

## Ensign Robert Wilson

Secretary, Military Lodge No. 93, Manlius, New York  
The Surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown  
19 October 1781

### PICTORIAL FIELD BOOK OF THE REVOLUTION - VOLUME II. BY BENSON J. LOSSING - 1850.

Compiled by R. W. Gary L. Heinmiller, Director, OMDHS, May 2007  
<http://freepages.history.rootsweb.com/~wcar1/Lossing1/Chap44.html>

The ceremony, on the occasion of the surrender, was exceedingly imposing. The American army was drawn up on the right side of the road leading from Yorktown to Hampton ([see map](#)), and the French army on the left. Their lines extended more than a mile in length. Washington, upon his white charger, was at the head of the American column; and Rochambeau, upon a powerful bay horse, was at the head of the French column. A vast concourse of people, equal in number, according to eye-witnesses, to the military, was also assembled from the surrounding country to participate in the joy of the event. Universal silence prevailed as the vanquished troops slowly marched out of their intrenchments, with their colors cased and their drums beating a British tune, and passed between the columns of the combined armies. [42](#) All were eager to look upon Cornwallis, the terror of the South, [43](#) in the hour of his adversity. They were disappointed; he had given himself up to vexation and despair, and, feigning illness, he sent General O'Hara with his sword, to lead the vanquished army to the field of humiliation. Having arrived at the head of the line, General O'Hara advanced toward Washington, and, taking off his hat, apologized for the absence of Earl Cornwallis. The commander-in-chief pointed him to General Lincoln for directions. It must have been a proud moment for Lincoln, for only the year before he was obliged to make a humiliating surrender of his army to British conquerors at Charleston. Lincoln conducted the royal troops to the field selected for laying down their arms, and there General O'Hara delivered to him the sword of Cornwallis; Lincoln received it, and then politely handed it back to O'Hara, to be returned to the earl.



#### SURRENDER OF BRITISH STANDARDS AT YORKTOWN.

The delivery of the colors of the several regiments, twenty-eight in number, was next performed. For this purpose, twenty-eight British captains, each bearing a flag in a case, were drawn up in line. Opposite to them, at a distance of six paces, twenty-eight American sergeants were placed in line to receive the colors. **Ensign (Robert) Wilson** of Clinton's brigade, the youngest commissioned officer in the army (being then only eighteen years of age), was appointed by Colonel Hamilton, the officer of the day, to conduct this interesting ceremony. [44](#) When **Wilson** gave the order for the British captains to advance two paces, to deliver up their colors, and the American sergeants to advance two paces to receive them, the former hesitated, and gave as a reason that they were unwilling to surrender their flags to non-commissioned officers. Hamilton, who was at a distance, observed this hesitation, and rode up to inquire the cause. On being informed, he willingly spared the feelings of the British captains, and ordered **Ensign Wilson** to receive them himself, and hand them to the American sergeants. [This scene is depicted in the engraving.](#)

When the colors were surrendered, the whole royal army laid down their arms. It was an exceedingly humiliating task for the captives, for they had been for months enjoying victories under their able commander, and had learned to look upon the rebels with profound contempt. [45](#) After grounding their arms and laying off their accoutrements, they were conducted back to their lines, and guarded by a sufficient force until they commenced their march for permanent quarters in the interior of Virginia and Maryland. [46](#) The loss of the British on this occasion was one hundred and fifty-six killed, three hundred and twenty-six wounded, and seventy missing. The whole number surrendered by capitulation was a little more than seven thousand, [47](#) according to the most reliable authorities, making the total loss between seventy-five and seventy-eight hundred. The combined army employed in the siege consisted of about seven thousand regular American troops, more than five thousand French, and four thousand militia; a total of over sixteen thousand men. Their loss during the siege, of killed and wounded, was only about three hundred. The artillery, and military stores and provisions surrendered, were very considerable. There were seventy-five brass, and one hundred and sixty iron cannons; seven thousand seven hundred and ninety-four muskets; twenty-eight regimental standards (ten of them English, and eighteen German); a large quantity of cannon and musket-balls, bombs, carriages, &c., &c. The military chest contained nearly eleven thousand dollars in specie. [48](#)

**Robert Wilson**, the honored ensign on this occasion, was a native of New York. He had been early trained in the duties and hardships of military life, by his maternal uncle, the famous Captain Gregg well known in the history of the Mohawk Valley. One of his exploits I have related on [page 252, volume i](#).

Young **Wilson** became attached to the army at the age of twelve years. His commission as ensign (which I have seen) is dated June 9th, 1781, four months previous to the surrender at Yorktown. At the close of the war, he became a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, and from his certificate I made the copy printed on [page 696, vol. i](#).



**Society of the Cincinnati – Members' Certificate of Robert Wilson [63](#)**

He settled in Central New York when it was a wilderness; was magistrate many years; and for some time was postmaster at Manlius, in Onondaga county. He died 30 May 1811, New Hartford, Oneida Co., leaving a widow (Amelia Dunham), who long survived him, and four children, all of whom are now dead. The late James Gregg Wilson, one of the proprietors of the *Brother Jonathan* newspaper, was his last surviving child. The statement in the text respecting his participation in the surrender of the colors at Yorktown I received from his relatives, and have no reason to doubt its truth. It is also corroborated by an eye-witness who lived to the age of ninety-eight, and knew Wilson from his boyhood until his death.

<http://freepages.history.rootsweb.com/~wcarr1/Lossing1/Chap11.html#e021>

Before the fort (Schuyler) was invested by St. Leger, the Indians, in small parties, annoyed the garrison, and frequently attacked individuals when away from their dwellings. On one occasion they fired upon three little girls who were out gathering blackberries. Two were killed and scalped, but the third escaped. The remarkable adventure of Captain Gregg is worthy of notice. He was a soldier of the garrison of Fort Schuyler, and went out one day to shoot pigeons, with two of his soldiers, and a boy named (Robert)

[Wilson](#) (who became an ensign in the army at the age of eighteen, and conducted the surrender of the British standards at Yorktown). Fearing the Indians, the boy was sent back.

They had not proceeded far before some savages in ambush shot all three down, scalped them, and made off. The captain, though badly wounded, was not killed. His two soldiers, however, were lifeless, and, laying his bleeding head upon the body of one of them, he expected soon to die. His dog had accompanied him, and, in great agitation, whined, licked his wounds, and otherwise manifested his grief and attachment. He told the dog to go for help, and the animal, as if endowed with reason, at once obeyed. He ran about a mile, and found two men fishing. By piteous moans he induced them to follow him to his wounded master. The captain was carried to the fort, and, after suffering much, was restored to health. "He was a most frightful spectacle," says Dr. Thacher, from whose journal (page 144) this account is taken. "The whole of his scalp was removed; in two places on the forepart of his head the tomahawk had penetrated the skull; there was a wound on his back with the same instrument, besides a wound in his side, and another through his arm with a musket-ball.

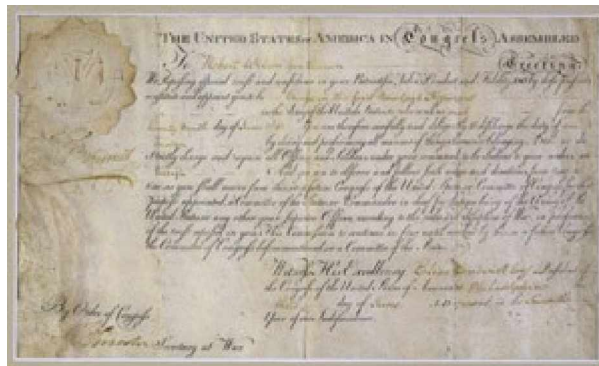
### The Stuart Goldman Collection

<http://www.goldbergcoins.net/catalogarchive/20030920/>

**Boudinot, Elias** (1740-1821) Member of Continental Congress, president (1782-1783); U.S. House of Representatives (1789-1795); Director of U.S. Mint (1795-1805).

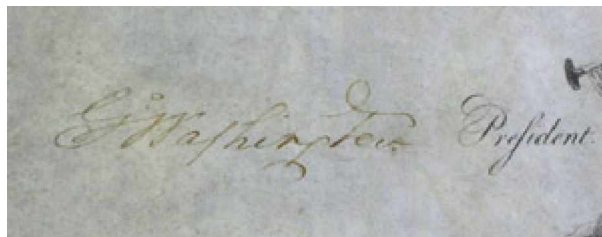
Partly-printed Document Signed as President of the Continental Congress, June 3, 1783, Philadelphia. One page oblong folio, vellum, matted to 17 x 19 inches. Boudinot appoints "*Robert Wilson Gentlemen...Ensign in the first New York Regiment in the Army of the United States, to take rank as such from the twenty ninth day of June 1781....*" Countersigned by Benjamin Lincoln ("*B Lincoln*") as Secretary of War. Boudinot signed at upper left under the "United States of America War Office" seal. Some wear and discoloration at edges of vellum. Overall Very Good. A historic document.

Robert Wilson was born in New York City (date unknown). His father died before the Revolution and his widowed mother moved with her six children to Albany, N.Y. Robert enlisted in the Revolution at about the age of 12 and served as fifer with the New York troops in the company of his mother's brother, Captain James Gregg. On June 9, 1781, he was commissioned ensign in the First New York Regiment, and served until the close of the Revolution. During Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown, when the British officers did not want to surrender their standards to a noncommissioned officer, Colonel Alexander Hamilton appointed Wilson Officer of the Day to conduct the ceremony of receiving the British flags. He received the colors of twenty-eight British regiments from twenty-eight British captains and handed them to twenty-eight American sergeants (See in this same collection the sword presented by Alexander Hamilton to Robert Wilson December 25, 1781). Wilson later became the second postmaster in Manlius, New York ([Photo](#)). Estimated value \$3,000-4,000.



**Washington, George.** Partly-printed Document Signed ("*Go: Washington*") as President of the Society of the Cincinnati, Mount Vernon, December 4, 1785. One page, oblong elephant folio, vellum, matted to 15 x 21½ inches. Being the membership certificate of Robert Wilson "Rank Red in ye late War" in the Society of the Cincinnati. Countersigned by Henry Knox ("*H Knox*") as Secretary of the Society. Even age toning and slight waviness to vellum, with browning in margins. Unusually attractive for a Society of the Cincinnati membership; these documents are not common, and those that remain are often in poor condition. Both Washington's and Knox' signatures are nice and strong. Overall Fine ([Photo](#)). Estimate \$10,000-15,000.

(see Lossing's facsimile of this above)



**Sword Presented On By Alexander Hamilton To Ensign Robert Wilson.** Dress sword, 34 inches long, engraved on under side of guard, "Presented to / Ensign Robert Wilson / From / Lieu't Col. Alexander Hamilton / Dec. 25th 1781." Hilt originally wound with fine silver wire; the guard, pommel, bow and trimmings are all silver, and the scabbard is of black leather. The blade seems to be of Italian or Spanish workmanship, of the rapier pattern. The sword was presented by Hamilton to Ensign Wilson, the youngest commissioned officer in the American army, as a memento of the part he played in the surrender of Cornwallis' forces at Yorktown. This is truly a unique and historic sword.

Included with the sword is an original catalogue published by Emmor K. Adams of Cranford, New Jersey, in 1918, documenting his collection of "Arms, Weapons And Relics of American Wars, &c. Especially the Revolutionary War." This sword is the second item described, No. 102. Adams writes how he came into possession of the sword: "...Thomas Crawford of N. Y. City, came into possession of this sword through James Gregg Wilson, son of Ensign Robert Wilson, who was one of the proprietors of a newspaper called *Brother Johnathan*, published in N. Y. John Crawford, son of Thomas, sold it in 1861 to William M. Taylor, a Printer, of No. 32 Liberty Street, New York City, from whom it was purchased and added to this collection." Addition information, dated June 4, 1934, notes that after Adams' death, his entire collection was sold to Robert Fridenberg of New York City. The inscription was probably added by a later owner.

On October 19, 1781, Lord Cornwallis surrendered with his entire force, military and naval, to the allied forces of America and France. The Army, with all of its artillery, stores, military chest, etc., was surrendered to General Washington; the Navy, with its appointments, was surrendered to Admiral de Grasse. The delivery of the colors is recounted in Benson J. Lossing's *The Pictorial Field-Book Of The Revolution*: "...For this purpose, twenty-eight British captains, each bearing a flag in a case, were drawn up in line. Opposite to them, at a distance of six paces, twenty-eight American sergeants were placed in line to receive the colors. Ensign Wilson of Clinton's brigade, the youngest commissioned officer in the army (being then only eighteen years of age), was appointed by Colonel Hamilton, the officer of the day, to conduct this interesting ceremony. When Wilson gave the order for the British captains to advance two paces, to deliver up their colors, and the American sergeants to advance two paces to receive them, the former hesitated, and gave as a reason that they were unwilling to surrender their flags to noncommissioned officers. Hamilton, who was at a distance, observed this hesitation, and rode up to inquire the cause. On being informed, he willingly spared the feelings of the British captains, and ordered Ensign Wilson to receive them himself, and hand them to the American sergeants..." ([Photo](#)). Estimate \$10,000-20,000.



**Pewter Tea Cannister and Creamer Belonging to Robert Wilson.** The canister is a narrow oval box with a hinged lid and nob handle, with lock but lacking key. Exterior with ornate engraving on walls and lid, the walls with floral borders and swags and oval cartouche on both sides with the initials "R W." The lid has similar pendant border and central starburst emanating from the handle. The hinge with, apparently, several repairs, one old and perhaps contemporary with the box, along with some more recent work. The lid has an added inscription, old, perhaps within a generation or two of the war: "Used in Camp in the War of the Revolution, 1781." Height: 4½ in.; Width: 5½ in. Condition better than Fine.

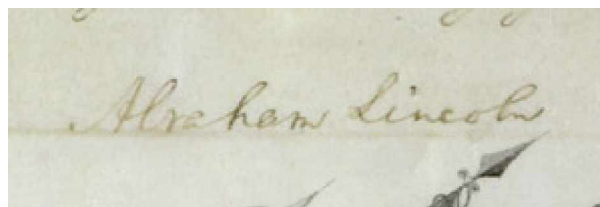
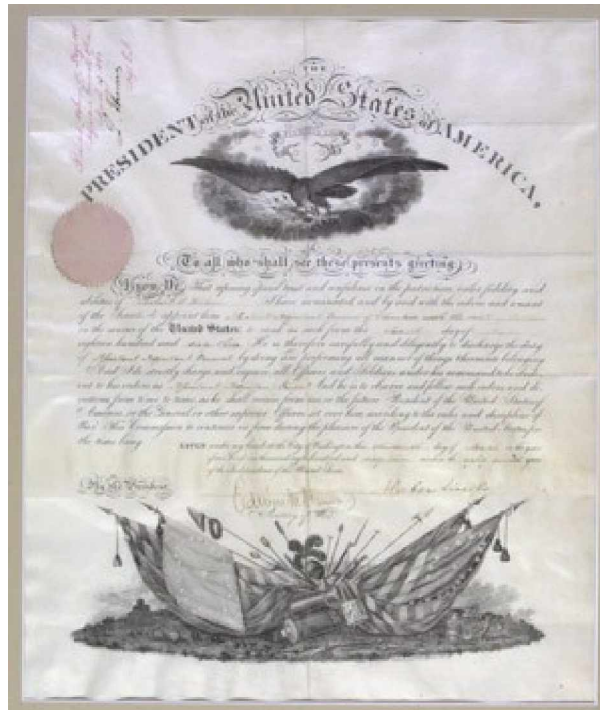
Along with the canister is a contemporary creamer—footed, with deep-bowl and arching handle. Border and shield cartouche engraved in same manner seen on canister, but by a different hand. The shield bears the initials, "R A W"; some dark spots in the patina. Height: 5 in. Overall Very Fine condition.

Robert Wilson was the youngest commissioned officer in the Revolutionary War army. He was 18 at the time of the Battle of Yorktown ([Photo](#)). Estimate \$3,000-4,000.



**Lincoln, Abraham** (1809-65) 16th President of the United States. Partly-printed Document Signed as President, March 13, 1863, Washington. One page elephant folio, vellum. Appointing Robert P. Wilson "Assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers with the rank of Captain." Countersigned by Edwin M. Stanton as Secretary of War and docketed in upper left corner by Adjutant General Lorenzo Thomas ("L. Thomas"). A very attractive document with the usual military engravings and intact pale pink seal. The document is matted with a signed carte de visite of Robert P. Wilson ("Yours truly, R.W. Wilson") and a carte de visite of Lincoln in three-quarter pose; backprints of neither card can be seen. Overall size is 28 x 21 inches. Very Fine.

Robert P. Wilson was the grandson of Revolutionary War soldier Robert Wilson, who accepted the British standards at Yorktown. Robert P. enlisted immediately after Fort Sumter, serving with the 16th New York Infantry as adjutant in the Battle of Bull Run, and afterward as Assistant Adjutant General in General Bartlett's brigade. While storming a fort on the Rappahannock in November 1863, he was disabled by a bullet that shattered his right arm. In February 1864, he received an honorable discharge for permanent disability ([Photo](#)). Estimate \$5,000-7,500.



**Collection of Civil War-Date Letters and Documents.** A collection of 28 letters and documents written by, to, or about Robert P. Wilson, who served with the 16th New York Infantry and the 121st N.Y. Volunteers. Twenty-six are war date and two are post war. All items fine. The documents include a circular letter written at Gettysburg by order of General Meade (see No. 23):

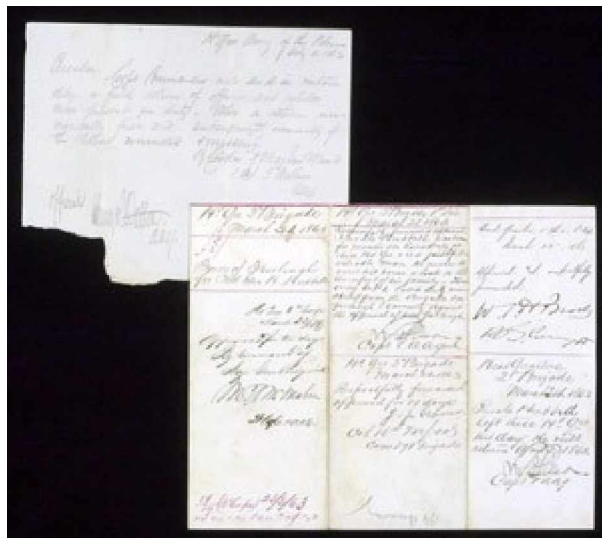
1. July 21, 1861 notice to Wilson that his commission as Ensign in the 16th N.Y. Volunteers is enclosed. With envelope.
2. Undated letter signed "McCartney" to "My dear Captain," asking for a list of the names of the men of the 121st N.Y. Regt. "attached to this Batty."
3. Scouting report by Pliny Moore, 2nd Lt. Co. C, May 28, 1862 to Lt. R.P. Wilson, 2 pp folio, in pencil. Describing the area around Mechanicsville (the battle would take place on June 26), hearing the Rebel soldiers talking, and a "Contraband" from Richmond reporting that "there were no fortifications till within a short distance of Richmond, but troops all the way into Richmond."
4. A surgeon's report, July 9, 1862, Camp James River, stating that Lt. Wilson was "suffering from concussion of the Brain with partial paralysis resulting from the effects of a cannon Shot...during the action of 30th June...."
5. November 27, 1862 Invoice of Ordnance and Ordnance Stores for "24 pairs Spurs & Straps."
- 6-9. Receipts for various supplies.
10. March 23, 1863 note from Wilson to "Col." (Joel J. Seaver) regarding granting passes. Long Autograph Endorsement Signed ("Seaver") on verso.
11. An unsigned letter, probably a draft, to General Bartlett, March 30, 1863, Camp of the 2nd Brigade, 1st Div. 6th Corps, reassuring him of the high esteem in which his soldiers hold him and expressing their disappointment at the injustice done to him by the Senate in not confirming his appointment as a Brigadier General.
12. Pass for a private from the 121st N.Y., March 24, 1863, Camp at White Oak, signed by Wilson and endorsed on verso by Brig. Gen. W.T. H. Brooks, Col. J. J. Seaver, and Lt. Col. M.F. McMahon.
13. Letter from Wilson to McMahon, March 4, 1863, applying for a leave of absence. Endorsed on verso by Brig. Gen. J.J. Bartlett.
- 14 & 15. Two identical letters, April 4, 1863 from Wilson to Lieut. Col James A. Hardie, saying he has seen a notice of his confirmation by the Senate as Asst. Adj. Genl. with the rank of Captain, but has not yet received any official notice. The second letter reached Hardie and has his endorsement on verso (See Lot 26 for Wilson's appointment signed by President Lincoln.)
16. April 16, 1863 letter from Wilson to Lt. Col. McMahon, tendering his resignation as Asst. Adj. Genl. with the rank of Captain, in order to accept the position of Major with the 121st NY Volunteers. Endorsed by Brig. Gen. Bartlett on verso.
- 17-19. Three receipts for items received by Wilson, including "a dress coat and a pair of Shoulder Straps..."
20. April 27, 1863 letter from Wilson to Major Jones, asking if the staff at Brigade Headquarters could be paid that day since "there is a probability that we shall move tomorrow." On May 3-4, the 121st N.Y. fought at Marye's Heights and Salem Church.
21. May 13, 1863 letter regarding a man who wanted to be a driver in the Ambulance Corps.
22. May 17, 1863 letter to Wilson from the Quartermasters Department regarding "Clothing Camp & Garrison Equipage for Genl Bartletts approval."
- 23 (Gettysburg)--Penciled letter, July 4, 1863, Hd Qtrs Army of the Potomac: "Circular--Corps Commanders will send in without delay a field return of officers and enlisted men present for duty. Also a return numerically first and subsequently

**nominaly of the killed wounded & missing. By Order of Maj. Genl. Mead.**" Signed by an A.A.G. and marked "Official". Lower corners are torn. Brig. Gen. Bartlett's name is on verso. The 121st N.Y. Volunteer Infantry fought at Gettysburg and has a monument there.

24. July 27, 1863 letter from Wilson to Gen. Bartlett, sending the general's fork and spoon, and regretting that "*at some time during the campaign your knife has been lost...but during the latter part of the campaign we have seen but little of the cook and his affairs have not rec'd their usual attention.*"

25 & 26. August 1, 1863 letter from Wilson, Hd Qrd. 2nd Brigade, 1st Divn. 6th Corps, to Lt. Col., asking for a leave of absence for health reasons. Endorsed on verso by Brig. Genl. H. G. Wright. With surgeon's certificate.

27 & 28. Letter and document on New York National Guard letterhead, 1876 and 1877 ([Photo](#)). Estimate \$2,000-3,000.



**(Family Letters of Robert P. Wilson).** A notebook of approximately 35 letters and documents kept by Robert P. Wilson, who served in the 16th N.Y. Infantry and the 121st N.Y. Volunteers. Eight items predate the Civil War.

The earliest letter was written from Ireland in 1786 by the grandmother of Wilson's grandfather, telling him that she is glad he completed his service (in the Revolutionary War) without being wounded; poor condition.

An 1819 letter describes being a printer's apprentice in Utica, N.Y. Three have manuscript postage.

Other letters refer to their ancestor, **Robert Wilson**, who received the British standards at Yorktown in 1781; others have personal content.

An 1875 autograph letter from Hamilton Fish to Wilson, encloses the 1879 list of Society of the Cincinnati members for New York State, of which they were both hereditary members.

Five autograph letters were written to Wilson in 1884/85 by John Schuyler, secretary of the N.Y. Society of the Cincinnati, one of them explaining how N.Y. Governor DeWitt Clinton became a member (the Wilsons and the Clintons were related);

also, the *Proceedings of the Triennial Meeting of the General Society of the Cincinnati, Held at Princeton, N.J., May 14th and 15th, 1884*; a list of the N.Y. State Society officers in 1885, and a list of the toasts given at a dinner on February 22, 1886 at Delmonico's.

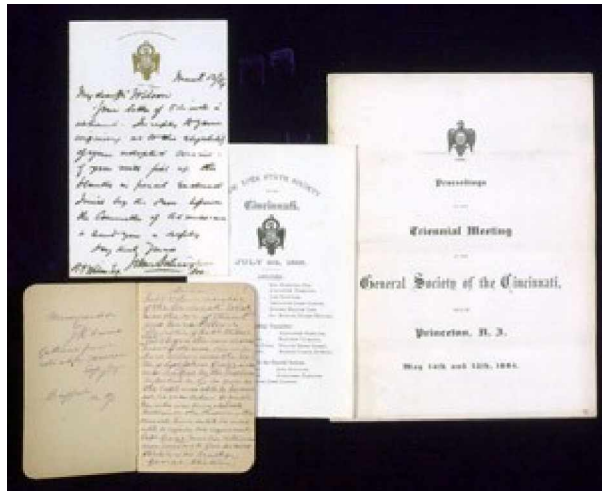
Three 1881 letters regard the Centennial celebration of the surrender at Yorktown.

Additionally, a small notebook, written in 1878 has 30 pages of Wilson family history--includes Capt. James Greigg (the first **Robert Wilson's uncle**) being scalped by the Indians, **and being cousins to Gov. DeWitt and George Clinton**;

a very interesting account of how the Grieggs, the Wilsons, and the Clintons came over on the same ship from Ireland; a story of a Wilson widow in the Revolution being made a commissary general for a regiment by Gen. Washington; a list of the Civil War battles in which Robert P. Wilson fought, and more family lore.

Also included is a 13¼ x 12 in broadside from 1807, headed "*To the People of Onondaga County,*" in which Robert Wilson (from the Revolutionary War), defends his character.

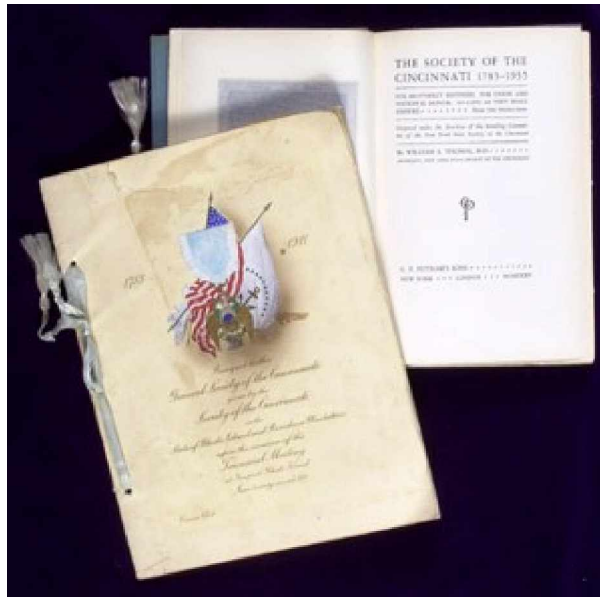
Condition is overall Very Good to Fine ([Photo](#)). Estimate \$1,500-2,500.



**Society of the Cincinnati Eagle Insignia.**

Made by the Paris firm of Arthus Bertrand, c. early 1900s. Height 51 mm. Width 31 mm. Made of silver gilt. The head and tail are white enamel with gold lines; wreaths and sprigs are green enamel. The medallion obverse shows Cincinnatus receiving a sword from three senators; motto on white reads, "OMNIA RELINQUIT SERVARE REMPUBLICAM." (He abandons everything to serve his country). The reverse shows Cincinnatus at the plow; Fame is above and the sun in the distance. Motto on white reads, "SOCIETAS CINCINNATORUM INSTITUTA A.D.: 1783." The large badge is suspended from a small twisted loop; a spiral loop suspension, used from around 1900, holds a light blue and white ribbon for breast suspension. Ribbon shows wear, else Very Fine. The Society of the Cincinnati was organized near Newburgh, New York, on May 13, 1783 by Continental officers who fought in the American Revolution. George Washington was the first President General of the Society, from 1783 until his death in 1799. Estimate \$800-1,200.





### Society of the Cincinnati

Two related items. No. 226 of a Limited Edition of 1000 signed copies of William Sturgis Thomas' *The Society of the Cincinnati 1783-1935*, published by G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London, 1935. 187 pages of information about the Society of the Cincinnati, from its inception in 1783 through 1935. Eight plates, with frontispiece of General George Washington. Cerrulean blue boards with small image of Eagle badge on cover; linen spine. Light wear to cover, else Fine.

Program for the "Banquet to the General Society of the Cincinnati given...in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations upon the occasion of the Triennial Meeting...1911." 24 pages, large quarto, with engravings of personages and events important in American history and to the Society of the Cincinnati, the first being of Cincinnatus and the second of George Washington. The engravings of Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga and Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown are in color. The cover and eight other pages have beautiful color embossings, including the American flag, the French flag, the American Army and Navy, the badge of the Society of the Cincinnati, the Continental Line of the Revolution, and more. Bound and tied with pale blue ribbon. Cover has a jagged two-inch tear at top edge and some soiling, but is otherwise Fine. Certainly rare and desirable (2 items). Estimate \$600-800.

[http://www.whatcoat.com/bj/PS05/PS05\\_355.htm](http://www.whatcoat.com/bj/PS05/PS05_355.htm)

**Name** James Gregg WILSON, 1C5R  
**Birth** 14 Jun 1809  
**Death** 31 Jul 1850  
**Father** [Robert WILSON](#) (-1811)  
**Mother** [Amelia DUNHAM](#) (1782-)

**Spouses:** Caroline T. Vail on 17 May 1836, who was b. 16 Jun 1818 in Plainfield, UnionCo., NJ

#### Notes for James Gregg WILSON

From ROMAN CITIZEN newspaper, Rome, Oneida County, New York, Wednesday, August 14, 1850

Death of JAMES GREGG WILSON. The death of this gentleman took place at his residence in Plainfield, NJ, on Wednesday morning the 31st ult., [July 31, 1850] (after a tedious illness of more than a year) of consumption. Mr. Wilson has been long known to the reading public, formerly a partner of Horace Greeley in publishing the New Yorker, and more recently as the head of the firm of Willison & Co., publishers of Wilson's Weekly Despatch. [name in article spelled as Wilson & Wilson--transcriber]

The Tribune says Mr. W. was born in Manlius, New York, in 1809. His father was **Lieut. Robert Wilson**, an officer of the Revolutionary War, and who, as aid-de-camp to Gen. Washington, received the sword and colors of Lord Cornwallis, on his surrender at Yorktown, Virginia, in 1781.

He was named after the noted James Gregg, (his great uncle) the Capt. Gregg of revolutionary times, who was scalped and left for dead by a band of Indian--and whose wonderful rescue from death through the sagacity of his dog "Tray," is so pathetically recorded in the school books of olden time. The death of Mr. Wilson in the prime of life --he was but forty-one --has caused unfeigned grief among a numerous circle of friends, and will be an irreparable loss to a devoted and affectionate wife. His aged mother is still living at Clinton, in this State.

[http://www.whatcoat.com/bj/PS05/PS05\\_299.htm](http://www.whatcoat.com/bj/PS05/PS05_299.htm)

**Name** Robert WILSON

Death 30 May 1811, New Hartford, Oneida Co., NY

**Spouse:** [Amelia DUNHAM](#), 5G Aunt, Birth 2 Jan 1782

Father [\\*Daniel DUNHAM](#) (1744-1822)

Mother [\\*Anna MOSELEY](#) (1746-1815)

Marriage 9 Jan 1803

Children:

[George Stuart](#) (1803-1841)

**George Stuart WILSON**, Birth 3 Oct 1803; Death 17 May 1841 m. **Julia R. PRESTON** Aug 1835

Children:

[Julia Ann](#) (1836-)

[Robert Preston](#) (1839-)

[Anne Moseley Dunham](#) (1805-1835) m. **Caleb McKEEL** Marriage 10 Nov 1832

Children: [Anne Underhill](#) (1835-)

[Jane](#) (1807-1837) b. 9 Jun 1807; d. 8 May 1837

[James Gregg](#) (1809-1850) (above)

Notes:

Amelia m. [Benjamin HICKOX](#) who died 5 Sep 1845, Clinton, NY

Marriage 4 Mar 1814, Manlius, Onondaga Co., NY<sup>218</sup>

Children:

[Sophia Dunham](#) (1821--1885)

Source states she is the daughter of Daniel Dunham of Pompey, Onondaga Co., NY, and that applied for a pension as Robert's widow on 16 Jul 1853 at Clinton, NY. Listed on the application are children's names and birth dates.

[http://www.whatcoat.com/bj/PS05/PS05\\_274.htm](http://www.whatcoat.com/bj/PS05/PS05_274.htm)

**Name** \*Daniel DUNHAM, 5G Grandfather

Birth 9 Mar 1744/45, Colchester, New London, CT

Death 21 May 1822, Pompey, Onondaga Co., NY

Burial Oran Cemetery in Onondaga Co., NY. Tombstone states Dea. Daniel Dunham

Occupation - Deacon

Father [\\*Daniel DUNHAM](#) (1712-1797)

Mother [\\*Sarah HUXFORD](#) (~1711-1788)

**Spouses:**

[\\*Anna MOSELEY](#), 5G Grandmother

Birth 23 May 1746, Windham, Windham Co., CT

Death 6 Mar 1815, Pompey, Onondaga Co., NY

Burial Oran Cemetery in Onondaga Co., NY. Tombstone states she's the w/o Daniel

Father [Rev. \\*Samuel MOSELEY](#) (1708-1791)

Mother [\\*Bethiah OTIS](#) (1703-1750)

Marriage 17 Dec 1767, New London, CT.

Children:

[Nancy](#) (1773-1821)

[\\*Phylura](#) (1783-1861)

[Josiah](#) (1769-1844)

[Amelia](#) (1782-)

#### Notes for \*Daniel DUNHAM

Deacon Daniel Dunham put into operation clothing works and an oil mill at the Old Mills near Pompey Center Rd., south of Manlius Village. His son-in-law, William Swain, carded wool at the oil mill as early as May 1809 and by 1811 had a half-share with Asahel Hawley in a carding machine in Manlius Village. Source: "Industrial Development of Manlius Village" by Kathleen Crowell with Alan Vedder, bound manuscript, Fayetteville Free Library.

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In the 1810 census for Manlius, Onondaga County, NY there is listed a head of household named Daniel Dunham. There is one male and one female. I don't know the marriage year of the oldest daughter, Nancy, but Since his wife, Anna doesn't die until 1815, I would guess that she would be living in his home. Phylura, next to youngest was married in 1806 to Wm. Swain, and would have been living in the home they shared together. Their youngest, Amelia, would have been living with her first husband of seven years, **Robert Wilson**.

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Dunham Daniel, Ensign ,Twelfth Regiment under the command of Col. Obadiah Hosford, in the Company commanded by Capt. James Pineo; East Chester, CT. Daniel's name is found on the list of this company marching to East Chester to join General Washington's Army. Source: Online book; Connecticut Revolutionary War Military Lists, 1775-83Pg.163

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There is a notation on the Onondaga/Manlius Rootsweb page of the following for a burial in the Christ Church Cemetery in Manlius: DUNHAM, Mary, widow of Dan'l, d. 4? Mar 1838 ae 82 . I'm simply not sure where she fits in the Dunham family of Manlius.

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Burial site of Daniel DUNHAM in the Oran Pioneer Cemetery, Fayetteville, NY, 49. Source: Abstract of Graves of Revolutionary Patriots, Vol.1, p. \_Serial: 11393; Volume: 3.

See also:

<http://books.google.com/books?id=L5YLA AAAIAAJ&pg=PA220&jpg=PA220&dq=%22james+gregg%22+scalped&source=web&ots=WJbpgxSfXf&sig=F-21MW4D8VqHHHz-7-bkBtkeVM#PPA352.M1>



Ref: Charles A. Larkin, "History of Military Lodge No. 93, F&AM, Manlius, NY," 1893. page 64.

**Bro. Robert Wilson**, the first secretary of Military Lodge, was also a revolutionary soldier with a very interesting history. During the early part of the war, when a youth, he accompanied his uncle, Captain Gregg, to Fort Schuyler, and was desirous of accompanying him at the time he was shot and scalped by the Indians and Tories, but on account of his youth and apparent danger was not permitted. Soon after, at the age of eighteen he was appointed ensign, and soon after was appointed lieutenant with commission, and served through the war, and was at the taking of Cornwallis, as was ordered to superintend the receiving of the British standards, forty-eight (sic) in number. When the officers of the British army were drawn up in line to present the colors, and as many American sergeants were directed to secure them, the British officers refused to deliver them into the hands of non-commissioned officers. Col. Hamilton seeing the confusion and delay, ordered Lieutenant Wilson to receive them, which he did by passing down the entire line, taking them one by one from the British officers and passing them into the hands of the American sergeants, to the satisfaction of all. After the close of the war he removed to Johnstown where he became a member of St. Patrick's lodge, whence he came to the town of Manlius where we find him a charter member of Military lodge and its first secretary in 1802. In the year 1803 we find him postmaster, in which place he continued until 1809. During his term as postmaster he was justice of the peace in the year 1806, the duties being discharged with credit.

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