

Law Division

3-1868.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

February 5, 1908.

The Chief of the

Special Examination Division.

Sir:

Herewith are returned to you the papers in the claim for division of pension under the Act of March 3, 1899, in the case of Polly Ann Maples, as deserted wife of James Maples, late of Co. I, 2nd E. Tenn. Vol. Cav., Cert. No. 325,143, together with the affidavits of A. D. Eledge, Polly Ann Maples, J. W. Eledge, J. M. Galloway and Lizzie Galloway, and Marvel and Jane Maples, with the request that they be placed in the hands of a special examiner whose district includes Sevierville, Sevier County, Tennessee, with a view to a cross-examination of the witnesses whose affidavits were filed by Attorney Aaron D. Eledge on the first instant and whose statements in said affidavits are not in harmony with statements heretofore made by them before Special Examiner Herbert W. Meyers.

It appearing from the criminal report of Special Examiner Meyers in this case that Attorney A. D. Eledge had been guilty of forgery and in his capacity as a notary public of attaching false jurats to papers purporting to be affidavits designed for use in the claim of Polly Ann Maples, a citation was issued under date of January 7, 1908, addressed to said A. D. Eledge requiring him to show cause, if any he had, why he should not be

recommended for disbarment from practice. The affidavit herewith of A. D. Eledge, dated January 28, 1908, and the affidavits of Polly Ann Maples, J. W. Eledge, J. M. Galloway and Lizzie Galloway, and Marvel and Jane Maples, all filed the first instant, constitute Mr. Eledge's answer to said citation of January 7, 1908.

Polly Ann Maples in her deposition before Special Examiner Meyers was very positive that she had never signed or authorized the signing of the application for one-half pension under the act of March 3, 1899, purporting execution December 18, 1906, before A. D. Eledge, notary public, and filed in this Bureau December 24, 1906. In the affidavit now presented, however, which appears to be in the handwriting of A. D. Eledge, she is made to state that said declaration was signed and sworn to by her before A. D. Eledge December 18, 1906, and J. W. Eledge who was unable to testify with certainty as to having signed any paper as a witness to signature in the Maples case now asserts positively that the declaration of Polly Ann Maples above referred to was signed and sworn to December 18, 1906, and that he saw Mrs. Maples sign said declaration.

As to the paper (B. J. 25) purporting to be the joint affidavit of Marvel Maples and Jane Maples, executed March 18, 1907, before A. D. Eledge, and filed in the Bureau March 27, 1907, as testimony in behalf of the soldier, Mr. Eledge was advised that the same appeared to have been prepared by him without regard to the facts as known to Marvel Maples and Jane Maples and was therefore false in substance and that he, Eledge, forged the names Marvel Maples and Jane Maples thereto, after which he certified in his capacity as a notary public, "Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of March, 1907." This paper is evidently in the handwriting of A. D. Eledge and the signatures of Marvel Maples and Jane Maples were written by him. These persons are unable to write

and each signed by mark separate affidavits in this case February 19, 1907, and February 18, 1907, respectively. Now they undertake to say that they made affidavits in this case before A. D. Eledge on the 18th day of March, 1907, a statement entirely contrary to the testimony given by them before Special Examiner Meyers.

William S. Sutton appears to have signed by mark a paper presented to him by A. D. Eledge on or about December 19, 1906, but there is also a paper on file purporting to be the affidavit of William D. Sutton signed by mark and purporting execution before A. D. Eledge May 17, 1907. Special Examiner Meyers was unable to locate William D. Sutton or Suttain but William S. Sutton stated it as his belief that the person represented as testifying in the paper in question (B. J. 11) was intended to be himself. In his affidavit filed the 1st instant A. D. Eledge refers to the affidavit of W. D. Sutton and he should now be called upon to indicate to the special examiner the present whereabouts of the witness William D. Sutton or Suttain, and it should be definitely determined whether said William D. Sutton or Suttain is identical with William S. Sutton.

It is desired that the special examiner interrogate the claimant Polly Ann Maples, J. W. Eledge and Marvel and Jane Maples as to the circumstances under which they executed the affidavits filed the 1st instant, as to whether the contents of said affidavits were fully made known to them before execution, what inducements were offered for the making of such affidavits, or whether the execution of such affidavits was secured through threats or intimidation.

The propriety of referring this matter to a special examiner who is experienced in criminal work is suggested.

Let this letter appear as an exhibit in the report of the special examiner.

The papers in the invalid claim are retained in the Bureau.

Very respectfully,

T W Cuddy

Chief of Law Division.

Chattanooga, Tenn., March 28, 1908.

Hon. Commissioner of Pensions,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Herewith I have the honor to return all the papers, and my report, in claim # 325,143 Polly Ann Maples deserted wife of James Maples Co. I, 2 E. Tenn. Cav., P. O. address: Sevierville, Sevier Co., Tenn.

The case came to the S. E. D. with Law Division letter dated Feb. 5, 1908 and came to me for compliance therewith.

John W. Eledge seems to have been considered reliable in a former report, but I never questioned a witness whose manner so negatived all he said, and I was so absolutely certain that the man was unreliable, that I made especial effort to learn his history. I found that he had taken mail with money in it that was intended for another of his name when he must have had personal knowledge that it was for the other man. He is not regarded as much of a man. I shall rate him absolutely unreliable.

A. D. Eledge declined to make any statement. I asked him about William D. Sutton and he could not refer me to any such man but said he guessed he had intended to refer to William S. Sutton. I had learned of this William S. Sutton having refused to make him an affidavit since the former examination so I asked him if such was not a fact, he replied that Mr. Sutton had told him he would make him another affidavit.

After further talk he told me that he sent a notary to get the statement but he never got it.

So much, for the closing line in this mans statement of Feb. 1, 1908.

Polly Ann Maples is said to be a truthful woman, but as she has raised a family of 16 children and these children are doing likewise, I am inclined to think that this circumstance has influenced her reputation. She seemed to be in vigorous physical health for one of her age when I saw her, and was positive in her statement. She contradicts her former statement however and I am of the opinion that she is probably afraid she might have to give up her half of the pension if she gets Mr. Eledge into trouble. This opinion is based on the fact that she continuously said that if they did not want her to have half of the pension that they might keep it.

I can not rate her better than fair after seeing her manner while she was testifying.

I recommend consideration of the Chief of the Law Division.

Very respectfully,

Thm. R. Hardwick

Special Examiner.

P. S.

I was not able to get two attesting witnesses to every mark.

There is no William D. Sutton in that section so far as I could learn after diligent inquiry.

T. R. H.

3-289.

DEPOSITION A

Case of Deserted wife of James Maples,

No. 325,143

On this 18 day of March, 1908, at near Affidavits home, county of Sevier State of Tenn., before me, Thm. R. Hardwick, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Polly Ann Maples, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 75 yrs. old. P. O.: R.F.D. 18, Sevierville, Tenn. I am the wife of James Maples & I get half of his pension. I did make a statement before C. I. Walker just a little while back. They wanted to know if something was or not so. My recollection is bad. Pleas Proffitt & John Walker Webb signed the paper. I signed first. I just touched the pen & Mr. Walker read it to me. I was sworn. That was at Mr. Walkers store. I thought it came from the Commissioner. Well, I can't recollect what it was, but it was something about the Pension, the Maples part of it I reckon. It was sent to Mr. A. D. Elledge somehow & brought the paper to me but he wasn't here when it was fixed up. He never said he'd have my pension stopped if I didn't fix it up. He never tried to scare me & never offered me to pay me to fix it up. I put into get half of my husbands pension about Nov. year before last. I went to A D Elledge to put in but I never fixed up nor signed any paper the first day I was there. Mr. Elledge put me off that time. I went to him a couple of weeks later & I think I put in that time for a pension. I was sworn & I think I signed a paper. I can't tell how many times I went there. I never kept any account. I never got a card from Washington from the office before I put in any papers. I got notices from Washington

but not before I put in & signed papers for the pension. I didn't believe I did. Mr. Elledge & his whole family I think, was there when I fixed up the application. His wife & children

(Page 10 Deposition A)

was there but I am not sure if J. W. Elledge was there. I think he was but I don't know. I can't tell you how many times I've been to Mr. Elledge house & fixed papers. He has fixed papers for me once or twice at my house. I don't know how many. Why yes he swore me, but I don't know how many times. I don't know how many times I've touched the pen, for him. Yes, sir, I have touched the pen.

Oh yes, I know Mr. Meyers. I reckon I made statement twice or three times. He swore me every time he wrote what I said & he read over a whole lot. I told him the truth & nothing else.

Well sir, I hear you read the Myers statement. It may be so but I can't recollect getting any paper from Washington before I put in for the pension. I have a poor memory. I won't say I did or didn't tell Mr. Meyers that.

I don't know how many papers I fixed in my case before Mr. Elledge. I ain't half as forgetful now as I was before I got the half pension.

I have been read the affidavit you say I made before C. I. Walker. It sounds like the one. No, I didn't know it was to help get Mr. Elledge out of trouble. I never heard a reason why I should sign it. I thought it was for something in this half pension case.

I understand your questions & my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which has been read to me.

Attest:

E. W. Clark

her
Polly Ann X Maples
mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of March 1908, and I certify that
the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Thm. R. Hardwick
Special Examiner.

3-289.

DEPOSITION B

Case of Deserted wife of James Maples, No. 325,143

On this 18 day of March, 190 , at affiants home, county of Sevier
State of Tenn., before me Thm. R. Hardwick, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of
Pensions, personally appeared Martha Jane Maples, who, being by me first duly sworn to
answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of
aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I can't tell you my age. I may be 35 or 40 or more years old. P.O.: Sevierville Tenn.
R.F.D. 14.

I am the wife of Marvel Maples.

I know Polly Ann Maples & James Maples. I have known her I expect 5 yrs. and him
ever since I was a little bit of a girl. She wanted half of his pension. I did make one
statement in that case before Mr. Meyers came here & that one I made before A. D.
Eledge. I can't tell when it was, but I guess near about a year ago. I don't recollect if I
signed my name by mark. I can't say. I can not write. I don't know but I guess I did tell
Mr. Eledge to sign. I'd suppose if he signed it on my say so if he did.

Q - Did you tell me to sign your name to that, answer yes or no.

A - I told him he'd have to sign my name himself. He read me the statement. The
statement said she (Polly Ann) told me she was leaving. Mr. Eledge did swear me by
having me raise my right hand. I have heard you read the statement B J 25. That is not
the statement that was read to me. If Crockett stayed, then I never knew it, but Pleas &
his children stayed there a right smart. I know nothing of their carrying anything off. I

never heard Polly Ann threaten to leave & have half of the pension. I couldn't formerly recollect any one was here, but now I do recollect that Mrs. Galloway was here & Mr. Galloway came in after I was sworn. Him & Marvel came in together.

(Page 12 Deposition B)

And Mr. Maples had written out. I said Mr. Eledge had written out a statement for my husband already & when Marvel came Eledge read it to him & Marvel told him it was not correct & he would not sign it but told him what was wrong & Eledge pretended to be writing it correctly & fixed it & then my husband signed & was sworn & the paper was read to him - He signed a different paper to me.

When he read the paper to me, Eledge I objects to one thing in it. I can't recollect what it was & he pretended to fix it & I signed after I thought it was fixed. It strikes me now that I touched the pen. I did make a statement to Exr. Meyers & he wrote it & read it to me & what he read was correct. I touched the pen & he swore me. Beecher Brown & my girl witnessed my mark. I hear you read that statement. It is correct. That B J 25 is not the paper Eledge read me. That sounds like the one he read to Marvel, my husband, that Marvel wouldn't sign. B J 24 sounds like the statement Marvel made. I never made any statement about Polly Ann getting drunk or like that. I made a statement before A. B.

Maples about a little over a month ago me & Marvel made a statement. Gib Townsend & my Becky were here. Mr. Eledge came with A. B. Maples but left him here. I sign a statement that I'd made one statement in the case & I said I couldn't recollect & Mr. Eledge said he knew Mr. Maples read the statement to me. I signed it by mark & I was sworn. That statement is the one you read to me, but I said I couldn't recollect what date

it was. I was not threatened nor offered inducements to get me to sign the last named statement.

I understand your questions & my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which has been read to me.

Attest:

E. W. Clark

her
Martha Jane X Maples
mark
Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of March 1908, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Thm. R. Hardwick

Special Examiner.

3-289.

DEPOSITION C

Case of Deserted wife of James Maples,

No. 325,143

On this 18 day of March, 1908, at Affiants place, county of Sevier State of Tenn., before me Thm. R. Hardwick, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Marvel Maples, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am, I expect, about 50 yrs. old. P.O.: R.F.D. 14 Sevierville, Tenn. I am a farmer. I know Polly Ann & James Maples.

I had made only one statement in their case before Exr. Meyers came to see me. I made one statement to Mr. Meyers in it & one since then before A. B. Maples.

The first statement was before A. D. Eledge & I said Polly left James & that I came down one day & she wanted me to get my team & move her things away & I put her off by telling her they were too young. He was sitting there drinking some & I said I saw Cad Mack move out her things & that Pleas Dixon & children stayed a bit there. It was put in that I saw Crocket Dixon's wife & children toting off things & that I objected too & I thought it was out but Mr. Meyers read it to me in it. I didn't know when it was. He - Eledge - took my name & swore me. He read me the statement. I don't think he took any witnesses. I can't write at all. I just told Eledge nothing about writing my name. I never told Mr. Eledge to sign my name at any time. If so I don't know of it. I only made one statement in the case. B J 24 is about like the statement I thought I made & was sworn to. I don't know anything about B J 25. No, me & my wife never signed the statement - the

same one - but I really don't know. The statement I signed was wrote while I was gone & was read to me when I came back. Of course I never signed my name. If he said he did, I don't recollect it. I do not recollect signing by mark nor authorizing any one to sign it. I reckon I would have signed one statement. I made part of the statement read as being Mr. Meyers statement. I guess I made it all. He swore me. Mr. Galloway & wife was there when I testified before

(Page 14 Deposition C)

Eledge. I just mean to tell the truth as I can recall it at this time.

A. D. Eledge brought A. B. Maples to my house. All I have ever done in the case was at my own house.

This last time Eledge wanted me to tell that I had made one statement & only one before him. I did make it. I was sworn by A. B. Maples who read it to me. I think my wife made same statements. A. B. Maples wrote my name & I touched the pen. Gib Townsend & my daughter Becky were present.

Q - I read the statement is it correct?

A - Yes. They wanted me to say the date, but I said I did not know the date. I did not know the date was put in. I said I did not know. A. D. Eledge was present but left Maples at my house.

I was not threatened nor offered inducements to get me to make the last statement. That was about two months ago.

I understand your statement - questions asked me in this case & my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which has been read to me.

Attest:

T. M. Galoway
E. W. Clark

his
Marvel X Maples
mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of Mch 1908, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Thm. R. Hardwick

Special Examiner.

3-289.

DEPOSITION D

Case of Deserted wife of James Maples,

No. 325,143

On this 18 day of March, 1908, at affiants home, county of Sevier State of Tenn., before me, Thm. R. Hardwick, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Lizzie Galloway, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 20 yrs. old. P.O.: R.F.D. 14 Sevierville Tenn.

I am the wife of J. M. Galloway.

I know Jane Maples & Marvel Maples.

I was at their house once when A. D. Elledge. I know it was partly warm then but (can't give date. I think Mr. (Elledge) was taking affidavits for James Maples. He took Jane's.

I did not hear him if he got Marvels.

I did not know if Jane Maples signed for I was in the kitchen & they in the big house & I could not understand them. I don't know if she was sworn or if it was read to her.

I never knew at all if Elledge got or tried to get an affidavit from Marvel Maples.

Mr. A. B. Maples came to me & my husband not long ago & wanted to know if we knew about Jane & Mave making affidavits. I told him that Elledge was there & I could hear their voices. I think A. B. Maples read the statement he wanted to us and I believe he swore me. I can not write but I got my husband to sign my name for me. I asked him to.

I hear you read the statement. It seems like that was it. I told him I couldn't swear Jane

signed. I never objected to signing. I am sure that Mrs. A. D. Elledge & daughter were not at Jane Maples on the first session spoken of above.

I have understood the questions & my answers

(Page 16 Deposition D)

are correctly recorded in this deposition which has been read to me.

Attest:

J. M. Galaway

her
Lizzie X Galloway
mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of Mch 1908, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Thm. R. Hardwick

Special Examiner.

3-289.

DEPOSITION E

Case of Deserted wife of James Maples,

No. 325,143

On this 18 day of March, 1908, at near affiants home, county of Sevier State of Tenn., before me, Thm. R. Hardwick, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared J. M. Galloway, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 65 yrs. old. P.O.: R. F. D. 14 Sevierville Tenn.

I am a farmer. I served in C 6 N. C Cav. C.S.A.

I knew Marvel Maples & wife Martha Jane, but only know her as Jane Maples.

I was at their house when A. D. Eledge was there last spring or winter. There was a paper written out on that day. I had no personal knowledge as to what it was but from the conversation I concluded it was a paper in defense of James Maples pension. I do not know who wrote the paper. I do not know whether anybody signed it. I heard A. D. Eledge read a paper to Marvel Maples. His wife might have heard it. I don't know.

When Eledge read it, Marvel Maples told him he objected to part of it & Eledge said it did not matter that it not a fesitive thing only just to the best of his knowledge but Marvel Maples replied that part of it he didn't know & it was a part about Dixon's wife toating off things that he objected to. No, Marvel Maples did not sign the statement in my presence, & I never heard him authorize anyone to sign it. I think that Eledge did qualify Marvel Maples anyhow. No sir, I never saw Jane Maples sign a paper nor authorize anyone to sign for her. I did not hear her sworn. I can't say what date that was at all. About a

month or two ago A. B. Maples came to me & wanted me sign a paper in favor of Eledge.
I signed a paper. He read it over to me.

(Page 18 Deposition E)

It was just a small paper. I was sworn to it. I did not read it myself. My wife Lizzie Galloway & I both together signed & were sworn, but I wrote my wife's name. I recognize the two signatures. I wrote my name & my wife's. She told me to sign her name. She could not write. I hear you read that statement. It is the one read to me & I objected to the Jane Maples part of it & I didn't know about the date & Mr. Maples said it didn't matter & I signed it. A. D. Eledge was not present.

I understand your questions & my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which has been read to me.

A. D. Eledge wanted to pay me to make the statement. He never talked to me about it.

A. B. Maples told me he would. I have not been paid. I understand the questions & my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which has been read to me.

J. M. Galaway

On the first occasion mentioned above Mrs. A. D. Elledge & daughter were not at Marvel Maples when my wife & I were there. I understand your questions & my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which has been read to me.

J. M. Galaway

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of Mch 1908, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Thm. R. Hardwick
Special Examiner.

3-289.

DEPOSITION F

Case of Deserted wife of James Maples,

No. 325,143

On this 18 day of Mch, 1908, at near affiants home, county of Sevier State of Tenn., before me, Thm. R. Headrick, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared John Wesley Eledge, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 21 yrs. old. P.O.: R.F.D. 14 Sevierville Tenn. I am a farmer. I am a son of A. D. Eledge.

I know Polly Ann Maples & James Maples.

I was present when some of the papers in the case were made. I was present when several were signed but I won't say which one. I was present when one application was made by Polly Ann Maples. I don't know the date but I have the date at home. I was a witness to the mark. I can't say who else was there. It was at my fathers house. Polly Ann Maples was there. I don't know if she was sworn. I don't know & can't be positive what other papers were made out before me.

Q - Mr. Meyers took your statement didn't he?

A - I don't know his name, but the other examiner did take my statement & I think he read it to me. I think I recollect him swearing me. At that time I hardly know what I made. I was sick. I didn't know if this statement will be more correct than that one.

Q - I show your signatures to your deposition in Meyers case

A - It looks like my writing. I won't swear I did or didn't write it.

Q - Did you sign your names to B J 1?

A - It looks like mine both do.

Q - B J 5 & 6 & 7. Did you sign them?

A - They look like they had my name on it. I won't swear I did or didn't positively sign them but they look like my writing

(Page 20 Deposition F)

I didn't know & I won't swear that I have or that I have not told my father he could sign my name to any papers.

I think all the papers I have signed in this case were signed at my fathers house. I have signed papers in other cases away from home. I have signed so many papers that I hardly know when & where & whose it was.

I don't think I was sworn to Polly Ann's application but I might & I might not. I don't know if my sister was there or if she was sworn. I think I saw Polly Ann touch the pen. She was there, but I won't be positive that she did. I won't be positive Polly Ann was sworn I guess she was.

I understand your questions & my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which has been read to me.

Attest:

E. W. Clark

Jno. W. Eledge
J. W. Eledge

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of Mch 1908, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Thm. R. Hardwick
Special Examiner.

Criminal

3-296.

S. E. D.

No. 325143

Claimant: Polly Ann Maples

Soldier: James Maples

P. O. Address: Sevierville

County: Sevier State: Tenn.

Recommendation: Crim. Law Div.

Thm. R. Hardwick
Special Examiner.

REFERENCE

March 30, 1908

**Respectfully referred to
Chief of Law Division for
consideration.**

A. Casey
Chief S. E. Division.

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Claim of Polly Ann Maples for half pension of James Maples. No. 325,143.

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**SPECIAL EXAMINATION
DIVISION**

3-1866.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 7, 1907.

Mr. H. W. Meyers,

Special Examiner,

Knoxville, Tenn.

Sir:

Find herewith claim Ctf. No. 325,143, of Polly Ann Maples, as deserted wife of James Maples, Co. I, 2d East Tenn. Vol. Cav., for investigation as outlined in attached Law Division letter of the 4th instant, to determine whether pensioner is legally chargeable with marital desertion and whether claimant is in necessitous circumstances.

You are cautioned to strictly observe the instructions of the Law Division with reference to fee or agreement between pensioner or claimant and his or her attorney.

While cases of this class are not considered special, their nature is such as to entitle them to some degree of precedence over ordinary work, and you will be governed accordingly.

Very respectfully,

V. Warner

Commissioner.

Encl.

2/ Exhibit A.

LAW DIVISION.

3-1868.

ACT OF MARCH 3, 1899.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 4, 1907

The Chief of

The Special Examination Division.

Sir:

Herewith are referred to you the papers in the claim, under the Act of March 3, 1899, of Polly Ann Maples, for one-half the pension allowed James Maples, Co. I, 2nd E. Tenn. Vol. Cavalry, Ctf. No. 325,143, for the purpose of a thorough special examination, to determine whether or not the pensioner is legally chargeable with marital desertion, and whether the claimant is in necessitous circumstances.

This action is deemed necessary for the reason that the evidence filed in the claim is of such a conflicting character as to make it impracticable to properly adjudicate the claim without the investigation requested.

It is suggested that the papers be referred to a special examiner whose district embraces Sevier County, Tenn., with instructions to call on the pensioner and the claimant, take their depositions covering the points at issue, verify the evidence filed and secure additional evidence as may be

3/ Exhibit B.

necessary to proper adjudication of the claim.

The claimant alleges that the pensioner wanted to bring a woman of immoral character to their home, to which she objected; that he brought whiskey home and was drinking and abusing her until she became afraid of him and went to a neighbor's home; that when she went back he would not speak to her, and has since refused to live with her or provide for her; and that she is in necessitous circumstances. She denies that she ever used profane language or that she left pensioner and said she would not live with him. She furnishes the affidavits of a number of apparently credible witnesses in support of her contentions.

In answer to the claimant the pensioner alleges that she cursed and swore she would not live with him; that she left him at night, and later came back and took things from the house, leaving him with no bed. He claims that their trouble was caused by his two children whom claimant abused and with whom she would quarrel and scold, using abusive and vulgar language. He denies that he was the cause of claimant's leaving and also denies that he brought any woman of immoral character to their home. He furnishes a number of affidavits to corroborate his statements.

The evidence adduced on special examination should show whether or not, as alleged by the claimant and her witnesses, the pensioner's abuse of the claimant, his habits and his association with lewd women were such as to justify the claimant in leaving; or whether, as alleged by the pensioner and his witnesses, the claimant left him without any just cause on his part.

In connection with necessitous circumstances, the claimant's physical condition and the relative ability of each of the parties to earn a support by manual labor should be shown.

Under the instructions of the Department, the special examiner should eliminate all reference in his examination to the FEE or AGREEMENT between the pensioner or claimant and his or her attorney for professional services in the case, unless the issue involved in the case relates to unprofessional conduct or extortion on the part of the attorney or attorneys.

If during the course of the special examination it shall develop that perjury has been committed by either the claimant, the pensioner or their witnesses in the evidence heretofore filed in the claim, the special examiner should

take such additional testimony as may be available to demonstrate that fact, and render a separate criminal report in the premises.

The post-office address of the pensioner is R. F. D. No. 6, Sevierville, Tenn., and that of the claimant is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Tenn.

Both the claimant and pensioner should be advised of the time and place of holding said special examination, and all their rights and privileges thereunder should be made fully known to them.

This letter should appear as an exhibit in the report of the special examiner.

The invalid papers are retained in this Division.

Very respectfully,

T. W. Cuddy

Chief, Law Division.

3-292.

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EXAMINER U. S. BUREAU OF PENSIONS

At Sevierville, Tenn.

July 10, 1907.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL EXAMINATION.

Case of Polly Ann Maples. (half pension), No. 325,143.

To Do., Claimant:

You are hereby notified that, by order of the Commissioner of Pensions, the undersigned will on the 10th day of July, A.D. 1907, and continuing thereafter as long as may be necessary, at Sevierville, County of Sevier and State of Tenn., and elsewhere if necessary, conduct a special examination of the aforesaid pension claim, at which time and place all available and material witnesses will be heard.

And you are further notified that you have the privilege of being present, in person or by attorney, during said special examination, and of cross-examining said witnesses and of introducing any material evidence on your own behalf if you so desire.

Herbert W. Meyer
Special Examiner.

I acknowledge service of copy of above notice this 10th day of July, 1907 and desire the examination to begin ~~on the~~ at once.

Witnesses

B. B. Brown
Sam Dixon

her
Polly Ann X Maples
mark

3-292.

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EXAMINER U. S. BUREAU OF PENSIONS

At Sevierville, Tenn.

July 12, 1907.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL EXAMINATION.

Case of James Maples. (half pension), No. 325,143.

To James Maples., Claimant:

You are hereby notified that, by order of the Commissioner of Pensions, the undersigned will on the 12th day of July, A. D. 1907, and continuing thereafter as long as may be necessary, at Sevierville, County of Sevier, and State of Tenn., and elsewhere is necessary, conduct a special examination of the aforesaid pension claim, at which time and place all available and material witnesses will be heard.

And you are further notified that you have the privilege of being present, in person or by attorney, during said special examination, and of cross-examining said witnesses and of introducing any material evidence on your own behalf if you so desire.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

I acknowledge service of copy of above notice this 12th day of July, 1907 and desire the examination to begin ~~on the~~ at once.

X James Maples

3-1876.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

WASHINGTON, D.C.,

325,143

Polly Ann Maples.

R. F. D. #14,

Sevierville, Sevier Co.,

Tenn.

James Maples.

Co. I 2d. Tenn. Vol. Cav.,

R. F. D. #6, Sevierville,

Tenn.

Custom House,

Knoxville, Tenn.,

July 31, 1907.

The Hon. Commissioner of Pensions,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to return the papers in the above cited claim for pension together with my report therein.

The claim was referred for Special Examination for the purpose of determining whether the pensioner is legally chargeable with marital desertion and whether the claimant is in necessitous circumstances and the same came to me for the initial examination. Both parties were notified as to the time when I would begin the

examination and the soldier was not there in response but came several days thereafter
and

3-366.
(Old No. 3-143.)

Index Sheet Claim Ctf. No. 325,143

Polly Ann Maples wife of James Maples

Service, Co. I. 2" E. Tenn. Vol. Cav.

NO.	NAME AND P. O. ADDRESS.	DATE OF FILING.	SUBJECT.
1	Claimant. R.F.D. No. 14 Sevierville, Tenn.	Dec. 24, 1906	Act of March 3, 1899. Declaration.
2	" "	Feb. 27, 1907	Cause of reparation, No property or income.
3	" "	May 23, 1907	Denies pensioner's allegations. Cause of reparation Pensioners habits.
4	Clerk of Sevier Co. Tenn.	Dec. 24, 1906	Marriage James M. Maples to Polly Ann Dixon June 19, 1904.
5	J. C. Dixon R.F.D. No. 14 Sevierville, Tenn.	Dec. 24, 1906	Desertion, Defence, Character.
6	Sarah Sutton R.F.D. No. 14 Sevierville, Tenn.	Dec. 24, 1906	Desertion, Defence, Character.
7	William S. Sutton R.F.D. No. 14 Sevierville, Tenn.	Dec. 24, 1906	Desertion, Defence, Identity.
8	J. A. Dixon R.F.D. No. 14 Sevierville, Tenn.	Feb. 27, 1907	Desertion, Pensioners actions Nec. Circ.
9	George O. Sutton R.F.D. No. 9 Sevierville, Tenn.	Feb. 27, 1907	Desertion & Cause, Pensioners actions, Nec. Circ.
10	M. E. Eledge R.F.D. No. 14 Sevierville, Tenn.	May 23, 1907	Pensioners habits, Nec. Circ.
11	William D. Sutton R.F.D. No. 9 Sevierville, Tenn.	May 23, 1907	Pensioners habits, Clts. Character
12	R. P. Dixon Trundles Cross Roads, Tenn.	May 23, 1907	Pensioners habits, Clts. Character

13	U. S. Pension Agt. Knoxville, Tenn.	Dec. 31, 1906 Jan. 2, 1907	Acknowledges order to _____
14	U. S. Pension Agt. Knoxville, Tenn.	Jan. 2, 1907	Pensioners P. O. address.
15	Pensioners	Feb. 25, 1907	Returns notice of filing of wife's claim.
16	Pensioner	Feb. 25, 1907	Clt. left - cause

3-366.

(Old No. 3-143.)

Index Sheet Claim Ctf. No. 325,143

Polly Ann Maples wife of James Maples

Service, Co. I. 2" E. Tenn. Vol. Cav.

NO.	NAME AND P. O. ADDRESS.	DATE OF FILING.	SUBJECT.
17	Pensioner	May 24, 1907	Clt. left him. Denies Ctls. allegations charges against Clt.
18-19	Pensioner	Mch. 27, 1907	Letter. No quarrel. Clt. left
20	Pensioner	Mch. 19, 1907	Letter. Names of witnesses.
21	Pensioner	May 2, 1898	Family Data Circular.
22	M. J. Maples R.F.D. No. 14 Sevierville, Tenn.	Feb. 25, 1907	Clt. left pensioner.
23	W. McMahan R.F.D. No. 6 Sevierville, Tenn.	Feb. 25, 1907	No trouble, Clt. left. He hired a girl to do cooking
24	Marvel Maples R.F.D. No. 14. Sevierville, Tenn.	Feb. 25, 1907	Clt. left pensioner. No trouble.
25	Marvel Maples Jane Maples R.F.D. No. 14 Sevierville, Tenn.	Mch. 27, 1907	Clts. relatives, lived on pensioner
26	George P. Maples R.F.D. No. 12 Sevierville, Tenn.	May 24, 1907	Clt. left. Abusive to pensioner's children.
27	Redmon Partain R.F.D. No. 12 Sevierville, Tenn.	May 24, 1907	Clt. left on account of children. Clts. habits.

- | | | | |
|----|---|---------------|---|
| 28 | Achable L. Maples
R.F.D. No. 6
Sevierville, Tenn. | May 24, 1907 | Clts language & quarrelsome
with pensioners children. |
| 29 | Redmond Maples
R.F.D. No. 6
Sevierville, Tenn. | Feb. 28, 1907 | Letter. Clt. left. Her children
lived on pensioner & he
objected. |

Increase INVALID PENSION.

Claimant, James Maples

P. O., R.F.D. No. 14 Sevierville
County, Sevier
State, Tennessee

Rank, Sergeant
Company, _____
Regiment, 2" East Tenn. Vol. Cav.

RECOGNIZED ATTORNEY.

Name, M. V. Turney and Co.
P.O., Washington D. C.
Referred for med. 4 July 7, 1910.

Fee, \$2; Agent to pay.

W. A. McDonald

APPROVALS

Submitted for Aug. 27, 1910,

T. H. Ripley, Examiner.

Approved for rheumatism and resulting disease of heart chronic diarrhea and resulting disease of liver and resulting disease of rectum

Approved for rheumatism and resulting disease of heart, chronic diarrhea and ~~resulting~~ disease of liver and resulting disease of rectum.

3rd grade.

no increase

Condition due in part to senile degeneration and paralysis agitans.

Aug. 29, 1910, J. H. Hensley
Legal Reviewer.

Barger _____, _____ Taylor
Medical Examiner. Medical Reviewer.

Aug. 31, 1910, _____ A. S. Helton
Acting Medical Referee

Enlisted Sepr. 22, 1862 Discharged July 6, 1865
Pensioned at \$ 24 per month for rheumatism and resulting disease of heart chronic diarrhea, and disease liver and resulting disease of rectum.

PRESENT CLAIM

Declaration filed Mch 5, 1910, alleges increase

Claimant does _____, write.
no other service.

no, M.C.

**FOR AN INCREASE of INVALID PENSION
UNDER THE GENERAL LAW**

State of Tenn., County of Sevier. SS:

On this 7th day of March A. D. 1910, personally appeared before me a Notary Public within and for the County and State aforesaid James Maples, aged 86 years, a resident of the County of Sevier State of Tenn., who being duly sworn, according to law, deposes as follows, to wit:

I am a pensioner of the United States, duly enrolled at the Knoxville pension agency, at the rate of 24 dollars per month, Certificate No. 325,143, by reason of disability incurred in the military service of the United States, while a member of Company "I" of the 2nd Regiment of Tenn. Cav., Volunteers, and my present physical condition is such that I believe I am entitled to receive an increase of pension. I am pensioned for Rheumatism and resulting disease of heart, chronic diarrhea, and disease of liver, and resulting disease of rectum.

That since I last applied for an increase of my pension my disability has greatly increased. This Declaration is filed for age Pensions I have never received any thing on age

WITH FULL POWER OF SUBSTITUTION, I HEREBY APPOINT **M. V. TIERNEY & CO.**, OF WASHINGTON, D.C., my true and lawful attorneys, to prosecute my claim. My Post-Office address is Sevierville, R F D # 14 County of Sevier State of Tenn., R. D. #14.

1. M. E. Eledge

James Maples
(Claimant's Signature)

2. Dellia Eledge

(Two witnesses who can write sign here)

3-355.

Certificate No. 325143

Increase **INVALID PENSION.**

Claimant James Maples

P. O., R. 14, Sevierville
County, Sevier
State, Tennessee

Rank, Sergeant
Company, I
Regiment, 2 East Tenn. Vol. Cav.

Rate, \$ _____ per month, commencing _____

Pensioned for _____

RECOGNIZED ATTORNEY.

Name, Aaron D. Eledge

Fee, \$ 2; Agent to pay.

P.O., Sevierville, Tennessee

Articles filed _____, 1 _____

Referred May 26, 06 - Med. Ex.

H. T. Moore Ex.

APPROVALS.

Submitted for Ad. August 1, 1906, Edmin M. Clarke, Examiner.

Approved for Rheumatism and resulting
disease of heart, chronic diarrhea and
and disease of liver and resulting
disease of rectum

Approved for Rheumatism and resulting
disease of heart, chronic diarrhea and
disease of liver and resulting disease of
rectum, 3rd grade

Paralysis agitans alleged as a result
to medical Referee.

_____ to increase
Alleged paralysis agitans cannot be
accepted as a result
Condition due in part to other than
personed causes

Aug. 2, 1906, C E Lusby
Legal Reviewer.

Park _____, _____ Keenan
Medical Examiner. Medical Reviewer.

_____, 190____, So Div
Re-Reviewer.

Aug. 3, 1906, Sam Houston
Medical Referee.

Enlisted September 22, 1862 Discharged July 6, 1865 Last paid to _____
Pensioned at \$ 24 per month for Rheumatism, and resulting disease of heart, chronic
diarrhea and disease of liver and resulting disease of rectum.

PRESENT CLAIM.

Declaration filed March 9, 1906, alleges increase pensioned causes, and paralysis agitans
result of rheumatism

Claimant does yes write.

Hon. Zo P. Brownlow, M. C.

3-364.

Origin No. _____

Certificate No. 325143

ACT OF FEBRUARY 6, 1907.

Claimant, James Maples

P. O., Sevierville

County, Sevier

State, Tennessee

Rate, _____ per month, commencing _____

Rank, Sergeant

Company, I

Regiment, 2, East Tenn. Vol. Cav.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE.

(Order April 25, 1907.)

Name, _____

P. O., _____

APPROVAL.

Submitted for Rej., Jany. 2, 1912, W. A. Moore, Examiner.

Approved for rejection upon the ground that claimant is now in receipt of \$24 per month under the General Law, which is a greater pension than that to which he would be entitled on account of Agi. under Act of February 6, 1907, and hence is not pensionable under said Act.

Jan. 3, 1912, A. B. Bennett
Legal Reviewer.

Jan. 3, 1912, Al Meek
Re-Reviewer.

Enlisted Sept. 22, 1862;

honorably discharged July 6, 1865.

Pensioned at \$24 per month, under general law.

PRESENT CLAIM, ACT OF FEBRUARY 6, 1907.

Declaration filed Dec. 22, 1911.

Date of birth alleged, March - 1837

Age shown by evidence 73 years.

Claimant does _____ write.

Sevierville, Tenn.

R. D. #12

March 20, 1913.

Mr. J. L. Davenport Commissioner

Washington D. C.

Dear Sir -

In reply to yours of the 14th inst. concerning my family record will say that in year 1870 I got my house burned and also my family record. And for that reason I can not send a verified copy of my record.

James Maples

State of Tenn. Sevier Co. Personally appeared before me O. R. Ownby N. P. of Said Co.

James Maples who makes oath in due form of law to the truth of the above affidavit

This March 20th 1913

O. R. Ownby Notary Public

ACT OF MAY 11, 1912.
As amended by Act of March 4, 1913.

Cert. No. 325143

Claimant, James Maples

P. O., Sevierville, R. D. 12,

Rank, Sergeant

County, Sevier,

Service, I

State, Tennessee

2 East Tenn. Cav.

Rate, \$ 24 per month, commencing June 15, 1912 & \$30 commencing March 24, 1913

ATTORNEY OR STATE REPRESENTATIVE.
(Order April 25, 1907.)

Name, _____

Fee, \$ _____; Agent to pay.

P. O., _____

Articles filed _____, 19

=====

APPROVAL.

Submitted for Adm., March 28, 1913, S. G. Wilkerson Examiner.

Approved for Admission (Class G)

Rate \$ 24 per month; age 74 years.

Recieve from the general law

Date of birth March 24, 1838 (Age 75 years not accepted at date of filing claim.)

Length of pensionable service: 2 years, 9 months, 15 days.

Deductions in service from any cause: none years, _____ months, _____ days.

on account of _____

April 23, 1913, G W Paschal
Legal Reviewer.

April 25, 1913, M. V. Andrews
Re-Reviewer.

Enlisted Sept. 22, 1862;

honorable discharged July 6, 1865

Enlisted _____, 18 ; honorably discharged _____, 18

Enlisted _____, 18 ; honorably discharged _____, 18

Length of pensionable service: 2 years, 9 months, 15 days.

Pensioned at \$ 24 per month, under General Law.

PRESENT CLAIM, ACT OF MAY 11, 1912.

Declaration filed June 15, 1912

Age shown by evidence 74 years; date of birth ~~alleged~~ accepted March 24, 1838

Claimant does ----- write.

No, M. C.

DECLARATION FOR INCREASE OF PENSION.

GENERAL LAW.

State of Tenn.,

County of Sevier, SS:

ON THIS 6th day of January, A. D. 1915, personally appeared before me, a Notary Public within and for the County and State aforesaid, duly authorized to administer oaths, James Maples aged 77 years, a resident of Sevierville R # 12, County of Sevier, State of Tenn., who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is a pensioner of the United States, duly enrolled at the pension agency at U S Washington D. C., at the rate of \$15.00 Dollars per month, by reason of disability incurred in the military service of the United States while a Sergeant Co I. 2 Regiment East Tenn. Cavalry

That the diabilit..... for which he draws pension Now due at the Rate of \$30 dollars per month from March 24, 1913

This pension certificate is number 325,143, that his present physical condition is such that one believes himself entitled to an increased pension, and that he therefore makes this application for such increase for the following reasons: that I am just Paid \$15.00 dollars per month when I am entitled to \$30 thirty dollars per month I make out this decleration to Receive my full Pension aloud me by law at the Rate of \$30 thirty dollars Per month and for any other coin that may be due me acording to law and for what is due me Since my wife did July 22 1914 up to the Present

That he hereby appoints, with full power of substitution and revocation,
_____, of _____ State of _____ his true and lawful attorney... to prosecute this claim.

That his post office address is Sevierville Tenn. Rout #12

Hetta Eledge

James Maples

Virgie Eledge

Rcpt. May 11/12

3-003

INVALID CLAIM FOR INCREASE.

=====

James Maples
CLAIMANT

CO 12 Tenn.

REGT _____

VOLS Cav.

NO. OF CERTIFICATE 325,143

=====

FILED BY

=====

Also personally appeared Heta Eledge, residing in Sevierville, Tenn. R # 14, and Virgie Eledge residing in Sevierville, Tenn. R # 14, persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say that they were present and saw James Maples, the claimant, Sign his Name to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe from the appearance of said applicant and their acquaintance with him of 15 years and 12 years, respectively, that he is the identical person he represents himself to be; and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

Hetta Eledge

Virgie Eledge

James Maples
(Signature of Affiants.)

Subscribed and Sworn to before me, this 6th day of January A. D. 1915 and I hereby certify that the contents of the foregoing declaration etc., were fully made known and explained to the applicant.... and witnesses before swearing, including the words _____ erased, and the words _____ added, and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

A. D. Eledge
Official Signature.

Notary Public
Official Character.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF PENSIONS

Washington, D. C., Aug. 11, 1914

No. Claim _____

Cert. No. 325.143.

Claimant, _____

Soldier, James Maples

Co. I, 2 Reg't. East Tenn Cav.

Respectfully, referred to the Chief, Law Division, Act of Mch 3, 1899 Section with
attention called to the communication (submitted herewith), from this pensioner, in which
it is stated the beneficiary under Act Mch 3/99 died July 21, 1914

W. N. Campbell
Chief of Finance Division.

R W D

Law Division,

Inv. Cert. 329,143,
James Maples,
Co. I, 2 E. Tenn. Cav.

Respectfully returned to the Chief of the Civil War Division, with the information that on the 10th instant the Finance Division was notified of the death of Polly Ann Maples, the soldier's deserted wife, and requested to resume full payment of pension to the soldier, the soldier being advised accordingly.

This action effectually disposes of the request made by soldier in his affidavit filed Jan. 9, 1915.

WHM.WDC.

L. S. Cannon
Chief of Law Division.

CIVIL WAR DIVISION
Section II.

Civil War Division

=====

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF PENSIONS

Washington, D. C., Feb. 6, 1915

No. Claim _____

Cert. No. 325 143.

Claimant, James Maples,

Soldier, _____

Co. I, 2, Reg't. E. Tenn. Cav.

Respectfully, referred to the Chief Finance
Division inviting attention to the fact that a
certificate was issued to pensioner April 28,
1913, under the act of May 11, 1912, providing
for the payment of pension of \$24 per month,
from June 15, 1912 and \$30 " "
" March 24, 1913, and that provision
had previously been made for the payment
of half his pension to his deserted wife, who
however is shown to have been "Dropped Aug.
28, 1914, Beneficiary dead."

(over)

In a disallowed reimbursement claim
a certificate from her attending physician
shows she died July 21, 1914.

The ease is now called up by pensioner
by filing declaration January 9, 1915,
in which he says he is only receiving
\$15 per month, although entitled to
\$30 per month and is referred for
consideration and proper action.

John F. Keenan
Chief of C. W. Division.

3-416

E.C.M., Ex'r.

Co I, Civil War Division

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF PENSIONS

Washington, D. C., Feb. 13, 1915.

No. Claim, 325,143

Cert. No. 325,143

Claimant, James Maples

Soldier, do

Co. I, 2 Reg't. E. Tenn. Cav.

Respectfully, referred to the Chief of the Law
Division inviting his attention to the fact that the
attached declaration filed by claimant Jan. 9,
1915 is not a claim under the Act of May 11,
1912, but merely a claim to have the half of
his \$30 pension, formerly paid to his deserted
wife,--who died July 21, 1914,--restored to him.

No action in regard to same is required
in this Division.

John F. Keenan
Chief of Civil W. Division

3-416

Law Division

=====

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF PENSIONS

Washington, D. C., Feb. 10, 1915

No. Claim, _____

Cert. No. 325 143

Claimant, _____

Soldier, James Maples

Co. I, 2 Reg't. E. Tenn Cav

Respectfully, referred to the Chief

Civil War Div. for disposition of the

attached dec, under act May 11, 1912

Papers no longer required

in this Div.

L. S. Cannon
Chief of Law Division.

3-416

FINANCE Division

=====

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF PENSIONS

Washington, D. C., Feb. 9", 1915

No. Claim, _____

Cert. No. 325,143

Claimant, _____

Soldier, James Maples

Co. "I", 2 Reg't. "E" Tenn. Cav.

Respectfully, referred to the Chief of
the Law Division the attached letter
from this pensioner, with attention
called to the reference slip from the
Civil War Division.

The records of this Division fail
to show any advice to pay the pension
withheld to the soldier. Payment
last made to the wife May 4, 1914.

W.N. Campbell
Chief of Finance Division.

R W D

3-1876.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

~~WASHINGTON, D. C.,~~

CRIMINAL.

325,143

James Maples,

Co. I. 2d. Tenn. Vol. Cav.

In re Adrian Dockery Elledge, Atty.

Post office address,

Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn.,

Custom House,

Knoxville, Tenn.,

July 31, 1907.

The Hon. Commissioner of Pensions,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Accompanying the papers and my merit report in the above entitled claim, is a separate criminal report relative to the illegal acts of Attorney Adrian Dockery Elledge.

I have often suspicioned Mr. Elledge and suspected him of illegal acts and he has been reported to me several times as being crooked and I am told if the cases could be found in which he has acted as attorney, that it would be found that his wife, son and daughter have witnessed most of the papers and in many cases, Mr. Elledge has signed his wifes name and his sons and daughters, and this when they were not present.

He has used them as a convenience and a tool. Mr. Elledge robbed a poor widow woman of some money a year or so ago and had to refund the same and I understand he has had other trouble with the Bureau.

It will be seen that Attorney Elledge either received employment from James Maples as Attorney or else by his acts and words he led the old man and his friends to think that he, Attorney Elledge was acting as his attorney. He then took employment on the other side of the controversy and led Polly Ann and her friends to think that he was acting as her Attorney and he even told her he would get her half pension for her. Attorney Elledge as will be seen has acted in an unprofessional manner by allowing James Maples to agree to pay him if he Attorney Elledge kept the pension for the old man, and then later he told parties that he was going to get the half pension for Polly Ann as James Maples would not pay enough to keep his pension.

Polly Ann alleges she only made two affidavits before Attorney Elledge, therefore, it is most likely that B. J. 1, was not executed in the presence of the claimant and it appears that M. J. Elledge's name has been signed to B. J. 1, by some one other than herself. The facts in B. J. 3 have been perverted by Attorney Elledge and Malissie J. Elledges name was no doubt signed by some one other than herself, no doubt her Father.

B. J. 5 is not correctly recorded and again Attorney Elledge's daughters name has been signed by another.

The evidence shows that B. J. 6, was falsely certified to and Attorney Elledge's daughters name has again been forged thereto, the same with B. J. 7 and no witnesses were present when these affidavits were executed.

B. J. 9 was never executed as it is written and the evidence shows it to be a false certification, perversion of facts and probably forgery.

B. J. 10 was signed by Attorney Elledge with permission of his wife.

B. J. 11 was never executed and it is a false certification and forgery is here plain again.

B. J. 22 is shown to be a clear false certification. Malissie and M. E. Elledge, daughter and wife respectively of Atty. Elledge, never left their house to execute papers in this case and M. Jane Maples never went to the home of Atty. Elledge to execute any.

B. J. 24, exactly the same as B. J. 22. B. J. 25 is clearly an out and out forgery and is no doubt the paper he, Atty. Elledge, tried to get Marve Maples and his wife to sign and which they refused to sign. M. J. Maples it will be seen states that Atty. A. D. Elledge mentioned to her he had sent a paper to Washington without witnesses and the fact of the paper mentioned being a small paper was also mentioned and is significant.

The affidavits executed away from Atty. Elledges house were witnessed and it can be proven that Atty. Elledges wife and daughter were not present, by good witnesses.

Attorney Elledge has been very much wrought up over this case and he has not only gone to every witness after I have been there and endeavored to learn all but he tried to pay Sarah Sutton Williams, to tell him what I had done in her locality and what facts I had gathered and in addition he tried to coach many of the witnesses before I even reached them.

The deposition of Atty. Elledge was considered by me more in the light of a final statement from him and not as a regular confession but it will be noticed that he did confess to some very material things and in this connection it is proper to state although I

did not use the regular confession form and had no witnesses to sign his, Atty. Elledge's statement, I had Beecher B. Brown of Sevierville, Tenn., an intelligent driver, who has accompanied me during all this work, with me and he knows nearly as much about the case as I do and he knows and will swear that I only took one statement from Atty. Elledge, and on that occasion he, Beecher Brown, heard Atty. Elledge acknowledge the statement to be true and correctly recorded, and he, Beecher Brown also knows the contents of that final deposition from the Attorney. From the conduct of the said Atty. Elledge, I don't think he will attempt to deny a single fact but will confess to all and will plead for mercy.

I file herewith Exhibit A., the signatures of the son, wife and daughter of Attorney Elledge.

I recommend consideration of the Chief of the Law Division with a view to immediate prosecution.

Very respectfully,

Herbert W. Meyers

Special Examiner.

Material evidence is in the merit report and it too should be seen.

M.

DEPOSITION A

Case of in re A. D. Elledge.

No. 325,143.

On this 12th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Marvel Maples., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am about 50 years of age and am by occupation a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co., Tenn. I cannot write and never did write my name and never in my life gave Atty. A. D. Elledge permission to sign my name for me, that is something I don't do. B. J. 24 was made out by Squire A. D. Elledge at my house in the presence of my wife and my daughter Beckie and I have tried to think but I am as sure as I am of anything that no one else was here and I am positive after talking with wife and Beckie that Squire Elledges wife was not here and Malissa Elledge was not here either. I did touch the pen but no witnesses signed the paper as witnesses to my mark and this I am sure of and say it realizing that my statement may be made basis for criminal prosecution. B. J. 25 is a forgery and a lie. I don't write and cannot write and that must have been forged by A. D. Elledge as I remember he did bring a little paper here to my house one day and asked me was it all right and I told him no I had no such knowledge and would sign nothing like that. I know nothing about any of the facts in that affidavit with my name to it B. J. 25, which is supposed to have been executed on the 18th day of March. It was never executed and I will swear it is all false and nothing but a forgery on the part of Atty. A. D. Elledge, my neighbor. Atty. Elledge has a very bad reputation and has been lawyed several times. I understood from the start that Atty. Elledge was working as Attorney for both parties, Polly Ann and Jim Maples. I have listened attentively to you reading this statement to me and I have understood all your questions and my answers have been exactly recorded as I have them to you.

Witness to mark:

B. B. Brown

his

Marvel X Maples

mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION B

Case of in re A. D. Elledge.,

No. 325,143.

On this 12th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Jane Maples., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 45 years of age and am the wife of Marvel Maples and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. B. J. 25 is a forgery as I cannot write my name and never gave A. D. Elledge permission to sign my name for me. He came her by himself one time and read such a paper to me and I told him I knew nothing about it and could not sign a lie and the facts down on that paper were not anything that I knew and I refused to sign such a paper. No one was here at my house that day but my daughter, Beckie, my husband Marvel Maples and Squire A. D. Elledge and myself and no one else was present I am sure. I never signed that paper and I cannot sign my name and I never could. It was in March that he came but all the facts in B. J. 25 are lies and I don't know a word of that and none of it is true. Squire Elledge and his boy Fed told me that he, Squire Elledge, was working for both parties. He was attorney for both sides and expected to get \$25. out of it. He, Atty. Elledge has the worst reputation of any man in this country and has defrauded pensioners and has a bad reputation for morality and has been lawyed many times. I mean that no one was present but Jim Maples, the soldier but as he is one of the parties I did not consider him. The Atty. Elledge read a paper over to me the day that paper is supposed to have been executed but he must have written a new affidavit after he got home as all that B. J. 25 is a lie and not a word is there that was in the one that Atty. Elledge read to me he read me a short statement that was true and wrote one out that is not true. I have listened attentively to you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

Witness to mark:
B. B. Brown

her
Jane X Maples
mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of July, 1907, and I certify that
the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION CCase of James Maples.,No. 325,143.

On this 22nd day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Martha Jane Maples., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 45 years of age and am the wife of Marvel Maples and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am not related to any of the parties connected with this investigation and I have no interest in it and I realize that any statement I may make will be made the basis for criminal prosecution. I made an affidavit out for Jim Maples in February 1907 at my house and I only made one out and never had anything to do with more than one paper in this Maples case, this I am sure of. I remember I touched a pen that day and he read an affidavit and he read something that was not right and I told him that he had recorded what I told him wrong and he then had me touch the pen but whether he corrected the misstatement I don't know. When that affidavit was executed Beckie, my daughter and Mr. A. D. Elledge and my husband and I were present and perhaps Mrs. Lizzie Galloway but I am sure not another soul was there and I am as sure as anything under the sun that Malissie Ellidge was not there as she has never been to my house and this paper was made out in my house and I have never made any papers out in this case or any other at Mr. Elledges house. I am positive of this and I am also positive that Mr. Elledges wife and daughter have never been at my house to witness my mark. I believe Mr. Elledge did tell me that he had sent my statement to Washington without any witnesses and if there were any witnesses to it he did not know anything about it. This was a week ago that he told me that. I never stated that I saw Polly Ann leaving the home of Jim Maples, it was several days after she left that I saw her and then she did not tell me that she would not live with Jim Maples but she did tell me that Jim Maples had ordered her to leave his house as she could not get a long with his children. That statement B. L. 22, was not witnesses in my presence and I repeat that Malissie and M. E. Elledge were not present and I am as sure as anything that they never signed that paper in my presence and if they did ever sign it it was done away from me and my house where the paper was executed. The other paper B. J. 25 is a forgery as aforementioned and was not only not signed by me but it is a statement of things I have no personal knowledge of and I never authorized my signature to it or any other paper in my life. I never in my life told Atty. A. D. Elledge that he could sign my name for me to any paper or papers as that is something I have never done. My daughter Beckie will swear that Malissie and M. E. Elledge were not there that day and I have heard Mr.

Elledge admit that his wife and daughter were not there and he will tell you the same but just how the names of Malissie Elledge and M. E. Elledge came to be signed to that paper I don't know. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

Witness.

B. B. Brown
Bela A. Maples

her
Martha Jane X Maples
mark
Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22nd day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION D

Case of In re A. D. Elledge.,

No. 325,143.

On this 11th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared William S. Sutton., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 74 years of age and am a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I have no interest in this investigation. I realize that my statement may be a basis for criminal prosecution but still I want to tell the truth. I was never sworn in this case and was never qualified and never had an affidavit read to me. I signed some paper by mark at the home of Atty. Eledge and I believe it was last December and I am quite sure that the wife of Mr. Eledge was there that day and Mr. Eledge and myself but no one else was there I am sure. I refer to B. J. 7 and I never made such a statement in my life. I never said that James Maples left Polly Ann because he did not I have explained that in another place. Mr. Eledge just asked me a couple of questions and asked me to touch a pen but he never told me I was signing an affidavit and he never read anything to me and he never swore me. I asked him did I have to swear when I touched the pen and he said no and I did not swear. Mr. Eledge stole some pension money once and had to pay it back but that is all I know. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

Witness to mark.

B. B. Brown
I J Sutton
Geo Sutton

his
William S. X Sutton
mark
Deponent.
(Jurat over)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION E

Case of James Maples.,

No. 325,143.

On this 24th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared William S. Sutton., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 74 years of age and am by occupation a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 9, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I made a statement before you the other day and now will make the following statement. I never made but one statement in this case to Mr. A. D. Elledge and he never qualified me to that and that was B. J. 7 as mentioned in my former statement. I never made but the one statement to him in my life and that was B. J. 7 and was made out at his house and only his wife was present. B. J. 7 was not stated by me as it is recorded and I am sure only Mr. Elledge and his wife and I were present and I am as sure as I am of anything that J. W. (John) Elledge was not there and if he signed as witness he never saw me touch the pen. B. J. 11 purporting execution on the 17th day of May 1907 before Mr. A. D. Elledge it is all a falsehood and I never executed it and have no knowledge of those things stated there at all. It is mostly false and I never touched a pen to it I am sure as I am of anything. Malissie never signed her name to a single paper that I ever had anything to do with. I did execute B. J. 7 but never had anything to do with B. J. 11 at all and I am the only man by the name of William Sutton 72 years of age or thereabouts around her and B. J. 11 is intended to be me but it is all false and I know I never heard those facts until just now when you read it to me and I only made one affidavit out. I never said Jim Maples deserted his wife. I was not at the house every day or two and I was not there the day they separated. I didn't hear Jim say he had run Polly Ann away. I did not hear him say he would not live with her any more. I did not state that he run his own girl off from home, I don't know that. Ive Dunn had a bad reputation but I did not know about that matter personally. I never said Ive Dunn left because she was afraid of being lawyed. I know he drinks and I know he bought good clothes for Ive Dunn but I never stated he was throwing his money away on fast women. I am now living on R. F. D. No. 9 as above but I did live on route 14 at one time. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

Witness to mark.

I J Sutton

Only one witness available.

his
William S. X Sutton
mark

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th _ day of July, 1907, and I certify that
the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION F

Case of James Maples.,

No. 325,143.

On this 23d day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared William M. Maples., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 55 years of age and am by occupation a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 6, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am nephew of James Maples but have no pecuniar interest in this investigation and realize that any statement I may make may be made the basis for criminal prosecution. Attorney A. D. Elledge told me one day when we were talking that old man Jim Maples had money enough to keep his whole pension and to keep Polly Ann from getting half of the same but said Atty. Elledge the old man wouldn't pay his money out to keep his pension, if he would he could keep the pension all right but he will promise to pay and then he wouldn't pay, he could by paying out some money keep the pension in its entirety. He said he thought that Polly Ann was going to get half of the old man's pension money but that even if she did get half the old man could by paying for it get it back again later on. Atty. Elledge went on to say that old man Jim Maples had in the past promises things and had not paid them and therefore he led me to believe that the reason that Polly Ann was going to get half the pension was because Jim Maples would not pay him enought and from the Attorneys talk I gathered he was working for whoever paid him the most money. I have heard it said all over that Atty. Elledge first was Jim Maples attorney and then he worked for Polly Ann and in that way was working for both parties concerned. The talk is that Jim Maples hired Atty. Elledge and afterwards Atty. Elledge had Polly Ann secure him \$25. if he got the pension for her which she was working for, but this is only the neighborhood talk. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X W M Maples
Deponent.
(Jurat over)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23d day of July, 1907, and I certify that
the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION G

Case of James Maples.,

No. 325,143.

On this 23d day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Campbell L. Maples., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 21 years of age and am by occupation a clerk in a store and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 6, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am son of Redmond Maples. I remember one day this spring that I was in the store and I was asked to sign my name to a paper as witness to Jim Maples pension paper. I refer to B. J. 17. I did not see any one sign that paper but I signed it. I don't recall seeing Jim Maples sign it. The James looks like his handwright but the Maples does not. I did not hear the paper read and it was not read at the store where I signed. I did not see Jim Maples or anyone sign it I believe it was all signed and prepared before they came to me and as I was busy waiting on customers I paid no attention to it. I am not sure but I believe that J. H. Porter was present at the store when I signed my name. I know uncle Jim Maples has told me he was having Atty. A. D. Elledge working for him to keep his pension, and I have heard it said that Mr. Elledge was working on both sides and that Atty. Elledge had made Polly Ann secure \$25. to him for getting her half pension for her. B. J. 17 was not read the day I signed it I am sure and I am sure it was not read in my presence and I never saw Jim Maples sign that paper but he may have at the house before I signed it. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X C. L. Maples
Deponent.
(Jurat over)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23d day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION H

Case of James Maples.,

No. 325,143.

On this 23d day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Samuel Porter Williams., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 22 years of age and am by occupation a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am the son in law of Polly Ann, the claimant, by marriage. I have no interest in this investigation and I fully realize that any statement I may make may be made the basis for criminal prosecution. B. J. 2 was made out in this house and Polly Ann touched the pen and I signed as witness to her mark and my wife also signed as witness. B. J. 8 was made out in this house and I signed as witness to J. A. Dixon's mark and my wife also signed as witness. I know nothing about any fee arrangement between Atty. Elledge and Polly Ann. I did hear Polly Ann say that Mr. Elledge was her attorney and she had told him she was going to make everything all right with him for his work. I have always understood that Mr. Elledge was attorney for Polly Ann and I have heard her say that he was her attorney. I have heard her say that Atty. Elledge was working for her to get her half pension and I heard her say that Mr. Elledge had said that he thought he could get the pension for her. I have heard it talked that Atty. Elledge was attorney for both sides but I always thought he was attorney for Polly Ann and I never believed he was helping Jim Maples at all, none of us ever thought that Atty. Elledge was doing anything for Jim Maples. I have not heard any talk about any \$25. agreement between the claimant and Mr. Elledge. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X S. P. Williams.
Deponent.
(Jurat over)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23d day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION I

Case of In re A. D. Elledge.,

No. 325,143.

On this 11th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Sarah Sutton Williams., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 38 years of age and am the widow of Perry Williams but am known by most people as Sarah Sutton. My post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I have no interest in this investigation. I was passing the residence of Aron D. Eledge, some time last December, and he Atty. Eledge, told me that he wanted me to touch his pen about Polly Ann. He said there was nothing in it and it was not important but he wanted me to touch the pen showing that they had parted and that Polly Ann and Jim Maples were living apart. He told me, that is Mr. Eledge told me that there was nothing important to it and I did not have to be qualified. I was not qualified or sworn and did not have anything read to me. He asked me a question or two but read me nothing and I did not raise my hand I am sure as he told me it was not necessary. No one else was present when Mr. Eledge met me at the bars by his place and asked me to touch his pen. I am sure no one else was there as it was out by the bars and I was coming from the store. Yes I am sure when I touched the pen that Mr. Eledge's wife was not there or any other Eledge and not a soul was there but me and Mr. Eledge. I did not say that James Maples deserted his wife as she did the leaving herself, the reasons I have already explained. Further referring to B. J. 6, which I am alleged to have been sworn to but which I never was sworn to I will state, the balance of that affidavit is true but it was never read to me. I make this statement realizing that my statement may form the basis for criminal prosecution. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

Witness:

B. B. Brown
I J Sutton
Geo Sutton

her
Sarah Sutton X Williams
mark
Deponent.
(Jurat over)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th _ day of July, 1907, and I certify that
the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION J

Case of In re A. D. Elledge.,No. 325,143.

On this 11th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared George D. Sutton., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 22 years of age and am by occupation a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am not related to any of the parties herein and have no interest in this investigation and I realize that any statement I may make may be made the basis for criminal prosecution. I never have been sworn in this case and never was qualified and never had an affidavit read over to me in this case and the only thing that ever occurred was about last February or at any rate in the winter Mr. Elledge, Attorney, A. D. Elledge, came here to my house and asked me to touch my finger to his pen. I did not know what it was for but he did mention something about Polly Ann Maples but he did not write out a regular affidavit. He seemed to be writing on a small piece of paper and not on a paper as large as that affidavit you have just showed me. He did not ask me to raise my hand and he did not swear me and he did not read anything to me at all. I refer to B. J. 9, which I am alleged to have been sworn to and which I was never sworn to at all. No one was present that day except my mother and Father and the children here. No Elledge was present but Mr. A. D. Elledge, the Attorney. No Mrs. Elledge was not present I am sure because it was here at the home of William S. Sutton, my Father and Mr. Elledge has never been over here so far as I know. I am positive that no one was here when I touched that pen but my folks and I know there were no Eliges here. That B. J. 9, is mostly a lie and I never made such a statement to Atty. Elledge in my life. I never told him that Jim Maples had deserted Polly and I never mentioned lewd women to him and I never told him anything about the soldiers wanting to have lewd women about him, it is all the talk of the neighborhood but I never told Elledge that at all and I repeat the fact of my being sworn to that statement B. J. 9, is false as I was never sworn and never had anything like that read to me, and when I put my finger to his pen I am as sure as I am of anything that Malissa Elledge, his daughter was not here and am also sure that M. E. Elledge was not here. As we have but few visitors I would know if they had been here and I have never touched a pen at Mr. Eledges in this case. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X Geo Sutton
Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION KCase of James Maples.,No. 325,143.

On this 23d day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Polly Ann Maples., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 73 years of age and am the identical wife of James Maples who served in Co. I 2d. Tenn. Vol. Cav., and who made a statement before you on the 10th day of July past. My post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I now realize that any statement I may make may be the basis for criminal prosecution but I will tell the truth in all events. I had heard various neighbors say that I should have part of Jim Maples pension and I went to see Attorney A. D. Elledge about it and that day at his house I talked about the matter to him and he told me not to do anything about it and I am sure that I did not sign a paper on that day. Yes I am sure as I am of anything that that first day all was done that we talked the pension business over and he, Atty. Elledge told me not to do anything about it and this day I signed nothing. Then I went home and did nothing further in my case until about two months or so thereafter when I got a letter from the Commissioner of Pensions at Washington telling me that my husband Jim Maples had filed some papers and then I took this Commissioner's letter and took it down to Mr. Elledge and he prepared a statement for me and had me touch his pen. I am as sure as I am of anything in the world that I never touched my hand to a pen and I am sure I never executed or had executed an affidavit until after I got the letter from the Commissioner of Pensions Washington, D. C. The first affidavit I executed was prepared at the home of Atty. A. D. Elledge, and I touched his pen to the paper which was a full statement of my grievance. On this occasion the wife and daughter of Atty. Elledge were present and they signed their name as witnesses to my mark after I was sworn. I will swear that I touched the pen and I am quite sure that Malissie and Mary E. Elledge were both there and they both signed their names. I am as sure as I am of anything that J. W. Elledge (son) was not there and I never in my life so far as I recall saw him sign his name. He has not been home much and I don't recall that he was ever there when I was. I am sure that I only executed one paper at the home of Mr. Elledge and one here at my own home and never executed any others and only touched a pen two times in my claim. I did not execute two papers at the home of Mr. Elledge I am quite sure I never executed one when J. W. Elledge was present and the first paper I ever touched a pen to was the one after I got word from the Commissioner that Jim had filed certain papers. The one paper which I executed here was executed in the presence of S.

P. Williams and M. M. Williams and they signed as witnesses to my mark. I repeat I have only executed two papers in my claim and I never executed a single paper until after I heard from the Commissioner that Jim Maples had filed certain papers. The first letter I got was one telling what evidence Jim Maples had filed and it was after this that I executed the first paper in this half pension case. The day I first saw Mr. Elledge I told him if he would do my work and get me my half pension that I would see him righted and he would not loose for the work he would do for me. He made light of what I said about paying him and told me that was all right and I thought the way he spoke that the Government paid him for his work. I did not agree to pay him any certain amount. That day when I told Atty. Elledge I would see him righted I came home and told my daughter in law M. M. Williams that I had offered to see Mr. Elledge righted and he had turned it off. Mr. Elledge has been my attorney from the start and although it has been rumored that he is attorney for Jim Maples, my husband I don't believe he is as he has always told me he was my attorney and he has stated he thought he could get my half pension for me. When I heard the talk that my Attorney Mr. Elledge was acting as attorney for my husband, Jim Maples I thought that it was all right and I thought he would be honest and straightforward for us both and I didn't think there was any harm if it were true and therefore I never said anything about it to Mr. Elledge. I never told Sam Dixon to offer Mr. Elledge money to get my half pension and I never heard Sam say that he had offered any money to Mr. Elledge for me and I never heard anything about this but gossip. Nan Huff came here and she said they were talking in the Glades and that Mr. Jonathan Cogdill had told her that it was rumored all over that it was rumored that Sam Dixon and Crockett Dixon had signed a note as surety for me to Atty. A. D. Elledge if he, Atty. Elledge would get my pension for me. They said that if I had agreed to pay Atty. Elledge \$25. that it would stop my chances to get the half pension. I have heard different persons say that I had agreed to pay money to Mr. Elledge but all I ever did was to tell him that he would loose nothing by acting as my attorney and I would see him right. That paper B. J. 1, was never touched by me as I don't recall that I ever made a paper out when J. W. Elledge, son of A. D. Elledge, was present. I am sure that I only made out one paper at the home of Atty. Elledge in the presence of Malissie and Mary E. Elledge, and one here in the presence of S. P. Williams and M. M. Williams. J. W. Elledge never witnessed a paper which I touched. The soldier never gave me a cent as long as I lived with him except the money he borrowed from me \$1.25. He never bought me a dress or a hat or any skirts or any underclothes and he bought Ive Dunn six or seven dresses and four or five hats and shoes and other things and she lived with him several months and I lived with him several years. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

Witness:

B. B. Brown
M. M. Williams

her
Polly Ann X Maples
mark
Deponent.
(Jurat over)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23d day of July, 1907, and I certify that
the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION LCase of In re A. D. Elledge.,No. 325,143.

On this 31st day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Joseph Crockett Dixon., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 37 years of age and am by occupation a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am son of Polly Ann Maples and have already testified before you in her claim for half pension of James Maples. I realize that any statement I may make may be made the basis for criminal prosecution but I shall tell the truth as I know it. I made out a statement at the home of Atty. A. D. Elledge and some persons were present I don't recall seeing John W. Elledge. Mr. Elledge asked me if I knew certain things and I told him yes I knew the things he mentioned but he has put down in that affidavit B. J. 5 things which I never said and things that he did not mention to me. That is my signature to B. J. 5 and I remember signing the affidavit at the home of Mr. Elledge but no witnesses signed in my presence or while I was there they may have signed after I left. No I did not see J. W. Elledge or M. J. Elledge sign that paper that I signed. I did not read the affidavit before signing and Mr. Elledge did not read it to me. Mr. Elledge did not swear me to that paper as I remember it now. He has put down what I did not state in B. J. 5. I never stated that the soldier deserted the claimant as I knew that this was not so. I did not state that I had heard soldier say repeatedly that he would not live with the claimant. I only made one statement before Mr. Elledge. Just a short time after the soldier and the claimant parted I was talking with Mr. A. D. Elledge about Polly Anns getting half of the soldiers pension and he, Mr. Elledge told me that he thought that Polly Ann could get it and he told me that if any one did work for her and did get the half pension for her that it should be worth \$25. and he led me to believe that if he did the work that that would be what he would charge for his services. I know all through the case Mr. Elledge has led me and Polly Ann to believe that he was working for Polly Ann trying to get get her half pension and I have heard him say he was working for Polly Ann and I know that is what we all have understood from the start but later we heard that he was also working for Jim Maples and I think Mr. Elledge afterwards told me he was doing some writing for James Maples, the soldier but he did not tell me he was attorney for said James Maples. The talk has been that Mr. Elledge has been working for both parties to this controversy. When Mr. Elledge took my statement he led me to believe that he was working for Polly Ann and that he believed he could get her half pension for her. I don't know about Sam Dixon going security for \$25. to Atty.

Elledge, in case attorney Elledge got the half pension. I know Sam Dixon has talked that he thought that Atty. Elledge was pretending to act as attorney for mother, Polly Ann, and as a matter of fact was really acting all the time for the soldier, James Maples. I heard that Atty. Elledge went to see Sam Williams just after you were over there the other day but this is just hearsay and I heard some one say that he, Atty. Elledge had also been to see mother. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X J. C. Dixon
Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION MCase of James Maples.,No. 325,143.

On this 23d day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Samuel W. Dixon., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 31 years of age and am by occupation a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am son of Polly Ann Maples but have no pecuniar interest in this case. I realize that any statement I may make may be made the basis for criminal prosecution. One day I was at the home of Atty. A. D. Elledge and I was talking to him about mothers half pension and when I asked Mr. Elledge to try and get mothers half pension he said he could not work for her unless he got \$25. for the work. He told me for \$25. he would work for Polly Ann and he would tell everybody that he was attorney for Polly Ann and he would work against Jim Maples and for Polly Ann and he stated if he did this his charge would be \$25. and I just accented to whatever he said and I made no objection and did not offer any objection and just sanctioned everything he said and as this was sometime back I am not sure what I said. I did that day tell Atty. Elledge that mother would pay that and that she was a woman of honor and if his charge was \$25. to act as her attorney that she would pay it. In other words when he was talking I just sanctioned everything he said and I guess he, Atty. Elledge just thought that I was standing good for mother but I never made a written contract or even a verbal contract about this matter with Atty. Elledge. After this I never had any further talk with Atty. Elledge about the \$25. agreement. I will not swear that I did not talk to Jim Dunn or Cad McMahan about the \$25. agreement, I may have and I may not have but I don't recall about it now if I did ever talk to then about this matter. It has been my understanding that Atty. Elledge was attorney for Polly Ann but I have heard it rumored that he is also attorney for Jim Maples. If I strengthened Atty. Elledges mind that he would get \$25. from Polly Ann if he got her half pension it was in this way. I told him that if he wanted \$25. and if mother agreed to pay him that much then I was sure that mother had honor enough about her to pay it. I told him I knew she would pay the \$25. if she agreed to do so. I had no thought about securing mother but I can see how he may have thought that I was going to stand good from our talk. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X Samuel W. Dixon.
Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23d day of July, 1907, and I certify that
the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION N

Case of James Maples.,

No. 325,143.

On this 25th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared James Berry Dunn., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am about 35 years of age and am by occupation a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 9, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am distantly related to both parties, Polly Ann and James Maples but have no pecuniar interest in the investigation. I was at the home of Birt Watson my Father in law and I heard Cad McMahan say that old man, A. D. Elledge, was trying to get the half of Jim Maples pension for Polly Ann and that Sam Dixon was security to Elledge for the payment of \$25. if he, Atty. Elledge got the half pension or Polly Ann. I think that Cad McMahan was telling Mr. Watson about this. I have heard it rumored all around that Atty. Elledge was acting for both Polly Ann and James Maples. I heard Polly Ann say that she would not have left the soldier if he had treated her right and I heard her say she would rather have the old man than she would his pension but he did not treat her right. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X J. B. Dunn
Deponent.
(Jurat over)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION O

Case of In re A. D. Elledge.,

No. 325,143.

On this 13th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Casmond D. McMahan., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 22 years of age and am by occupation a farmer and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am not related to any of the parties in this investigation. I realize that anything I may say may be made the basis for criminal prosecution. All I know about this case is that one day about a month ago I was at Squire A. D. Elledges house and he, Atty. Elledge told me that he was going to try and get Polly Ann Maples half pension for her from Jim Maples and that Polly Ann had agreed to pay him for getting it as her attorney and I said to Atty. Elledge do you think you will get it is your money good and he, Atty. Elledge responded to me why, yes. Sam Dixon has stood security to see that I get the money if I get the half pension. He then told me that when Polly Ann had promised to pay him the money that Sam Dixon was along and had stood good for her, Polly Ann. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X C. D. McMahan
Deponent.
(Jurat over)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION P

Case of In re A. D. Elledge.,

No. 325,143.

On this 11th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Mary E. Elledge., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am about 34 years of age and am the wife of A. D. Elledge, Attorney, and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am not related to any of the parties in this investigation except that my husband has been working for Polly Ann Maples and has been doing the affidavit work as Notary. B. J. 10, was made out by me, that is my husband asked me some questions and he wrote out that affidavit and he then asked me to sign it and I told him he should do it and he signed my name for me, he has often signed my name for me. I have on many occasions told him to just sign my name and he has signed my name so often for me to pension papers that I would not be able to tell you the number of times he has signed it but he has always done it with my permission. I have signed lots of the papers in this case and in others and I don't know how many papers I have not signed and my little girl Malissie also signs some of them and sometimes she signs her name M. J. Maples, she may also have given my husband permission to sign her name to papers for her. That paper B. J. 10, was not signed by me but my husband, Atty. A. D. Elledge, signed my name for me as he often does when I am busy and haven't time. Yes that he has often signed my name for me to pension papers when I am busy. Yes I remember that paper of Geo. Suttons, I remember my husband called me and I signed it and Malissia signed it to. I remember about it now it was right here at this house where you now sit I am sure of this because I have never gone out to sign papers in this case and I am sure Malissia has never gone out either and if she ever signed any papers it was right here that she must have signed them. I repeat I have never been away from this house in this Maples case, I have been away in other cases but not in this one I am sure and I am also sure that Malissa has never left the house to sign her name in this case and if she signed any papers it was right at this house. I make this statement knowing that my husband was the man who prepared the affidavit but I do this with no hesitation. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X M. E. Elledge
Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of July, 1907, and I certify that
the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION Q

Case of In re A. D. Elledge.,

No. 325,143.

On this 13th day of July, 1907, at Knoxville, county of Knox, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Malissie Katharine Elledge., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 16 years of age and am the daughter of Atty. A. D. Elledge, and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I sign my name Malissie Elledge and M. J. Elledge. I at times sign it one way and at other times sign it the other way. I have given my Father, Atty. A. D. Elledge, permission to sign my name for me to any papers he wanted to sign it to. I told him he could sign my name to any papers he wanted and at any time and it would be all right to me. He has signed my name for me many times and he signs my name for me as M. J. Elledge and as Malissie Elledge. Father has signed my name for me many times. He has signed my name lots of times when I have not seen him sign it. He has come home and told me he signed my name for me to certain papers and I have each time told him that it was all right he had my permission to sign anything at any times. He has signed my name for me when I have not seen him sign it. He has signed it for me when I was busy and he has signed it also when I was not there. In this Maples case Father came home one day and told me that he had signed an affidavit for George Sutton and he had signed my name and I told him it was all right. The Geo. Sutton affidavit is the only one that Father signed my name to away from our house. I think Father signed my name and my mothers name and he afterward came to the house and told mother and I that he had signed our names and we both told him it was all right that he did it but we did not see him sign our names. In this Maples case all the affidavits I ever signed I signed right at my house and I never signed an affidavit in this case anywhere but at my own house where we are now living. All the affidavits I have ever signed I have signed at our house. I have never signed any affidavits in any case away from my house, B. J. 1 and 3. I signed myself at my house and Polly Ann and others were there and saw me. B. J. 5 was signed as witness by me and I signed it at my house and J. C. Dixon was there at our house. B. J. 6 was signed by me at my house and although I will not swear I think Sarah Sutton was there in our house. B. J. 7 was signed by me and I think that William Sutton was at our house that day too. B. J. 9, was not signed by me this is the affidavit I gave my Father permission to sign. I did not see him sign my name to it. B. J. 11 was signed by me. I don't know whose affidavit it is but I signed it. B. J. 22 was signed by me at my house too the same as all the rest of them. This was executed at my house and Marve Maples wife was at our

house. I never went to Marve Maples house to execute any papers in my life. B. J. 24 was signed by me as witness it was executed at my house. Marve Maples was at my house I have never been to his to execute any papers. Marve Maples only executed one affidavit at my house. I repeat I have never signed a paper in this case at the home of Marve Maples. Father has brought papers home in this and other cases and he has had me to sign as a witness when the paper was signed already by one witness and in these cases I have signed in the presence of Father but not in the presence of the other witness. I had given my Father authority to sign my name for me at any time even when I was not there and he has signed for me when I have not been present. Yes that is right when Father brings a paper home to me to sign I always sign it at once without any question and I sign it without reading it and without hearing from him even what it contains. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

M. J. Eledge
Malissie Eledge.
Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

Malissie Eledge

M J Eledge

Signature of Malissie Eledge, daughter of A. D. Elledge, Attorney, written in my presence, July 13, 1907.

Herbert W. Meyer

Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION RCase of James Maples.,No. 325,143.

On this 22d day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared John Wesley Elledge., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 20 years of age and am by occupation a mill hand at the Knoxville Woolen Mills and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am son of Atty. A. D. Elledge. I realize that any statement I may make may be made the basis for criminal prosecution. I have signed many papers as witness for my Father in pension matters and have signed my name so many times that I really don't remember all the times I have ever signed it. Any papers I have ever signed for Father have been signed right here at this house, they must have been as I have never been away from this house to sign any papers and any papers with my name must have been signed right here at my home. I usually know about what is in any papers I sign as witness as Father tells me what is the nature of the paper or I read it over. I don't recall that I ever gave Father permission to sign my name to any papers and if I have ever given him any permission of this sort I don't recall it now. I don't recall at this time off hand whether I ever signed any papers in the Jim and Polly Maples Pension claim and if I did sign my name I have forgotten it now. I sometimes sign my name J. W. Elledge and at other times I sign my name as John W. Elledge. I have signed so many pension papers for Father that I don't recall what ones I did sign. B. J. 1, was signed by me I think but I don't recall the particulars but I think I signed several papers as witness for Polly Ann. B. J. 5 was signed by me I think, I don't recall that I ever signed that paper in the presence of Crockett Dixon and I don't recall that I ever signed my name to paper which Crockett had signed and I don't recall the particulars at this time at all, but I am sure I never signed any papers in this case away from this, my Fathers house. B. J. 6 looks like it was signed by me but I am not sure. I signed so much that I don't recall about B. J. 6. I don't recall that I ever saw Sarah Sutton touch a pen to an affidavit in the Maples pension claim. I don't recall that she was ever here to execute a paper or affidavit and I don't know whether I ever saw her sign any paper by mark and I don't remember signing a paper in the presence of Sarah Sutton. I am not sure but I may have given Father permission to sign my name to pension papers I did sign a powerful lot of them, but always at home here and never away. B. J. 7 looks like my signature and it was signed here and I think that old man William S. Sutton was here but I wouldn't be sure as I signed so many papers. I will not even swear I signed those as I signed so many but I think I did. I don't recall

whether Father ever asked me to sign papers he had prepared that day away from home, he might have and he might not have. I really signed so many I don't know when and where I signed them. I know if any papers were signed by me they must have been signed here at this house and if they were executed anywhere else but in this house then either I signed after the papers were executed or else I never signed them at all. I don't remember that I ever signed any pension papers in this case that were signed by either Crockett Dixon or Sarah or Bill Sutton. I wouldn't swear positively that I did give my Father permission to sign my name for me and I wouldn't swear positively that I did not, I just cannot be sure I may have and I may not have. I wouldn't swear that I ever saw Crockett Dixon or Sarah Sutton or William Sutton execute papers in this case and I wouldn't swear that I ever saw them touch a pen in this case. I cannot swear sure about any of these papers which are supposed to be signed by me. I will not swear that I did or did not sign them but they all look like they were signed by me. I have heard your read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

X J. W. Eledge
X Jno. W. Eledge.
Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22d day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION SCase of In re A. D. Elledge.,No. 325,143.

On this 25th day of July, 1907, at Sevierville, county of Sevier, State of Tenn., before me, Herbert W. Meyers, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Aaron Dockery Elledge., who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 58 years of age and am a Notary Public and a Justice of the Peace and a Pension Attorney and my post office address is R. F. D. No. 14, Sevierville, Sevier Co. Tenn. I am not Attorney for either of these parties, neither for Polly Ann Maples nor for James Maples, the soldier. I have made no arrangement in regard to any fees. I have made no arrangement orally or written with any parties under the sun in this case. I have made no contract with these parties direct or indirect through other persons in the claim of Polly Ann Maples for half pension of James Maples. My wife and daughter, Mary E. Elledge and Malissie Jane Elledge, have both given me permission to sign their names for me at any times I wanted to sign their names. They have just told me that if I signed their names it would be all right as far as they were concerned. No my house was not particularized, they told me I could sign their names at any place and at any time and it would be all right as far as they were concerned. John, my son, may have given me general permission to sign his name but I don't just recollect now whether he has or not. Of course it would be all right for me to sign his name. I might have signed John's name to papers but I don't recall it now, I may have and I may now have. I only recollect that I signed Malissies name once for her and only recollect that I signed my wifes name once. Malissie name was signed as a witness, she was busy and I signed her name as a witness. I signed my wifes name to an affidavit which she made out. I prepared the affidavit and signed her name to it as she was busy. I wouldn't swear that I did sign my wifes name or Malissie name more than the one time and I wouldn't swear that I did not sign them more than once. B. J. 3 was prepared at my house by me and Polly Ann touched the pen at my house and Malissie, my daughter and my wife signed their own names. Yes I am sure I did not sign Malissie and my wifes name to B. J. 3 (three). B. J. 5 was signed at my house and executed at my house in the back room and J. C. Dixon signed it himself. J. W. Eledge and M. J. Eledge, my son and my daughter both signed and I did not sign that for them. B. J. 6 was signed at my house right at the front house door and Sarah Sutton touched the pen right on my porch and J. W. Eledge and M. J. Eledge, my son and daughter both signed in her presence and I did not sign for John and Malissie Eledge. B. J. 7 was prepared by me at my house and William S. Sutton. (Bill Sutton) touched the pen and J. W. Eledge and M. J. Eledge my son and Daughter signed as witnesses and I

am quite sure I did not sign their names for them to B. J. 7. B. J. 9, was prepared by me at my house and George Sutton touched the pen at my house and Malissie and M. E. Elledge, my daughter and wife signed as witnesses and I did not sign for them. B. J. 10 I signed for my wife. She was busy and I signed it for her. B. J. 11 was prepared and executed by me at my house and it is the affidavit of old Uncle Bill Sutton, same as B. J. 7 and I made a mistake in the name and put it William D. instead of William S. and he touched the pen at my house and Malissie and M. E. Elledge, my daughter and wife signed as witnesses and I did not sign for them there. B. J. 16 was signed by Jim Maples himself. B. J. 22 was written by me and executed at the home of Marve Maples and she touched the pen and signed B. J. 22 by mark and I recollect well that I wrote that affidavit out and executed it but I don't remember anything about those two witnesses. I may have signed those names for my daughter and wife and they may have signed it themselves as witnesses. B. J. 23 I executed I am sure. B. J. 24 was made out by me and executed by me at the home of Marve Maples and he touched the pen and I think that Malissie and M. E. Elledge must have signed as witnesses as I did not write their names for them there. That is I am not sure but I don't think that I wrote the names for them. It don't look like my handwrite and I guess they signed it. B. J. 24 was either signed by me or else Malissie or M. E. signed it. One or the other either I signed for them or they signed it themselves. B. J. 25 is my signature and my seal as attached thereto but I don't recall a thing about it. I may have signed that for Marve Maples and Jane Maples but I don't recall a thing about it now. I don't remember about preparing more than two affidavits one for Marve Maples and one for Jane Maples. I wouldn't swear positively that I did not prepare and sign B. J. 25 but I don't recall about it now. When I told you before that I had now left my house to prepare papers in this case and had gone no where except to my house to prepare papers I meant that I had not left my house in the claim of Polly Ann Maples. Yes I qualified the two, Marve and Jane Maples, at their house away from my house. I realize that I make this statement of my own free will and accord of course I was not keen to make the statement but I did so as you asked me to do it. I realize that this statement may be made the basis for prosecution and may be used against me. I have heard you read this statement to me and I have understood your questions and my answers have been correctly recorded herein.

A. D. Eledge
Notary Public

X A. D. Eledge
Deponent.
(Jurat over)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of July, 1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Herbert W. Meyers
Special Examiner.

**Department of the Interior,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,**

J. W. Eledge	(Son of Atty. A. D. Eledge)
M. E. Eledge	(Wife of Atty. A. D. Eledge)
Malissie Eledge	(Daughter of Atty. A. D. Eledge)

These signatures were written in my presence and at my request.

Herbert W. Meyers.

Special Examiner.

Exhibit A

CRIMINAL

S. E. D.

No. 325,143.

Claimant: Polly Ann Maples.

Soldier: James Maples.
in re Adrian Dockery Elledge.

P. O. address: RFD 14, Sevierville,

County: Sevier, State: Tenn.

Recommendation: Law Division

Herbert W. Meyers.
Special Examiner.

REFERENCE.

AUG 5, 1907

Respectfully referred to Chief
of Law Division for
consideration.

A. L. Craig
Chief S. E. Division.

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8-9	Summary Claimant's statement			
10-11	Polly Ann Maples	papers	A	Fair (see summary)
12-13	Martha Jane Maples	"	B	Good
14-15	Marvel Maples	"	C	Good
16-17	Lizzie Galloway	"	D	Fair to Good
18-19	J. M. Galloway	"	E	" "
20-21	Jno. W. Eledge	"	F	Unreliable (see summary)