

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Willy (Wiley)

R 11561

Transcribed and Annotated by R. Neil Vance
[Original spelling and punctuation retained]

November 26, 2010

Source: Footnote Va

The State of Ohio
Darke County

on this 22nd day of September AD 1851. Personally appeared before me the subscriber one of the associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas within and for the said County of Darke and State of Ohio said court being a court of Record Mary Willy a resident of Harrison Township Darke County and State of Ohio aged eighty one years who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed July 29th 1848 That she is the widow of Joseph Willy who was a private in a company of the Virginia Militia commanded by Captain Gilmore¹ in the Revolutionary War that her said husband was drafted at Rockbridge County in the said State of Virginia for the tour of six months some time in the later part of the summer or fall season of the year 1780 and that he continued to serve in said company for the term of six months and that during the term or time of his said Service he was for the most part of his time in North and South Carolina and was in the Battle of the Cow Pens [Cowpens, Jan. 17, 1781]. She further states that her said husband the said Joseph Willy afterwards served one other tour of duty she thinks a six months tour in the Virginia Militia but she cannot now state the name of his captain or other officers nor in what way he entered the service but she knows that his services in the army in the War of the Revolution in the aggregate was more than one year and that they were rendered in the years 1780 & 1781 and that for the most part of his time when in the service was in North and South Carolina and that he always claimed or said when speaking of his services in the army of the Revolution that he had been in the Battle of the Cow Pens and some other engagements in the South.

She cannot state the Regiment or Corps in which he her said husband served other than this that at the time he entered the service he was a resident of Rockbridge County in the State of Virginia and served in the militia or troops raised in that state

She further declares that she was married to the said Joseph Willy on or about the 30th day of July AD. 1791 (seventeen hundred and ninety one that her said husband the aforesaid Joseph Willy died on the 7th day of July 1822 that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the second day of January Eighteen hundred towit at the time above stated) She further swears that she is now a widow and that she has never before made any application for a pension.

Mary Willy
her mark

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written

Judson Jaqua
Associate Judge

I certify that the above named Mary Willy can not from bodily infirmity attend the Court

Judson Jaqua
Associate Judge

¹ According to Bobby Gilmer Moss, *The Patriots at the Cowpens*, Capt. James Gilmore (or Gilmer) commanded a company known as the "Gilmore Rifles" at Cowpens.

State of Indiana
Jay County

Before me Isaac F Thompson a Justice of the Peace in and for said County and State aforesaid Personally came Mary Wiley² aged eighty two years a resident of Jay County in the State of Indiana who being by me duly sworn according to law deposes and says as follows – I was personally and intimately acquainted with Joseph Wiley (now, deceased, in his life and with Mary Wiley (now his widow of Darke County Ohio. I was well acquainted with them both before and after their marriage and also at the time and before and after said Joseph Wiley was out in the Service in the Revolutionary War. we were raised from my first recollection when children near together in the same neighborhood in Rockbridge County in the State of Virginia and we lived near neighbors until he year about 1814. when the said Joseph Wiley left Rockbridge County and moved to the State of Ohio. I know that the said Joseph Wiley served two tours of duty in the Virginia Militia during the Revolutionary War the first tour of duty was six months tour he was drafted in Rockbridge County Virginia I believe in Captain Gilmore's company of Virginia Militia for six months and continued in actual service for six months and was honorably discharged as I understood and believed from the service. the second tour was a draft also for a three months tour I recollect distinctly said Joseph Wiley standing out and Going with the service and also the time of his returning home on both occasions. the first draft above mentioned to took place in the latter part of the summer or fall season of the year 1780 and the other something like a year afterwards or perhaps not that long I know that it was said and believed Generally that said Joseph Wiley was in the Battle of the Cow Pens. and that most of the time he was out in this service he was in N. and South Carolina. I recollect very well the marriage of the said Joseph Wiley and the said Mary Wiley now his widow they were married in Rockbridge County Virginia they were married by one Wm Graham a clergyman and that her name before said marriage was Mary Mc. Campbell and that the said Joseph and Mary Wiley lived together as man and wife from the time of their said marriage until the death of said Joseph and I think no person who knew them ever doubted there having been legally married nor do I believe that any person ever doubted the said Joseph being a soldier of the Revolutionary War and his having served as aforesaid I think no doubts have ever existed in relation to that matter

Mary Wiley
her mark

Subscribed and sworn to before me the this 14th day of March 1851

Isaac F Thompson JP

The State of Ohio
Preble County

Before me Isaac Stephens a Justice of the Peace within and for said county personally appeared John Sprowl of Dark County Ohio who being duly sworn according to law Deposes and says I was acquainted with Joseph Wiley deceased and Mary Wiley his widow I was well acquainted with them both in Rockbridge County Virginia we lived hear neighbors for a long time and until we moved to Ohio I knew them before they were married I recollect distinctly the time of their marriage. I was not present at their marriage but I saw them at church the Sabbath after their marriage and know that they lived together as man and wife from that time until the death of said Joseph and raised a family of children they were always considered by their neighbors Good morral and highly respectable people and no one who knew them ever doubted them having been lawfully married to my knowledge. Shortly before their marriage Joseph Wiley served I think two terms of duty in the War of the Revolution in the Virginia Militia. he was drafted and served a tour in Captain Gilmore's company I think and I do not recollect whose company he served the other tour in we all lived in Rockbridge County Virginia at that time and he was drafted there I was not in the Revolutionary war myself and did not see Joseph Wiley in the service But I have no doubt of his having served as above stated I think; services was rendered about or near the close of the war I can not now state how long he served they may have been three months tours and they might have been more I can not say

² There is no additional information in the file giving the relationship of this Mary Wiley to Joseph or Mary Willy(Wiley).

John Sprowl

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 16th day of June 1851

Isaac Stephens JP

[Transcribers Note: The file contains a statement from the First Auditor's office in Richmond Virginia dated June 13, 1851 that a Joseph Willey received a settlement, paid to Samuel Dyer, on August 15, 1783 for service as a Soldier of Infantry of £68.8.11. No other information is given about the soldier's service.]