

ARCHIBALD WILSON BRANCH B

The History of Licking County, Ohio, published by N. N. Hill, Jr. in 1881, not only furnished a wealth of information about this branch of the Wilson Family but also of the other branches.

Mr. Hill states that Dr. John N. Wilson (B12#2) son of Archibald Wilson (B2#1) was very much interested in family history. At the time of his death in 1872, he had collected in manuscript form much of the data relative to his father's family found in the history.

Archibald Wilson was born in the Shenandoah Valley near Winchester, Va., June 13, 1749. His youngest son Enoch (B14#2), a few years prior to 1881, had a book of his father's entitled "Cocherels Arithmetic", which bore an English imprint. Upon one of its blank leaves was found this record in Archibald's handwriting, "Archibald Wilson, his book, bought of James Cam Doud, at his store on Old Street, in Winchester, August 14, 1771 - I say bought by me, Archibald Wilson".

In 1774, Archibald joined Governor Dunmore's Army in its expedition against the Indian towns on the Scioto River in what is now Ohio. With him were his cousins John and William White, who came to America with his father in 1737.

John White was killed by the Indians later in one of their raids in the Tygart River Valley. William White was also killed by them near Fort Buckhannon, W. Va. Other Whites related to the Wilsons, emigrated to Kentucky soon after the Revolution.

Archibald Wilson and Ann Claypool were married at the home of Cuthbert Harris June 21, 1775, in Dunmore County, (renamed Shenandoah County, 1778), Va., by Rev. John Peter Gabriel Mullenberg, who at the time was a Lutheran minister at Woodstock, the county-seat. He had come to Woodstock in 1772, was chairman of the County Committee of Safety and in 1774 a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. At the request of General Washington he became colonel of a Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army in 1775.

At his last sermon upon "The duties men owe their country", he said "there is a time for all things -- a time to preach and a time to fight -- and now is the time to fight". He then stripped off his gown and appeared in full regimental dress, called for recruits and enrolled about 300 of the parishioners.

On January 20, 1776, Archibald was commissioned as a Lieutenant of Militia of Dunmore County by the Committee of Safety of the Colony of Virginia. The Committee was composed of Edmund Pendleton, John Page, Thomas Ludlow Lee, Dudley Diggs, W. Cabell and P. Carrington, all of whose names were attached to Lieutenant Wilson's Commission.

This Commission a few years ago (using the date 1981) was in the hands of his son Enoch (B14#2).