Pension Application of Walter Brooke R14  VA Sea Service  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 18 Dec 2017.

[The federal pension file contains copies of the following documents from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.]


H. S. Handy Atty

District of Columbia } Ss.
Washington County  

On this twenty fourth day of November in the year Eighteen hundred and thirty, personally appeared Commodore James Barron [pension application W12264] of the United States Navy, before me, the subscriber a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, and being duly sworn says that he was acquainted with Commodore Walter Brooke of the State Navy of Virginia, during the Revolutionary War; that he was on board the Vessels of Commodore Brooke’s Squadron frequently and saw his broad pendant flying: – That Commodore Brooke was the senior officer during a part of the Revolution, and of course, Senior to his father Commodore James Barron [VAS1949], who succeeded to the Command of Commodore Brooke, when he was commissioned as Commodore and Commander in chief of the State Navy of Virginia. And further saith not:

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above mentioned.

N. B. Van Zandt/ Justice of the Peace

NOTES:

On 16 Oct 1830 in Washington DC Anna Maria Graeff, daughter of Walter Brooke, stated that she had seen his commission as Commodore. On 12 Apr 1831 also in Washington another daughter, Mary C. Rooker, stated that she had long possessed the commission of her father as Commodore and Commander in chief of the State Navy of Virginia.  

The History of Virginia’s Navy of the Revolution by Robert Armistead Stewart (1934) states that Walter Brooke was the son of Maj. Walter Brooke of Chickamun, Charles County MD, that in Aug 1776 he was Captain of the sloop Liberty (formerly the Hornet), that he was made Commodore on 21 Mar 1777, and he died in Fairfax County VA in 1798.