

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Robert Wilson S32603

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Indiana } SS
Hancock County }

On this 29th day of August 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the judges of Hancock Circuit Court now in session Robert Wilson a resident of the County of Hancock State of Indiana aged Eighty four 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: he entered the company commanded by Capt. Long as a substitute for one Calwell as a private while residing in the County of Augusta Va two years previous to the battle of the Blue Licks in Kentucky [19 Aug 1782] at which he had a brother by the name of John Wilson killed. The tour of duty he substituted to perform was commenced in the summer or fall. The company consisted of about 100 men. They marched from Augusta court house to to Tigers valley [sic: Tygart Valley in present West Virginia] where there were 3 forts - when they arrived other troops who had been previously guarding the forts were relieved. His time of service for which he substituted was three months & when the same was terminated he and a part of their company with the Captain returned to Augusta County by the way of the Sweet springs, that he was there discharged & received a certificate or discharge from capt Long to the best of his recollection but he has lost the same - that from severe affliction by sickness for a number of years past his memory has been almost destroyed and he is unable to recollect any other officers name in the before mentioned expedition besides that of his Captain — That the fall or forepart of the winter after his return to Augusta County, he went to the Catauba [sic: Catawba River] in Carolina to live with his brother John Wilson who then resided there - He lived on the Catawba about eighteen months & while there he voluntier into a company commanded by one Captain Robison to go the French broad to oppose the British & tories In this tour he served not less than six weeks. He also again joined the same company as a voluntier & private to go on to the headwaters of the Catauba River & was absent in the service of his Country not less than two months, when he returned home where he remained a short period & then entered the same company commanded by Capt Robinson as a voluntier for an uncertain period of time to go onto the waters of Dan River. He served in the last mentioned campaign not less than one month - that he then returned & his brother with about 40 or 50 families were about to remove from the Catauba to Kentucky & having resolved on accompanying these adventures He obtained a written statement from Captain Roberson specifying the length of his services in the before mentioned 3 tours of service also certifying that he had acted as a brave soldier - That with these families he arrived at Wilsons station on Salt River in Kentucky early in the winter before the Battle of Blue Licks. In the spring preceeding their removal to the station he & his brother John Wilson planted crop in the vicinity of the fort but from early in the spring of that year he for a quater part of his time was under arms and scouting, to guard the families in the fort from the Indians. That one week previous to the battle of the Blue licks he went with about 30 men to bring four persons who had been killed about 35 or 40 miles from the station between the falls of Ohio [at present Louisville] & Chapmans Creek - and he arrived at the fort 2 days before above mentioned battle. He having performed one tour of duty he was ordered to stay and guard the fort while his brother & 4 others from the station went on a scout, during which the before mentioned battle occurred in which his brother & two others from Wilson's station were killed. That the same fall succeeding he was drafted to enter the expedition commanded by General [George Rogers] Clark & Colonel [Benjamin] Logan & two days after the draft he joined the expedition at Bryan's station [at present Lexington]. there were three or four companies of men - one commanded by Capt [William] McCracken of the Light horse - one by Capt Smith and one by Capt. Madison & he joined the company commanded by the latter. One George Snooddy or Snoddy was an officer belonging to the expedition but of what grade he does not now recollect & from the length of the period since & not having met with any fellow soldier

or person who was acquainted with the names of those composing the expedition for many years past he is unable to name any other officer belonging to the same. The expedition marched from Bryans station to the River & crossed the Ohio at or near the mouth of Licking. They proceeded up between the two Miamis [Great and Little Miami rivers in Ohio] to Mad River where they had an engagement with the Indians, burnt several towns [including Piqua, 10 Nov 1782] & destroyed their corn. In their engagement Capt McCrackin was wounded & died on their return before they recrossed the Ohio River, where he thinks his comp'y separated from the rest & he was discharged after being absent on duty not less than two months - He received a written discharge from this expedition but from whom he cannot say certain, but believes it was from Col Logan but that the same has long since been lost. After his return from this expedition he was under arms on various scouts through the section of country surrounding Wilson's & other stations in order to repel the invasions of the Indians & besides the two months he was with general Clark he verily believes he was in the service of his country as a soldier or ranger after he arrived in Kentucky not less than one year before the close of the Revolution. He does not pretend to state that such years service was performed under regularly appointed officers - but in single companies of 2-3-6-20- or 30 who were called on from their peculiar situation to guard the frontiers.

He knows of no person living by whom he can prove any of the before mentioned services neither has he any documentary evidence to establish the same. He has been in a very feeble state of health for several years past from his old age & consequent loss of memory he has been unable to remember dates or officers names further than as set forth -

In answer to the several questions required by the War department he would state - that he was born in Augusta County Virginia six miles from Stanton [sic: Staunton] in the year 1749

2 He he never received any education, can neither read nor write & has no record of his age.

3 he was living in Augusta County Va when first called into service - when he performed the three next tours of service he resided on the Catauba River as before stated & the residue of his service was performed after he removed to Kentucky; & since the Revolution he first lived in Kentucky for several years, then removed to the Indiana Territory & lived in Dearborn County then in Switzerland Wayne and Henry counties in this state and for the last six or seven years in this County of Hancock & in the neighborhood where he now resides

4 He first entered the service as a substitute for said Calwell. The three tours he performed when he lived on the Catauba under Capt Robinson he served as a volunteer. He was drafted to go on the expedition with Genl Clark & the residue of his service while in Ky was voluntary. In all of which he was a private

5 He is unable to state the names of any other officers or troops then as above set out in consequence of his loss of memory from old age

6 He received discharges as above set out but he has lost the same & he has no documentary proof of his services or witnesses living by whom he can prove the same -

7 He knows of no clergyman residing in this County but that he is well acquainted with Bazel Meek Esquire Sheriff of this county and Robert W Corkhill of his present neighborhood also Morris Pierson Esquire a Justice of the peace of this County who was well acquainted with him while he lived in Switzerland County in this state & has known him for some years since he lived in this County, all of whom can testify as to his veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state or territory in the United States.

Robert hisXmark Wilson