

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of James Wilson W9012

Agnes

fn49Va.

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/22/09 rev'd 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.]

State of Kentucky Pendleton County

On this the 3rd day of April A.D. 1841 personally appeared before me William G. Woodson a Justice of the County Court for the County aforesaid, the same being a Court of record, Mrs. Agnes Wilson, a resident of the town of Falmouth in the County aforesaid, aged 70 years and upwards, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions, made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838, entitled: "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows:" That she is the widow of James Wilson deceased who was a private soldier in the war of the revolution and departed this life on the 12th day of August 1829 in the town aforesaid. That the said James Wilson served as private in the Army of the revolution and as such in the battle at Camden, South Carolina and also as such, in the battle at Guilford Court House, North Carolina, also as such fought in a skirmish or battle at Williamsburg, Virginia and also in said Army previous to and at the taking war surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Little York, Virginia, and also at other battles and skirmishes, as she has often heard him and others detail -- And after Cornwallis surrendered he was a tour of service at Winchester Virginia guarding British prisoners for several months --

That she was born and raised in Caroline County Virginia, in the same neighborhood, in which her said husband was born and raised, and of her own knowledge knows that he as early as the year 1780 joined the Army and went a tour to the South, in the Virginia troops, while yet quite a youth and after the battle at Camden South Carolina in which he was, returned home to Caroline County Virginia and shortly after his return home, he left again for the Army then in the South and served in the same and was at the battle at Guilford Court house North Carolina, whether these his services in the South were under one or more terms or tours or only one she is not able to state, or whether two, three, six or twelve months tours she cannot state; but she very well remembers that his 1st absence and service in the South at the period the first of these battles were fought was the longest he continued absent in service at one time, whether his absence was under an engagement for one or more terms she cannot state, but she feels confident he returned home from the South in the period between those 2 battles or events and then left again for the South and was both at the battle at Camden and Guilford.

She further states, that the residence of her father was near Bowling Green Caroline County Virginia & within about four miles of the residence of the father of her said husband; and that her husband and herself went to School together, and while she you was quite young she was affianced to him before he went into active service; and that after his last returned from the South, he was absent from home, in the Army, in Virginia a number of times for periods shorter or longer how long at a time she does not know. But she distinctly recollects that shortly after his last returned from the South, he again left for and joined the Army and was at the siege and the taking of Little York and surrender of Lord Cornwallis and afterwards was several other short

tours between the taking of Cornwallis and the final peace in eighty-three. Colonel Nicholas Long, then Captain or Major accompanied him while out, in one or more of his tours. He was also commanded while in the service by a Colonel Matthews and a Colonel Johnson. She feels entirely confident from the best of her memory, his service in the Army were between one and two years, if not quite or more than two years. The precise period or periods he served in active service she is not able to state, since it was before her in her marriage with him, yet during the tendency of a relation between them, that his absence was not without the deepest interest to her though when married, after the perils of the times had passed, she was very young. That she was married to the said James Wilson, at her father's house, whose name was John Pickett and Caroline County, Virginia, October the 16th 1787: and she and her said husband thereafter resided in Caroline, until the fall of the year 1796, when they together with 4 of their children and family removed to Scott County Kentucky, not far from Georgetown; and about 2 years thereafter in 1798, they removed to this section of the Country, now Pendleton County, Kentucky, which he has resided ever since, and now resides her husband having died in the year before stated. She further states, that she does not remember the precise day or month, in which her said husband first entered the services; further than that it was in the year 1780, when the Virginia troops generally marched towards the South to meet Cornwallis. Her father lived immediately upon the great thoroughfare leading then to the South and she well remembers the troops marching by her father's house on their way to the South, and her husband's return and also his return from Little York after the taking of Cornwallis and his frequent conversations about the events of the South, with those who were his brothers in arms from Virginia, both as to Gates defeat -- the battle of Guilford & the taking of Little York & surrender of Cornwallis. Neither can she state the precise day, month or year, when his tour or tours ended, and he finally returned with others discharged from the service -- But she has often not only heard him detail many incidents of the aforesaid 3 events, to those who were present at them with him and also to others, but the straights and the events which occurred with him and others at a skirmish or battle at Williamsburg Virginia and also events which occurred after the surrender of Cornwallis while guarding prisoners at Winchester she thinks -- it was only a few months or weeks, to the best of her recollection, after her husband's first return from the South, before he again left for the Army in the south and then returned after the battle of Guilford and shortly after his second return again left for the Army and remained until the taking of Cornwallis at Little York. After the taking of Cornwallis her husband again served several tours was again absent in the Army but how many or how often between that and the final close of the war in 1783 she is not able to specify. She is under the impression and belief that he served, principally as a volunteer or to save his father from going, whose services and protection were deemed important at that period to his family. She states, that her husband, from information, went during his services as far as Camden South Carolina and home to Caroline again and the second time as far as Guilford Court house North Carolina and then home again and thence to Little York and other places either before or after the siege and probably both. Whether his services were in the State or Continental line or both she does not know, but that with the exceptions of his services in the South his tours were confined to Virginia both before and after the surrender of Cornwallis.

She further states that she has no documentary evidence to support her claim, as to her marriage, or her husband's services; further than the family record, hereto attached (marked A) taken from their family Bible, and which she states is in the hand writing of her husband, shows the date of their marriage and their births and the births of their children. That during the life of her husband he always refused, having an ample competency, to avail himself of the proffered

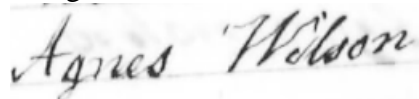
gratuities of his country, for his revolutionary services in the way of Pensions, alleging that he needed it not; though always was reputed well known revolutionary soldier, and as such recognized by all his contemporary acquaintances of that period who knew him in his younger days as well as by reputation, with his afterlife acquaintances and by reason thereof frequently urged to apply for his proffered claims to the government, but he uniformly refused upon the grounds that he needed not the aid of his government.

She refers to the affidavits hereto annexed for further proof of her husband's said services her marriage with him. And also declares that since the death of her husband she has not been married; but is now, and since his death have been his widow & relic.

She further declares, that she was married to the said James Wilson on the 16th day of October in the year 1787 in Caroline County Virginia about 4 miles from Bowling Green by the Reverend __ Taylor an Episcopal preacher: that her husband the aforesaid James Wilson died at Falmouth Pendleton County Kentucky on the 12th day of August 1829 that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service; but the marriage took place some years after the war, but previous to the 1st day of January 1794 viz. at the time above stated.

Sworn to and

S/ Agnes Wilson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Agnes Wilson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[On August 24, 1841 in Grant County Kentucky, Mrs. Mary Theobalds, 78, widow of James Theobalds, made affidavit that she is the sister of James Wilson, late of Falmouth Pendleton County Kentucky and husband of Agnes, an applicant for a widow's pension; that she and her brother were the children of Abraham Wilson born in Caroline County Virginia; that she was aware of her brothers marriage to Agnes Picket also of Caroline County although she was not personally present at the wedding; that both her brother and her father departed shortly before the battle of Guilford to the South but that her father returned, she thinks on furlough, before the battle of Guilford; "very shortly after her father had returned home, they heard that the battle of Guilford had been fought, upon which news, owing to the uneasiness of her father, as to the fate of her brother James, he left for the Army, in order to ascertain what had been his fate, immediately after hearing of the news of the battle, and that both her father and her brother, the said James, both remained in service and from home, until Christmas following she thinks when they both returned home together from the Army. That her present memory he is, that when her brother 1st went into the Army, that his Captain was by the name of Samuel Hawes. She also distinctly recollects that her said brother was at the siege of Lytle York the surrender of Lord Cornwallis and there after guarding prisoners at Winchester. There was a skirmish at Williamsburg, Virginia, at which her said brother was also, if she recollects correctly."]

[fn p. 13: family record]

James Wilson was born December the 10th 1763, and Agnes his wife was born October 1st 1770, and they was married October 16th 1787

Ages of their children

Fannee was born July 14th 1788

Samuel was born September 12 1790

Nancey was born July 3 1792

Lucy was born March 17th 1796

Sarah Baulwell was born March 1 1797
William Clark was born March 8 1799
Agnes Woodfolk was born January 14 1801
John Abraham was born December 11 1803
James was born December 23 1804
Dixson was born September 6 1807
Betsey Julia was born December 10 1808
George Pickett was born July 19 1811

[fn p. 21]

State of Kentucky Campbell County

On this the 12th day of July A.D. 1841 personally appeared before me George Marion a justice of the County Court, for the County aforesaid the same being a court of record Colonel Nicholas Long a resident of the County aforesaid aged 87, who being duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following statement, to wit That he was well and intimately acquainted with James Wilson, who died at Falmouth Pendleton County Kentucky and also his wife Agnes. That the said James, was this affiant's half brother in the said Agnes the wife of said James was the sister of this affiant's wife, now deceased. That the said Agnes is the daughter of John Pickett, deceased of Caroline County Virginia and the said James Wilson, the son of Abraham Wilson, the second husband of the mother of this affiant. That the said James Wilson and his wife, the said Agnes were both born in Caroline County Virginia, and married in that County, and some years after their marriage removed from Virginia to the State of Kentucky. That to Scott County, and after which to the neighborhood of Falmouth now Pendleton County in which place the said James Wilson died, leaving him surviving his wife the aforesaid Agnes. This affiant distinctly recollects being at the wedding of said James & Agnes and several incidents which occurred at the same -- but to the name the precise year in which that event took place he cannot, with certainty. The said Agnes was much younger than her sister, this affiant's wife, and was married when quite young to said James Wilson in Caroline County at the house of her father.

This affiant further states, that during the revolutionary war -- when the seat of war, was changed from the North to the South, he distinctly recollects that the said James Wilson and his father (this affiant's stepfather) both were in service, in the Virginia militia, in the South. How long James served in one tour in the South or whether he went more than one to the South, he does not recollect -- but he distinctly recollects of having heard various conversations with his said brother of the events of his services in the South, that among them, Gates defeat, and the battle of Guilford Court house in North Carolina, were frequently and often and familiarly spoken of; and feels confident in as much so as of any event, which he does not of his own personal knowledge know -- that James Wilson, was not only in the American Army in the South, as a common soldier but that he was both, at Gates defeat and at the battle of Guilford Court house. And this confidence is founded upon the frequent conversations had with him and others in reference to those two battles and from the fact that in the family events, and among and with all the acquaintances such has always been taken to have been two of the events which occurred to him while in service in the South.

This affiant further states that he feels confident in his own mind, that the said James was also at the taking of Cornwallis at Little York Virginia. But from the great length of time which has since elapsed, he cannot speak with certainty as to the length of time he served at one tour, or

for how long he went out to service -- his impression is that his services were two months tours at a time -- but how long he the said James at one continued period served, in fact, he does not remember; but whether the said James when out for longer or shorter tours, he very well and distinctly knows that he the said James Wilson, was always taken, talked of and viewed by all those who knew him, and as such knew that he took a part in the revolutionary struggle, that he had done so, faithfully and honorably, without imputation of any kind whatsoever, of not having performed his duty as a soldier in any respect whatever. This affiant feels entirely and fully confident, that the said James Wilson while serving, fully served out his respective. Support tours, and at no time left the Army, at any one time, otherwise, then in an honorable way -- for had such been the case, he would have heard of it; and the said James Wilson would not, as he always was spoken of by his acquaintances of that period as a faithful & honorable soldier of that war.

S/ Nicholas Long

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicholas Long". The signature is written in dark ink and is centered below the typed name.

Sworn to & subscribed...
S/ George Morris, JP

[fn p. 34: In a later affidavit, Nicholas Long states "... that the said James Wilson served under Colonel Thomas Mathews, & Philip Johnson Lieutenant Colonel who commanded the Third Regiment of the Virginia Militia, does not recollect the Captain of the company, to which the said James Wilson belonged, but recollects the names of some of the captains of companies belonging to the Regiment, to wit, James Sutton, Jeremiah Upshaw & Samuel Coleman, but cannot state under which of these last named officers the said Wilson went into service...."]