

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Robert Wilson W7746

Amelia Hickcox

NY

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of New York

County of Oneida Ss

On this sixteenth day of July A.D. 1853 personally appeared before the Surrogate's Court a court of record in & for the County of Oneida & State of New York Amelia Hickcox a resident of Clinton in the County of Oneida & State aforesaid aged Seventy one years on the second day of January last who first being duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed February 3<sup>d</sup> 1853 granting pensions to widows of persons who served during the Revolutionary War. That she is the former widow of Robert Wilson who was an Ensign in the First New York Regiment in the Revolutionary War That she was informed by the said Robert Wilson in his lifetime that he entered the service as a Fifer in the company commanded by Captain James Greigg who was his mothers brother & which company belonged to General Clintons Brigade as she is informed & believes at the age of about twelve years & served under his said Uncle as such musician until he was commissioned an Ensign which commission she has had in her possession from the time of her marriage with said Robert Wilson until about eight years since she gave it to her son James G. Wilson & who has since died & the said Commission is not to be found among any of his papers & she has made diligent enquiry for the same & search where it would be most likely to have been kept & it is lost & cannot be found – she knows the commission bore date June 9<sup>th</sup> 1781 at which time the said Robert Wilson was but about eighteen years of age & he entered the service as she is informed & believes about the commencement of the war & served until the close of the war when he was regularly discharged he at the time of his discharge holding the said commission as Ensign as aforesaid she was informed by her said husband & believes to be true that he served under his said Uncle James Griegg in the battles fought in the Vally of the MowHawk River [sic: Mohawk River Valley] in the State of New York against the British & Indians & that he was the Ensign who was appointed by Colonel [Alexander] Hamilton the officer of the day to conduct the ceremony of receiving the Brittish Flags at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown [19 Oct 1781]; he (Wilson) being then the youngest Ensign in the army and that he performed that service as such Ensign & received the colours of twenty eight Regiments from twenty eight Brittish Captains & handed them over to twenty eight American Sergeants under the directions of Col. Hamilton she has often talked over with said Wilson the services & hardships he had passed through while a soldier & officer in the army of the Revolution & well remembers the accounts given by him of the same & which said accounts have been often repeated to others by him in her presence the truth of which she never doubted she has no record of the age of said Robert Wilson he was an old Batchelor when she married him & called himself about thirty nine years of age she has never seen the record of his birth & cannot give his age or the time of his entering & leaving the army except from his statements to her as above given & which she verily believes to be true & has no doubt but that the records of the Government of the United States will fully substanciate his service, she was informed by her said husband & believes to be true that he was born in the City of New York & that his father died before the war commenced & that his widowed mother & six children all younger than himself (except one) were driven out of New York at the commencement of the war & came to Albany where he entered the service under his maternal uncle Captain James Griegg as above mention in the capacity of a musician he being a Fifer

She further saith that he died at the town of New Hartford County of Oneida on the thirtieth day of May A.D. 1811 he being on a journey from his residence in Manlius County of Onondaga & State of New York to Utica County of Oneida & State aforesaid he was attacked with fever of which he died she went from Manlius to New Hartford & was with him until he died

She further saith that the said Robert Wilson resided in the town of Manlius aforesaid at the time she

married him & she resided in the town of Pompey in said county a town adjoining Manlius aforesaid & had resided at that place with his aged mother for a number of years & was Post Master & Justice of the Peace at that place & continued in such offices up to the time of his death; she further declares that she was married to the said Robert Wilson January 9<sup>th</sup> 1803 at her fathers home in Pompy aforesaid by the Reverend Hugh Wallace a Presbyterian Clergyman that her sister now Sophia Sloan is the only person now living who was present at said marriage according to her best knowledge recollection & belief though there were several of her family who were present but all of whom are dead except her said Sister Sophia Sloan who now resides in the town of Collins County of Erie & State of New York – that the said Robert Wilson cohabited with her as husband & wife from the time of such marriage until he died & by whom she had four children names George Stuart Wilson Anne Mosely Wilson Jane Gray Wilson & James Griegg Wilson. she further saith that she has a record of her marriage & the names & births, also deaths of all her children entered in a family bible which bible she has had ever since her marriage & the records were entered from time to time as they occurred, the two leaves of the bible containing this record she has cut out of the said bible & they are hereunto annexed which record she is positive are true.

She further declares that after the death of the said Robert Wilson and on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March 1814 she was married to Benjamin Hickcox by the Reverend Mr. Rawson a Presbyterian clergyman at Manlius aforesaid & immediately removed to Clinton aforesaid where she continued to cohabit with said Hickcox he died & had by him one daughter named Sophia D. Hickcox who has married Albert G. Grigsby & resides in Clinton aforesaid

She further declares that her last husband Benjamin Hickcox died at Clinton aforesaid on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of September 1845 She further declares that her marriage to the said Robert Wilson did not take place prior to the second of January 1800 but at the time above stated. That she was not married to the said Benjamin Hickcox prior to the second day of January 1800 but at the time above stated She further declares that she is now a widow

She further declares that she has now in her possession the original certificate of membership of her said husband Robert Wilson as a member of the Society of the Cincinatti [sic: Cincinnati] signed by George Washington President of the Society, & has had it in her original frame in which it was set by said Wilson for fifty years last past.

That she let Benson J. Lossing procure an engraving from the same & he has given a copy of it in his Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution Vol 2<sup>d</sup> page 128 entitled Lossing, Pictorial Field book of the Revolution published in 1852

This history gives much information relative to her said husband Robert Wilson & his gallant Captain Gregg under whom he served & may give some assistance in tracing out the record of his service which are supposed & believed to remain among the records of the U. S. Government at Washington Lossing gives the account of the taking of Cornwallis at Yorktown & of the part taken by Robert Willson & the Notes to the same explain it (see Vol 2<sup>d</sup> page 524-5) [signed] Amelia Hickcox

#### NOTES:

The family record is transcribed below. On 5 Sep 1853 William H. Moseley, an editor and publisher from Syracuse, stated that Daniel Dunham was the father of the applicant, that after Robert Wilson's death she had charge of the post office for some time, and that Gen. Amos P. Granger of Syracuse married a sister of her second husband. On the same day Amos P. Granger, 60, also made a statement supporting the application, in which he referred to William H. Moseley as a General.

On 17 May 1853 in Onondaga County Sophia Sloan, 67 on the previous 29 September, daughter of Daniel Dunham and wife of Sturgeon Sloan, also made a statement in support of her sister's application. She stated that she was visiting another sister, Phylura Blood, widow of Isaac Blood. Phylura Blood also made a supporting statement.

On 7 Dec 1853 Amelia Hickcox stated that Robert Wilson's commission had been found, but that they wished to keep it.

On 23 April 1855 Amelia Hickcox applied for bounty land.

#### MARRIAGES.

Robert Wilson Married Amelia Dunham Jan'y 9<sup>th</sup> AD 1803.

Benjamin Hickcox married Amelia Wilson March 4<sup>th</sup> 1814.

Anne M. D. Wilson, daughter of Robert & Amelia Wilson, married Caleb Mckeel Nov'br 10<sup>th</sup> 1832.

George S. Wilson married Julia R. Preston Aug't. 26, 1835.

James G. Wilson married Caroline T. Vail, May 17<sup>th</sup> 1836

Sophia D. Hickcox, daughter of Benjamin & Amelia Hickcox, married Albert G. Gridley, Oct. 7, 1839.

#### BIRTHS.

George Stuart Wilson born on Monday Oct 3d, 1803.

Anne Moseley Wilson born on Thursday July 18th 1805

Jane G Wilson born Tuesday June 9th 1807

James Gregg Wilson born June 14<sup>th</sup> 1809 on Wednesday

Sophia Dunham Hickcox born on March 20<sup>th</sup> 1821.

Anne Underhill Mckeel, daughter of Anne & Caleb Mckeel, was born Nov'r. 17<sup>th</sup> 1835 on Tuesday morn.

Julia Anne Wilson daughter of George S & Julia R. Wilson, born at Gouverneur, N. Y. Aug. 10, 1836.

Robert Preston Wilson, son of Geo. S. & Julia R. Wilson, born at Sackets Harbor, N. Y. June 13<sup>th</sup> 1839.

#### DEATHS.

Robert Wilson died May 30<sup>th</sup> 1811

Anne M. D. Mckeel died Nov'br 23<sup>rd</sup> 1835.

Jane A. Wilson, died May 8 1837.

George S. Wilson, died May 17, 1841.

James Greigg Wilson Died July 31<sup>st</sup> 1851