

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Wilson S7915

fn36NC

Transcribed by Peggy Reece Bruckner

10/24/10 supp. 1/20/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original document and to make their own decision as to how to decipher it.]

State of North Carolina, Mecklenburg County } On this 14th day of November 1832
personally appeared in open Court, before the Judge of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg
County now setting Samuel Wilson a resident of said County & State, aged 82 years who being
first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to
obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of
the United States, under the following named officers and served as here in stated, being a part of
the time in the militia and a part in regular service. His first tour was for six months, against the
Cherokee Indians, as Captain, in regiment commanded by Cols Alexander and Phefer [Phifer],
and Major John Davidson, the year he cannot now distinctly recollect. He then enlisted for
twelve months in the regular service under Capt Ezekiel Polk, 1st Lieut. Samuel Watson, 2nd
Lieut. William Polk, he thinks, in the year 1777, but was discharged at the expiration of eight
months. He then served a time of three months under General Sumter of South Carolina in the
regiment commanded by Col. Thompson [William Thomson] of South Carolina and known as
Col of the rangers. He then, in the year 1779 or 1780 entered and served a tour of three months
under General Sumter of South Carolina. He then in the year 1780 served a tour of three & half
months as Issuing Commissary under Col. Williams some forty or fifty miles north or northeast
of Guilford Courthouse in N. C. [where] we joined General Greene, making in the whole twenty
and a half months of which I distinctly remember. He has no documentary evidence and but one
living witness within reach (David Davis whose deposition is herewith appended) that can be
obtained. He was born in Virginia, and was brought to Mecklenburg County as he has been
informed by his parents at the age of 3 months, about the year 1750, where he now and has since
the revolution resided. He hereby relinquishes any claim to a pension and annuity except the
present and declares that his name is not on a Pension Roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to
& subscribed, the day & year aforesaid

S/Saml Wilson



Sworn to and Subscribed in open court
before me Sam Henderson Clk
November 14th 1832

We, John Robinson a clergyman residing in the County of Mecklenburg and William S Wilson
residing in the same county do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Samuel Wilson,
who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be 82 years of
age, that he is respected and believed, in the neighborhood where he resides, to have been a

soldier of the revolution, and that we concur in that opinion. Sworn & subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

Sworn and subscribed this day November 14, 1832 in open court

S/Jno Robinson

S/Wm S Wilson

S/Samuel Henderson, Clk

And the said Court, do hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of the matter and after reading the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier and served as he states. And the court further certifies that it appears to them, that the Reverend John Robinson who has signed the preceding certificate is a clergyman resident in the County of Mecklenburg N. C. and that William J Wilson who has also signed the same is a resident in the same county, and is a credible person, & that their statement is entitled to credit.

I Samuel Henderson Clerk of the Superior Court of the County of Mecklenburg do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of Samuel Wilson for a pension. In testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand & seal of office this 14th day of November 1832.

S/Sam Henderson Clk

1. Where and in what year were you born?

A. June 20th 1750 in Virginia

2. Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

A. My age is recorded in my father's family Bible and one of my nephews has it now in his possession.

3. Where were you living when called into Service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War & where do you now live?

A. In Mecklenburg Cty, NC, and have & still reside

4. How were you called into Service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? An if a substitution for whom?

A. I Volunteered in every instance

5. State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the troops, when you served; such Continental & Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.

A. I do not recollect the names of any save General Rutherford, who commanded the expedition against the Cherokee Indians. In my Service under Capt Ezekiel Polk we had a skirmish with the Torys on Reedy river in South Carolina under Col. Cunningham and carried them on to Charleston.

[Transcriber note: Pension file includes an application made October 30, 1851 by Patrick J. Wilson, son of Samuel Wilson, for his father's RW pension benefits.]

Added by Will Graves 1/20/11

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State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County: Amendatory of the declaration of Samuel Wilson of Mecklenburg County North Carolina for a pension under the Act of Congress of June 1832 made the 14th of November 1832. – That from old age & consequent loss of memory he cannot, with certainty state the year of his service to the Cherokee Nation but, then, believed to be 1777. Since, when he learns from James Conner who was with him in the same service that it was in the year 1776. He was commissioned by Colonel Adam Alexander, who was attached to & belonged to the Brigade Commanded by General Rutherford. His commission has been lost or mislaid, remembering distinctly, that he received a commission from Colonel Alexander, but at the time of preparing my declaration, did not then remember that both James Conner and Thomas Alexander of the same County, was with me on the Cherokee expedition. The eight months tour under Colonel Thompson which was in the Horse and in the three & a half months tour as regimental quartermaster known to James Conner, under whom I was acting – The three months service under General Sumter I have nor know of no living testimony: the date, as given by myself is as James Conner remembers the year to be 1780. Below will be found the depositions of James Conner & Thomas Alexander & the deposition of David Davis,¹ was sent on in his declaration to the Department & supposed to be there now, proving his service to the Cherokee Nation, & his acting as Captain.

Sworn to & subscribed this 27th day of November 1833.

S/ Saml. Wilson

State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County: On this 19 day of October 1833 personally appeared before me John Nance an acting Justice of the Peace in & for the said County James Conner,² who being duly sworn according to law deposeth & saith, that he is well acquainted with Samuel Wilson, who has sworn to & subscribed the within, and was well acquainted with him during the revolution was with him on the Cherokee expedition in the year 1776. Knew & believed him to be a Captain, properly commissioned, commanded a company throughout the Campaign & was recognized by all as Captain and in the year 1775 I saw the said Samuel Wilson, & conversed with him, in South Carolina he being in the Horse and I in the foot – and again in the year 1780, the said Samuel Wilson was an acting Regimental quartermaster under me.

¹ Unfortunately, this deposition is not to be found in this file. David Davis' widow filed for a pension based on his service, but that file contains no application by the veteran. [David Davis W6962](#)

² [James Conner S8237](#)

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ John Nance, JP

S/ James Conner, X his mark

State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County: Personally appeared before me John Nance an acting Justice of the Peace for the said County on this 24 day of October 1833 Thomas Alexander³ of the same County who being duly sworn according to law deposeth & saith, that he was well acquainted with Samuel Wilson of the County aforesaid & who has sworn & subscribed to the within, during the revolution, & up to this date. I was with him on the Cherokee Campaign in the year 1776. Knew he commanded a company & was recognized by all as Captain, & believe him to have been properly commissioned – I also note that in 1775 both the said Samuel Wilson & myself enlisted for 12 months in the Horse service under Ezekiel Polk, and were together during my stay, I having been discharged some short time before the said Samuel Wilson.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year above written.

S/ John Nance, JP

S/ Thos. Alexander

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thos. Alexander". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

[Note: Veteran died February 9, 1843, in Mecklenburg County, NC leaving no widow and the following children: Mary Wilson, Martha McKnight and Patrick J. Wilson, his only surviving children.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$156.66 commencing March 4th, 1831, for 17 months service as a private in the North Carolina and South Carolina militia.]

³ [Thomas Alexander S6495](#)