

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hyatt Lazear R6219

f12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/12/13

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia Lewis County: SS

On this 30th day of September 1833 personally appeared before me David W. Sleeth¹ as Justice of the peace in and for Lewis County in the said State of Virginia Hyatt Lazear a resident of Lewis County in the State of Virginia aged 89 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he was drafted in the spring of 1776 to serve a tour of six months in the Virginia militia against the Indians: he was appointed a Sergeant by his Captain, was marched from Frederick County Virginia under Captain Harrison was marched to Pittsburgh stationed there as headquarters and acted as an Indian spy till in November 1776 and was discharged by Captain Harrison having served six months in Colonel Gibson's Regiment [John Gibson]. Then again in March 1777 he volunteered to serve another tour of six months in the Virginia militia on the Western waters as it was then called. He was again appointed a Sergeant and he was again marched from Frederick County Virginia to Pittsburgh Pennsylvania under a Captain Benjamin Biggs: at Pittsburgh he was again rendezvoused and served as an Indian spy down the Ohio River towards Wheeling during the summer of 1777 under the command of Colonel Gibson and in November 1777 He was discharged at Pittsburgh by his Captain Biggs having served six months this tour as a Sergeant in the Va. Ma. He returned to Frederick County. Then in the spring of 1778 he was again drafted to serve a tour of six months on the western waters. He marched again from Frederick County Virginia as a Sergeant in a company commanded by the same Captain Benjamin Biggs. He was marched to Pittsburgh again from thence they marched under General Hand to the Indian towns by way of Big Beaver where some troops under General McIntosh had erected a Fort called Fort McIntosh General hand with Colonel Gibson and their command passed on towards the Indian Towns had a skirmish with the Indians in the North side of Ohio River – we killed 25 Indians went on to their towns – found no warriors there took the old men – Squaws and children as prisoners carried them to Pittsburgh where in November 1778 he was discharged having served six months this tour as a Sergeant, returned home to Frederick County. Then again in April 1779 he volunteered in Washington County Pennsylvania as a Sergeant in the Pa. Ma. to serve six months as an Indian Spy in a company commanded by Captain Daniel Springer. He was marched up the Allegheny River towards the Munsee Towns under a Colonel Broadhead [Daniel

¹ [David W. Sleeth S6111](#)

Brodhead], declarant was one of 60 men who were in advance and met with a band of Indians supposed to be about 100 on their way to the white settlements – had an engagement with them killed 23 of them had 5 of our men killed – named Lawson – Baird, Trigg – Norton & Morris. The Indians fled we proceeded to their Town found none there we destroyed their corn and returned home sometime in December 1779 having served six months, declarant was a Sergeant each tour – he was discharged by Captain Springer. Then again in the spring of 1780 he again volunteered to act as an Indian spy as a Sergeant in a company of Pennsylvania Militia commanded by Captain Robert Vance was stationed at the Garrison at Pittsburgh and spied up the River Allegheny and down on both sides of Ohio River and about a place called Leggoneyear [sic, Ligonier]. The troops were sometimes this year commanded by General McIntosh sometimes Colonel Gibson and Colonel Broadhead, Captain Vance and his Company were down the River Ohio as low as the Fort McIntosh suffered for provisions this trip returned to Pittsburgh and was discharged in December 1780 by Captain Vance having served this tour 6 months as a Sergeant. Then in March 1781 he again volunteered to serve 6 months as a Sergeant in the same Captain Vance's Company of volunteers Pa. Ma. To act as Indian spies up the Allegheny River and on the North West side of Ohio River. He and his Captain Vance and his Lieutenant Harrison with 60 privates & noncommissioned officers acted as Indian Spies over the Ohio – up the Allegheny and down the Ohio on the North side from March 1781 till first of December 1781 – when they were discharged by Captain Vance, declarant becoming afflicted with rheumatism never again entered the service. He served in all not less than three years and one months [sic] as a Sergeant in the Va. & Pa. Ma. and Indian Spies. He has no documentary evidence. He knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. There are no Clergyman residing near him. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Hyatt Lazear

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hyatt Lazear". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some ink bleed-through visible from the reverse side of the page.

I the said David W Sleeth Justice of the peace aforesaid propounded to the applicant the 7 several interrogatories prescribed by the War Department to which he answered as follows, to the first 1st That he was born (as he has heard and believes) in the year 1744 in Frederick County Virginia.

2nd. That he has no record of his age.

3rd. That he was living in Frederick County Virginia from thence to Washington County Pennsylvania, thence to Pittsburgh now in Lewis County Virginia.

4th. He was first drafted in 1776 volunteered in 1777 again drafted in 1778 then volunteered in 1779, 1780 and 1781.

5th. He knew Generals Hand, McIntosh and others. He knew Colonels Gibson, Broadhead, Crockett and others at Pittsburgh. He saw regulars and Ma. State troops & continentals. He remembers a part of the 9th & 13th Virginia Regiment being at Pittsburgh.

6th. He received a discharge from Captain Harrison – to from Captain Biggs one from Captain

Springer and to from Captain Vance. He has lost them all long since. He did not consider of any use to him.

7th. He is known in his neighborhood to Martin Life and Jacob Schoolcraft.² They can testify as to his character for veracity and their and the general belief of his services as a soldier and Sergeant of the revolution. There are no clergyman living near him. Sworn & subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Hyatt Lazear

[Martin Life and Jacob Schoolcraft gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Attested by David W Sleeth, September 30, 1833

David W. Sleeth J P]

Hyatt Lazear

James H Neale clk [clerk] of the Sup [Superior] Court of Wood [County] says he has often heard his father say in his life time that Leazure [sic] Enlisted under Col. Gibson at Fort Pitt and shortly thereafter Colonel Gibson took Leazures wife upon which Leazure deserted, stole Gibson's Horse & went over into Canady [Canada], Joined the British Army: remained with it some three years, was finally taken tried by a court martial and condemned to be shot. That through [indecipherable word]³ instrumentality, his punishment was commuted to 500 Stripes. Mr. Neale was an officer in Gibson's Regiment. –

James H. Neale states further that Leazure had made frequent applicant [sic, application] to the Court of Wood for permission to make a declaration for a Pension – that the Court always refused him because of his infamous character. And because of the knowledge of the facts above stated –

Jos. M. Steed says he has often heard Leazure say that he never done any service as a Soldier in the War of the Revoln [sic, Revolution] except some neighborhood Indian Skirmishing – Leazure detailed to Steed his desertion &c as above detailed by Mr. Neale.

Henry Steed Esq. says he has often heard Leazure tell of his desertion from the American States and of his Joining the British Army, it was a matter in which he seemed to take Pride and boasted of it.

A Copy
S/ W. G. Singleton
Dec. 29, 1834

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

Dear Sir,

I received your letter by the Express and should have answered it by Doctor Wright [?],

² [Jacob Schoolcraft R9268](#)

³ *char*

But happened to be out of the way when he set off Yours per Ens. Winlock came safe to hand yesterday, and Colonel Brodhead will now send you 8 Caggs [kegs?] of whiskey, a number of Wagons are expected in a few days & with Bacon and then part of it will be sent to your post I have let Ens. Winlock have \$100 to buy tobacco, and have to request you will distribute it amongst the men, charging each man with what he gets. We have no late news from Below, our last accounts from Carolina are that the Enemy was repulsed in an attack they made on Carolina or rather Charlestown with the loss of 800 men. Captain Craig with 30 men and [number or word obliterated by an ink blot] of Artillery is expected here in a day or two – My best Complements to the Gentlemen of your Garrison and Believe me to be with best wishes, Dear Sir, your most Obedient humble Servant

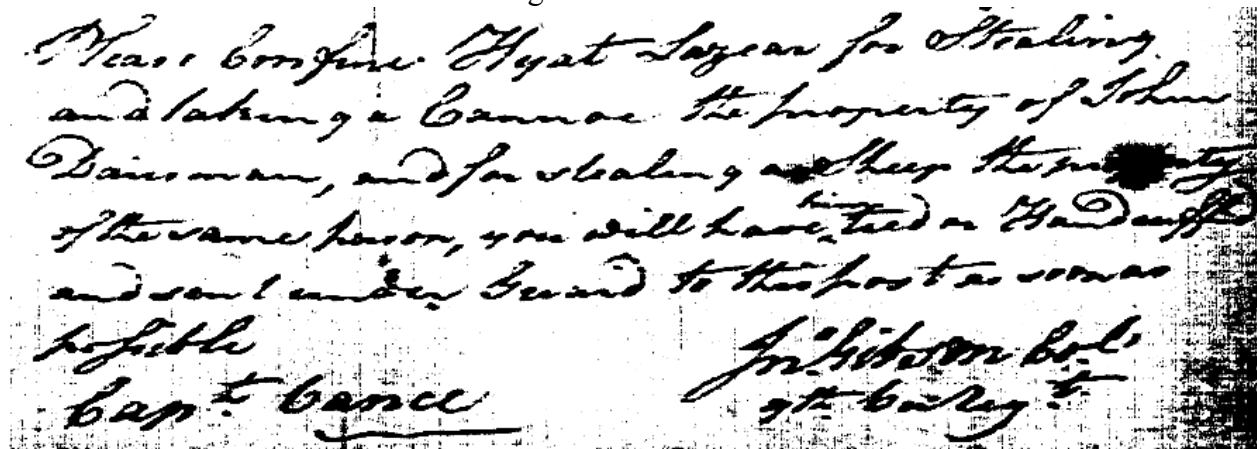
S/ John Gibson, Colonel
9th Vir. Regt.

Fort Pitt June 16th 1780

Please Confine Hyat Lazear for Stealing and taking a Canoe the property of John Davisman [?], and for stealing Sheep the property of the same person, you will have him tied or Handcuffed and sent under Guard to this post as soon as possible.

Capt. Vance

S/ John Gibson, Colonel
9th Vir. Regt.



*Please confine Hyat Lazear for Stealing
and taking a Canoe the property of John
Davisman, and for stealing a Sheep the property
of the same person, you will have ^{him} tied or Handcuffed
and sent under Guard to this post as soon as
possible
Capt. Vance*

*J. Gibson Col.
9th Vir. Regt.*

No Military Bounty Warrant appears to have issued to hire Lozier for Services in the late War.

S/ Wm Price, Regr.

Mar 6, 1807

[Note: this fill has a reference to the papers in the file of Robert Vance [Robert Vance VAS348](#). It is very likely that Lazear is one of the men listed by Vance as being in his company in the roster contained in that file, but, as noted in the transcript of the Vance file, the roster, as posted, is almost entirely illegible.]