

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Wilson¹ W9007 Mary f59VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves 10/5/11 rev'd 3/29/12 & 6/7/23

[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 8]

War Department
Pension Office
September 14, 1837

I hereby certify that I have examined the claim of the heirs of the late Thomas Wilson, deceased, who was a Lieutenant during the revolution in the Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George R Clark [George Rogers Clark], called the Illinois Regiment; that he served until the termination of hostilities; that he died on the 27th of February 1828, in Kentucky; that the case is embraced by the provisions of the Act of July 5, 1832, entitled, "An act to provide for the liquidating and paying certain claims of the State of Virginia;" that the claim should therefore be allowed at the rate of \$160 per annum, from the 22nd of April 1783, when the war terminated, to the 27th of February 1828 when he died; and that the amount is payable to the Honorable Thomas P Moore, attorney of Philip Trapnall of Kentucky, sole surviving Executor of said Thomas Wilson, deceased

Approved

Commissioner of Pensions

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State of Kentucky Mercer County: Sct.

On this 17th day of August 1838 personally appeared before Armstead Downing a Justice of the peace in and for Mercer County State of Kentucky Mary Wilson a resident of Mercer County State of Kentucky, aged 72 years, who being first 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 7th of July 1838 entitled An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of Thomas Wilson who was a *² Lieutenant in the Army of the revolution in the Virginia state line in what was called the Illinois or Clarke's Regiment, but she will not undertake to state the particulars of the service of the said Thomas Wilson as she has no doubt but what the department are satisfied the said Wilson performed the service of a Lieutenant in the Virginia state line – She further declares that she was married to the said

¹ Half Pay See N. A. Acc. No. 874 050 195 Half Pay Thomas Wilson

² * A margin note reads: "If the said Thomas Wilson was commissioned afterwards Captain, your declarant will ask the allowance usually given."

Thomas Wilson who was a Lieutenant in the line aforesaid on the 25th day of March in the year 1784 in what is now Mercer County State of Kentucky. She will state that she was married several miles from where the town of Danville, Mercer County, now stands. That her husband the aforesaid Thomas Wilson died on the 27th day of February 1828, that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794, viz., at the time above stated. She will further state that from bodily infirmity she is unable to attend in open court to make her declaration. She will further state that the Bible that has her marriage recorded in [it] has been always been kept in her possession and still is.

S/ Mary Wilson, X her mark

[p 13: On August 20, 1838 in Mercer County Kentucky, Elizabeth Adams, 82, gave testimony that she is the sister-in-law of Mary Wilson the widow of Thomas Wilson; that she, affiant, lived in what is now Mercer County Kentucky since the year 1782; that according to the record in her [affiant's] Bible of her children's ages, Mary Wilson then Mary Adams married Thomas Wilson in the year 1784; that the affiant's husband David Adams and others were opposed to the marriage of Mary Adams to Thomas Wilson; that Mary and Thomas Wilson never had any children; that her way of dating the marriage of Thomas Wilson to Mary Adams is that to the best of her recollection it took place between the births of Martha Adams and Archey Adams, 2 of affiant's children as they stand recorded in her Bible which contains the following family record:

David Adams born June 2nd 1754

Elizabeth Adams born December 4th 1756

Mary Adams born December 1st 1778

Margaret Adams born March 21st 1781

Martha Adams July 16th 1783

Archey Adams August 20th 1785

Elizabeth Adams June 4th 1788

William Adams November 15th 1790

John W Adams April 29th 1793

Anne Adams September 7th 1795

James Adams July 18th 1798

The affiant signed her affidavit with her mark.]

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This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 25th day of January 1786, in the name of Thomas Wilson, as a Soldier of Infantry for £245.15.0, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Jas. Morrinson and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
19th day of May 1846.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

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I certify that Land Office Military Warrant No. 4537 for 2666 2/3 acres issue to Thomas Wilson on the 10th day of November 1791 for 3 years service as a Lieutenant in the State Line.

S/ J. H. Parker Reg. Va. L. Office
Richmond, May 19, 1846

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Pension Office January 29, 1847

I certify that I have examined the claim of the Executor of the late Thomas Wilson, deceased, who was a Lieutenant in the Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George R. Clark; and it appears that under the act of July 5, 1832, half-pay was allowed in 1837 from the 22nd of April 1783 to the date of his death. The claim now present it is for half-pay from the 31st of December 1781 to the 22nd of April 1783. My opinion is that claim should be allowed. I therefore certify that the Executor, Philip Trapnall, of Mercer County, Kentucky, is entitled to half-pay for said Wilson's service under said Act, from 31 December 1781 to the 22nd April 1783, at the rate of \$160 per annum, And that the amount is payable to his attorney the Honorable Bryan R Young, a Member of Congress from Kentucky
Approved S/ Commissioner of pensions
Secretary of War

[p 3: Certificate issued by the clerk of Lincoln County Kentucky showing that Mary Adams was "consentably" married to Thomas Wilson pursuant to the instructions issued March 18th, 1784 by Wilson Adams [identified in another document posted at p 6 as the father of Mary Adams] and under a bond issued to Thomas Wilson and Moses McCloud on the 24th of March 1784.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$320 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836, for her husband's service for 2 years as a Lieutenant in the Virginia State troops.]

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Addendum to Thomas Wilson W9007

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 7 June 2023.

[The following are from a 93-page Virginia Half-Pay file on fold3.com.]

Acc't of sundry Arms, Tools, Utensils &c &c &c Received by me Martin Carney [VAS2892] Q'r. M. at Fort Jefferson [at present Louisville KY] between 1st May 1780 & the 1st May 1781. Viz:

1780

July 12. Rec'd of Lt. Wilson 5 Muskets.

Acc't of Ammunition delivered by me, by Capt Robert George's [R14396] Order at Camp Jefferson

1780

June 20. To Thomas Wilson Lt. 2 lbs powder & 4 lbs of Lead.

July 8 To Lt Wilson going on Command ¼ lbs powder & 2½ lbs Lead.

The three foregoing entries are truly copied from the book kept by Martin Carney Q'r. M'r. Said Book is bound in the 3 Vol of papers concerning Q'r M'rs Returns & Accounts relating to the Illinois Regiment.

Given under my hand at the Auditors office of Virginia this 26 November 1836.

Jas. E. Heath/ Aud Va.

John Rice [S16515] a Citizen of the County of Mercer, in the State of Kentucky and Minister of the Gospel aged Seventy four years, being first duly sworn, saith upon his oath. That he was well acquainted with the late Thomas Wilson for many years a Citizen of the County of Mercer in this State, and who died near Lucto in said County sometime about the year 1828, A reference to his will of record in the Mercer office will shew. [See endnote] He states that the said Thomas Wilson was a Lieutenant in the Company Commanded by Captain Quirk [Thomas Quirk W5958], in the Regiment Commanded by the late General George Rogers Clark. He states that he was himself a soldier in Quirks Company for about one year, at which time his acquaintance with Wilson commenced and was continued up until his death. He first became acquainted with him at a place called "The Long Island" on Holstein [sic: Holston] River, and as well as he now recollects about the year 1779. From that point, Wilson descended the river under the immediate Command of a Col Montgomery on his way to what was then called the Illinois Country to join Gen'l Clark, And this deponent knows that Wilson was upon that expedition called and recognized, as a Lieutenant in Quirks Company, and acted throughout in that character.

He states further that he knew no other man by the name of Thomas Wilson, who was in the service at same time, but the one above referred to, and he is fully satisfied that the man above described, is the identical Thomas Wilson who served as a Lieutenant in Clarks Regiment. And further saith not.

[9 Dec 1834]



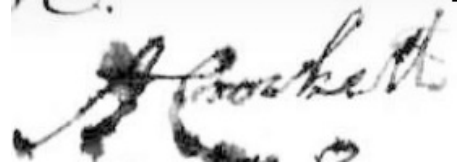
The deposition of Anthony Crockett [S10492] of Franklin County State of Kentucky in the seventy eighth year of his age who being first sworn deposes and says, that he was a Lieutenant in Clarks Illinois regiment, and believes to the best of his recollection that Thomas Wilson who recently died near Lucto in Mercer County Kentucky was a Lieutenant in Captain Thomas Quirks Company in said Regiment, and that he the said Crockett knows no other Thomas Wilson who rendered similar Services – and further saith not.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of January 1835.



State of Kentucky } Sct
Franklin County }

On this the 12th day of September in the year of our Lord 1836 personally appeareth before me Danza S. Crockett a Justice of the peace for said County, Col Anthony Crockett who being first duly sworn according to law deposes and says, That he this deponent was well acquainted with Lieutenant Thomas Wilson of Capt Quirks Company, in Col George Rogers Clark's Illenois Regiment, that he this deponent was with said Wilson in the service from March 1779 till late in the fall of that year at which time this deponent left said Wilson in the service and if he resigned or was cashiered never heard of it, but this deponent lived in the same county with him after the close of the war for Ten or eleven years and does not recollect to have heard it said that he said Wilson either resigned or was cashiered and further saith not.



NOTES:

The Virginia Half-Pay record includes a copy of the last will and testament of Thomas Wilson dated 27 Feb 1827 devising to his wife, Mary, his estate including his 115-acre tract and mansion house, as well as "my negro man Peter negro George negro boy Tom and negro girl Hannah during her life never to be removed out of this State." The will also provided that "my negro woman Nancy remain with my wife and be entitled to her maintainance during her the said Nancys life time for the use of her services in my wifes family but never to be sold or disposed of in any way to cause her to be the servant of any other persons in any way whatsoever." The will also directed that "my executors after the death of my wife proceed to sell my waggon and team if any of the same should be left at her death and the slaves given to my wife during her life at twelve months credit and also the negro John after the five years expires with Eli Wheat at the same credit."

On 2 March 1836 Benjamin F. Pleasants made a statement about Wilson that reads in part: "he often heard Captain Wilson speak of the part he bore in the war of the revolution, & in the Indian Wars, & he never failed to speak of the hardships of the early settlers, & of the injustice of compelling them to receive the depreciated continental money for their services. He was called by every body Captain Wilson, & it was the general opinion & in Court when his will was proved, & that Major Thomas Adams, Clerk of the Court, & Dr Phillip Trapnall were his Executors. Deponent states that he frequently saw Captain Wilson, that he was an infirm old man, very eccentric in his manners & notions. The greater part of the time Deponent lived in Harrod."

A long letter dated 2 March 1836 by T. P. Moore of Washington DC states in part, "Maj. Thomas Allen died in the summer 1833 of Cholera a few days after I reached home from South America."