



The memoir of William Albert Wilson, an intimate and dramatic telling of the Civil War at home on the north fork headwaters of the New River in Ashe County, North Carolina.

With scholarly essays providing historic and contemporary context by

- Patricia Beaver, anthropologist, Appalachian State University
- John Inscoe, historian, University of Georgia
- Martin Crawford, historian, University of Keele, England, and author of *Ashe County's Civil War*

Featuring Wilson family genealogy, historic maps, community history and photographs.

"The memoir of William A. Wilson and the accompanying essays are especially strong in providing a reader with a vivid sense of place. Ashe County emerges with its rugged terrain and tangled relationships in full view. This is particularly valuable given that many Americans experienced the war at home, away from battlefields and campaigns, and yet, as the memoir shows clearly, they still felt the reach of that war in intense and life-changing ways. Together, the memoir and essays present local history at its best..."

"William Wilson's narrative speaks for itself as an engaging, even dramatic, telling of the war in Ashe County. The scholars wisely leave the telling to Wilson himself, but when they do bring their voices in, it is to provide much-needed context for grasping the full meaning of Wilson's story. The themes in the essays—the background on Ashe County's history and politics, as well as historical memory—are well chosen and will enrich readers' understanding of the significance of Wilson's account.

--Amy Murrell Taylor, author of *The Divided Family in Civil War America* (University of North Carolina Press)

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