

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of Hardy Lassiter S4514

fn20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/4/10

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State of Tennessee Rutherford County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions August Term 1832

On this 20th day of August 1832, personally appeared in open Court before Henry Trott, V. D: Cowan, and James C. Mitchell Esquire, Justices of said court, now sitting, Hardy Lassiter a resident of Rutherford County, State of Tennessee, aged about seventy-eight or seventy-nine 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 herein stated: That he was a drafted militia man, and entered the Army and served in Captain Fletcher's company, whose given [name] he thinks was Lewis, and his brother Jacob Fletcher, was his Lieutenant. The field officers he cannot remember, nor can he remember the time at which he entered the service or was drafted. He well remembers the troops to which he belonged, were commanded by General Butler [John Butler]. At the time he was drafted and entered the service, he resided in Wake County, North Carolina; and was mustered into service, as he thinks, at Raleigh. He was drafted for the term of three months, and served out to the end of the term. During this term of service, the troops to which he belonged, were employed in pursuing and dispersing the Tories who were constantly assembling in different parts of the State. There was, during the whole time, no engagement. The Tories, whenever they found our forces were marching upon them, retreated. -- At the end of the three months, he was discharged and returned home. He received a written discharge from his Captain but it has long since been lost. After this tour of service, declarant, remained at home, until the time came round in rotation for a draft out of his class again, but he does not remember the length of time. When his term to stand a second draft came round, he was again drafted, but he cannot now state under what Captain and other subordinate officers, he went out; nor can he remember what Regiment he was in; by what Colonel it was commanded, or who was the Majors. The troops to which he belonged, were under the command of the same General, as when he served his first tour, to wit, General Butler. During this tour, he served as well as he can remember, six months. He was engaged for some time, how long, he cannot undertake to state, in pursuing & dispersing the Tories in North Carolina, as he had been engaged in his first tour. He then passed over into South Carolina, and marched along the borders of the State, upon the waters of the Congaree and Wateree [rivers], until his term of service expired. He was during this term, in no engagement; and the principal object of the troops to which he belonged, was to all, and keep down the Tories, which their presence effected, whereon they marched. At the end of six months, he received a written discharge from his Captain, as he believes, and returned home to his residence in Wake County, North Carolina. How long he remained at home, he cannot pretend to state; but after he had been

there some time, he was drafted and marched to Hillsboro to guard the Assembly that was there convened & sitting, against any attack or interruption from the Tories. He served this term in Captain John Trent's company, in which Joseph Peoples or Peeples was Lieutenant. He thinks the highest officer in command upon this tour of duty, was a Major, but he cannot remember his name. Declarant served on this tour about one and a half months, which was until the rise of the Assembly. He was then discharged and returned home. After this, but he cannot state how long, for his memory does not serve him unless there were some particular circumstance to cause him to remember the length of time from one event to another, he was again drafted, (still being a resident of Wake County North Carolina) and entered the Army; but he does not remember the names of any of his company officers, nor can he remember any of his field officers. The forces to which he belonged were again under the command of General Butler. The troops on this tour of duty, was marched directly into South Carolina; crossed over the Catawba River and marched down to the Congaree; thence we marched down to the Wateree, and on down to the Santee, passing in our march along the opposite side from the Hanging Rock. After marching down into this part of South Carolina we joined General Sumter [Thomas Sumter] at some Ferry, but the name of the place, declarant cannot remember. About the time we joined the General Sumter we captured thirteen wagons, loaded with military stores, ammunition, provisions, spirits etc. for the British; and was going on to the opposite side of the River from where we were, towards the Eutaw Springs, towards which place the British forces had marched from Charleston. One of the wagons which was captured as above stated, was said to be loaded with specie belonging to the British and the day after, or perhaps two days after, having marched up the Santee with our booty, to the mouth of Fishing Creek, where we halted at about 12 o'clock to take refreshment, having been upon a forced march, for three days, we were overtaken by the British Light horse, and our whole forces routed.<sup>1</sup> A considerable number of our men were killed, many of them taken prisoners, and the whole of the wagons, with the military stores, provisions, ammunition, spirits, money and all were recaptured. The cause of this defeat was attributed to a Colonel in our troops, whose name declarant does not remember. He was ordered by General Sumter to place out a guard when we halted as above stated, about three fourths of a mile lower down than where the body of the troops were; but it appeared he had neglected to obey the orders, owing as was afterwards said, to his being friendly to the British, and a traitor to his Country; by which means we were surprised by the sudden and unexpected attack of the enemy, consequently, thrown into great confusion, from which we were never able to recover. After this transaction the North Carolina militia returned to Hillsboro and at the end of six months were discharged. Declarant believes he received a written discharge from his Captain, but has lost it with all his other discharges.

Declarant remembers that some time about the time of taking the wagons above mentioned from the British, probably a little after, the battle occurred at the Eutaw Springs between the British forces under Cornwallis, and the American forces under the command of General Gates;<sup>2</sup> and he distinctly heard the firing of the Artillery to the place where he then was, which was on the opposite side of the Congaree River from the Eutaw Springs. He then with General Sumter whom he had joined to reinforce and assist in the capture of the aforesaid

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<sup>1</sup> The applicant is describing the Battle of Fishing Creek which occurred on August 18, 1780.  
<http://gaz.jrshelby.com/fishingcreek.htm>

<sup>2</sup> The applicant appears to be confused between the Battle of Camden and the Battle of Eutaw Springs. The battle of Camden occurred on August 15 -- 16, 1780 in which the American forces were commanded by Horatio Gates and the British forces by Charles Lord Cornwallis. The battle of Eutaw Springs did not occur until September 8, 1781.

wagons. Declarant never served with any of the Continental troops, and was not acquainted with any of the regular officers.

Declarant was born in Gates County North Carolina, he has no record of his age, nor does he know that his parents ever made a record thereof. Information he has in relation thereto, he derived from his parents, who informed him that he was born about the years 1753 or 1754. When called into service declarant lived as above stated, in Wake County North Carolina, and continued to live there during the whole of the revolutionary war; and until the year 1797 or 1798, when he removed into Cumberland County North Carolina, where he resided until about 18 years since, when he removed to Rutherford County, Tennessee, in which County he has & resided. Declarant is known to the Reverend Calvin Carlee Joseph Knox Esquire, Charles Ready, Senior Charles Ready Junior, Robert L. Fagan, Arnet Jones & Joshua Barton Esquire who reside in the neighborhood where he now resides, who he believes will testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a revolutionary soldier. He is also known to David Hollis, William Walkup & Jonathan Bateman, the last of them, knew him in North Carolina, before he moved to his present residence, and who has known him for a number of years since he came to Tennessee. He believes they will testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a revolutionary soldier. The said Bateman, he believes, will testify as to his character and standing as a man of truth while he resided in North Carolina and the general belief of his services as a Soldier of the revolutionary war; and also as to his character since he has lived in Tennessee and the belief of his neighborhood of his services as a revolutionary soldier.

Declarant 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. He also states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services, further than to their belief of the same.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ J. R. Laughlin, Clk.

S/ Hardy Lassiter, X his mark

[Calvin Carlee, a clergyman, and Jonathan Bateman [also spelled Jonathan Batman] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]