

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Rufus Wiley S7919

fn30¹NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/11/10

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State of North Carolina Craven County: SS:

On this sixteenth day of October A.D. 1832 appeared in open Court before the Honorable Joseph John Daniel Judge of the Superior Court of law of Craven County of aforesaid, now sitting, the Reverend Rufus Wiley a resident of the town of New Bern in the County & State aforesaid aged sixty-seven 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 was born on the 3rd day of September 1765 in that part of old Tyrrell County which is now known as Washington County, on the South side of Albemarle Sound, five miles below Mackey's ferry. That he entered the service of the United states, in the North Carolina Militia, under the following named officers, & served as herein stated, that in 1781, his elder brother Thomas Wiley was drafted, & this applicant with the permission of his father, & from an itch to be with his brother, took the place of Joshua Slade a drafted soldier, as his substitute, that he crossed the sound over to Nixonton & marched down through Pasquotank & Camden Counties to the Head Quarters of General Isaac Gregory, at North West Landing, where this applicant was received & served faithfully from an early period in the fall, till sometime in the spring following, which according to his best recollection, was nearly 6 months -- this applicant's officers were General Isaac Gregory, Colonel Peter Dozier, Colonel James Blount, Adjutant Stephen Dozier, Captain Richard Howe, Lieutenant Joseph Whidby, Ensign John Bond. In the spring of 1783, a little before the close of the war this applicant became a substitute of his uncle Godfrey Gray, a drafted soldier, & was stationed at the house of Nehemiah Romans, Tyrrell County, near the Court house, & held in readiness to join the Army between 2 & 3 months, -- at Nathan Rivers, at a place, at that time called North West Landing, within 12 miles of the British line at the great bridge near Norfolk -- the troops of whom this applicant formed a part, had no actual engagement with the enemy -- marched down to the British lines twice, or three times for the purpose of drawing out the enemy to action, or storming their fort, if this applicant received any regular discharge from the service it was not preserved -- he was a youth at the time & has no recollection of it. This applicant has recently visited the County of Washington, but could find

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no person who served with him in the Army -- He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. --

Sworn to & inscribed on the day aforesaid.

S/ Edward Stanly, deputy clerk

S/ Rufus Wiley

This is to certify that the Rev. Rufus Wiley and myself have known each other as ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church for about ten years past, and since March 1831 have been neighbors in the same town and do not hesitate to say I believe him to be a man of undoubted veracity and probity.

S/ Caleb Leach

The following interrogatories were by the Court put to the applicant in the following answers given, viz.

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. In the old Tyrral [sic, Tyrrell County] in the year 1765

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. I have none.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. I lived in Tyrrell County when called into service & have lived most of my time since the war in New Bern where I resided at present.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I was a substitute twice on the first occasion for Joshua Slade & then for Godfrey Gray -

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. Isaac Gregory was general of the militia Peter Dozier Colonel -- Stephen Dozier adjutant, Richard How Captain, Joseph Whidby Lieutenant, Jno. Bond Ensign, James Blount Colonel -- and applicant served as heretofore stated in the annexed declaration

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I have no recollection of having received a discharge. If I did it is lost.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. Honorable William Gaston & John H. Bryan, James G. Stanly & Bothwick Gillespie & John P. Davis Esquires

S/ Rufus Wiley

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State of North Carolina Washington County

Personally appeared before me James Wiley² being of the age of about seventy years, who, after being sworn upon the holy evangelist deposed & saith that I was one of the revolutionary soldier of that the Reverend Rufus Wiley who has been a minister of the Gospel

² This is probably [James Wiley S42075](#)

forty-four or five years and served in the revolutionary war to the best of my knowledge and further this deponent saith not.

S/ James Wiley

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State of North Carolina Craven County: Superior Court of Law Spring Term A.D. 1833 -- Personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable John R. Donnell Judge of the Superior Court of Law for Craven County now sitting, Rufus Wiley, who being duly sworn deposes & saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than 6 months -- as a private soldier, & for such service I claim a pension -- as herein before set forth & which is herewith appended to his declaration this is an amendment --

Sworn to before me

S/ Edward Stanly

S/ Rufus Wiley

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 6 months service in the revolution.]