

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Wilson

R 11663

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

October 9, 2010

Source: Footnote NC

Declaration

Declaration In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th June 1832

State of Georgia
County of Franklin

On this third day of September in the year Eighteen Hundred and thirty two personally appeared before the Inferior Court now sitting for ordinary purposes James Wilson a resident of Capt Watsons district, aged about Seventy three years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the Militia of South Carolina about the month of March 1780 in York County South Carolina (where he happened to be on a visit) as a volunteer under the Command of Capt. Mackenzie¹ who was raising a company to go after the Tories then being embodied near Turkey Creek, to which place he was marched, but the Tories had been defeated before we arrived there, & they returned back to York and was placed under the Command of General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter], and was sent out as a spy under the command of Capt. McCool², and went down towards Savannah in Georgia to view a company of Tories who lay there under one Turnbull when we arrived near Savannah we were informed the Tories had all dispersed, and we returned back to Sumpters army & were then marched to the Catawba river to guard the Fords & Ferries, he was stationed under Capt McCool at the Old Nation Ford, from thence we were marched to the neighborhood of the Hanging Rock at one Glascaskins [?] after some British and Tories, we there discovered after firing a few guns that they were too strong for us³, and we retreated back to the army at the Fords aforesaid, when he was ordered on a party to Guard Col. Hills⁴ Iron works in York County, and remained some time scouting about there after the Tories, where I was discharged and returned home to Orange County North Carolina Served altogether in the campaigns aforesaid six or seven months.

Again volunteered at Orange County North Carolina as a minute man in Capt. Wilsons Horse Company in October or November 1780 and was marched through the country as scouting parties & was a pilot to Major Reeds horse company to Buffingtons Iron Works & acted as a pilot for several other Companies through that country, till about 10th March 1781 when he had leave of absence to remove his mother Served five or six months in this Tour, and altogether something more than one year as a private, and was all the time a horseman finding his own horse. Does not know of any person now living by whom he could prove his service, excepting one William Hall who he is informed lives some place in Alabama, but does not know his location.

1. Was born in Pennsylvania about July 12th 1758 as has been informed & removed to North Carolina at six years old.
2. The record of his age has been burned many years since

¹ Possibly John McKenzie W1049

² Probably John McCool W9546

³ This may have been the skirmish on Aug. 1, 1780 that led to the Battle of Hanging Rock on Aug. 6. See John W. Gordon, *South Carolina and the American Revolution*, Univ. of Sou. Car., 2003.

⁴ Col. William Hill

3. When he entered the service he lived in Orange County North Carolina, but was on a visit to York County South Carolina. Since the end of the war he lived in York County Nor. Car.[incorrect; see correction below] until about Twenty years since when he removed to his present residence where he remained ever since

4. Was a volunteer

5. He recollects that he was under Col. Brannon⁵ and under Major Davie⁶ who was promoted to Colonel while he was under him, was also under Colonels Bratton⁷ and Paisley, does not recollect any Regulars.

6. Does not recollect that he ever received a written discharge, if he did, it was lost.

7. Is known to Richard Bonds and Nelson Osborne a preacher of the Gospel who can testify to his character for veracity and to their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He hereby relenquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency of any State within his knowledge or belief

Sworn to and subscribed in open

James Wilson

Court the day and year first

his mark

above written

Thos. King, clk

[Nelson Osborne a clergyman and Richard Bond give the usual supporting testimony]

State of Georgia
County of Franklin

On this sixth day of May 1833 personally appeared before the Inferior Court for said County now sitting for Ordinary purposes James Wilson who subscribed and swore to the original Declaration to which this is annexed, and who being sworn according to Law, on his oath makes the following addition and amendment to his said original Declaration, viz.

" that in the tour stated under Capt. McKenzie in 1780 he is certain he served six months as a private horseman, that in October or Novr. 1780 he entered Capt Wilsons horse Company & served another Tour of six months as stated in his original Declaration, as a private horseman, He does not well recollect dates but is certain he served altogether Twelve months as a Private Horseman. In the first Tour above he does not recollect who was his Colonel but was under Genl Sumpter, and in the last Tour he was under Col. Paisley and for such service he claims a pension, that he was either in the field or in Garrison, and for the time during which the service was performed he was not employed in any civil pursuit.

Sworn to and subscribed

in open Court the day

James Wilson

and year first above written

Ths. King C.C.O.

State of Georgia
Franklin County

I certify that I drew up the Declaration of James Wilson for a Pension (herewith returned) and that the error in the answer to the third question by the Court was made by me, and that I ought to have written Orange County instead of York County North Carolina. January 29, 1835

Jno. R. Stanford

⁵ Probably Col. Thomas Brandon

⁶ Probably William Davie, who commanded a mounted unit at Hanging Rock

⁷ Col. William Bratton

State of South Carolina
Anderson District

Personally appeared John Wilson before me James Daushet [?] one of the Justices of the quorum in and for the District aforesaid and being sworn in due form of law and on his oath saith that he knew James Wilson in time of the revolutionary war, and that he was a true friend to his country and served several tours in the service as a militia man, but does not recollect how often he was called out nor how long he served at any time when he was called out but that he saw him in the service under Capt Bell, Wilson, and Colonel Paisly as a horseman before the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781], and that he lived in Guilford County in North Carolina in the time of the revolutionary war
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of April 1835

James Daushet[?] J.Q.

John Wilson