

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Wilson R11676

Mary

fn28VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/4/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia County of Ritchie: SS

On this 3 day of March in the year 1857, personally appeared before the County Court of Ritchie County Virginia [now West Virginia] Mary Wilson, a resident of Ritchie County and State aforesaid aged seventy-seven, who first being duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by the act of Congress passed the 3rd of February 1853, granting pensions to widows of persons who served during the Revolutionary war, that she is the widow of John Wilson who was a private in the Revolutionary Or, as she has been informed: and drew a pension from the State of Virginia on account of said services (for proof reference is made to the State of Virginia at Richmond).

She further states that she was married to the said John Wilson on the 2nd of August 1796, that her said husband died on the 12th day of April 1827 in Harrison County Virginia, that she was married to him prior to the 2nd day of January 1800 and at the time above stated – she further declares that she is still a widow.

S/ Mary Wilson, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written

S/ Jacob McKinney, JP

[fn p. 2: On December 1, 1856 in Ritchie County Virginia, Barton Hudkins gave testimony that he knew Mary Warthan in Montgomery County Maryland; that her father moved to Randolph County Virginia in 1795 and the said affiant lived in Randolph County Virginia close neighbor to said Mary Warthan when she married John Wilson who was wounded in his right arm and the bullet lodged in the back part of his hand; that said John Wilson and Mary lived together as man and wife after their marriage and that Mary Wilson remains the widow of John Wilson.]

[fn p. 5]

State of Virginia Harrison County, to wit

This day personally appeared before me E. W. Patton a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Joel Westfall a witness of lawful age, after being duly sworn according to law makes the following declaration. That he was acquainted with Mary Warthan before her marriage to John Wilson, who was his stepfather, which marriage occurred about the year 1796 – 7. John Wilson died in the spring of 1827 leaving the said Mary a widow, who has so remained ever since, and is still the widow of John Wilson deceased who was reputed to have been a Soldier of the Revolutionary war with Great Britain (or the Indian War). I have known the said John Wilson from my infancy up to the time of his death, (his first wife was my mother). I know the said John Wilson lived with said Mary as husband & wife and were so known and

recognized generally from the time of their marriage until his death as aforesaid, my acquaintance continued with the said Wilson during the term of forty years I knew that he was reported to have been a Soldier, and that he had been wounded by a ball in the right arm, which disabled him for life. I have often seen the scar. This was in was received as he recorded in a battle fought on the Ohio River below Wheeling at a place called the "Narrows" under the command of Captain Foreman in the service of the United States as he stated. Said John Wilson was a man of unblemished moral character and was highly esteemed by all his neighbors for truth and veracity. He was at the time of his death 70 or 71 years of age. Said John Wilson received a pension from the Commonwealth of Virginia for his services above referred to. And the said Joel Westfall further states says on oath that he is 77 years of age and that he has no interest in the application made by Mrs. Mary Wilson for bounty land or a widow's pension either directly or indirectly. And further the deponent sayeth not.

S/ Joel Westfall

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joel Westfall". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

[attested October 9, 1856]

[fn p. 9: record of the marriage of John Wilson to Mary Warthan , daughter of John Warthan, the ceremony was performed by Matthew Ryan August 2, 1796 – all as certified by the clerk of Randolph County Virginia.]

[fn p. 25: an excerpt from the records of the house of Delegates of Virginia dated December 17th, 1812 and reading in relevant part as follows: "A petition was presented and read of John Wilson of Randolph County, a soldier, who was severely wounded during the revolutionary war, and now, in the decline of life, is unable to support himself and family; praying such relief as the General Assembly may deem just.

"Ordered that the said petition be referred to the committee of claims; that they or [sic, are to?] examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion their own, to the House."]

[fn p. 17: copy of an act passed by the Virginia legislature January 19th, 1813 reading in relevant part as follows: "And be it further enacted, that John Wilson (an old revolutionary soldier, who was severely wounded at Wheeling in the right arm, which has become useless) shall be placed on the pension list, and receive annually the sum of \$60, to be paid as other pensioners are paid....."]

[Note: the Virginia State Library has posted online a 146 page file containing the proceedings relating to the award by the State of Virginia to John Wilson of a pension of \$60/year. See http://lva1.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/F/QSXDM69U224Q7KRMFQPE8K1MMYLX54P8C18B VXIE3I9QKDJ612-61668?func=full-set-set&set_number=004626&set_entry=000001&format=999 for the link

I John Wilson of the County of Chancery in and State
of Virginia, do hereby constitute and appoint
Samuel Meatt of the said County and State my
lawfull attorney, to receive in my behalf of the
Treasurer of this Commonwealth my Pension of
Sixty Dollars becoming due for the Year 1817
agreeable to an Act of General Assembly passed
the 10th of January 1813. In Witness whereof
I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this 20th
day of June 1816.

John Wilson

[the file posted by the Virginia State Library contains documents relating to other veterans besides John Wilson. For example, there are documents relating to the disability of a Lieutenant Willis Wilson. I did not look at all the documents posted in this file.]