

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Wilson¹ W4716

Catharine

fn70VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/4/11

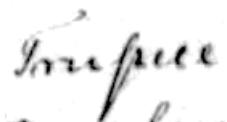
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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.]

[fn p. 16]

At a Court continued and held for Spotsylvania County the 3rd day of August 1830
County of Spotsylvania State of Virginia

On this 3rd of August 1830 personally appeared in Court, it being a court of record, James Wilson resident in the said County aged 77 years who being first sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision may by the act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the first of May 1820. That he the said James Wilson enlisted in the County of Spotsylvania for the term of two years in the year 1776 in the Company commanded by Captain George Stubblefield in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Josias Parker [Josiah Parker] being the 5th Regiment in the line of the State of Virginia on Continental establishment. That he served in the said Regiment till the year 1778 when he was discharged at Valley Forge in the State of Pennsylvania, that he was present at Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth. That he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present and that his name is not on the list of any pension roll in any state and the following are his reasons for not sooner applied for a pension, he was told that he was not poor enough to be entitled to a pension, and therefore he did not apply and in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed, that since the 18th of March 1818 the following changes have been made in my property owned by me on the 18th of March 1818. 280 acres of land sold to Robert Crutchfield for \$560 under a deed of trust and sold in July 1838 copy of which the of trust is hereto annexed, 8 slaves, 4 of whom have died, in 1822 my daughter Katy married William Trussell² [?] and removed out of the County I gave her one of the aforesaid Negroes named Lydia aged about 6 years, in 1825 my daughter Jane married George W Smith and I gave her a Negro girl named

¹ BLWt10248-160-55

² 

Maria aged 5 years, in 1826 my daughter Margaret married Reuben Knight and I gave her a Negro boy 3 years old named George and of the above eight, Lucy is the only one I now hold and she is sickly, 4 horses of which all are dead but one, 12 head of cattle all dead and consumed but four, 15 hogs all dead and consumed but one, household furniture the same as above in my possession, a few plantation tools the same as now in my possession. The property now in my possession consists as follows one Negro woman Lucy aged 35 years, one horse, four cattle, one hog, 2 beds, 4 pots, 10 plates, 3 dishes, 6 knives and forks, 6 spoons, 6 chairs, 2 tables, 2 plows, 2 hoes, 2 axes, I am by profession a farmer and a laborer, and since the sale of my land, must rent, my family consists of my wife aged 66 years and a deranged daughter who cannot help me labor.

S/ James Wilson, X his mark

[fn p. 59: On October 4th, 1830 in Spotsylvania County Virginia, the court found on the testimony of John Payne that the value of the slaves given by the veteran to his daughters on their marriage were as follows that the slave Lydia aged 6 given to his daughter Trussell was \$120; that the value of the slave Maria aged 5 given to his door James Smith was \$125; and that the value of the slave George aged 2 years old given to his daughter Margaret Knight was \$50.]

I Richard L Stevenson Clerk of Spotsylvania County Court do certify that it appears to the satisfaction of the Court from the evidence of Larkin Stanard³ aged sixty-seven years and Major Benjamin Alsop⁴ aged seventy-two years who were both in the revolutionary War and now sworn in Court that they knew James Wilson and that he did serve in the revolutionary War as stated in the preceding declaration against the common enemy for more than 9 months under one engagement on Continental establishment, I also certify that the foregoing oath and schedule thereto annexed are truly copied from the records of the said Court, and I do further certify that it is the opinion of the Court that the total amount of value of the property exhibited in the aforesaid schedule is \$251.25.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of my office this 5th day of October 1830

S/ R. L. Stevenson, CC

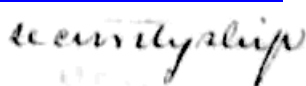
[fn p. 56]
Virginia

At a Court held for Spotsylvania County the 2nd day of May 1831

This day James Wilson a revolutionary soldier appeared in open Court and being first sworn, doth declare in addition and explanation of the declarations heretofore made, by him in order to obtain a pension from the United States that when he made the kids of slaves to his children as set forth in his former declaration, he had no fraudulent intention to reduce himself to that degree of property required to confer a pension but that the said Gibbs were made when he was in good circumstances and from kind feelings towards his children and that his subsequent poverty has arisen from [indecipherable word⁵] death and loss of property and the absolute

³ [Larkin Stanard S7607](#)

⁴ [Benjamin Alsop S9269](#)

⁵ 

support of his family, and he further states that the Negro woman named Lucy contained in his former schedule has since died leaving him very little personal property whatsoever and the court orders it to be certified to the War Department that from the evidence of respectable persons now in court that the court is fully satisfied that the said James Wilson is a person of good and respectable character and above the commission of any fraudulent or dishonest act – and that the Negro woman named Lucy is dead and her value previous to her death was \$170, all which is ordered to be certified to the war Department.

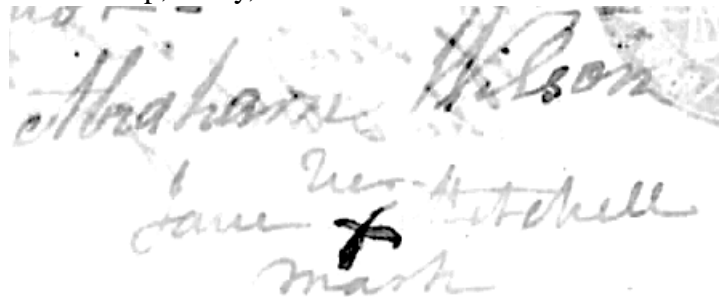
S/ Richard L. Stevenson, CC

[fn p. 13: Application for a transfer of pension benefits dated July 4, 1836 filed in Muskingum County of Ohio by the veteran stating that he has moved to the state of Ohio where he intends to remain and wishes his pension payable there in the future. He states his reason for removing to Ohio from Virginia was that his children have removed to the state of Ohio.]

[fn p. 35: Catharine Wilson of Muskingum County Ohio petitioned Congress stating that she is 76 years old, the widow of James Wilson; that they were legally married September 1, 1785; that her husband was a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 10th, 1831; that her husband died August 8, 1839 leaving her very destitute with the support of a lunatic daughter. Her petition bears no date and was signed by her with her mark.]

[fn p. 62: On March 25, 1844 in Muskingum County of Ohio, Catharine Wilson, 78, a resident of Falls Township in said County and state made application for a widow's pension under the 1843 act stating that she is the widow of James Wilson, a private in the revolution; that she has been granted a pension certificate dated February 27, 1843 and that she was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum. She signed this document with her mark.][*Note: I cannot find an actual application for a pension filed by the widow. I assume that the petition she filed with the Congress was treated as an application and that she was granted the certificate she refers to in the foregoing document as result of having filed the petition to Congress.*]

[fn p. 43: On July 26, 1841 in Spotsylvania County Virginia, Abraham Wilson and chain Mitchell gave testimony that they were present and saw the marriage of James Wilson to Catherine Collins on September 1, 1785; that they were married by the Reverend Mr. Dick. The relationship, if any, of Abraham Wilson to the veteran and/or his wife is not stated.



Abraham Wilson
James Mitchell
mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 9, 1831, for two-year

service as a private in the Virginia Continental line. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1848.]