

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Lewis Wilford (or Wilford Lewis)¹ W6548 Silva Wilford f163NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 27]

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the Act entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution" approved on the 15th of May 1828, I Lewis Wilford of St. John's River of the County of Duval in the Territory of Florida, do hereby declare that I enlisted in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution for & during the war, & continued in its service until its termination; at which period I was a private in Captain Ben Coleman's Company in the 2nd Regiment of the North Carolina line. And I also declare that I afterwards received certificates for the reward of \$80 to which I was entitled under a resolve of Congress passed the 15th May 1778.

And I further declare that I was not on the 15th day of May 1828 on the pension list of the United States.

Witness my hand this 6th day of October in the year 1829

S/ Lewis Wilford, X his mark

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Revolutionary Claims

Treasury Department,

21 October 1829

Lewis Wilford of St. John's River in the County of Duval in the ~~State~~ of Territory of Florida has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that he enlisted in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued until its termination, at which period he was a Private in Captain Colman's [Benjamin Coleman's] Company, in the Second regiment of the North Carolina line; and that he received a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars, provided by the resolve of the 15th of May, 1778; and further, that he was not on the 15th of May, 1828, on the pension list of the United States, and that he has received as a pensioner since the 3rd of March, 1826, nothing

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his Office.

By order of the Secretary

S/ F. A. Dickins

¹ BLWt16126-160-55. Note on cover sheet reads: "also served in War of 1812 as Wilford Lewis."

Treasury Department,
Third Auditor's Office,
22nd October 1829

~~It appears by the records of this office, that a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars has been issued to ___ in the ___~~

It further appears that Lewis Wilford is not now on the pension list of any agency, and has not been so since the 3rd March 1826—~~at the rate of ___ dollars per month.~~

The Name of Lewis Wilford cannot be found among those of the North Carolina line to whom Certificates for the gratuity of Eighty Dollars were issued

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

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War Department: Bounty Land Office
October 28th, 1829

The name of Lewis Wilford cannot be found on the Records of the North Carolina line, on file in this Office, among those who acquired a Right to Bounty Land of the United States, or to whom a Land warrant has ever issued

S/ Wm Gordon

[p 105]

State of North Carolina Pitt County: Came before Warren Wallace one of the Justices of the County of Pitt and State aforesaid George Wallace² of the State and County aforesaid and made oath as follows, that Lewis Wilford or Williford, was a private in Captain Benjamin Coleman's company and he believes the 2nd Regiment of the North Carolina line & that he was a Continental soldier in the Revolutionary War. February 27th 1830

Attest: S/ W. Wallace, JP

S/ George Wallace, X his mark

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State of North Carolina Bertie County: This day appeared before me Humphrey H. Hardy one of the Justices of the Peace for the County and State above mentioned Jethro Butler³ and maketh oath that he was well acquainted with Lewis Wilford and that of his own knowledge the said Williford enlisted for the term of three years, and served that time, in the North Carolina first line of Continental soldiers during the Revolution under General Hogan's -- the said Butler further states on oath that the said Lewis Wilford was taken prisoner at Charleston South Carolina.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 22nd day of August 1832

S/ HH Hardy, JP

S/ Jethro Butler, X his mark

[p 7]

Superior Court Eastern district Florida Territory

On this 10th day of December 1832 personally appeared before the Judge of the aforesaid court Lewis Wilford, resident of Florida Duval County aged about Eighty years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain

² This is probably the same man as [George Wallace W11741](#)

³ [Jethro Butler S41465](#)

the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 with Hardy Murphy [sic, Hardy Murfree] a recruiting officer: and served in the 2nd regiment of the North Carolina line under the following named officers -- to wit Ben Coleman [Benjamin Andrew Coleman] Captain: -- ___ Reid (cristian [sic, Christian] name not recollected) Lieutenant: Colonel Patesen [sic, John Patten]: General Hogan [sic, James Hogun]: General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln]. This applicant further states that he first enlisted with Hardy Murfree of Bertie County, State of North Carolina, for the term of three years, & was sent to Valley Ford [sic, Valley Forge], New Jersey [sic], but afterwards, preferring to be enlisted during the war, reenlisted as long as the war might last, under Captain Ben Coleman: and marched from Valley Ford [sic] to South Carolina -- through the states Pennsylvania, Maryland & North Carolina. This applicant further states that when he enlisted, he was a citizen of North Carolina, & resided in Bertie County, in said State. This applicant further states, that he was in no general engagement: (though often in skirmishes) but the one, in which he was taken prisoner in Charleston, by the British Army commanded by Henry Clinton [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780].⁴

This applicant further declares that he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state, or (if any) only on that of the agency in the State of North Carolina. Sworn to, & subscribed, the day & year aforesaid.

Sworn to in open court December 10th A.D. 1832

S/ Isaiah D. Hart, Clerk

S/ Lewis Wilford, X his mark

[p 11: On May 3, 1853 in Duval County, Florida, Silva Wilford, 56, a resident of said County and state filed for a widow's pension as the widow of Lewis Wilford, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Duval County in November 1823 (she cannot recollect the precise date); that they were married by one Ross (she thinks his first name was James), a justice of the peace; that her name prior to her marriage was a Silva Myers; that her husband died in Duval County September 17, 1849. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 22: On July 16, 1875 in Duval County Florida, Louis Wilford, 52, a resident of said County and State, filed a claim stating that he is the Administrator of the estate of Silva Wilford, deceased, who died in Duval County Florida December 18, 1863; Silva was a pensioner of the United States as the widow of Louis Wilford; that at the time of her death Silva left surviving her the following named children and grandchildren: Mrs. Elizabeth Roberts the eldest child, James N. Myers her 2nd child, and the children of Sarah Hughes her 3rd child now deceased, to wit, Reuben Hughes, Maria Hughes and Washington Hughes.; that said children were the children of Silva Wilford by a former marriage with James Myers Esquire who died before her marriage with Louis Wilford, a revolutionary war pensioner; that Silva had by her 2nd husband, Louis Wilford 2 children viz. this deponent and his sister Silva Caldwell wife of George W. Caldwell. Louis Wilford signed the application with his mark.]

[Note: a great deal of the papers in this file deal with the claim filed by the children and grandchildren of the widow after the Civil War including their oaths of loyalty etc.]

⁴ Battle of Charleston <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/3>

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 3 years service in the revolution as a private. His widow was pensioned in a like amount commencing February 3rd, 1853.]