Report of the Committee on Pensions on the Pension of Theophilus Wilson

In the House of Representatives, December 16, 1847
Resolved that the House do agree to the Report.
Ordered that it be sent to the Senate for Concurrence
By order
S/ T. W. Glover, C. H. R.

In the Senate
December 17th, 1847 Resolved that the Senate do concur in the report
Ordered that it be returned to the House of Representatives
By order
S/ W. C. Martin, C. S.
G. W. Williams

To the Honorable the President & other Members of the Senate of South Carolina: The humble petition of Theophilus Wilson of Fairfield District, respectfully Sheweth: That at the session of your Honorable Body in 1847, the petition to be placed on the Pension Roll of the State as 1 of the Survivors of the Revolutionary Soldiers and was allowed a pension at the established rate of $60 per annum from the 1st of March 1847 (See Reports & Resolutions of House of

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Representatives of 1847, page 335): That he respectfully refers to said petition as containing a
minute history of his services in the War of the Revolution which so gloriously resulted in the
achievement of the liberty of our prosperous Country: Your petitioner would further state that
such was the character of his services during that struggle that he never received any payment of
his monthly pay for the same, he having served as a Waggoner most of the time in said War and
the balance of the time as a substitute for his father John Wilson, who was a devoted patriot and
soldier of the Revolution, and at that time old as he was not only went into service himself, but
also had 4 other sons than your petitioner, engaged as soldiers in the Cause of liberty: That his
said father & sons James Wilson, William Wilson pension by this State and died in 1837 Jesse
Wilson & John Wilson Junior then lived in what is now Fairfield District, and were principally
engaged in the militia service of South Carolina under Colonel Richard Winn, Colonel Robert
Goodwyn, Major Joseph Kirkland, and Captain William Simons and Captain James Craig all of
whom were officers from same section, viz., the present District of Fairfield, except Colonel
Robert Goodwyn who was from what is now Richland District. That his said father & brothers
are all now no more and your petitioner the youngest & last survivor of his father’s family alone
is left to speak the facts of those trying times & services: That your petitioner was only about
sixteen years of age when his said father who was Wagon Master in part for Colonel Robert
Goodwyn’s Regiment & in part for Colonel Richard Winn’s Regiment put your petitioner into
service of driving wagons for said regiments in which service he was actively engaged at various
periods amounting in all to between 2 & 3 years. That he being under age and employed under
his father as wagon master aforesaid did not receive at the Conclusion of the War any
compensation or Monthly pay and as his name was not on the Company Rolls Consequently the
Militia Reports of this State furnished no evidence of his services. That your petitioner unable to
obtain a pension from the United States for the want of such evidence, he having delayed to
prove his services in the lifetime of any known surviving comrades & not being aware of the
provisions of the Act of Congress of 1832 & having grown old & in indigent Circumstances
petitioned Your Honorable Body to be placed on the Pension Roll in this State in 1847 and was
graciously allowed a pension at the rate of $60 per annum from first March 1847 in the receipt of
which he still continues. Your petitioner would now respectfully pray as the infirmities of age are
fast overtaking him being now nearly Eighty-five years old, so that he cannot maintain himself
by manual labor and may soon become a complete Charge upon his Children all of whom are in
indigent Circumstances having large families of their own to support, and from the fact that he
never received his said monthly pay and also from the additional fact that other Soldiers of the
Revolution who are now dead & who for a series of years shared your munificent Bounty
receiving their pensions annually for a period as far back as & even further than the Act of 1832
aforesaid would pray the arrears at the same rates due him from 4th of March 1831 from which
time said Act allows payments of pensions to be made to the 1st March 1847 from which time
your petitioner has been receiving his pension. Your petitioner respectfully refers to the
Honorable Senator & Members of the House of Representatives from his District touching his
reputation as a Revolutionary soldier and his Character as a Citizen. Your petitioner therefore
prays your Honorable Body to allow him said arrears so that he may be placed on a similar
footing with others who likewise served their country in her 1st great peril, and thus he be
enabled to pass his few remaining days free from want & from being a charge upon his Children
who are not in easy Circumstances or upon the poor list of his District, & as in duty bound he
will ever pray &c him

2 this document is not included among the documents in this file
S/ Theophilus Wilson, X his mark

State of South Carolina Richland District} Personally appeared before me Theophilus Wilson who being duly sworn saith that the Contents of the foregoing petition are true and that he is now nearly eighty-five years of age his birth day being on 15th December ensuing. Sworn to & subscribed before me this 29th day of November 1852
Before me
S/ S. Olin Talley, Magt.                                S/ Theophilus Wilson, X his mark

[p 10]
The undersigned members of the Legislature from Fairfield District would respectfully state that they are personally acquainted with the petitioner Theophilus Wilson and that he is quite aged and in indigent Circumstances: That he enjoys the undisputed reputation of having served his Country in the Struggle for Independence and we take pleasure in recommending the favorable Consideration of his petition and that the same be granted him.
Columbia
November 27, 1832                         S/ John Buchanan, member of Senate
                                          S/ R. B. Boylston
                                          S/ H. H. Clarke

[p 12]
Report of the Committee on Military & Pensions
    The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Theophilus Wilson praying to be allowed the arrearages of pension, as leave to Report.
    That they have had the said Petition under consideration and recommend that the prayer thereof be not granted.
All of which is respectfully submitted
S/ J far Munhall, Chairman

[p 14: On November 23, 1853 in Richland District South Carolina Theophilus Wilson Junior petitioned the South Carolina legislature stating that his father, Theophilus Wilson Senior, died June 25, 1853; the petitioner seeks the arrears of the annual pension due his father at the time of his death. He signed the petition with his mark.]

[p 15]
Wee the under siners [signers] doe agree to give upe all the claime [claim] and in trust [interest] That wee have the State of Theofles Wilson deset [deceased] & give it upe to Theofls Wilson Junry the sum of deset ['?] give him alls demans that we have aganst the State of South Carolina [text obliterated] muny [money] and this shall be our recete [receipt] from all wee the unders of the ars [heirs?] free dide the 25 of June 1853
S/ John J. Willson, X his mark
S/ Susan Wilson, X her mark
S/ Naomi Kelly ['?], X her mark
S/ Hirom Wilson, H his mark
The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of the Children of Theophilus Wilson late of Fairfield District deceased asked leave to Report

That they have had the same under Consideration and find that Theophilus Wilson the Father of your petitioners was a Pensioner of the State of South Carolina at the rate of $60 per annum and that he was paid up to the 1st of March last and the said Theophilus Wilson died on the 28th day of June 1853 and recommend that the sum of $25 the amount due him from the 1st of March last to the 28 of June last be paid

S/ A. S. Wallace