

ACT JUNE 27, 1890,

No. 573,638,

A. M. J.

Lucian Gowans  
Widow of  
Toney Gowans

Rank Sgt.

Company B

Regiment 81<sup>st</sup> U. S. C. Col. by

Rate per Month \$ 8

Commencing June 16, 1902.

Ending

DEAD

Snayville Agency.

Issued May 31, 1904.

Mailed 2, 1904.

Fee, \$ 10

(383-25,000)

See Inv. Q. 1023,594,  
JUL 16 1904 Error signed by Mark  
W. rets to Ben. left to ad. left. as  
marginal note on list to Insc,  
saying writer, error of

Mich. 6, 1908

HP

DROPPED

NOV 18 1914

Dec'd 1914

(3-730.)  
INVALID. (Series ACT JUNE 27, 1890.)  
Cert. No. 1023594  
Name, James G. Grogan, Dec'd.  
Rank, Sgt.; Service, C. B. 81  
U. S. C. Vol. Inf.

Agency. { Original Roll: Knobville  
Transf'd 1, to  
" 1, to

2 Rept. & Inc.  
2 Issue.  
2 Class.  
2 Entered  
Issued May 31, 1904  
Mailed June 2, 1904  
Rate and Period, \$ 12, from Feb. 26, 1902  
and ending June 5, 1902,  
Date of Death:  
Payable to James Grogan, Wid.  
Deductions: ✓  
Disability:

2 Issue.  
2 Class.  
2 Entered  
Issued 1  
Mailed 1  
Rate and Period, \$ 1, from 1  
Deductions: 1  
Disability: 1

(382-50,000.)

Class.  
Issue.  
Entered  
Issued 1  
Mailed 1  
Rate and Period, \$ 1, from 1  
Deductions: 1  
Disability: 1

Class.  
Issue.  
Entered  
Issued 1  
Mailed 1  
Rate and Period, \$ 1, from 1  
Deductions: 1  
Disability: 1

INDORSEMENTS.  
See Wid. Cr. 573678



(3-230.)

VALID. (Series \_\_\_\_\_)

Cert. No. 1028594

Name, Toney Gowans.

Rank, Sgt. Service Co. B. 81 "U.S.  
Co. H. 1st Inf.

Original Roll: Knoxville

Agency, Transf'd, 18\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_

Issued May 1<sup>st</sup>, 18\_\_\_\_

Mailed May 1<sup>st</sup>, 18\_\_\_\_

Rate and Period, \$ 6. from Mar. 7<sup>th</sup> 1898

+ \$ 8. " Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1899

Deductions: \_\_\_\_\_

Disability Partial inability to perform  
duties by manual labor

Issued Apr. 14, 18\_\_\_\_

Mailed " 10, 18\_\_\_\_

Rate and Period, \$ \_\_\_\_\_, from \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

Deductions: \_\_\_\_\_

Disability: 10.

Issued \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

Mailed \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

Rate and Period, \$ \_\_\_\_\_, from \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

Deductions: \_\_\_\_\_

Disability: \_\_\_\_\_

Issued \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

Mailed \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

Rate and Period, \$ \_\_\_\_\_, from \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

Deductions: \_\_\_\_\_

Disability: \_\_\_\_\_

INDORSEMENTS.

Jan. 27, 1902. Fildermoch  
loper. Paid advised  
in appl for Sup/El B.  
July 11/02 P.A. & And  
dead of death  
1903 To the Secretary.

[3-216 a.]

RECEIVED

APR 27 1898

Adm. Serv.

W. L. Gaudin

Ex'r.

No.

Act of June 27, 1890.

11/16/1  
u.s.c.

9/57 17/197. 8/207.

*Wm. J. Evans*  
#2186 *St. Louis*  
P. O. *St. Louis*

New Orleans - Orleans Co. La.

Service: 6.39-16.5. Inf. 6.40

6.5. Inf. A. 25-16.5. Inf. and

13.81 16.5.6. Inf. - 1863.

Discharged: - 1864

Application filed: Mar. 7, 1898.

Alleges:

Any other Claim filed: *no*

Numerical No.

Attorney: *Nathan Bickford*

P. O. *city*

Recognized. Contract.

Cert. of Dis. Searched for. 189

6-606

Oct. 5/98. Court. mar.  
Cir. *A. B. C.*

Oct. 8-98. Med. ex. Bd.  
New Orleans, La. atty  
N. B. mfg. (ex H&W) *me*

Jan. 20/99. atty. N. B.  
Court. from filing to  
ex *A. B. C.*

March 1/99. S. E. N. C. and  
of "Killing" & Adams  
*A. B. C.*  
May 1/99 - 99 - Court. &  
attorney to claim  
att. Nathan Bickford

26 1050. Med. Ex. New Orleans, La.  
N. B. EX. R. D. A. L. *W.*

Apr 4/99 for a Baton Rouge La  
att. *W. L. Gaudin*

APR 5 1898

SECRETARY.

MAY 12 1898

[3-216.]

Ex'r.

INVALID.  
REJECTED.

No. 1206480  
Invt. No. 1023594  
Acts of July 14, 1862, and March 3, 1873.

9/57 11/61  
206 17/197 10.5.2  
Coney Lowane

P. O. 2106 St. Louis St.

New Orleans - Orleans Co. La.

Service: A. 25 - U. S. Inf. Co. 39 - U. S.

Inf. Co. 40 - U. S. Inf. + B. 81 - U. S. Inf.

Enlisted: Sept., 1863.

Discharged: Sept., 1866.

" Oct. 3 - 1874

Application filed: Mar. 14, 1899.

Alleges:

Invt. Org. 1206.480

Re-enlisted:

Cert. of Dis. Searched for \_\_\_\_\_, 18

Attorney: Nathan Rickford

P. O. City

Recognized. \_\_\_\_\_ Contract.

Cert. of Dis. Searched for \_\_\_\_\_, 18

1873 Sept. 14 City of New Orleans  
for clmt's statement as to time  
place, and circumstances of  
origin of disease of heart.

Atty. N. B. Ex'r. D. A. L. G. H.

Sept. 1 - 1900. Atty. N. B. Rickford

for presence of disease of

head (colonial) rheumatism +

disease of heart in Co. C. 39

U. S. Inf. and A. 25, U. S. Inf.

R + P. O. for presence of Perry

Lee Israel Carroll Cooley

Oliva, and John Dennis

S. B. D. for cred. of L. Lee

I. Carroll Ben. Britton +

or J. Baker circ. to J. Dennis

+ C. Oliva for collaboration

Sept. 14 - 1900. Atty. N. B. Rickford

for names + P. O. address of

comrades of Co. A. 25 - U. S.

Inf. and Co. 39, U. S. Inf.

Sept. 25 - 1900. Atty. N. B. Rickford

for present P. O. address of

Cooley Oliva and John Dennis

P. O. address and names

of comrades of Co. C. 39 U. S. Inf.

and A. 25 - U. S. Inf. forwarded

to Atty. N. B. Rickford.

DECESSION TO APPELLATE

Insert No. 25, Atty. N. B. Rickford

and Atty. advising of re-

fiction

MAR 22 1899

857

[3-218 a.]  
 Ex'r.  
 No. 25105  
 Act of June 27, 1890.  
 7/207, 8/206  
 229

June 24-1902  
 NAME TO A. & N. S.  
 Oct 4/02 To Atty Tallmadge for  
 death Mar. ~~from~~ man for descr.  
 & clerts aff. as to dep. & to ady Gen  
 for report as to clerts serv. as Lamb  
 res. J.S.

Susan Gowans  
 1013. Royal St. N. Orleans  
 La.  
 Died  
 Mary Gowans  
 A. 25. U.S. Inf. Co-39 U.S. Inf.  
 Co. 40. U.S. Inf. B. 81. U.S. C. 24  
 Died at  
 June 5. 1902  
 No other claim. than 0 & 9  
 Sur aff. 1023.594  
 June 11/02  
 Numerical No.

1903 Mar 11 To S.E.D. for  
 Credibility Richard Woods &  
 Gates Wilson, NWB.  
 DECISION TO APPELLANT,  
 APR 15 1903

Apr 20 To Aud. for date of  
 last payment. NWB.  
 May 6 To Atty Tallmadge for  
 Remarriage. Record of marriage  
 Prior marriages NWB.

Oct. 24/03 To Tallmadge  
 for explanation of clerts  
 statement as to remar-  
 riage & for church  
 record of Marriage. J.S.

Application filed: June 16 1902  
 Attorney: J. W. Tallmadge  
 P. O. Wash. D. C.

Dec. 7. 03 To Atty Tallmadge  
 for copy of church record  
 of Mar. or affidavit of  
 Custodian that it does not  
 exist. JUN 28 1904 J.S.

A.B.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.  
WASHINGTON. APR 10 1901

*J. M. N.*  
*SM*  
*EM*  
*1420*

Claim No. 1206480.	)	Docket No. 55760.
	)	
Toney Gowans,	)	Appeal.
	)	
Co. B 81st U.S.C.Inf.	)	Returned for further action and
	)	
	)	additional report.

-----  
CLAIM UNDER THE ACT OF JUNE 27, 1890.  
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The claimant was shown to be disabled for the performance of manual labor in a degree pensionable under said act, by testimony filed subsequent to the action of rejection, but relating back to a date prior to filing the claim, and a subsequent medical examination.

The Commissioner of Pensions,

Sir:

The claimant in this case, Toney Gowans, claim No. 1206480, served as private in Company A 25th Regiment ,Company C 39th, Company C 40th , and as Sergeant Company B 81st Regiment U.S.Colored Volunteer Infantry, having enlisted August 24, 1863, and being honorably discharged from each service, and finally, October 5, 1874.

He filed a declaration for pension under the Act of June 27, 1890, March 7, 1898, alleging disability from rheumatism, disease of eyes, pains in back, fits from disease of head and general debility due to disease and age.

The claim was rejected by Bureau action of April 20, 1899, on the ground of no ratable disability under said act.

He appealed from said action by his attorney, June 27, 1899, contending that the testimony, lay and medical, filed in the case shown that claimant was disabled in a pensionable degree at and since date of filing his claim, and the same should have been allowed and its rejection was erroneous.

An examination of the record in the case shows lack of care and intelligence in the preparation of the testimony.

It is shown in a brief and meagre way that claimant for some fifteen years at least, has been suffering from disease of head attended with fits or spasms, disease of heart and rheumatism, and that he may have had piles and some trouble with his eyes.

The report of the medical examination under the claim made by a board of surgeons at New Orleans, La., October 20, 1898, is as follows:

"We hereby certify that upon examination we find the following objective conditions: Pulse rate, 88, 96, 100; respiration, 20,20,20; temperature, 98.5; height 5 feet 10 1/4 inches; actual weight, 147 pounds; age 64 years.

Rheumatism- No enlargement, swelling, stiffening nor tenderness of joints; no atrophy, or contraction of muscles or tendons. No impairment of functions of joints or muscles. Recovers and stoops with ease. 0/18.

Pains in back-covered under head of Rheumatism- 0/18.

Heart - Area of apex beat about 3 inches over costal cartilages of 6th and 7th ribs. Not evident on inspection, but evident to palpation. Impulse - strong intermittent, regular- 8/18. Area of cardiac dullness. From 1 inch to right of median line to mammary line, 3rd space to 5th space. Hypertrophy and dilatation of right and left ventricles.

Eyes - R.E. & L.E.V- 20/xi - Hyperopia (low grade) 0/18; corrected by lenses.

Fits and disease of head - Examination shows no evidence of spasmodic disease or disease of head.

Lungs normal. Urine normal. Vicious habits do not exist.

No other disability found to exist.

We make no recommendations.

Amendment Nov. 5, 1898.

Heart - No murmurs or oedema or cyanosis.

Slight dyspnoea."

March 14, 1899, claimant filed a declaration for pension under the general law, and on October 5, 1900, a new claim under the Act of June 27, 1890.

A second medical examination was made November 2, 1899.

On November 9, 1899, there was testimony lay and medical, filed relevant to the issue in the present case as it relates back to 1876, and bears directly upon claimant's ability to perform manual labor.

Dr. J. H. Uoker, testified that he began to treat claimant September 15, 1876, and at that time and at times subsequent thereto, treated him for neuralgia of the head which terminated in fits or convulsions; that he had chronic rheumatism and valvular disease of the heart and lumbago, and was totally unable to perform manual labor.

Jennie Dabney, testified that she had known claimant since 1884; that in that year he was down sick for five months with fits, and had these fits or convulsions once or twice each month from 1884 to 1898, and that since March 1898, has had them two or three times each month at times lasting for hours, and that he was wholly unable to earn a support by manual labor.



Benjamin Lillie testified substantially the same as the preceding witness, and had known him for 21 years. This witness stated that claimant was attempting to do some work in 1884 when he was taken with the fit or convulsion; that he was wholly unable to perform manual labor and had been for many years.

It is shown that aside from what his wife contributes thereto by the little work she can do, she being old and feeble, the claimant is supported by charity, as he has not been able to earn anything for years, and as a matter of fact does no labor and is not able to do any.

In the report of the last medical examination only a year later than the first one, rheumatism is rated at 11/18; and as to general debility: "Senile atrophy of muscular system emaciated and anaemic; nutrition poor; locomotion extremely feeble". Nothing was said as to his general physical condition in the first report.

I have gone outside of what is strictly speaking, the record in this case for the reasons stated as to the preparation of the testimony, and further because it appears that the first medical examination was hurried and lacked thoroughness.

From the testimony as thus summarized it appears that claimant has not been able to perform manual labor, or at least but very little since 1884, and that since his present claim was filed he has not been able to perform any whatever. It is not probable that so great a change as is indicated in the report of the second examination, could have come about in the space of one year, and the testimony shows the disabled condition even prior to the first examination.

In my opinion the claim should be re-opened and re-adjudicated in the light of all the testimony and the certificate of the last medical examination, and for this purpose the papers in the case are herewith returned, and for an additional report to the Department.

The case has been made special, and said action will be taken by the Bureau without unnecessary delay.

Very Respectfully,

*J. L. Campbell*  
Assistant Secretary.

From the testimony as thus summarized it appears that claimant has not been able to perform manual labor, or at least but very little since 1884, and that since his present claim was filed he has not been able to perform any whatever. It is not probable that so great a change as is indicated in the report of the second examination, could have come about in the space of one year, and the testimony shows the disabled condition even prior to the first examination.

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Very Respectfully,

*F L Campbell*  
Assistant Secretary.

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In my opinion the claim should be re-opened and re-subjected in the light of all the testimony and the certified case of the last medical examination, and for this purpose the papers in the case are herewith returned, and for an additional report to the Department.

The case has been made special, and said action will be taken by the Bureau without unnecessary delay.

Very Respectfully,

Assistant Secretary.

Read your letter and further report

3-078.  
(Old No. 3-644.)

# Bureau of Pensions

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Oct 23, 1903.

No. Claim, 764791

Cert. No.

Claimant, Widow of

Soldier, F. Gorman

Co. B, 1st Regt U.S.C.

A 25

ACTION AND ORDER

to 40 U.S. Inf.

77

Recd.

Oct 23 1903

COMMISSIONER

E. J. W.

Commissioner

2

COMMISSIONER'S SPECIAL.

KEEP THIS SLIP ON OUTSIDE UNTIL CASE IS DISPOSED OF.

(SEE OTHER SIDE.)

13d

3-644.

✓✓ Bureau of Pensions,  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

14  
39 April 13, 1901.

No. Cert. } 1506680  
No. Claim, }

Name, \_\_\_\_\_

Henry Gorman  
Co. B 1st Regt. U.S.C.

ACTION AND ORDER:

Make Special

RECEIVED	APR 13 1901
COMMUNICATIONS	
RECEIVED	APR 17 1901
FILED	

4/16/01  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER'S SPECIAL.

KEEP THIS SLIP ON OUTSIDE UNTIL CASE IS DISPOSED OF.

(SEE OTHER SIDE.)



NEP.



# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

State of Louisiana



Parish of Orleans.

## Office of the Board of Health, Recorder of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Be it Remembered, That on this day to-wit: the Seventh of June  
in the year of our Lord One Thousand nine Hundred and Two, and the  
126 of the Independence of the United States of America, before me

Quitman Kohuke, M.D., Chairman Board of Health ex officio Recorder of Births,  
Marriages and Deaths, in and for the City of New Orleans, and Parish of Orleans, personally appeared:

J. H. Taylor,  
an Undertaker, native of this city, residing at  
No. 1309 St. Philip's Street, who hereby declares,  
that

Poney Lowen (Col.)  
a native of North Carolina, aged 72 years,  
departed this life, on the Fifth inst, (5 June 1902)  
at the Charity Hospital, in this city.  
Cause of Death, Chronic Endo Carditis  
Certificate of J. R. Leake, Clerk  
Deceased was married and 56 years in city,  
a laborer and resided at No. 525 Burgundy St.

THUS DONE at New Orleans in the presence of the aforesaid J. H. Taylor  
as also in that of Messrs. P. H. Lemaire & J. T. O'Dard, of this City, witnesses  
by me requested so to be, who have hereunto set their hands, together with me, after the reading hereof, the  
day, month and year first above written.

SIGNED

Jas. H. Taylor, P. H. Lemaire, Jas. T. O'Dard  
Quitman Kohuke, M.D., Chairman Board of Health ex officio Recorder

I do Certify, the foregoing to be a true and faithful copy from the original recorded in Book marked  
No. 127 Folio 687

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and affixed the seal of my office, at the City of New  
Orleans, this Twenty Ninth day of January  
in the year one thousand nine hundred and three  
and the one hundredth and 27<sup>th</sup> of the Independence of the United  
States of America.



P. H. Lemaire  
Deputy Recorder of Births, Marriages and Deaths. Parish of Orleans.



No 764.791

Widows Pension

Susan -  
widow of  
Joney Gowan  
c/o 81 West

---FROM---

T. W. TALLMADGE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
COLLECTION OF CLAIMS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

RECEIVED  
FEB 17 1918  
DIV. 13

7306

3-17

Army No. 206,480  
Jouy Lowans  
Co. 26 Reg't 2d Inf.

Div.

A. C. W., Ex't.

Department of the Interior,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

Washington, D. C., Oct. 5 - 1898.

Sir:

Will you kindly answer, at your earliest convenience, the questions enumerated below? The information is requested for future use, and it may be of great value to your family.

Very respectfully,

Mr. Jouy Lowans,  
2106 St. Louis St.,  
New Orleans, La.

A. C. W.,  
Commissioner.

No. 1. Are you a married man? If so, please state your wife's full name, and her maiden name.

Answer: Wife, S., maiden name Susan Garrit, marriage name Susan Lowans.

No. 2. When, where, and by whom were you married? Answer: Married in 1862, by

Father Johnson, of St. Ann Francis Church at N. O. La.

No. 3. What record of marriage exists? Answer: This marriage was just a

little before the late war. the record of marriage is in said church.

No. 4. Were you previously married? If so, please state the name of your former wife and the

date and place of her death or divorce. Answer: Was never married till I

married this Susan Garrit who is now Susan Lowans.

No. 5. Have you any children living? If so, please state their names and the dates of their

birth. Answer: Virginiana Lowans by marriage.

Virginiana Labney she is now  
30 years of age, born April 19th 1868.  
in the City of New Orleans, La.

Date of reply, Oct. 10th, 1898.

Jouy Lowans

(Signature)

J. M. J. A.



St. Alphonsus' Church,

2030 CONSTANCE STREET.

New Orleans, Jan. 20/1904

This is to certify that the undersigned has looked through the marriage records of St. Alphonsus' Church, from Jan. 1858 to Jan. 1865, and is unable to find the marriage of Tony Gouvans with Susan Coyle, recorded there-in.

Bro Benedict CSSR  
Custodian of the  
Marriage records of  
St. Alphonsus' Church.

State of Louisiana Parish of Orleans.  
Seen and subscribed this 25  
day of Jan. 1904 and I certify that  
the above named is responsible.

W. B. Gentry  
Clerk

(10)

Widow. 764791

Susan Gowans

<sup>widow</sup>  
Emily Gowans.

Co B" 81" us sal

Infly - -

---FROM---

T. W. TALLMADGE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

R  
ARMY Div.

Special.

3-1852.

J. H. J. AN  
Ext.

A. Wid. No 764791

Susan Howans

Money

B. 84 U. S. C. Vol. Inf.

Acts of June 27 1890 & May 9 1900

THE ABOVE TITLE SHOULD BE INDORSED ON EVERY  
PAPER RELATING TO THIS CLAIM.

# Department of the Interior,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7, 1903

RECEIVED  
FEB 1 1904  
DIVISION.

Sir:

In the matter of the above cited pension claim, the claimant having stated that she was married to the soldier in St. Alphonsus Church, New Orleans, La., in the year 1862, a certified copy of the church record of her marriage should be furnished, or, in lieu thereof, the affidavit of the custodian of the records of the church setting forth that such record does not exist.

Very respectfully  
B. S. Ware  
Commissioner.

Mr. T. H. Tallmadge,  
City.

RECEIVED  
FEB 1 1904  
DIVISION.



State of Louisiana  
Parish of Orleans

In the matter of  
Susan Gowans widow of  
Toney Gowans, personally  
appeared Adelaide Campbell  
aged 50 yrs residing, 2223  
Constance St. O. La

Who being duly sworn  
testified as follows: I  
know Mrs Gowans, the  
claimant thirty eight years  
and since the time I first  
knew her have always  
known her well, I knew  
her late husband Toney  
Gowans the same length  
time that I have known  
claimant and can say that  
when I first knew them  
they were living together  
as man and wife and  
were recognized as such  
by their neighbors, I know  
that they continued to live  
together as man and wife,  
she left the city with him  
when he went back to





the army and when he came back here to live she came also and that they were living together when he died and was buried from the house where she and her daughter lived. Said daughter is about 35 years old and is the daughter of claimant by said Joney Gorvans.

Claimant was never divorced from said Joney Gorvans and since his death has not remarried and is a person of good character,

Claimant is very poor and in great need of her pension. She has no property or income from any source, owns no stocks, bonds, mortgages or investments of any kind and is wholly dependent upon her labor for support nor is any one bound for

## GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

State of Louisiana County of Orleans

Case of Susan Gowans

No. \_\_\_\_\_

On this 13 day of February 1913 Personally appeared, before me an officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes within and for the County and State aforesaid

Richard Woods aged 36 years, occupation Laborer

residing 4069 Magazine St. N.O. La acquainted with claimant over 45

4 years; and Gates Wilson aged 55 years, occupation Laborer

residing 512 S. Franklin St. N.O. La acquainted with claimant

40 or over years, who being sworn declare in relation to prior marriage, etc. as follows:

We knew Tony Gowans and know his wife Susan Gowans. Always recognized them as man and wife because we know they they lived together as man and wife since the year 1862. She was with her husband, Tony Gowans during the war. Said Susan Gowans lived with her husband up to the time of his death and she has not remarried since the death of her husband Tony Gowans.

Neither Tony Gowans nor his wife Susan Gowans had been previously married.

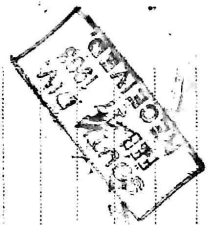
Claimant has no property whatever of any description and she has no income whatever except her own daily labor. There is no one legally bound to support claimant.

The Toney Gowen mentioned in the death certificate and Tony Gowans, claimant's husband, are one and the same person.

Know these facts from personal acquaintance with claimant and her husband for 40 years.

(114)





1 This affidavit was written by \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 189 \_\_\_\_\_

We have no interest in this claim.

Wm. M. Thompson  
Wm. M. Thompson

Sign here Richard M. Woods  
here Wm. M. Thompson

Witness my hand and seal this 18th day of February 1919

2 I certify that the contents of this affidavit were made known to the affiants before execution, that they are  
reputable and entitled to credit. I have no interest in this claim

3 To be sworn to before a Court of Record or some officer thereof having jurisdiction in such a Notary Public or Justice of the Peace, whose official signature shall be verified by his official seal and in case he has no seal, then his signature and official character shall be certified by a clerk of a Court of Record, or a City or County clerk, who shall affix his seal.

no  
Claimant Susana Gowans  
Soldier Joney Gowans  
No. 764 791  
Service B 81 MCT

Affidavit of

Richard Woods

Testimony in Relation to

Filed by

--- FROM ---  
T. W. TALLMADGE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS

The FIGURES Correspond to the number of  
Paragraph on the attached circular of instructions  
which read carefully.

State of Louisiana

Parish of Orleans

Personally appeared Mrs Billie Young, 64 years old, residing, 610 Eleonore St New Orleans La who being sworn declares in relation to the pension claim of Susan Gowans, wid Joney Gowans as follows.



Right after the war I came from Houma La and came to New Orleans La and went to the house of Mrs Joney Gowans, she was then married to the late soldier Joney Gowans and remained there three or four years. When I came there, Joney was still in the Civil War service, he was discharged, came home, staid home a short time, less than thirty days, then reenlisted in the Regulars, all while I was there.

(12) He considered the claimant then to be his wife and treated her as such. He had no other wife that I ever knew of. When he reenlisted

he went to some place, I believe to Texas and I know that claimant went right out of the house while I was there and went with him and was gone with him five or six years, traveling wherever he was stationed and when she came back after his final discharge, I then had a house of my own and Joney Gorans and the claimant now before me came there, I remember that it was 12 o'clock at night when they got there and that I was sick, but my husband made coffee for them. I have known them ever since and I know that she lived with Joney Gorans as his wife and was not divorced and that they were living together when he died.

The claimant had much trouble with Joney in his last years because he is a very sick man and he

a dreadful disease so that he could not do anything whatever for several years before his death and needed a great deal of care and nursing.

She has no property of any kind and Joney Gowans didn't leave anything but debts, his funeral is yet to be paid for and there is nothing requiring an administration. She lives in a rented house and has to work out for a living. She is old and I think I make it clear when I say that she is wholly dependent upon this pension for her future support and has no expectation of getting any property or income from any source.

As far as Joney Gowans is concerned, I know that they were young people when I first knew them and that no one else ever claimed to be his wife that I knew

of and if he was ever married before I never knew it & I am sure that claimant was his first wife. She is a person of good Character and has not married since Tony Goivans died or bought or sold any property of any kind I have no interest in this case, I am servant in the family of F. Ernst of above address.

**State of Louisiana, Parish of Orleans.**

Before me, a Notary Public, commissioned and qualified, in and for the State and Parish aforesaid, therein residing, and in presence of two competent witnesses hereinafter undersigned, personally came the affiant herein, appearing to be of good memory, judgment and credibility, who declared understanding, well and perfectly, the contents and purport of the foregoing testimony and had signed and executed the same for the uses and purposes therein set forth. In proof whereof, the said affiant and witnesses have hereunto signed with me, Notary.

*Richard S. Spack*  
*William Smith*

*Millie Young*  
*Maah*

Sworn to and subscribed this 8 day of the month of July 1902

I have no interest in this matter.

*W. B. Dancy*

Notary Public

...FROM...  
**T. W. TALLMADGE,**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



*John G. ...*  
*Adm. Sec. ...*  
*John G. ...*  
*John G. ...*

State of Louisiana  
Parish of Orleans

Personally appeared  
Gates Wilson aged 54, residing  
572 S. Franklin N. O. La  
(Who being duly sworn de-  
clares in relation to the  
pension claim of Susan  
Gowans widow of Joney  
Gowans as follows:

I have known the  
claimant about 36 years  
and knew the late Joney  
Gowans about as long.  
I often visited their house  
often and I served with him  
in Co C 39 and Co A 25 Reg  
S. La Army and I know  
that claimant was with  
said deceased Joney Gowans  
when he was in the army,  
that she was the laundress  
of our company and was  
well known to all our  
company as the wife of  
(13) Joney Gowans aforesaid  
and had children born  
while they were in the





army, so that in 1867 she was laundress for us from 1867 up and at that time was the wife of Joney Gowans. Since discharge I often visited them and know that they continued to live together as man and wife and were never divorced and were living together when he died.

I know about her financial condition, that she is very poor, has no property, got no life insurance, that Gowans had no estate to be administered on and that she did not at the time of his death own any property in her own name nor since bought any.

That her sole prospects of future livelihood is dependent wholly upon her labor and this pension and that no one

is legally bound to sup-  
port her.

I am satisfied that  
Doney Goumans and claim-  
ant were not previously  
married, at least, I never  
heard of it nor had it  
intimated in any way  
but I do know that 36  
years ago when they were  
quite young that they  
were then married -  
I have no interest in  
this case

**State of Louisiana, Parish of Orleans.**

Before me, a Notary Public, commissioned and qualified, in and for the State and Parish aforesaid, therein residing, and in presence of two competent witnesses hereinafter undersigned, personally came the affiant herein, appearing to be of good memory, judgment and credibility, who declared understanding, well and perfectly, the contents and purport of the foregoing testimony and had signed and executed the same for the uses and purposes therein set forth. In proof whereof, the said affiant and witnesses have hereunto signed with me, Notary.

*Riland Shiffard*

*Gates Wilson*

Sworn to and subscribed this 16 day of the month of July 1902

I have no interest in this matter.

*W. B. Gandy*

Notary Public



FROM ---  
T. W. TALLMADGE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS

RECEIVED  
JUL 21 1902  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

164491  
J. J. Brown  
J. J. Brown  
J. J. Brown  
J. J. Brown

their life since the last  
38 years as stated and I  
know no reason why  
claimant is not the legal  
widow of the soldier Joney  
Gowans

I have no interest  
in this claim and am  
not related to claimant

State of Louisiana, Parish of Orleans.

Before me, a Notary Public, commissioned and qualified, in and for the State and Parish aforesaid, therein residing, and in presence of two competent witnesses hereinafter undersigned, personally came the affiant herein, appearing to be of good memory, judgment and credibility, who declared understanding, well and perfectly, the contents and purport of the foregoing testimony and had signed and executed the same for the uses and purposes therein set forth. In proof whereof, the said affiant and witnesses have hereunto signed with me, Notary.

*Samuel E. ...*  
*H. E. ...*

*Adelaide ...*  
*main*

Sworn to and subscribed this 11 day of the month of July 1902

I have no interest in this matter.

*Wm. D. ...*

Notary Public



---FROM---  
T. W. TALLMADGE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*Thomas ...*  
*764 791*  
*of ...*  
*...*

her support, so that, at her age, a pension is absolutely necessary for her future support. Mr. Gorvans was sick a long time prior to his death and it took all he had and his family could get to keep him with the necessaries of life, so that claimant is greatly impoverished.

The said late Joney Gorvans never had any other wife to my knowledge or by report but always knew and recognized claimant to be his lawful wife. I have been in their house many times and know that I always found them living together as man and wife and as such enjoying the respect of the community in which they lived.

My acquaintance with them was such that I am intimately acquainted with

~~Notary~~ AFFIDAVIT. ~~Notary~~

State of Louisiana,  
Parish of Orleans.

Personally appeared before me, a Notary Public, duly  
commissioned and qualified, in and for the Parish and State aforesaid:

*Susan Gowans* aged *60* years  
who being by me sworn, deposes and says in relation to the matter of:  
*Marriage.*  
as follows:

I was married in St Alphonsus  
Church at New Orleans, La. in the  
year 1862 but owing to the  
length of time that has elapsed  
I do not remember the name of  
the priest or the month of the  
year. It is impossible for me to  
secure a record of this marriage  
because no record was kept.

Although my husband and my-  
self lived together as man and wife  
since 1862 we were told by some  
people that our marriage was  
not legal because we did not  
have a licence or other record  
so in order that we could be  
sure we were remarried two  
days before my husband  
died. This second marriage took  
place June 3, 1902.

Witness:

*William J. Smith*  
*J. H. Morrison*

*Susan Gowans*  
Affiant.

In testimony whereof, I, Notary, read and explained the foregoing  
statement to said affiant, who persisted therein as conforming to her  
knowledge of the matter and

*as a* day of *November* 190*3* have hereunto affixed my signature and seal, this

*W. J. Smith*  
NOTARY PUBLIC.



Widow No. 764 791

Act June 27 1892

From Toward

Widow

Fancy Gairns

Co B, 81. 1125



...FROM...

T. W. TALLMADGE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

12  
AUG 4 1914  
M.W.

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,  
Office of the Disbursing Clerk.

NOV 10 1914 191\_\_.

To the Chief, Finance Division:

You are hereby notified that check No. 5971435, for \$36  
dated Sept 17, 1914, in favor of Susan Gowans  
Ctf. No. 573638, Class Dep. of War Section Adj. Gen.  
has been returned to this office by P. M. at New Orleans,  
La. with the information that the pensioner  
died Sept 17, 1914, and said check has this day been canceled.

(D-1) New Orleans  
La.  
260 Cherokee St  
Very respectfully,  
GUY O. TAYLOR,  
Disbursing Clerk.

NOV 12 1914

PLATE DESTROYED



NOV 13 1914

*For L. G. Asst.*

Department of the Interior,  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

This appeal *55760* is special.  
Attach this slip to your opinion

*H-2 13*

*Apr 6  
1891*

AMR

3-1081

PENSIONER DROPPED

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF PENSIONS

NOV 18 1914, 191

Certificate No. 573.638

Class Act of April 19, 1908

Pensioner Susan Gowans

Soldier Joney

Service B 8125 C Inf

The Commissioner of Pensions.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the name of  
the above-described pensioner who was last  
paid at \$ 12, to Aug 4, 1914  
has this day been dropped from the roll be-  
cause of death Sep 17, 1914

Very respectfully,

  
Chief, Finance Division.

NOTE.—Every name dropped to be thus reported at  
once, and when cause of dropping is death, state date  
of death when known.

6-2249

# GENERAL AFFIDAVIT

State of Louisiana, County of Orleans, ss:

In the matter of Pension claim of Susan Law  
widow of Tony Gowans Co B. & 1 Regt. U. S. I. T. 44

Personally came before me, a notary public in and for the aforesaid County  
and State Louisiana, aged 68 years,  
Name of witness.

and \_\_\_\_\_, aged \_\_\_\_\_ years,  
Name of witness.

citizens of the town of 2106 St Louis St. New Orleans  
Post-office address.

County of Orleans, State of Louisiana

well known to me to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who, being duly sworn, declare in relation to  
aforesaid case, as follows:

*I respectfully request that my  
claim for pension No. 764798  
as widow of Tony Gowans be made special  
reason, that I am old and  
feeble and I am not able to earn my  
support and as there is no one  
bound to support me, I am com-  
pelled to depend on charity for a  
support.*

(4) *I* further declare that *I* have ~~no~~ interest in said case and ~~am~~ not  
concerned in its prosecution.

1 J. Van Dusen  
2 William Sam

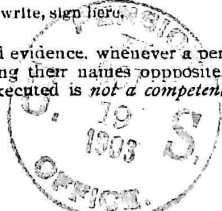
If Affiants sign by mark, two witnesses who can write, sign here.

Susan Law Gowans  
mark

(Signature of Affiants.)

NOTE.—In the execution of papers and evidence, whenever a person or witness signs by mark (†), two persons who  
can write must attest the signature by signing their names opposite.  
The official before whom papers are executed is not a competent witness to a mark.

[OVER.]



Sworn to and subscribed before me this day by the above-named affiant ; and I certify that I read said affidavit to said affiant , and acquainted ~~her~~ with its contents before ~~she~~ executed the same. I further certify that I am in nowise interested in said case, nor am I concerned in its prosecution, and that said affiant <sup>is not</sup> personally known to me; that ~~she~~ <sup>appears to be a</sup> credible person and so reputed in the community in which ~~she~~ resided.

Witness my hand and official seal this 9th day of October, 1903

[Sign here.]

ADD SEAL HERE.

This can be executed before any officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes. If such officer uses a seal, certificate of Clerk of Court is not necessary. If no seal is used, then such certificate must be attached.  
~~Write~~ Write an affidavit just as you would write a letter, stating all the facts, circumstances, dates and places near as you can remember, and if of your own personal knowledge and observation, and state how you know what you say to be true.

Recd June 20, 1890.  
Wm. Smith  
No. 764 791-11

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT

CASE OF

Trisautt v. Brown

Wm. Brown

Capt. S. H. Brown

AFFIDAVIT OF

Execution

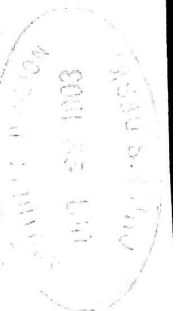
Date of Execution

Aug 19 1903

FILED BY

T. W. TALLMADGE,

WASHINGTON, D. C.



~~Notary~~ AFFIDAVIT. ~~Notary~~

State of Louisiana,  
Parish of Orleans.

Personally appeared before me, a Notary Public, duly  
comprissioned and qualified, in and for the Parish and State aforesaid:

Susan Gowans aged 65 years  
who being by me sworn, deposes and says in relation to the matter of:  
Husband's Insurance  
as follows:

My husband, Toney Go-  
wans, was not insured and  
he was not a member of any  
Society, Association, etc., and  
he did not leave any pro-  
perty of any discription.



Witness:

(5) J. M. Harrison  
Notary Public

Susan Gowans  
Affiant.

In testimony whereof, I, Notary, read and explained the foregoing  
statement to said affiant, who persisted therein as conforming to her  
knowledge of the matter and

and I, have hereunto affixed my signature and seal, this  
2nd day of November - 1903

W. G. G. G.  
Notary Public.

Oct June 27 1891

Widow. 764791

Susan Gowans

widow

Tom Gowans  
@013" 81" used

Army

RECEIVED  
NOV 21 1891  
U.S. ARMY

NOV 21 1891  
U.S. ARMY

FROM  
T. W. TALLMADGE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JMC.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.  
WASHINGTON. APR 7 1903

*J. M. C.*  
*142 B*

Certificate No. 1023594.	(	Docket No. 55760.
Toney Gowans, deceased,	)	
Co. B, 81 U. S. C. Vol. Inf.	)	Appeal.
Widow completing.	)	
	(	Dismissed.

-----oOo-----

INVALID CLAIM FOR PENSION UNDER THE ACT OF JUNE 27, 1890.

-----o-----

The Commissioner of Pensions.

Sir:

The soldier in the above entitled case, by his attorney, on June 29, 1899, appealed from the action of the Bureau of April 20, 1899, rejecting his claim for pension under the act of June 27, 1890, filed March 7, 1898, on the ground of no ratable disability, and the contention being that a ratable disability was shown.

The case having been under consideration on appeal, by the Department, under date of April 10, 1901, the papers were returned to the Bureau for further action and report.



The soldier died January 5, 1902, and his widow who is completing the present claim has filed a claim for pension under the act of June 27, 1890, numbered 764791, which has not yet been adjudicated.

Under date of April 2, 1903, in again transmitting the papers to the Department, the Bureau reported as follows:

Respectfully transmitted to the Honorable Secretary with the opinion that the appeal should be dismissed inasmuch as the claim has been allowed at \$6 from March 7, 1898, which satisfies the appeal.

Upon consideration of the record and it appearing that the pension allowed, \$6 per month, from March 7, 1898, and \$8 per month from November 2, 1899, fully satisfies the appeal, the request of the Bureau is hereby granted and the appeal dismissed.

The papers are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

  
Assistant Secretary.

DISMISSED,

RECORDED, VIEW  
APR 14 1908

The soldier died January 8, 1902, and the widow who  
is completing the present claim has filed a claim for pen-  
sion under the act of June 27, 1900, numbered 764791, which  
has not yet been adjudicated.

Under date of April 2, 1902, in again transmitting  
the papers to the Department, the Bureau reported as follows:

Respectfully transmitted to the Honorable Secretary  
with the opinion that the appeal should be dismissed inasmuch  
as the claim has been allowed at \$6 from March 7, 1898,  
which satisfies the appeal.

Upon consideration of the record and its appearing  
that the pension allowed, \$6 per month, from March 7, 1898,  
and \$8 per month from November 2, 1899, fully satisfies  
the appeal, the request of the Bureau is hereby granted  
and the appeal dismissed.

The papers are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

Assistant Secretary.

**Medical Division,**  
**BUREAU OF PENSIONS,**

June 13, 1899.

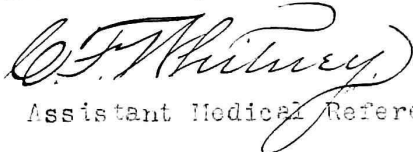
Orig. #1,206,480,  
Toney Gowans,  
Co. "D", 81 U.S.C. Inf.

-----

Respectfully returned to  
Hon. J. L. Davenport, Deputy Com-  
missioner.

After a careful review of  
the papers in this case, I am of  
opinion that the adverse medical  
action of April 20, 1899 was cor-  
rect. This man is now about 60  
years of age as shown by the War  
Department record and not 64  
years as stated to the board of  
surgeons.

He is not shown to be inca-  
pacitated for earning a support  
by manual labor.

  
Assistant Medical Referee.

Approved:

  
Medical Referee.

55.760

## Bureau of Pensions,

APR 5 1901, 189...

No. Claim, 1,206,480

Cert. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Claimant, A.

Soldier, Orley Howard

Co. B, 51<sup>st</sup> Reg't A. I. C.

Respectfully transmitted to the Honorable

Secretary with the opinion that the action appealed from should be adhered to.

Attention is invited to the opinion of the  
Medical Referee, dated April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1901.

Attorney -----

Commissioner.

U. S. COURT OF CLAIMS, CONGRESSIONAL AND DEPARTMENTAL PRACTICE.

NATHAN BICKFORD,  
SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS,  
914 F STREET,

DICTATED.

Washington, D. C.

June 26, 1899.

Sir:-

Appeal is hereby taken from action of the Commissioner of Pensions, rejecting the claim for pension under act of June 27, 1890, No. 1,206,480, by Toney Gowans, Co. "B," 81st U.S.C. Inf., on the ground that claimant "is not disabled for manual labor in a degree pensionable under said act."

The grounds of this appeal are: first, that the medical testimony filed in the case shows him to have been disabled in a pensionable degree at the time of and since the filing of the declaration in his behalf in March 1898; and second, that the decision of the Honorable Secretary, of October 17, 1898, in case of Chauncey Davis, is sufficient warrant for allowing the minimum rating, under act of June 27, 1890, in this case.

Very respectfully,



Hon. Webster Davis,

Asst. Sec'y of the Interior,

Washington, D.C.

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sp  
Law Division.

2-28-08

cam

March 5, 1908.

The Auditor

for the War Department.

Sir:-

In response to your call of the 26th ult., received the 28th ult. (GMH.326-264,851), relative to the case of Susan, widow of Toney Gowans, late Sergt. Co. B, 81<sup>st</sup> U.S.C. Infantry, Cert. #573,638, you are advised as follows:

Certified copy of record of death, under the seal of the Recorder of Births, Marriages and Deaths of the Parish of Orleans, Louisiana, shows that Toney Gowan, colored, a native of North Carolina, age 72 years, died on June 5, 1902, at the charity hospital.

Brother Bendict testified, January 25, 1904, that he is the custodian of the records of St. Alphonsus Church, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana; that he has looked through the marriage records of St. Alphonsus Church from 1862 to 1904, and that the marriage of Toney Gowans to Susan Coyle recorded therein.

The late soldier stated in a family circular dated October 10, 1898, that he was married to Susan Garrit in 1862<sup>2</sup> by Father Johnson, of St. Ann Francis Church at New Orleans, Louisiana; that said marriage took place just a little before the late war; that there is a record of the marriage in said church;

that he was never married until he married Susan Garrit.

Adelia Campbell, of New Orleans, Louisiana, testified that she has known Mrs. Cowans for 38 years; and during that period affiant has known her well; also knew her late husband, Toney Gowans, the same length of time; affiant knows that when she first knew them they were living together as man and wife, and were recognized as such by their neighbors; that they continued to live together as man and wife until they left the city together and went to the army, and that they came back together and were living together when he died; that the claimant was never divorced from said Toney Gowans, and since his death has not remarried.

The pensioner's post-office address is #2102 St. Louis Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Very respectfully,

Commissioner.



**DISMISSED,**

55760

Appeal received *June 27, 1899*

*Nathan Bickford*  
*Heity*

SUBJECT:

Appeal in \_\_\_\_\_ pension claim

No. *1206480*

*Cty. 1023594*

*Foney Gowans*

*B. 81" U.S. C. Inf.*

1-383.

Docket No. **55760**

Department of the Interior,

~~JUN 29 1899~~, 189...

Respectfully referred to the Com-  
missioner of Pensions for report.

*Webster Davis*  
Assistant Secretary.

Report received \_\_\_\_\_, 189...  
and filed herewith.

FINAL ACTION.

*J.M.M.*  
*April 14, 1901 4-6-01.*  
*Returned for further*  
*action & held.*

*J.M.M.*  
*4-3-03.*  
APR 7 1903 APPEAL **DISMISSED**

# GENERAL AFFIDAVIT

State of Louisiana, County of Orleans, ss:

In the matter of Pension claim of Susan Gowans  
widow of Tony Gowans, No. 81 Regt. U. S. 69. Vol.

Personally came before me, a notary public in and for the aforesaid County  
and State. Ella Adams Notary, Justice or Clerk of Court.  
Name of witness. aged 54 years,  
and Frances Darby Name of witness. aged 50 years,  
citizens of the town of 2109 St Louis 1717 Conti Sts N. O.  
Post-office address. Ave Street and No. if in city or town.  
County of Orleans, State of Louisiana

well known to me to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who, being duly sworn, declare in relation to  
aforesaid case, as follows:

We have known claimant  
NOTE—Affiants should state how they gain a knowledge of the facts to which they testify.  
Susan Gowans, for about ten  
years and have been neighbors  
for that length of time and we  
know that in the last year the  
claimant has failed in health to  
such a degree that she is now  
totally unable to earn a support.  
We think she is about seventy  
years of age and know that owing  
to age and ill health she cannot  
do any work at all and she is wholly  
dependent on charity for a sup-  
port.

We know these facts because  
we are neighbors and we help  
to contribute to her support.



(b) We further declare that we have no interest in said case and we are not  
concerned in its prosecution.

J. W. Morrison  
W. B. Smith

If Affiants sign by mark, two witnesses who can write, sign here.

Ella Adams  
Frances Darby  
(Signature of Affiants)

NOTE.—In the execution of papers and evidence, whenever a person or witness signs by mark (†), two persons who  
can write must attest the signature by signing their names opposite.  
The official before whom papers are executed is not a competent witness to a mark.

[OVER.]

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day by the above-named affiant; and I certify that I read said affidavit to said affiant, and acquainted ~~him~~ with its contents before ~~they~~ executed the same. I further certify that I am in no wise interested in said case, nor am I concerned in its prosecution, and that said affiant ~~is~~ <sup>personally</sup> known to me; that ~~they~~ <sup>are</sup> credible persons and so reputed in the community in which ~~they~~ <sup>they</sup> reside.

Witness my hand and official seal this 9th day of October, 1903

And Seal Here.

[Sign here] T. W. Tallmadge

This can be executed before any officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes. If such officer uses a seal, certificate of Clerk of Court is not necessary. If no seal is used, then each certificate must be attached.

~~Do~~ Write an affidavit just as you would write a letter, stating all the facts, circumstances, dates and places near as you can remember, and if of your own personal knowledge and observation, and state how you know what you say to be true.

Respectfully ask  
that in view of  
the fact that  
claimant depends  
upon Charity that  
the claim be  
made.

SPECIAL

...FROM...  
T. W. TALLMADGE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Oct June 27 1891  
Widow  
No. 764791

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT

CASE OF

Susan Howans  
Widow  
Tony Howans  
Cot B, 81 rect

AFFIDAVIT OF

Ellen Adams  
Frances Darby

Date of Execution

Oct 9 1903

FILED BY

T. W. TALLMADGE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

## PHYSICIAN'S AFFIDAVIT.

The testimony of a physician for use in claim for Invalid Pension under Act of June 27, 1890 should be in his own handwriting and should describe (1) all disabilities or causes of permanent disability, not due to vicious habits, and (2) the extent or degree to which the applicant is and has been, during a stated period of time, thereby incapacitated for earning a support by manual labor.

I have been acquainted with Tony Gowans for about \_\_\_\_\_ years.

(Name of the soldier must be given)

(Here embody all facts known to affiant in accordance with the above or other instructions.)

I do hereby certify that I  
T. W. Breau, M.D. have been  
treating Tony Gowans for the  
past 6 months. And know of  
his condition of health as  
follows. His general condition  
is that of extreme debility and  
feebleness. Apparently he  
is about 65 yrs. of age.  
He is afflicted with a complication  
of diseases rendering him totally  
unable to earn a support by  
manual labor. In my opinion  
his disabled condition is permanent.

T. W. Breau, M.D.

1631 Clis St

New Orleans  
La



I have been a practitioner of medicine for Three years.  
I have no interest, either direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.  
My Post-office address is 1631 Clei St. New Orleans La  
T. W. Breary M.D.  
(Affiant should sign here and also at the end of his statement.) (Affiant's signature)

State of Louisiana, County of Orleans, ss;  
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April, A. D., 1901  
and I hereby certify that affiant is a practicing physician of good standing.  
I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

Chas. S. Lytle  
(Signature)  
(Official character) Notary Public.

NOTE.—This affidavit may be executed, within the limits of his jurisdiction, before any officer who is authorized to administer oaths for general purposes.  
No erasures or interlineations will be permitted, unless the magistrate quotes or refers to them in his jurat and certifies that they were made before execution of the paper.



No. <u>5946450</u>	MEDICAL EVIDENCE.	PENSION CLAIM OF <u>Gomez Yovanis</u> <u>6. 39. 100 Inf.</u>	<u>Cent. 1023594</u>	FILED BY <b>NATHAN BICKFORD,</b> Director of Claims and Patents, WASHINGTON, D. C.
--------------------	-------------------	--	----------------------	---

ACT OF JUNE 27, 1890, AS AMENDED BY ACT OF MAY 9, 1900.

## WIDOW'S PENSION.

Claimant Susan Gowans2102 St. Louis St.  
P. O. Royal SteelCounty New Orleans, State LouisianaSoldier Henry GowansRank SergeantRegiment 81<sup>st</sup> U. S. Col.Rate, \$8 per month, commencing June 16, 1902, and \$2 additional for each child, as follows:{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_

Payments on all former certificates covering any portion of same time to be deducted.

All pension to terminate \_\_\_\_\_, 190\_\_, date of \_\_\_\_\_

## RECOGNIZED ATTORNEY

Name J. H. TallmadgeFee, \$ 10 Agent to pay.P. O. Washington, D.C.

Articles filed \_\_\_\_\_, 189\_\_

## APPROVALS.

Submitted for St. Ex. February 9, 1904, J. G. Johnston, Examiner.Approved for Admission under Act of June 27/90 as amended by Act of May 9, 1900May 23, 1904  
April 6, 1904 R. L. Ford

Reviewer.

May 24, 1904 D. Stephenson

Reviewer.

The soldier was \_\_\_\_\_ pensioned at \$ 8 per month for has waited to earn a sup. by man. laborEnlisted August 24, 1863Soldier's app'n filed Nov 7, 1898\_\_\_\_\_ honorably disch'd Sept. 1, 1866

Clt's app'n under other laws \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_

Reenlisted October 5, 1866

Former marriage of \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_

discharged October 5, 1869  
Reenlisted October 5, 1874

Death of former \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_

Died June 5, 1902Clt's marriage to soldier about, 1862Declaration filed June 16, 1902Clt. not remarried \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_

Claimant \_\_\_\_\_ writes.

No, M. C.

ACT OF JUNE 27, 1890, AS AMENDED BY ACT OF MAY 9, 1900.

## WIDOW'S PENSION.

Claimant Susan Howans1013 Royal Street New OrleansP. O. New OrleansCounty Orleans, State LouisianaSoldier Toney HowansRank Sergeant, Co. BRegiment 81 U.S.C. Inf.Rate, \$8 per month, commencing June 16, 1902, and \$2 additional for each child, as follows:{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_{ Born, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ }  
{ Sixteen, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ } Commencing \_\_\_\_\_

Payments on all former certificates covering any portion of same time to be deducted.

All pension to terminate \_\_\_\_\_, 190\_\_\_\_, date of \_\_\_\_\_

## RECOGNIZED ATTORNEY.

Name T. W. TallmadgeFee, \$ 10.00 Agent to pay.P. O. Washington, D. C.

Articles filed \_\_\_\_\_, 189\_\_\_\_

## APPROVALS.

Re Submitted for Admission, April 20, 1903, W. D. Briden, Examiner.R Approved for Admission under Act of June 27/90 as amended by Act of May 9, 1900February 3, 1904  
April 23, 1903R. L. Ford

\_\_\_\_\_, 190\_\_\_\_, Legal Reviewer.

The soldier was \_\_\_\_\_ pensioned at \$ 8.00 per month for partial inability to earn a support by manual laborEnlisted August 24, 1863Soldier's app'n filed March 7, 1898\_\_\_\_\_ honorably disch'd September 1, 1866

Cl't's app'n under other laws \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

Reenlisted { October 5, 1866  
                  { October 5, 1867

Former marriage of \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ honorably disch'd { October 5, 1869  
                                      { October 5, 1874

Death of former \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_

Died June 5, 1802Cl't's marriage to soldier about, 1862Declaration filed June 16, 1802Cl't not remarried \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_Claimant does not write.

\_\_\_\_\_, M. C.

ARMY DIV.

Index Sheet, Claim No. 764,791, June 27, 1940 Law,  
Susan Lowans, wid. of Tony Lowans,  
Service, 81<sup>st</sup> U.S.C. Inf.

In cases submitted for special examination a separate index should be prepared for each brief and placed immediately under the corresponding face sheet (or sheets). In no instance should any paper be placed between index and face sheets. Dates of examination, and not of filing, should be given in indexing surgeons' certificates, as provided by paragraph 5, order 12, Manual of Practice 1901.

-113

NO.	NAME AND P. O. ADDRESS.	DATE OF FILING.	SUBJECT.
1	claimant.		
2,3,4,5	1013 Royal St. N.O. La. Do	June 16, 02	Declaration Affidavits
6	Ella Adams 2109 St. Louis St. & Frances Daulty 1717 Conti St. N.O. La	Oct. 16, 03	Phys. Condition of Client.
7	F. H. Breary, M.D. 1631 Clis. St. N.O. La.	May 7, 01	Medical Evidence
8	Parish of Orleans La.	Feb. 16, 03	Death Cert.
9			Soldiers statement
10	St. Alphonsus Church 2030 Constantine St. N.O. La.	July 30, 04	No record of Marriages
11 & 12	Millie Young. 2223 Constantine St. " "	July 28, 02	Legal widowhood
13	Gates Wilson 512 South Franklin, " " "	" " "	Do
14	Richard Woods 4069 Magazine St. " " " Gates Wilson 512 South Franklin " " "	Feb. 16, 03	Dependence
15			Sp. Exrs report.
16	Parish of Orleans La.	Dec. 18, 02	Asst Cert.



# DECLARATION FOR WIDOW'S PENSION.

TO BE EXECUTED BEFORE A CLERK OF THE COURT, A NOTARY PUBLIC, OR OTHER OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES. IF BEFORE A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE OR OTHER OFFICER WHO DOES NOT USE AN OFFICIAL SEAL, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO OBTAIN THE CERTIFICATE OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNTY, PART AS TO HIS OFFICIAL CHARACTER AND GENUINENESS OF HIS SIGNATURE. IF EXECUTED BEFORE A NOTARY PUBLIC WITH A SEAL, NO OTHER CERTIFICATE IS REQUIRED.

State of Louisiana, County of Orleans, ss:

On this 11 day of June, A. D. one thousand nineteen hundred and two

personally appeared before me, a

Notary Public

within and for the County and State aforesaid,

Susan Gowans

aged 60 years, a resident of the City of New Orleans

State of Louisiana, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the widow of Susay Gowans

who enlisted under the name of Tony Gowans at New Orleans

on the — day of —, A. D. 1863, in

Co B 81 usct

[Here state rank, company, and regiment if in Military service, or vessel, if in Navy.]

and served at least ninety days in the late War of the Rebellion, in the service of the United States, and was

HONORABLY DISCHARGED

and died

5 June, 1902

[The cause of death need not be stated.]

That she was married under the name of Susan Garrett to said Tony Gowans on the

day of —, 1862 by Common consent during

slavery - remarried June 3, 1902 there being no legal barrier to said marriage.

to prior marriages

[If there was a former marriage of claimant or her husband, state it here and how dissolved.]

That she has not remarried since the death of the said Tony Gowans That

[Name of soldier or sailor.]

she is without other means of support than her daily labor. That names and dates of birth of all the children now living, under sixteen years of age, of the soldier are as follows:

{	, born	{	, 18	{	, born	{	, 18
{	, born	{	, 18	{	, born	{	, 18
{	, born	{	, 18	{	, born	{	, 18



That she has heretofore applied for pension, and the number of her former application is Soldier was

pensioner 1023594

[Be careful to fill this part of the blank correctly.]

That she makes this declaration for the purpose

of being placed on the pension-roll of the United States under the provisions of the Act of June 27, 1890.

She hereby appoints T. W. TALLMADGE, OF WASHINGTON, D. C.,

her true and lawful attorney to prosecute her claim and receive a fee of \$10.

That her post-office address is 1013 Royal HL County of Orleans

State of Louisiana

Susan Gowans  
[Claimant's signature.]

Attest: (1) Montiquet

(2) W. W. Allen

Also personally appeared Louis Montegut, residing at N. O. La  
and John Allen, residing at N. O. La

persons whom I certify to be respectable and  
entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say they were present and saw Susan  
Gowans, the claimant, sign her name (or make her mark) to the foregoing declaration; that  
they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of said claimant and an acquaintance with her of  
years and 8 years, respectively, that she is the identical person she represents herself to be; and that  
they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

L. Montegut  
John Allen

[Signatures of witnesses.]

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11 day of June, A. D. 1890  
and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully made known and explained to the ap-  
plicant 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.

Wm. D. Daniel  
Notary

[Signature.]

[Official character.]

State of \_\_\_\_\_ County of \_\_\_\_\_, ss:

IT IS CERTIFIED That \_\_\_\_\_, before whom the above  
application was executed, was at the time a \_\_\_\_\_ within and for  
said county, duly authorized to administer oaths for general purposes, and his signature thereto is genuine.

Witness my hand and official seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1890.

The act of June 27, 1890, requires in widow's case:

1. That the soldier served at least *ninety days* in the war of the rebellion and was *honorably discharged*.
2. Proof of soldier's death (death cause need not have been due to Army service.)
3. That widow is "without other means of support than her daily labor."
4. That widow was married to soldier prior to June 27, 1890, date of the act.
5. That all pensions under this act commence from date of receipt of application in Pension Bureau.

C.B. 1023,594 etf  
ACT JUNE 27, 1890.

WIDOW'S APPLICATION.

Claimant Susan Gowans

Soldier Henry Gowans

Service Co. B. 1st  
U.S.C.

Address 1013 Royal  
New Orleans, La.

U 267639740 W.S. Reg.

FILED BY

T. W. TALLMADGE,

ATTORNEY,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Date of execution, \_\_\_\_\_

etm

# **AFFIDAVIT.**

State of Louisiana, City of New Orleans, Parish of Orleans.

Personally appeared before me a Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified, in and for the Parish and State of Louisiana, the undersigned Susan Gowans aged 70 years, residing 1013 Royal St New Orleans, La who declared in relation to the Pension claim of myself as follows

I am not able to furnish record evidence of my marriage to Tony Gowans or testimony of witnesses who were present at the marriage ceremony for the reason that I was not married to my husband at a regular ceremony but lived with my husband Tony Gowans as man and wife and were recognized as such by friends and neighbors since 1862. My husband, Tony Gowans and myself lived together as man and wife up to the time of his death. I have not remarried. I have no property of any description whatever and no income except my own daily labor since June 16, 1902. There is no one legally bound to support

And that, he has interest in the prosecution of said claim.

Wm. H. H. H. H.

Susan Gowans

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of February 1902 and I certify that I read and explained the foregoing statement to said affiant who persisted therein as conforming to her knowledge of the matter; that she is personally known to me and is believed to be a credible witness and that I have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

Wm. H. H. H. H.



Notary Public

RECEIVED  
FEB 20 1903  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FROM  
T. W. TALMADGE,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SOUTH DAK  
FEB 17 1903  
RECEIVED

My Dear Sir  
Mr. Talmadge

Dear Sir

Enclosed  
find \$1000  
and \$1000

Yours truly  
T. W. Talmadge

TO SPECIAL EXAMINER'S REPORT.

Sp. 764, 771.

(5)

New Orleans, La., April 27, 1903.  
Hon. Commissioner of Customs,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to return, herewith,  
the certificate in claim No. 764,791,  
duan Bureau.

Richard Thrope and Otto  
Thelen are of good reputation and  
opposed to petty thefts.  
Very respectfully,  
Richard Thrope,  
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION A.

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 23<sup>d</sup> day of March, 1903, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans,  
State of Louisiana, before me, Beecher Mackey, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared

Gatis Wilson, 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 54 years of age; occupa-  
tion labour; post-office address,  
51 1/2 S. Franklin St., New Orleans, La.

I became acquainted with Tony  
Gowans and Susan Gowans in 1866.

I was then a private in a detachment  
which formed a part of the 39<sup>th</sup> U. S.  
Inf. Tony Gowans was in the 81<sup>st</sup>  
U. S. C. Inf. and enlisted into the  
39<sup>th</sup> U. S. Inf. Co. C, in which  
I served. Susan Gowans was a  
landlady of my company.

When I first knew them in 1866  
they were living together as hus-  
band and wife and had two  
children about 12 and 13 years  
of age. I saw Tony Gowans from  
time to time up to the time of  
his death. He lived with Susan  
until he died. I was at his  
wake. He died last year - I don't  
know the date.

Susan has not remarried  
or lived with any other man.

She has no property and no  
means of support but her labor.

I don't know whether or not  
either Tony or Susan had any  
prior marriage. I don't know.

official work was this class in Beth-  
 lesh. I did not learn that of  
 Fidelman. As such, I did not intend  
 to answer that I knew they saw  
 must. These saws found in 1866.

No thin - no substitution answers  
 correctly answered.

G. W. Wilson

Depositor.

Depositor.

Known to and subscribed before me this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March,  
 1903, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent  
 before signing.

Reuben T. Marsh

Special Examiner.



DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 1903, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of Louisiana, before me, Benjamin Macky, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared

Richard Woods, 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 54 years of age; occupation,  
Editor; post-office address 6940  
Magazine St., New Orleans La.

I served in Co. G, 25<sup>th</sup> U. S. Inf.  
I knew Tony Gowans from about  
1866. I knew him in the 25<sup>th</sup>  
U. S. Inf. I did not know him  
prior to 1866. I saw him "right  
smart", "pretty after" after the war.

I became acquainted with Susan  
Gowans in 1866. She was living with  
Tony Gowans as his wife when I  
enlisted in the 25<sup>th</sup> U. S. Inf. in 1866.  
Neither had been married before,  
to my knowledge, or that I have heard.

They lived together until  
Tony Gowans died. I saw them  
living together.

Susan has not remarried or  
lived with any other man to my  
knowledge. I don't know ex-  
actly when Tony Gowans died.  
I think he died four or five years  
ago.

Susan has no property and  
no means of support but her  
labor.

I executed an affidavit  
in this claim before Th. B. Barr

with in Feb. 1862. I don't think  
that I told Mr. Russell that  
I knew the position and claimant  
in 1862. That affidavit was read to  
me. I remember - summer  
correct record  
Attal General Claims Richard H. H. H.  
Dependent.

*[The following section of the document is crossed out with a large diagonal line.]*

Dependent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 1903 and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Richard H. H. H.  
Special Examiner.

*Army*  
*G. W. and M. Div.*

3-395.  
(Old No. 3-506.)

*MWB*, E. & R.

Widow No. *764791*

*Susan Wil*

*Toney Gowans*

*B&USC I f A 25 USC I f*

Department of the Interior,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

Washington, D. C., *Mar, 11*, 190*3*

SIR:

In the above-entitled claim,

*Gates Wilson*

, whose

P. O. address was

*572 South Franklin St. New Orleans, La.*

[Give street and number]

testified before

*William B. Barnette*

, a

*Notary Public*

in

*and for Orleans*

county,

*La.*

, on

*Feb. 13*

, 190*3*

that

*he knew Toney Gowans and his wife Susan; always recognized them as husband and wife because they lived together as man and wife since the year 1862; that Susan Gowans lived with her husband up to the time of his death, and that she has not remarried since soldier's death; that neither Toney Gowans, nor his wife Susan had been previously married; that claimant has no property whatever, and no income except from her own daily labor.*

*Affiant's deposition is desired*

Please refer this letter to a special examiner with instructions to ascertain the witness' reputation for veracity, and his knowledge of the matters set forth above.

The claimant's name and address is

*Susan Gowans*

*1013 Royal St. New Orleans, La.*

The attorney's,

*T. W. Tallmadge, Washington D.C.*

Very respectfully,

*Warner Kilbitt*

The Chief of the

Special Examination Division.

Chief

*Army*

Division.

Page 8.

Exh. A.

THE COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS.

Sir:—I certify that I have personally interviewed and questioned Greta Wilson

who is quite attached. the witness referred to herein, and that his

I further certify that his reputation for veracity is good.

Bessie Mackey  
Special Examiner.

To be filled by the adjudicating division.  
Army Div.  
Widows No. 764791  
Susan, wife  
Tommy Lawrence  
B&N S. C. J. & A 25-4821  
Name of witness:  
Greta Wilson

SPECIAL EXAMINATION DIVISION,  
BUREAU OF PENSIONS.

Washington, MAR 13 1903, 190

Respectfully referred to Mr.

B. Mackey, Special

Examiner at New Orleans La  
will interview the witness and report on his credibility. No deposition should be taken unless it appears that the affidavit sets forth matters not within the witness' personal knowledge, but if taken, it should be made on the usual deposition-blank and attached hereto; and should show what the witness personally knows of the facts, his means of knowledge, and any improper practice in connection with the preparation of the affidavit.

By direction of the Commissioner:  
R. F. Craig  
Chief, S. E. Division.

190

Respectfully returned to the Chief of the

Division.  
Chief, S. E. Division.

N. O. La  
B Mackey

*Army*  
*S. W. and N. Div.*

3-395  
(Old No. 3-506.)

*78013*, Ex'c

Div.

Widow No. *764791*

*Susan, Wido*

*Tony Gowans*

Department of the Interior,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

*B81USC4 x A 23USL* Washington, D. C., *Mar. 11*, 190*3*

SIR:

In the above-entitled claim, *Richard Woods*, whose

P. O. address was *4949 Magazine Street, New Orleans, La.*

[Give street and number]

testified before *William B. Bassett*, a *Notary Public*

in *and for Orleans* county, *La.*, on *Feb. 13*, 190*3*

that *soldier and claimant had lived together as husband and wife from the year 1862 to time of soldier's death; that neither had been previously married; that claimant has not remarried since soldier's death; That claimant has no property whatever and no income except from her own daily labor. These facts are known from personal acquaintance with claimant and soldier for forty years.*

*Affiant's deposition is desired*

Please refer this letter to a special examiner with instructions to ascertain the witness' reputation for veracity, and his knowledge of the matters set forth above.

The claimant's name and address is *Susan Gowans*

*1013 Royal St. New Orleans, La.*

The attorney's, *T. W. Tallmadge, Washington, D. C.*

Very respectfully,

*Warner Kilhite*

The Chief of the  
Special Examination Division.

Chief *Army* Division.

*Page 10.*  
*Exh. B.*

New Orleans, La., April 6<sup>th</sup> 1903.

THE COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS.

Sir:—I certify that I have personally interviewed and questioned

Richard Woods, the witness referred to herein, and that his statement is true and correct.

I further certify that his reputation for veracity is good.

Benjamin Mackey  
Special Examiner.

To be filled in the adjudicating division.  
Army Div.  
Widow No. 764791  
Susan, Wid.  
Tony Gowans  
B&I USE Lf. A 25 USE Lf  
Name of witness:  
Richard Woods

SPECIAL EXAMINATION DIVISION,  
BUREAU OF PENSIONS.

Washington, MAR 13 1903, 190

Respectfully referred to Mr.

B. Mackey, Special Examiner at New Orleans La

who will interview the witness and report on his credibility. No deposition should be taken unless it appears that the affidavit sets forth matters not within the witness' personal knowledge, but if taken, it should be made on the usual deposition-blank and attached hereto; and should show what the witness personally knows of the facts, his means of knowledge, and any improper practice in connection with the preparation of the affidavit.

By direction of the Commissioner:

[Signature]  
Chief, S. E. Division.

190

Respectfully returned to the Chief of the Division.

Chief, S. E. Division.

*Grubbs*  
3-296.  
(Old No. 3-450.)  
S. E. D.

No. *744,791*

Claimant: *Susan Gavaus*

Soldier: *Tony Gavaus*

P. O. address: *New Orleans*

County: *Orleans* State: *La.*

Recommendation: *Commissioner*

*of Capt. of Army Div.*  
*Benjamin M. ...*  
Special Examiner.

REFERENCE.

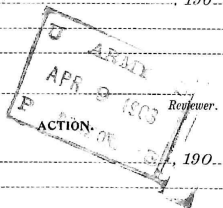
APR 8 1903, 190...

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

*A. L. Craig*  
Chief, *Chief of Division*

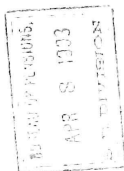
RECOMMENDATION.

190...



Receiver.

190...



Susau. Tony Gowans 1902

CERTIFICATE OF

Property

I, the undersigned Custodian Tax & Assessment Records certify that

The name of Susau Gowans or that of Toney Gowans does not appear on the said Tax rolls of Orlean Parish as the holder of taxable property for the year 1902



I have no interest in the claim for which this certificate is given.

John Watson  
Notary Public

State of Louisiana

Parish of Orleans

I, the undersigned Notary Public certify that John Watson above signed is dear never ad interim as by him set out

Witness my hand this Sept day of 189 1902 I have no interest in this claim.

Francis Long  
Notary Public

(16)



RECEIVED  
JUL 11 1962  
SOUTH OY.

RECEIVED  
DEC 20 1962  
U.S. AIR FORCE  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

*James Harrison  
Oct 8<sup>th</sup>  
Long Green  
D. Q. N. S. D.*

Charles Newcomb  
Aug. 764, 791,  
Ocean House  
New York  
Aug. 764, 791,  
Ocean House  
New York  
B. 81 and C. 814

## INDEX

Claim of ..

[illegible]

September, 21st. 1898.

D.C.

(2)

## DEPOSITION

Case of Toney Gowans, No. 1206480.

On this 21st. day of Sept., 1898, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of Louisiana, before me, Leighton Hope, a  
 special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared  
Toney Gowans, Clmt., 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 63 years of age; my post-office address is No. 2106, St.

Louis St. N.O., La. I am a laborer but I have been unable to do anything  
 for a year. When I was able to work I done hard labor. I am the claimant  
 for pension above number. I enlisted in N.O., La. in Co. B. 81st. Regt.  
U.S.C.I. Vols., sometime in 1863. I do not know the exact date nor the  
 month. I was in that company and Regt. for three years, and was dis-  
 charged at N.O., La. I do not know the date. I was a private throughout  
 my service. In about a month after my discharge from the 81st., I en-  
 listed in C. 39th. U.S.I. Regulars., for three years. While I was in the  
39th. U.S.I. that Regt., was consolidated with the 40th. Regt., Regulars,  
making the 25th. U.S.I. I was discharged from the 25th. U.S.I. at Eagle  
Pass Texas Oct. 5th. 1874. You misunderstood me about the consolidation.  
 I meant to say that I was discharged from the 39th. at Fort Pike La.  
 and immediately re-enlisted in same company and Regt. I served with  
 them till the consolidation of 39th. and 40th. into the 25th., in 1869,  
 and subsequently in 25th. U.S.I. Co., A. till discharge.

I was never in the service of the U.S. other than here stated. Never in  
 the Navy. I held during my service the ranks of Private, and also as  
 company carpenter.

I filed a claim for pension a year ago last August, but I never heard  
 anything but that the papers had got lost or something of that kind.

I made a claim through Bolding here soon after last christmas. I do not  
 know the date. I claim pension on account of disease of the head, weak  
 back, rheumatism, and a fluttering of the heart.

I signed my applliaction for pension in the alley on Common St. near the St. Charles Hotel. I do not know the Notari'es name. John Dennis and Castor Olivia and my self were present and signed the application at same time and were all sworn at same time.

John Dennis and Castor Olivia were witnesses for me. They were witnesses to my service in the 81st U.S.I.C.Vols. They were in that Regt. With me though not in the same company.

I signed my own name to the application. John Dennis and Olivia each signed his own name.

I am married. Been married but once. My wife is named Susan. Her maiden name I do not know. Her name when I married her was Susan Burkes. She had been married before her marriage to me. I do not know what was the name of her first husband. I never saw him. He died somewhere in Tenn; I think. I do not know when. I was married to my wife in 1862, at New Orleans La., in 1862, just before I went into the army. I do not know the date. I was married by the Priest in the Catholic church St. Alphon-sus on Constance St. bet St. Andrew and Josephine Sts. Father Johnson was the name of the priest. I have no children under the age of sixteen years. I have not been divorced from my wife. She now lives with me.

I have understood your questions and you have set down correctly my re-plies.

*Taney Gowers*  
Deponent.

Additional. My attorney in Washington is Nathan Bickford. I have no agreement to pay him except ten dollars which the law allows. My attor-ney here is Elder W.H. Bolding. I have no agreement to pay him any sum at all.

*Taney Gowers*  
Deponent.

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21st. day of Sept., 1898., and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

*Edgerson Kaye*  
Special Examiner.

## DEPOSITION

Case of Toney Gowans, No. 1206480

On this 19th day of September, 1898, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of Louisiana, before me, Leighton Hope, a  
 special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared  
William H. Bolding, 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 34 years of age; my post-office address is No. 2412, St.

Peter St. N-O., La. I am by occupation a minister. Of Union Baptiste  
 Church New Orleans La. I have been engaged since about 1894 to some ex-  
 tent in preparing papers for use in pension claims. I am a sub-agent of  
 attorneys at Washington, The Attorneys that I am a sub-agent for are as  
 follows; Nathan Bickford, Wm. Conard and Co., W.A. Redmond, Charles and  
 Wm. B. King and Co., H. Planter, Leavenworth Kas. That is all that I remem-  
 ber now.

Q. What agreements have you with these attorneys?

A. I have agreements with them all by which I get a part of their fees.  
 My agreement with Wm. Conard and Co., is for one third and with all those  
 mentioned except that firm I get one fourth.

Q. Is your contract written or verbal?

A. They just wrote to me that they would give me such a part of their  
 fees in each case I would solicit and tend to here for them. There was  
 no formal contract. I know the claimant for pension Toney Gowans. I am  
 a sub-agent in his case. I prepared a declaration for pension for him.  
 Nathan Bickford is the attorney in Washington. I am to receive from  
 Bickford one fourth of whatever he gets as his fee in the case.  
 I have examined this declaration for pension signed by Toney Gowans and  
 by George Weysham, and my self as attesting and by John Dennis and Cas-  
 tor Olivia as identifying witnesses.

Yes Sir. I was present when the paper was signed before Judge Garnon.  
 I saw the claimant and all the witnesses sign the declaration.

Claimant and John Dennis and Castor Olivia were sworn to the declaration but Geo. Weysham and myself were not sworn. We just attested the marks.

I have no agreement with Toney Gowans by which he is to pay me any fee whatever.

Gowans now lives at 2106, St. Louis St. He has been living there three or four months. I do not know where John Dennis or Castor Olivia reside.

I did not know them till they signed this declaration for the claimant.

I have heard you read this deposition and you have set down my replies correctly.

*Chas. Bolding*

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September 1898, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

*Richard H. Hape*

Special Examiner.



SEP 24 1898  
(3-150.)

So. Dist. S. E. D. Crim.

No. 1,206,480,-----

Claimant: Toney Gowans-----

Soldier: " "-----

P. O. address: 2106, St. Louis ST. M. O.

County: Orleans----- State: La.-----

Recommendation: consideration by  
Law Division.

Leighton Hope-----  
Special Examiner.

REFERENCE.

*Sept 24, 1898.  
Respectfully referred  
to Chief Law Division  
for consideration*



*A. B. Casselman*  
Chief S. E. Division.

RECOMMENDATION. *B.*

\_\_\_\_\_, 189\_\_\_\_

Reviewer.

ACTION.

\_\_\_\_\_, 189\_\_\_\_

Commissioner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1904, at  
New Orleans, country of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Higgenbotham, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Lallie  
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:

My age I do not know but probably between  
55 and 60 years; occupation washing and ironing;  
P.O. address 5119 Annunciation St., New Orleans, La.

Toney Gowans the soldier in this case was  
my cousin. He and I were both born in North  
Carolina, I believe, but I was little when I  
left there and could not tell you much  
about that. I belonged to Augusta Smith,  
I believe, of somewhere near Columbus or  
Maryland. I only know about that from  
what my sister Caroline Mumford I want dead,  
would tell me. He, Toney Gowans, belonged to  
some of the kin people of the Smiths I believe.

Don't remember just when I was sold away  
from North Carolina, but during the war  
I found myself in Jackson, Miss., and then  
I went to Vicksburg and from Vicksburg  
I came here. I do not think the war was  
over yet when I got here as the soldiers  
were all here yet. I was not with any  
of my people then. I did not meet up with  
my sister (Caroline Mumford) here in this city  
for a good while after peace had been  
declared - perhaps 8 or 10 years. Through her  
I first met up with the soldier, Toney Gowans,  
in this city. I do not really remember  
having known Toney Gowans in North Carolina  
but my sister said he was our cousin and  
that he knew me before I was old enough

to know him. When I first became acquainted with him he was living with Susan Gowans as his wife. They said that they had been lawfully married. She said she had been with him while he was in the army. She said she was all over Texas with him. They both said so. I never heard that either of them had been married before they were married to each other. They lived together as husband and wife until <sup>he died</sup> they were never separated or divorced to my knowledge and she has not remarried since he died.

He was a tall "griffe" colored man. He was slender.

I never heard that he had any child or children except by Elamant Susan Gowans.

I do not know of any other kin people of the soldier, Toney Gowans, except my self and the children of my sister, Caroline Mumford.

I have no interest in this case. I have heard this deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded.

Attest: Birdie Williams Sallie Williams  
mark Deponent

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. Wigginton,  
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of Mar, 1908, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La, before me, E. C. Wigganborn, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Adelaide  
Campbell, 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:

My age is 50 years; occupation cook;  
P.O. address 2234 Constance St., New  
Orleans, La.

I have known this claimant Susan  
Gowans since I was 12 years old. I, when  
I was 12, I went to work at Goldenbough's  
and I then found Susan there. I worked  
there with her, Susan Gowans, about  
25 years. The claimant was married  
already when I first became acquainted  
with her. At least she was living with  
Toney Gowans as his wife and I supposed  
they were married. They were living  
together as husband and wife when I  
first became acquainted with her and  
they lived together as husband and  
wife all the time I knew them. She  
moved out of my neighborhood about  
ten years ago but I would visit her  
and she would visit me. I never  
heard of their separating. I think they  
were living together as husband and wife  
when he died but I did not see  
his dead body or attend his funeral.

I do not know whether they or either  
of them had been married before they  
were married to each other. I do not  
know whether they were married to  
each other by any ceremony.

I never knew her to live with any other man as his wife or claimant to have any husband except the soldier, Tony Gowans, and I never knew him to claim to have or to have had any wife except this claimant Susan Gowans.

I have been a witness for this claimant before but I have told you all I know about the case.

I have heard this deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded.

Attest: Mrs C. A. Villars Adelaide <sup>Long</sup> Campbell  
mark

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. L. Wigganham,  
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 18 day of March, 1904, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Niggenthorn, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Pauline  
Montague, 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:

My age is 32 years; occupation, I live at  
Home; P.O. address 1013 & 1017 Royal St., New  
Orleans, La.

I have known the claimant, Susan Gowans,  
since I was 11 or 12 years old. The claimant  
was living with Toney Gowans as his wife  
when I first became acquainted with  
her and they lived together as husband  
and wife from that time until he died.  
They were never separated or divorced  
while I knew them and she has not  
remarried since he died. She has always  
been a woman of good character. Yes,  
I knew her husband Toney Gowans. But  
I do not recall exactly how he appeared.  
I don't think he was as tall as she is.  
He did not come around us so often.  
I don't recall his color distinctly - I  
pay no attention to the color of colored  
people. He was slim.

The claimant told me that she  
was married to the soldier, Toney  
Gowans, in St. Alphonsus church and I  
went with her to said church to get  
the record of the marriage. The priest  
treated us very nicely and made a  
thorough search of the records and in about  
ten days gave me the certificate which  
you have shown me. The priest said

to me that he was confident from what the claimant said that she was married as she says she was but he said that as she was a Catholic and he a Protestant and they being colored the marriage was probably not recorded.

The claimant worked for our family at washing and ironing as long as she was able to work and I have no interest in the case except that I believe the claimant is deserving of this pension and that payment of same has been delayed too long already.

I have heard this deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded.

Pauline Montegut.  
Deponent

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of Mar., 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. Higgenbotham

Special Examiner.



DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 14 day of Mar., 1904, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Niggenhorn, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Frances  
Harby, 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:

My age is 49 years; occupation washing  
and ironing; P.O. address 1717 Conti St.,  
New Orleans, La.

I have known Susan Gowans, the  
claimant in this case, for about eight (8)  
or nine (9) years last past. I have lived  
down town here in her neighborhood  
for about eight years and I knew her  
for a while before I moved down here.  
I got acquainted with her through  
visiting a fellow churchmember of  
mine, Ella Adams, who lives just across  
the street from this claimant. I do not  
know whether this claimant's given name  
is Susan or not. I always called  
her simply Gowans. I knew her husband  
~~but~~ after I got acquainted with her.  
I got acquainted with her first. I do  
not know what her late husband's  
name was except Gowans. I think it  
was Sylvester Gowans. Yes, I am sure  
we called him Sylvester Gowans. He was  
a tall dark man. They lived together  
as husband and wife all the time  
I knew them. He was the only husband  
she ever had to my knowledge. He  
belonged to the same church that I did  
but she did not. I suppose that they  
were lawfully married but I do not



know. They said they were. She has not remarried since he died. I have not seen her since. I went to some office on Exchange Alley and swore for her. I told them there in Exchange Alley what I knew about her. She is always dragging sick when I see her.

2- Was the claimant's late husband's name not Toney Gowans?

A- I don't know exactly but my recollection is that it was Sylvester Gowans.

Claimant has owned no property since the soldier (her husband) died and has been dependent upon her own labor for support ever since he died.

2- Is claimant's name not Susan Gowans?

A- Yes that is what she is called.

I have heard this deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded.

Attest: Alfred Darby

her  
Frances Darby  
Mark DePomus

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14 day of Mar., 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. Higginson  
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 14 day of March, 1904, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Nienhuys, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Ella  
Adams, 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:

My age is 54 years; occupation washing and  
ironing; P.O. address 2109 St. Louis St., New  
Orleans, La.

I have known this claimant, Susan Gowans,  
for about ten years last past. I have lived  
just across the street from her for about  
eight years and in her neighborhood for  
two years longer. I knew the claimant's  
late husband, Toney Gowans. I got acquainted  
with him about the same time I did with  
this claimant. He was a choir singer in  
our church and he introduced this claimant  
to me as Susan Gowans, his wife. They  
lived together as husband and wife  
all the time I knew them but I do not  
know whether they were ever lawfully  
married. I belong to the Union Baptist Church,  
Riv. N.H. Buildings Church. Both claimant  
and the soldier, Toney Gowans, told me  
that they were together in the army and  
went through the war together. They  
lived together as husband and wife all  
the time I knew them and were living  
together as husband and wife when he  
died year before last.

I never heard the soldier, Toney  
Gowans, ever called by any name  
except Toney Gowans. No, I never heard  
him called by Lester Gowans. He was

tall slim brown-skinned man

I have been a witness in this case before. I was only a witness to the fact that she (claimant) is unable to work yes. I was sworn to my statement. I was sworn by the Judge in Exchange Alley. Don't know his name. Claimant has been unable to work for the past two years.

I am not related or interested and my answers have been correctly recorded.

Attest: Thos. Gardner.  
Jennie Deebigman

Ella Adams  
mark

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14<sup>th</sup> day of Mar., 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. Higginbotham

Special Examiner.

## CLAIMANT'S STATEMENT.

## DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1894  
 at New Orleans, county of Orleans  
 State of La., before me, E. C. Wingentom, a  
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Susan Gowans  
 \_\_\_\_\_, the applicant in the aforesaid pension claim, who says:

Q. If it should become necessary to further examine your claim, by taking testimony of witnesses elsewhere, do you desire to be present in person or be represented by an attorney, or both, at such further examination? If so, you will be notified as to the place and time when it is to be made.

A. No, sir.

Q. Should you change your mind and desire to be present, or be represented by an attorney during any further examination of your case, will you at once address a letter to the "Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C." giving the name and the number of your claim, informing him that you have so changed your mind, and desire to be notified when your claim is to be further examined?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. State the names of the person or persons instrumental in the prosecution of your claim for pension, and their post-office addresses.

A. I don't know the name of my attorney in Washington but I understand it is not Mr. Bickford. Mr. Groves has been writing for me here but he turned the case over to a Mr. John

Q. State what contract or contracts you have made with such person or persons for their services in prosecuting your claim for pension, and whether such contract or contracts were written or verbal.

A. No contract.

Q. State the amount of fees paid by you or at your instance, to whom paid, and all the circumstances connected with the transaction.

A. I paid the Volary every time he signed for me - I paid him 25 cents each time.

Q. Please give me the names of all witnesses that you desire examined elsewhere, with their post-office addresses, and also state what you expect to prove by each witness.

A. No witnesses elsewhere.

Q. Have you any complaint to make as to the conduct, manner, or fairness of the examination of your claim? If so, please state specifically what it is.

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you desire to introduce any more testimony before me?

A. No, sir.

Attest { Jennie Derby, Susan <sup>Long</sup> <sup>mark</sup> <sup>Deponent.</sup>

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1884

and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. Higginbotham,

Special Examiner.

*Special*

3-296.

(Old No. 3-450)

S. E. D.

APR 2 1904

No. 764,791

Claimant: *Jessie Brown*

Soldier: *Tommy Brown*

P. O. address: *2102 St. Louis St*

~~County~~: *New Orleans* State: *La.*

Recommendation: *For Consideration*  
Chief Board of Review.

*E. C. Higginbotham,*  
Special Examiner.

REFERENCE.

*(PR 4-1204, 190*

~~has been referred to Chief of~~  
~~Board of Review for consideration.~~

*AT L. O. R. A. I. C.*

Chief, S. E. Division.

*LLH*  
Chief S. E. Division.

RECOMMENDATION.

*190*

Reviewer.

ACTION.

*190*

Commissioner.

3-203.  
(No. 3-584.)

# BUREAU OF PENSIONS

## BOARD OF REVIEW.

*May*, 190*4*

*Inv't* No. *1023594*

Soldier, *Ernest L. Loomis*

Co. *B*, *81* Reg't *U.S.C. Vol. Inf.*

When Certificate is issued, return  
papers to *Southern*

Div. for action on *letter of*  
*notification in Inv't old law*

*R. L. Ford*

*Rev*

T. W. DALTON,

*J. M.* Chief Board of Review.

213/2  
Orel  
Mrs. & Mr.  
for name.



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TO SPECIAL EXAMINER'S REPORT.

Claim of Susan Gowans

No. 764, 791

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3-292.  
(Old No. 3-459.)

## Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EXAMINER U. S. BUREAU OF PENSIONS

At New Orleans La

Mar. 5, 1904

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL EXAMINATION.

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791  
To Susan Gowans, Claimant:

You are hereby notified that, by order of the Commissioner of Pensions, the undersigned will on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, A. D. 1904, and continuing thereafter as long as may be necessary, at New Orleans, County of Orleans and State of La., 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.

E. C. Wigenhorn  
Special Examiner.

I acknowledge service of copy of above notice this 5<sup>th</sup> day of Mar., 1904  
and desire the examination to begin on the at once

attest { Susan Gowans  
2 James Deabings mark

Mar. 31, 1904

Hon. E. F. Ware,  
Commissioner of Pensions,  
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to return herewith all the papers in claim #764,791 of Susan Gowans, widow of Toney Gowans, late of Co. B 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. & Co. A 25<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf.

The claim was referred for special examination to determine whether claimant and soldier were united in marriage by a ceremony in the year 1862 as stated by the soldier in a deposition before Special Examiner Leighton Hope Sept 21, 1898.

The claimant is old and feeble, and, when I took her first statement, she was confined to her bed on account of rheumatism. She is still confined to her house because of illness and weakness due to old age. Her mental powers seemed to be unimpaired, and I think she gave me a fairly frank statement, although her natural bias in the case may have caused her to somewhat color the facts. The claimant had a son named Jerry Thomas who served as a musician in Co. D 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. and she states that

4  
first the end the husband, Tony Brown,  
was witnesses for his wife, Jane Brown,  
when the above claim was specially ex-  
amined. The paper in this case might  
throw some light upon the question  
at issue in this claim. John Richards  
stated that Jerry Thomas served in  
Co. D while Jerry Lee was the owner  
in Co. F, but Richards impressed me  
as being more intelligent and reliable  
I should be inclined now to believe  
the former saying that I have given  
as to the reputation, respectability, of  
Jerry Lee and Jerry Lee (the former  
B.G. #13) cannot now impress me as  
being much more reliable than Lee.  
I do not think that Lee testimony in  
this case is worthy of consideration.  
When I left Ben Cullen's deposition  
no witness to his made who could  
write was available.  
Miley Henry is very old. While he is  
familiar in elements lower I think also  
with the fact is the fact of his knowledge.  
James Henry is very much unreliable.  
I could not find any witnesses who had  
known the element longer than those  
whose testimony will be found beneath.

Pauline Montague is a white woman  
of good reputation.  
I recommend that the claim be  
refused for the consideration of the  
Chief of the Board of Pensions.  
Claimant is related to me a genuine  
nephew, under the act of the Board of  
Pensions, showing the registration of other  
children and the several marriages  
to the act. In view of the other testimony  
in the case I did not think this material.  
However, I concluded the fact that the  
act of reference made several mention  
of this marriage, and I will forward a  
copy of the record and forward some  
for consideration with the proper forms  
at the earliest possible date.  
Very respectfully,  
J. G. Thompson,  
Special Examiner.

3-290.  
(Old No. 3-456.)

DEPOSITION *A*

Case of *Susan Gowans*, No. *764,791*

On this *5<sup>th</sup>* day of *March*, 190*4*, at  
*New Orleans*, County of *Orleans*  
State of *La.*, before me, *E. C. Niggenhorn*  
a special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared  
*Susan Gowans*, 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 *60* some odd  
years of age; my post-office address is *#2102 St. Louis St., New Orleans, La.*; occupation *nothing, formerly washing and ironing.*

I am claiming pension as the widow of *Toney Gowans* who was a soldier of the United States during the war for freedom and then afterwards in the regular army. I do not remember the company and regiment he was in but he was in the regular army six years. He was in the *39<sup>th</sup> Regt.* and then he enlisted over again. I show you here one of his papers (Exhibit pension certificate No. *1,023,594* of *Toney Gowans*, late of *Co. B 81<sup>st</sup> Regt. U.S. C. Vol. Inf. - E. C. N., 4<sup>th</sup> Co.*)

My original owner was named *Allen Bryant*. He sold me about three years before the Civil war to a man named *James Coil* who lived for many years on the corner of *Jackson and Baronne Sts.* but who is now dead. He owned me at the time I became free. I was born in *Maryland*. I was raised in *Caldwell Par., La.* My owners moved from there to *Texas* and I was bought from there here to *New Orleans* where I was sold in the *Union*

yard to Mr. Cole

I was never married before I married the soldier Toney Gowans but I lived with a man named Thomas Cole. He belonged to a neighbor named Mr. Cole. I lived with Thomas Cole about two years but we were never married. He had my owners permission to stay with me nights. I had one child named Jerry Thomas by Thomas Cole. I was separated from Thomas Cole when my boss moved to Texas. My child was only about one year old when I was separated from Thomas Cole (the child's father) and I never saw the said Thomas Cole again.

No, I had no slave husband after I was parted from Thomas Cole. I always thought I might meet up with Thomas Cole again as my owner talked about coming back to Louisiana. I do not know. My boss, Allen Bryant, was a sort of a foreman for his father-in-law, a Mr. Woods, and he married Mr. Woods' daughter, Louisiana Woods. My boss only owned my mother, my brother myself and my son Jerry Thomas. My brother was called John Bryant. Don't know what became of him. He were sold away from each other. My mother is dead. Don't know the name of the nearest town when we lived in Caldwell Co., La. In Texas we lived in Milam. My owner kept a sort of a boarding house there. Don't know of any one who knew me in either Caldwell Co., La., or in Milam, Texas. I had no other man as a sweetheart or husband before I took up with Toney Gowans. I married Toney Gowans about two years before the Civil War. I was a



Catholic and he was a Protestant and we were married at the Priest's house. Yes I was a slave yet when we were married. No, my owners were not present when I was married. I was not living with my owners when I was married to Toney Gowan first. I lived with Toney Gowan about one year before I married him. When he was going to enlist I wanted to be lawfully married and we went to St. Alphonsus church and were married in the priest's house. I never knew my father but my mother said his name was Jerry Jarrett. At the time I married the soldier first I was working out - I was washing out for a woman named Mrs. Hennessey and her sister, Mrs. Anderson. They are probably both dead but Mrs. Anderson may be living. Maria Gardner and Mr. James Molen and a brother Alphonsus (by name) were present when I was married by the priest. Don't know whether any them are living. Father Duffy married us. Some people called him Father Johnson, but his right name was Father Duffy. I could not tell you the date of this marriage but it was before the soldier enlisted. At least if he had been in the army then I did not know it.

Attest { Jannie Deering, <sup>her</sup> Susan Gowan, Deponent.  
mark

~~Sworn to and subscribed before me this~~ 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Page 8 Deposition 9 E. C. Higginbotham, Special Examiner.



DEPOSITION *A*

Case of *Susan Gowans*, No. 764,791

On this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 190\_\_\_\_, at  
\_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of \_\_\_\_\_, before me,  
\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk of the Court,  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, 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:

The priest gave me a marriage certificate but I lost it. I went to the priest to see if there was a record of the marriage and he said there was none. Pauline Montague went with me.

2- I have read you so much of your late husband's (the soldier's) statement as relates to your having been married before to a man named Barker. Will you explain?

A- I suppose he referred to the father of my son Jerry but he was never called Barker. No, I never lived with any man named Barker. The only slave husband I ever had was named Thomas and he was the father of my son Jerry.

My husband, Toney Gowans, went off with the Yankees after I married him and was gone about seven months. He was in the army when he came back. When he was in the army and the army was in this city he would visit me and I sometimes visited him when the Regt. was out of the city. I visited him at Fort Pike and Ship Island. At Fort Pike he had me enrolled as laundress and I went with the Regt. to Texas and I stayed with him there until he was discharged and he brought me back to New Orleans where we lived together after his discharge until he died.

The soldier, Toney Gowans, was never married.

before he married me. He belonged in slavery to a Dr. Carraway of this city. I never saw any of his owners. An Annie Underwood of this city belonged to Dr. Carraway also I believe but I do not know where to find her.

My son, Jerry Thomas, was in the same Regt. with my husband in the volunteers. He was in the drum corp and my husband carried the colors. He waited on the officers at first and then after about one year they gave him a drum. He re-enlisted again with my husband. I think he was in the same Co. with my husband once. His wife, Jane Thomas, got a pension as his widow but she died in November or December of year before last. I never applied for a pension on account of my son. I was a witness for my daughter-in-law - my husband was also.

A few days before the soldier died he told me that he would marry me over again under my father's name if it would be any satisfaction to me. When he was working up his claim I told him that I thought we ought to get married over again as the decree was not recorded and because he married me the first time under the name of my boss - Mr. Coit. The man who was working up his claim said that it was not necessary to marry over again as a marriage by a priest was legal.

2- I have read you your statement made before W.B. Barnett about one year ago (Feb. 12, 1903)

Attest of Jennie Deirdingy <sup>her</sup> Susan L. Evans  
mark Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. McQuarrie  
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION *A*

Case of *Susan Gowans*, No. 764,791

On this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 190\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_ county of \_\_\_\_\_,  
State of \_\_\_\_\_, before me,

*Claimant's Statement*  
*Continued*  
Special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, 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:

in which you say that you had no regular ceremony performed but simply lived with the soldier as man and wife from the year 1862. Will you explain?

*a* The notary told me about that but I told him that he had mis understood me. I did not mean to say that we did not have a regular ceremony performed but simply that our license was not recorded. Mr. Gross worked my claim at first but the crippled man who took his place made the mistake.

The soldier died nearly two years ago but I cannot tell you the date of death. I can't fix date. I was married to the soldier, Toney Gowans, over again a few days before he died by Rev. Northend at his (Rev. Northend's house) in the presence of Rev. Northend's wife and another lady. This is the license (Exhibit a receipt by P. Henry Lungey Deputy Recorder Bd. of Health for one dollar for registering the marriage of Toney Gowans and Susan Garrett in book 23 Folio 1004. - E.C.N. & Co. Ex.)

The soldier left no property of any description. I have no property or income now and am dependent upon my daughter for support as I am unable to work. I have been wholly dependent upon ~~upon~~ my daughter and my

own labor for support ever since the soldier died.

I have only one child living and her name is Jennie Derby.

I would like to have you examine all the witnesses who have already testified in my case.

A man named Woods testified for me and claimed he knew my people in slavery but I did not know him then.

I was never separated or divorced from the soldier during his lifetime.

I do not know of any witnesses to suggest beyond those who have already testified. I could not be present at the examination of my claim. I am not able. I can't be present or represented. I was sworn to every paper I signed in Mr. Gross' office. Mr. Gross wrote out one or two papers for me which I signed and swore to and the other man Mr. John, they called him, wrote out three or four papers that I signed and swore to.

I have heard this deposition read. I have understood the questions asked and my answers have been correctly recorded.

Attest { Jennie Derby, Susan + Lomas  
 Her  
 mark Deponent

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. Higginson,

Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION *B*

Case of *Susan Gowans*, No. *764,791*

On this *18* day of *March*, 190*4*, at  
*New Orleans*, county of *Orleans*  
State of *La.*, before me, *E. C. Wigginton*, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared *Susan*  
*Gowans*; 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 cannot tell you of any one who knew  
me before I married the soldier or who  
knew the soldier before I was married  
to him.

I was looking for some one who knew  
me before I was married when I was  
latter sick. The trouble is I was here  
for such a short time before I was  
married that I scarcely got acquainted  
with any one and those I did get  
acquainted with I cannot find or they  
are dead. I was looking for a Maria  
Gardner who knew me before I was  
married but I was latter sick but I  
heard she was dead and then again I  
heard she was not. She lived in the  
neighborhood of St. Alphonsus Church -  
but that was many years ago; near Felicite  
Road is where she last lived as far as I know.

Of the family that owned me, the Coyle's,  
the old heads are dead and the oldest  
children of my owners are dead - those  
that would be old enough to remember  
me. They owned me a very short time.  
I tried to find some of them but could  
not.

I have heard this deposition read and  
my answers have been correctly recorded.

Attest } per me *Rebecca S. Gowans*  
*Susan Gowans*

Page *13* Deposition *B*

mark Deponent

(Juror over)

Blank lined area for deposition text.

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. L. Higginson,  
Special Examiner.



DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 1904, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Wigganborn, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Susan  
Gowans, 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 have heard you take the testimony of  
Peroy Lee and you read me his testimony that  
you took elsewhere.

I remember when the soldier, Toney Gowans,  
brought this man Peroy Lee to our home about  
four years ago and introduced him to  
me as Sergeant Lee of his company. I remembered  
that the soldier, Toney Gowans, introduced  
me during the service to his first Sergeant  
Lee but I did not recognize this  
man as the same man. His features  
were all there but his hair was gone.  
He was a fine looking man in the  
service.

The regiment was in a press (cotton press)  
on Chempitoulas St. - I think it was - when  
I visited my husband during his service  
in Co. B 81<sup>st</sup> U. S. C. Inf. This man Peroy Lee  
has got the matter all mixed up. I  
don't think he remembers anything about  
it. I don't believe he remembers having  
seen me during the service although he  
says he does.

2- Did you ever have a son named Alphonse?  
A- No, sir, I never did.

I had four children who lived long enough  
to be given names. Thomas - Jerry Thomas  
was my oldest child. Arthur Gowans,  
Jennie Gowans and Johnny Gowans are

the names of the other children. Percy Gowans was the father of all my children except Jerry Thomas. Only one of these children is living now.

I never knew the soldier to live with any other woman as his wife except me. He never had any children except the children he had by me.

When the soldier, Percy Gowans, enlisted the second time Captain Lawson was his captain. I was on the rolls then as a laundress. I think he would remember me. My youngest child, Johnny, was born while I was a laundress for soldiers Co. He was born in San Antonio, Texas.

I have heard this deposition read. I have understood the questions asked and my answers have been correctly recorded.

Attest { Jennie Deerbiger  
Hattie Gardner

Susan<sup>bel</sup> Gowans  
Mark Dependent

Deponent,

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 1904 and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. Higgenhorn,

Special Examiner.



DEPOSITION 10

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of Mar, 1900, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Higgenhorn, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Jennie  
Derbigny, 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:

My age is 35 years; occupation, nothing;  
P.O. address 2102 St. Louis St., New Orleans, La.  
Susan Gowans, the claimant in this  
case, is my mother. I was born in this  
city in the year 1868 - so I have always  
been told. Toney Gowans, the soldier in  
this case, was my father. I had two  
brothers by both my father and my mother  
and one brother by my mother only.  
I never had but three brothers to my  
knowledge and I never had any sisters  
at all. The names of my brothers are  
as follows: Jerry Thomas, Arthur Gowans  
and Johnny Gowans. They are all dead.  
I was too small to remember when  
Jerry Thomas died but his wife drew  
a pension. She died in November or December  
of year before last. She may have died  
in January. I do not know what  
became of her pension papers.

My father and mother never separated  
to my knowledge. They lived together  
continuously as far back as I can  
remember until he died.

I never heard that my father had  
any other wife except my mother. I  
never even heard that he had a  
woman on the side.

My mother has not married again

since the soldier, Tony Evans, died  
I have heard this deposition read  
and my answers have been correctly  
recorded.

Jennie Debbage  
Defendant

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March,  
1907, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to defendant  
before signing.

E. C. Hagganberry,  
Special Examiner.

## DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764791

On this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1904, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Higgins, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Edis  
Wilson, 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:

My age is 56 years; occupation laborer;  
P.O. address 512 So. Franklin St., New  
Orleans, La.

Toney Gowans, the soldier in this case,  
served with me in Co. C 39<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf. and  
Co. A 25<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf. He had served in the  
81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. and after he enlisted in  
~~Co. C 39<sup>th</sup>~~ the regular army he was dis-  
charged from the 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. I got ac-  
quainted with him when he enlisted in  
the regular army because he was put  
in a detachment with me. Capt. James Dawson  
was Captain of this detachment. He joined  
the regular army and was of course  
assigned to a detachment but when the  
Regt. was organized he was assigned to  
Co. C 39<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry. The said soldier  
was living with this <sup>claimant</sup> ~~soldier~~ as his  
wife when he enlisted. Perhaps two weeks  
after he enlisted this claimant, Susan Gowans,  
came to the detachment and that is  
when I first saw her. She was made  
laundress of the detachment and subsequently  
became laundress of Co. C 39<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf. In  
the year 1874 when he was discharged  
finally from the army he came to this  
city with his wife, this claimant, and to  
the best of my knowledge and belief  
the said soldier and this claimant lived

together as husband and wife from the time I first became acquainted with him until he died. I know they were living together as husband and wife when he died. I attended his wake and was a witness for him in his pension claim. He preached occasionally. My impression is that they had been living together as husband and wife for years before the war because when I first became acquainted with them they had a child - named Alphonse, I think - who was about 12 years old. Alphonse is dead.

Yes, I know Jerry Thomas slightly. He was a son of this claimant by some man long before the war, as I understand. I do not know Jerry Thomas' service.

The claimant and the soldier always lived together as husband and wife all the time I know them but whether they were ever married by any ceremony I do not know.

I would not be sure that soldier was finally discharged in the year 1874 but I know he re-enlisted after he was discharged from Co. A 25<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf. He re-enlisted back in Co. A 25<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf.

Capt. Gaines Lawson was Capt. Co. C 39<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf. His address is, Highland Springs, Calif. or Room 294 War Dept.

I have heard this deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded. The words and figures "Co. C 39<sup>th</sup>" and "soldier" struck out before signing Gates Wilson

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. Higgenbotham  
Special Examiner.

## DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 24th day of March, 1904, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Wiggernhorn, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Israel  
Carroll, 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:

My age is 67 years; occupation, laborer; P. O. address: #1724 Calliope  
St., New Orleans, La.

I enlisted in Co. B 81 U. S. C. Vol. Inf. in the spring of the  
year 1863 and I was discharged the 5th of September of the year 1865  
or 1866. I did not re-enlist. I did not become acquainted with Toney  
Gowans, the soldier in this case, until I became acquainted with him  
in the service. I saw him occasionally after his discharge. He re-enlisted  
in the regular army and after he came out of the regular army he  
returned to this city and I called upon him at his house.

Q.- Did the soldier ever have a wife to your knowledge?

A.- Yes, he had a wife while he was in the army with me. She lived with  
him after the war, as far as I know, until he died. I last saw her  
about seven years ago. She was a tall, large, rather dark "griffe"-  
colored woman. I know she was living with him as his wife while he was  
a soldier in Co. B 81 U. S. C. Inf. because she was living out side the  
camp with other women who had husbands who were soldiers and she was  
known at that time as his wife. I do not know of my own knowledge that  
they were married by any ceremony, but he told me after the service that  
they had been married. I cannot think of this womans name. I never  
knew him to live with any other woman in the relation of husband and  
wife.

Q.- Was soldier's wife named Susan, Mary or Sarah?

A.- Although I knew the woman perfectly well and have talked with her,  
I do not know that I ever knew her name.

After they had returned to this city, after his service in the regular army, she showed me a girl that she said had been born to them since they saw me last and she spoke of a boy also who was absent and who, I believe, had gotten into some trouble. I never <sup>saw</sup> the boy and I do not remember the names of either of these children.

I testified for the soldier once or twice, but I never testified for the claimant.

I have heard this deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded. The word "saw" <sup>inserted before signing</sup>

*Israel Carroll*  
Deponent.

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

*E. C. Higginson*

Special Examiner.



3-290.  
(Old No. 3-456.)

DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 1904, at  
New Orleans, County of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Wigganborn  
a special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared  
Ben Crittenden, 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 70  
years of age; my post-office address is 1154 Magazine St., New  
Orleans, La.; occupation hatter and  
errand boy.

I served in Co. B 116 U.S. C. Inf. and  
I re-enlisted in Co. K 39<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf. I enlisted  
in Co. K 39<sup>th</sup> U.S. C. Inf. in Oct. 1866, and  
I was discharged in the year 1868.  
I became acquainted with the soldier  
Toney Gowans in the 39<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf. When  
I became acquainted with him he  
had a wife—or a woman whom  
he claimed was his wife but I  
forget her name. She lived in Greenville  
(a part of this city) right near where  
the 39<sup>th</sup> Regt. was stationed and I would  
see her around camp. I am almost  
certain that she was laundress, for  
one of the companies of the regiment  
but I will not be certain about  
that. She had a son named Jerry  
Thomas who was also in the Regt.  
I forget what Co. in the Regt. either  
Jerry Thomas or Toney Gowans belonged  
to. I worked with Toney Gowans on  
the levee here after the war but I  
never visited his home. He told me

that he was still living with this same woman after the war. I don't know just the last time he told me that. I never saw her after my discharge. I never heard him speak of having any other woman. I never heard him say whether he was lawfully married to this woman. I never heard him say whether he had ever had any other wife.

2- Was this woman's name Susan?

A- I do not know.

2- Was it Jane?

A- I would not like to say.

I do not know whether she ever had any child or children by the soldier.

I have heard this deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded.

Attest of Perry & Jones  
attorneys

his  
Ben Crittenden

deponent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. Nye, Jr.,  
Special Examiner.



DEPOSITION *H*

Case of *S. 222 G.M. 11*, No. 785,701

On this *22nd* day of *March*, 190*1*, at  
New Orleans, Louisiana, county of *Orleans*,  
State of *La.*, before me, *E. C. Wignall*, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared *James H. [illegible]*,  
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 67 years; occupation, laborer; P. O. Address, *Cor. Theresa & Tchoupitoulas-Sts., New Orleans, La.*  
I enlisted in Co. F 61st U. S. Inf. (It was stated the 61st Regt. when it was first made) in the year 1863 - don't remember quite  
more exactly - and I was discharged in Jan., 1865. I did not re-enlist.  
I first became acquainted with *Thos. Givens*, the soldier in this  
case, when I enlisted in Co. F as above stated. I did not know him  
before he enlisted. I do not know whether the said soldier was  
married while in the service. He took a wife while in the service but  
but I do not know whether that was married. The soldiers at that time  
were running after so much money that to find a soldier living with a  
woman was no sign that he was married. This woman as told me  
with a tall dark woman - not necessarily dark - something of a ginger  
hair color. I do not know whether they parted two or three  
years after his discharge.

Q. - How do you know that now?

A. - He told me so himself. He was coming in one day to see me and  
he told me that.

Q. - He told you that about two years after <sup>your</sup> discharge?

A. - Yes, sir.

Q. - But he was in the regular army at that time. Will you explain?

A. - I want to say about two years after his discharge. It was this way:  
We were working on the levee and we were paid off every night  
and one evening this woman came to him when we were getting this work

and wanted to get some money from him, and he told her

nothing. I asked him what was the matter as I had the name of a soldier  
by this woman. He told me that he done quit that. I did not know the

name of her soldier, but I remember a son about 18 years old. I have  
not seen this woman since that time, that I remember of.

Q.- Did you ever know of the soldier's living with any other woman  
in the relation of husband and wife?

A.- Shortly before he got his pension he had me come out to his house  
and when I called on him I saw two or three women about the place  
but he pointed out a small griffe-colored woman and said she was his  
"old woman". She was a short, heavy-set woman. I do not know her name.  
I never saw her before or after that time. Those are the only two  
women I ever knew him to live with in the relation of husband and wife  
and I do not know whether he was ever married to either of them.

I am no kin to the claimant or soldier. I have heard this  
deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded.

*Leroy Lee*

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22 day of March  
1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent  
before signing.

*E. C. Higginbotham,*  
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowan, No. 764,791

On this 22 day of March, 1904, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. Nye, a  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Leroy  
Lee, 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 recognize this claimant who is here present. I recognize this woman as the woman he was living with just before he got his pension. Yes, this is the woman whom I described as a short, stout woman.

2- But she strikes me as being unusually tall and rather thin?

A- Well, that is the way she impressed me at the time - that is, ~~tall~~ short and heavy set.

2- This is not the woman with whom he lived during the war and who came to get money from him while he was at work in the levee?

A- No, sir, I do not recognize this woman as the woman who came to get money from him as he was working with me on the levee.

2- Did you ever see this claimant who is here present before the soldier introduced her to you as his "old woman" just before he got his pension?

A- Yes, sir, I remember now that she used to come to the camp to see her son Jerry Thomas and the soldier Toney Gowan. But I did not know at that time that she was his wife. I did not know that he was living with her. There were so many women about the camp.

2- But you told me this morning in your first

statement that you never saw this woman before the soldier introduced her to you long years after the war and called her his old woman?

A- Since talking with her I remember that she did come to see Toney Gowans during the service.

2- Then he must have had two wives and two sets of children - because you say, you "knew" he had grown children by the other woman.

A- From what this claimant says she must be the woman he had the children by.

2- But you say you "knew" he had children by the other woman. Were you mistaken about that?

A- I am mistaken about that.

2- But you are sure there are two women in the case - as you have described?

A- Yes, I am sure there are two women - but I do not know whether he was lawfully married to either of them.

2- Sustained by claimant.

2- You say he had two women as wives?

A- Yes.

2- Did you ever visit their houses?

A- No.

2- Then how do you know it?

A- They all had more than one woman. I remember once that another soldier got after a woman in camp and Toney Gowans told him to let her alone that she was his (Toney Gowans') wife.

Leroy Lee

Dependent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to dependent before signing.

E. C. Higginson,

Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 190\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_, county of \_\_\_\_\_, State of \_\_\_\_\_, before me, Leroy Lee, a special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, 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:

To the Examiner

2- Was that this woman - this claimant?

A- No, sir.

2- Who was she?

A- I do not know.

2- Was she the woman who came to see him on the levee to get money from him?

A- I do not know. I did not notice her closely enough to be able to tell.

2- How do you know then she was not this claimant?

A- There were five or six women in the gang and I do not know which one he was talking about.

- Questioned by claimant -

2- Don't you know they would not allow five or six women in there for soldiers to quarrel over?

A- Every day at 12 o'clock every soldier could have his wife or woman call on him - if he recognized her as his wife or woman.

2- You say he lived with this other woman as his wife: How do you know?

A- I only know what he (Toney Gowans) told me.

To the Examiner

I have heard this deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded. The word "told" stricken out before signing. Jerry

Thomas was a drummer in Co. F 81st U.S. Col.  
 George Lee Dependent

Dependent.

Shown to and subscribed before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March,  
 1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to dependent  
 before signing.

E. L. Heygendorf,  
 Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Susan Gowans, No. 764,791

On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of Mar., 1904, at  
New Orleans, county of Orleans  
State of La., before me, E. C. McQuinn,  
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared John  
Richards, 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:

My age is 55 years; occupation minister  
of the gospel; P.O. address 432 Erato St.,  
New Orleans, La.

I enlisted in Co. A 9<sup>th</sup> Corps d'Arque  
(afterwards called the 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf.) but  
when the name of the regiment was  
changed I became a member of Co. B  
81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. from which I was discharged  
in the 6<sup>th</sup> of October or September of 1866.  
I enlisted in 1863, don't remember the  
exact date. I re-enlisted in the regular  
army and was discharged from Co. A  
25<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry.

I remember Toney Gowans who served  
with me in Co. B 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. and also  
in the regular army. I did not know  
him before I met him when we were both  
in Co. B 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. Yes, I knew his wife.  
Her name was Susan. I could not  
say whether he was living with her  
when I first became acquainted with  
him but I remember that she was with  
him and regarded as his wife when the  
regiment (the 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf.) came from  
Port Hudson to this city in the year  
1865. I don't remember of having seen  
her before that time. I do not remember  
that they were ever married by any  
ceremony, although they may have been



Susan Gowan was a dark woman but not black and was rather tall. She was regarded as his wife. Yes, she was regarded as his wife when I first became acquainted with her and they lived in a house in this city when he was in Co. B 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. and whenever he could get a pass he would go to her. I slept in her house many a time. Yes, he called her his wife and she called him her husband. She had a step-son named Jerry Thomas who served in Co. D 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. He was a drummer in Co. D 81<sup>st</sup> U.S. C. Inf. I do not remember whether he was a ~~drummer~~<sup>soldier</sup> in the regular army. I do not remember whether Clumant had any other children when I first became acquainted with her. I saw the soldier and the clumant from time to time after his discharge, but I never called at their house. I would meet him on the streets and she would occasionally come to my church. My information and belief is that they lived as husband and wife from the time I first knew them until he died. They were never divorced. The last time I saw him was only a year or two ago. He was very sick then and he then told me that he and his wife Susan were still living together. I have not seen Clumant since the soldier died.

I have heard this deposition read and my answers have been correctly recorded. The word "drummer" stricken out and the word soldier interlined before signing John Richardson. Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 1904 and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

E. C. McQuarrie,

Special Examiner.



3-290.  
(Old No. 3-456.)

DEPOSITION *K*

Case of *Susan Gowans*, No. *764,791*

On this *16* day of *March*, 190*4*, at  
*New Orleans*, County of *Orleans*  
State of *La*, before me, *E. C. Weygentore*  
a special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared  
*Milly Goring*, 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 60 or 70  
years of age; my post-office address is #5266 Tchoupeloules St.,  
*New Orleans, La.*; occupation, *nurse*.

I came to this city about the year 1866  
I think. I can't read or write but I think  
it was about that time when I came. The  
first house I lived in in this city was  
in the house of this claimant *Susan*  
*Gowans*. She was then living as the  
wife of *Toney Gowans*. *Toney Gowans* was  
a soldier and was living with the claimant  
as her husband when I first knew them.  
I lived with them two or three years at  
that time. I got separated from them by  
their going to Texas. He enlisted again  
and went to Texas and she went with  
him. When they came back from Texas  
they came right to my house and awoke  
me up at 12 o'clock at night. When I  
lived with them they lived right where  
State St. is now and he was in the army  
and could not be at home all the  
time but he was with her when he  
could be. They said they were married  
but I did not see them married. I  
never heard who married them. They  
lived together as husband and wife from

the time I first became acquainted with them until he died. The claimant had a son named Thomas. I don't remember what his other name was except Thomas. He had a wife named Jane Thomas. They are both dead now. Yes, his name was Jerry Thomas. He was a drummer. He also had another son - a young boy - when I first knew her but he went away and then came back and died but I cannot remember his name. He was too young to have been a soldier but Jerry Thomas was a soldier.

The claimant, Susan Gowans, and the soldier, Toney Gowans, were never separated or divorced and the claimant has not remarried since her soldier died. He used to be a preacher. I never knew or heard of his having any other woman as his wife ~~except~~ other than this claimant. Since I have known her I have never known her to claim to have any husband except the soldier Toney Gowans. I do not know who Jerry Thomas' father was. No, claimant never told me that she had ever been married before she married Toney Gowans.

I was a witness for this claimant once. I went with her to Exchange Alley. Yes, I was sworn. I was sworn that she was married. I know nothing of her marriage except what they told me. I have heard my former statement read. I don't think I said all that. Claimant has owned no property since soldier's death to my knowledge.

I am not retaliated or interested  
and my answers have been correctly  
recorded. I like clamant and we  
visit back and forth - that is the only  
interest I have in the case. The word  
"Except" stricken out before signing.  
Attest: Johanna Roehm Melly <sup>her</sup> Young  
Mark Deponant

Deponent.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March  
1904, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Page 35 Deposition K

E. C. Niggenhorn  
Special Examiner.