t. …
Wm. Woodford Brig’dr. Gen’l.
White Plains }
15\(^{th}\) 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.]


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Date of Commissions</th>
<th>Time of vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capts</td>
<td>Thomas Gaskins</td>
<td>Feby 26 1776</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capts</td>
<td>Wm. Mosby [William Mosby]</td>
<td>Feby 26 1776</td>
<td>Decr 17th 1776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Lieuts</td>
<td>Sam’l Colston Capt</td>
<td>Feby 26 1776</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Septr 1777.

3rd Virginia Reg’t.

Com. Heth Col’l.

Supernumerary

Capt. Davis 3rd 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 Jany 13 ‘77 Intends Resigning
John MtJoy [John Mountjoy S36175] 10 do do
Joseph Hull 15
Sam’l Colston 5 21 Feby “ 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  Sc’t

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 3d 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 3d 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
devises 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.