

SESSION 4

Case of Elizabeth Laney, No. 503981

On this 26th day of April, 2025 at USC Beaufort's Center
for the Arts, County of Beaufort, State of South Carolina...

DOCUMENTING RESILIENCE

Women's Voices in US Colored Troop Pension Records

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF THE RECONSTRUCTION ERA

DEPOSITION *a*Case of *Mary Mulligan*, No. *342,715*

On this *19th* day of *May*, 189*7*, at
Ches House, County of *Beaufort*
State of *S.C.*, before me, *J. D. Lusk*, a
Special Examiner of the Pension Office, personally appeared *Mary*
Mulligan, *Ches*, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer
truly all interrogatories propounded to her ordering this Special Examination of afore-
said pension claim, deposes and says: I am not able to tell how
old I am, but *Clarence Chaplin* now in
Beaufort, S.C., is my mother's son and
mother's cousin. I am not able to do an

Nancy Kent Mungau
(mom)

USCT PENSION RECORDS

Basic Facts

- **VETERANS** could apply for an **Invalid Pension** based on a **disability** occurred in **service**.
- **WIDOWS, PARENTS, SIBLINGS & MINOR CHILDREN** who were dependent on the veteran could apply for a pension.
- **NEW LAWS**, enacted every decade or so, could expand eligibility for pensions.

(3-120 a.)
ACT OF JUNE 27, 1890.
WAR OF THE REBELLION. *on R*
DEPENDENT *Mother's* PENSION.
Claimant, *Mary Mulligan* Soldier, *Abraham*
P. O., *Beaufort* Rank, *Private*
County, *Beaufort*, State, *S. C.* Regiment, *33rd*
Rate \$12 per month, commencing _____, 1890, at
Pension to continue only during the existence of dependence.
RECOGNIZED ATTORNEY:
Name, *E. T. Craft* Fee \$ _____
P. O., *Beaufort S. C.* Articles filed _____
APPROVALS:
Submitted for *rejection* June 20, 1892
Approved for *Rejection, No Title* origin of _____
Claimant's inability to perform _____ death resulted from _____
date & cause of death or to _____
cause of soldier's death _____
which has been legally _____
of _____ own manual labor or the contributions _____
of others not legally bound for _____ support.
Trayfield Legal Reviewer.
June 23, 1892
IMPORTANT DATES:
Enlisted *Oct. 24* 1862 Invalid last paid to _____
Mustered *18* 18 _____ Death of _____
Discharged *Jan. 3* 1866 Remarriage of mother _____
Died *Mar. 16* 1867 claim filed under for _____
Declaration filed *Sept. 15* 1870 Rejected _____
Invalid application filed *None* 18 _____ Cause *Death*
INCIDENTAL MATTER.
Claimant signs by mark.

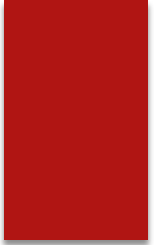
Beaufort S.C. June 11 1899
FINANCE DIVISION
JUN 13 1899
Sir, Commissioner of Pensions
Dear Sir,
I would like to ask a question of information in fact I have written you a few months ago but did not hear from you. My husband Daniel Grayson late of Co. B, 33rd Regt - U. S. C. V. died some time ago and the government had used him some money. The money was sent but came about a day after he was dead the money was sent back to Washington as his widow am, I not entitle to that money? as I really need it - I am old and all cripple up. Please give me some information on this matter awaiting your reply
I am Sir
Yours Truly
Diana Grayson
Widow of Daniel Grayson

Pensions can be between anywhere from 10 to 200 pages.

May contain interviews with the pensioner, their family, their neighbors, acquaintances, business associates, former owners & more.

Most interviews were taken between 1880 & 1910.

Held by the National Archives in Washington, DC.



My husband never owned and land or property; we didn't own any horses or cows; never owned more than a sow and a litter of pigs and a few hens. We didn't have to pay taxes, we didn't have any money; sometimes we'd have a little produce and take it to Bluffton to trade it off for stuff we needed, but we didn't get any money.

LINDA FORD

**Mother of Company K's
London Simmons & Minus Kirk**



My mother was named Rosa Bowen. She belonged to my owner. Both of my parents are dead. I have no brothers or sisters living. My mother had 25 children. All are dead but me. She had twins three times and triplets three times.

JONAS TREWELL

**Private, Company B
Son of Rosa Bowen of St. Helena Island**

DEPOSITION

RELATIVE TO CERTAIN GEORGIA CASES.

Case of Jane Hearn - et al, No. 393 A31

On this 7th day of May, 1903, at
Savannah, county of Chatham
State of Ga, before me, Dow McLain, a
special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Jane Hearn, 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 cant tell my age. I was a
woman in size when the war
came up, My P.O. is general delivery,

Jane ^{her} ~~mark~~ Hanna

Deponent.



**I was passed as a laundress, and I used
to bake pies & cakes & my son Sam'l
Benjamin, sold them to the soldiers.**

PATIENCE M. MORSE

Widow of Sgt. Samuel Morse, Company I



**We were required to marry by Col. Higgins
before he would allow the women to go into
camp or follow the army.**

JANE SMALL MANIGAULT

Widow of Ishmael Small, Company C

Nancy ^{her} X Happy
mark

her
Lydia X Grant.
mark

Elizabeth ^{her} Adams
mark.
Bella ^{her} Willow
mark.

^{her}
Clara X White
mark

Ellen ^{her} Young
X
mark

Elizabeth ^{her} McKnight
X
mark

Suey ^{her} Chisolm
X
marks

ENSLAVEMENT



My parents belonged to a Mr. Parkman and I of course became his slave at my birth. Matilda Williams

I was born on this, Sapelo Island, the slave of Tom Spalding and I remained his slave until freedom. Nancy Maxwell

I belong to the Kirk Plantation and I've never been away from it since. Linda Ford

In slavery times, I was a slave and belonged to John Talbird and was raised up here in Beaufort. Diana Grayson

FREEDOM!



Tom and I with Moses & David and my daughter Leveny, Bacchus Lance & several others, ran away from Georgetown on a Yankee boat... Judah Taylor

When [my husband] took us to the Yankees, we went by way of gunboat to St. Simon's Island. Patience M. Morse

ANTEBELLUM LEGACIES



I can't locate any of my white people at the present time.

Jane Hearn

I am not able to tell how old I am, but Clarence Chaplin now in Beaufort, S.C. is my master's son and maybe he could tell. **Mary Mulligan**

To the best of my knowledge and belief I was born in the year 1810. I got the date of my birth from a white neighbor who had a record of it. I was the same age with their Grand father. I was owned by them before the war and bought the land I now own and live on from them.

Martina Graham

USCT PENSION RECORDS

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF THE RECONSTRUCTION ERA

- About 20 digitized pensions, mainly 1st SCVAD / 33rd USCT
- Access to additional 100+ pensions, mainly 34th USCT & other SC regiments
- Finding Aid for ALL known online 1st SCVAD / 33rd USCT pensions
- Email isre@uscb.edu for list of available pensions.

CENTER FOR FAMILY HISTORY AT THE INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

- 1000+ pensions from USCT regiments across the United States, currently a concentration on South Carolina & Kentucky pensions.
- Visit their website <https://iaamuseum.org/center-for-family-history/> and look for "Digital Archives."

FOLD3.COM (\$)

- Contains a small number of USCT widows' pensions in their "US, Civil War Widows' Pension, 1861-1910."

NATIONAL ARCHIVES ONLINE CATALOG

- Contains 100+ pensions for the 1st SCVAD digitized by volunteers
- Some digitized pensions for other regiments.
- Visit online: <https://catalog.archives.gov/> & use keyword searches like "33rd U.S. colored" or other regiment designation to find pensions.

Research Initiatives

MUSTERING the First South



Her X Mark



WOMEN'S VOICES DURING RECONSTRUCTION

Learn more at uscb.edu/isre.

Teacher's Report

To be filled out and to accompany Teacher's Account for services rendered during the Fiscal year, commencing November 1st, A. D. 1869, and ending October 31st, A. D. 1870.

Report of *Henry C. Leard* Teacher of
in *Great Cypress S. C.* County of *Barrow*
South Carolina.

1. Name of school? *Silly Pond Sch.*
2. Location of school? *On Silly Pond*
3. When did your term or school commence? *1 April 1870*
4. When did your term or school close? *24 June 1870*
5. Give the length of your school or term in months, (20 days to a month)? *3 Months & 1 Day*
6. Has your school received aid from any source or sources other than the State, and if so, how much? *Nothing paid*
7. How many teachers? *1 Male? 0 Female?*
8. Name of principal teacher? *Henry C. Leard*
9. Names of assistant teachers?
10. How many Northern white teachers? *0 Male? 0 Female?*
11. How many Southern white teachers? *0 Male? 0 Female?*
12. How many Northern colored teachers? *0 Male? 0 Female?*
13. How many Southern colored teachers? *1 Male? 0 Female?*
14. Does the account accompanying this report include the salaries or amount due to all the teachers of your school? *Yes*
15. What number of scholars under 6 years of age? *one*
16. What number of scholars over 16 years of age? *one*
17. What number of scholars between 6 and 16 years of age? *three*
18. Average attendance? *250 ÷ 61 = 4 1/6*
19. Was your school for white or colored children? *colored*
20. Who owns school house? *H. C. Leard*
21. Of what material is school house constructed? *Shingles & Plaster*
22. Condition of school house? *Comfortable*
23. Who owns the land on which school house is located? *Robert C. Leard*
24. Are school house grounds enclosed? *Yes*
25. Is rent paid for the use of school house, and if so, how much, and by whom? *None paid*
26. Have you received tuition fees from any of your scholars, and if so, state the whole amount of tuition fees received? *None*

NOTE.—Teachers must be particular to answer all the questions, and fill out all the blanks on this, as well as a

1869-1872 SC Teacher's Reports @ SC Archives

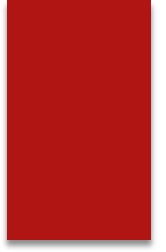
REPORT—Continued.

NUMBER.	NAMES OF PUPILS.	BOYS.	GIRLS.	DATE OF ENTERING SCHOOL.	DATE OF LEAVING SCHOOL.	TOTAL DAYS' ATTENDANCE.
1	Wm. Rivers	1		Nov 4, 1869	Feb 24, 1870	60
2	Sam. Rivers	1		"	"	"
3	Phil. Green	1		"	"	"
4	John Meggett	1		"	"	"
5	Abraham Watson	1		"	"	"
6	Amel Grant	1		"	"	"
7	John Hariba	1		"	"	"
8	Isaac Stuart	1		"	"	"
9	Stephen Blake	1		"	"	"
10	David Brown	1		"	"	"
11	Harvey Stanbad	1		"	"	"
12	Josh Bennett	1		"	"	"
13	George Hightlight	1		"	"	"
14	Oliver Rivers	1		"	"	"
15	Wm. Rivers	1		"	"	"
16	Thomas Watson	1		"	"	"
17	John Daniels	1		"	"	"
18	Isaac Mc Coy	1		"	"	"
19	Lemmonie Lopez	1		"	"	"
20	York Fraser	1		"	"	"
21	Joseph Jones	1		"	"	"
22	Grace Brown	1		"	"	"
23	Joe Green	1		"	"	"
24	George Blake	1		"	"	"
25	John Washington	1		"	"	"
26	Francis Gibbs	1		"	"	"
27	Paul Brown	1		"	"	"
28	July Witing	1		"	"	"
29	Ben Witing	1		"	"	"
30	Eden Hill Davis	1		"	"	"
31	Jack Charles	1		"	"	"
32	John Adams	1		"	"	"
33	Prince Gadsden	1		"	"	"
34	Morris Short	1		"	"	"
35	Minus Holmes	1		"	"	"
36	Wm. Drayton	1		"	"	"

REPORT—Continued.

NUMBER.	NAMES OF PUPILS.	BOYS.	GIRLS.	DATE OF ENTERING SCHOOL.	DATE OF LEAVING SCHOOL.	TOTAL DAYS' ATTENDANCE.
	Number and Amount brought forward,			Nov 4, 1869	Feb 24, 1870	60
44	York Fraser	1		"	"	"
45	Louisa Rivers		1	"	"	"
46	Emma Grant		1	"	"	"
47	Sedia Hargison		1	"	"	"
48	Dolly Middleton		1	"	"	"
49	Lelia Green		1	"	"	"
50	Hester Davis		1	"	"	"
51	Jarah Watson		1	"	"	"
52	Jane Middleton		1	"	"	"
53	Noah Middleton		1	"	"	"
54	Betty Bailey		1	"	"	"
55	Mary Longton		1	"	"	"
56	Lilly Sprinton		1	"	"	"
57	Sally Middleton		1	"	"	"
58	Wm. March		1	"	"	"
59	Abdaine March		1	"	"	"
60	Julia Smith		1	"	"	"
61	Rebecca White		1	"	"	"
62	Caroline Brady		1	"	"	"
63	Elizabeth Lyall		1	"	"	"
64	Bella Francis		1	"	"	"
65	Hannah Gard		1	"	"	"
66	Wm. Dexter		1	"	"	"
67	Becca Rivers		1	"	"	"
68	Mary Holmes		1	"	"	"
69	July Rully		1	"	"	"
70	Hannah Rivers		1	"	"	"
71	Julia Drayton		1	"	"	"
72	Ellen Drayton		1	"	"	"
73	Elizabeth Parney		1	"	"	"
74	Harriet Grant		1	"	"	"
75	Elizabeth Rivers		1	"	"	"
76	Mary Grant		1	"	"	"
			43			33

ENRICH. INSPIRE. LEARN.



Are You a Teacher?

Want to get these pension records and stories in front of YOUR students? We can make the records available for a variety of classes, disciplines & grade levels.

Want to share the story of the US Colored Troops with Your Community?

We have a variety of presentations available that we can bring to YOUR community.

Do You Need Help Tracing a USCT Ancestor?

We can help get your started or make suggestions to advance your research.

Reach out to isre@uscb.edu to learn more.