

State of Indiana
Vanderburgh County { 55

In the matter of Pension of Isabel
Sanders Widow of Hiram Sanders -
No 383,799.

On this 19th day of February A.D. 1897 -
Personally appeared before me
Charles L. Roberts a Notary Public in
and for the County of Vanderburgh
and State of Indiana Nada Tongue
Son whose Post office address is
1012 West Indiana Street Evansville
Vanderburgh County State of Indiana
and who being first duly sworn
According to Law declares and
says that, She is well acquainted
with Said Isabel Sanders and
have been so acquainted with her
for three years last past and
during said period have lived a
near neighbor of the Said Isabel
Sanders. ~~And~~ ^{and} have very frequently
visited her at home and from
affiants ~~intimate~~ ^{personal} knowledge and
acquaintance with the Said Isabel
Sanders know that she has always
conducted herself in every respect
able and

as a lady and further says that
if the charge ^{against} of the said Loabe
Sandens having lived in open and
notorious Adulterous and Cohabitation
with men was true she the said
affiant would have known or
heard of such conduct.
Affiant further says that from
her knowledge and acquaintance
with the said Loabe Sandens
for three years last past she
is satisfied and certain that
said charge is false in every
particular.

^{James D. Wash} Thada Ferguson
Sworn to and sworn to before
me this 19th day of February
1897.
Charles L Roberts
Notary Public

State of Indiana
Vanderburgh County } S.S.
On this 19th day of February A.D. 1897-
personally appeared before Charles L
Roberts a Notary Public in and for
said County of Vanderburgh and State

of Indiana Millie Hamilton whose
Post Office Address is 1107 West
Michigan Street Evansville Vander-
burgh County Indiana And who being
Auly Sworn according to Law dideno
Aida Says she is nowt and for more
than three years last past has been
well acquainted with Mrs Loabel
Sanders. That during all of said
time she has lived & near neighbor
to her, that she has often visited
and associated with her, And
that during all of said time the
said Loabel Sanders has always
conducted her self as perpetrating
and further says that if the charge
against her of "living in" open And
notorious adulterous Cohabitation
with men was true she would
have known or heard of such
conduct, That she is satisfied
from her intimate acquaintance
with the said Loabel Sanders that
said charge is utterly false and
without any foundation whatever

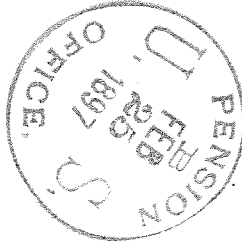
Millie Hamilton

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day
of February 1897
Charles A. Rogers
Notary Public

State of Indiana }
Vanderburgh County } ss

On this 19th day of February 1897. personally appeared before me the undersigned a Notary Public in and for the County of Vanderburgh and State of Indiana Charles E Hamilton whose Post Office Address is Evansville Indiana and who being duly sworn declares and says that he is now and for some time four years last past has been well acquainted with Mrs Doabel Sanders that she is the mother-law of affiant and further says that if the Charge against the said Doabel Sanders was true he would have knowledge of the fact. that from his personal knowledge the Charge that she lived in open and notorious adulterous cohabitation with men is wholly without any foundation in fact whatever

Charles E Hamilton
Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 19th day of February 1897-
Charles E Roberts
Notary Public



GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

STATE OF

Indiana

COUNTY OF

SS.

Wanderburg

In the matter of the claim for

(Character of Claim.)

Personally came before me, a Clerk of Circuit Court in and for the

(Justice, Notary, Judge, Clerk or Deputy Clerk.)

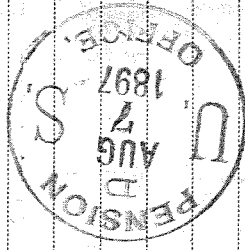
County and State aforesaid

W. H. Smith

(Here write the name of the Affiant or of each Affiant, together with the Postoffice address.)

I, person of lawful age, who, being duly sworn, declare in relation to the aforesaid claim, as follows:

I have known the Claimant Mabel Sanders
the widow of Hiram J. Sanders late
Private in Co H. 60th Ills Vols aged
to be a person of good moral
character and entitled to the respect of
all good people I have been acquainted
with her for 19 years and I was
intimately acquainted with her husband
for five years before I was acquainted
with her



(SEE OTHER SIDE.)

I do further declare that I have no interest in said claim, and am not concerned in its prosecution.

See If either Affiant signs by X mark, two persons who write their names MUST sign here as witnesses thereto.

1 _____
(Name of one witness to X mark.)
Signature of Affiant or of each Affiant. W. A. Smith

2 _____
(Name of other witness to X mark.)

Sworn to and Subscribed before me, this 22 day of July 1897
at Evansville, in the County of Vanderburgh, State of Indiana

and I hereby certify that the contents of the foregoing affidavit were fully made known and explained to the affiant before swearing thereto, including the words

(If any words have been erased in this affidavit, enter them here.)

erased and the words

(If any words have been added in place of any erased, enter them here.)

added: that the affiant is to me well known and is apparently respectable and worthy of full credit, and (Is or are.)

I fully certify that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim

Charles S. S. S.
(Name of Officer before whom executed)
Charles Vanderburgh Co.
(State whether Justice, Notary, Clerk or Deputy Clerk)

The Officer before whom this Affidavit is Executed must note in his Certificate all Erasures and Interlineations, as indicated above.

See This paper may be executed before any officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes. Certificate of Clerk of Court need not be put will be procured when called for by the Department. In numerous instances the official character of the Notary or Magistrate is already officially the Department.

383799 No. 383799

CASE OF

W. A. S. S.

W. A. S. S.

FOR

AFFIDAVIT OF

U. S. PENSION D. AUG 2 1897 OFFICE.

FILED BY

MILB B. STEVENS & CO.

SOLICITORS OF CLAIMS.

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

STATE OF Indiana }
COUNTY OF Vanderburgh } SS.

In the matter of the claim for _____

(Character of Claim.)

Personally came before me, a _____
(Name of Claimant, the Name and Service of Soldier.)

County and State aforesaid _____
(Justice, Notary Judge, Clerk or Deputy Clerk.)
(Here write the name of the Affiant or of each Affiant, together with the Postoffice address.)

person of lawful age, who, being duly sworn, declare in relation to the aforesaid claim, as follows: That
we have known the Claimant
Isabel Sanders. Widow of Herman J Sanders
late private in Co H. 60th Ills Vols
for and from being a
resident in the neighborhood. I have
every reason to believe her to be a
woman of good moral character having
had dealings with her in a business
capacity having furnished and delivered her
groceries from our pension day to another
as a German agent and German and
always found her prompt with her
payments and have been at her house
two and three times per week and have
my first misconduct to ever see out
of her

I further declare that I have no interest in said claim, and am not concerned in its prosecution.

* If either Affiant signs by X mark, two persons who write their names MUST sign here as witnesses thereto.

1 _____
(Name of one witness to X mark.)
Signature of Affiant or of each Affiant.
William A. Johnson

2 _____
(Name of other witness to X mark.)

Sworn to and Subscribed before me, this 24 day of July 1897
at Evansville, in the County of Vanderburgh State of Indiana

and I hereby certify that the contents of the foregoing affidavit were fully made known and explained to the affiant before swearing thereto, including the words

(If any words have been erased in this affidavit, enter them here.)

erased and the words

(If any words have been added in place of any erased, enter them here.)

added: that the affiant is to me well known and is apparently respectable and worthy of full credit, and (Is or are.)

I fully certify that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

[L. S.]

Chas. A. Schler

(Name of Officer before whom executed.)

Chas. Vanderburgh C.C.

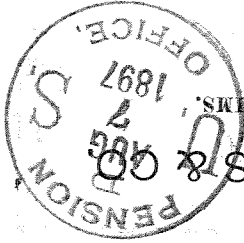
(State whether Justice, Notary, Clerk or Deputy Clerk.)

The Officer before whom this Affidavit is Executed must note in his Certificate all Erasures and Interlineations, as indicated above.

* This paper may be executed before any officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes. Certificate of Clerk of Court need not be procured when called for by the Department. In numerous instances the official character of the Notary or Magistrate is already officially

CASE OF
Morton J. Shuck
vs. Co. Sec.

FOR
AFFIDAVIT OF



FILED BY
MILTON B. STEVENS & CO.
SOLICITORS OF CLAIMS.

State of Indiana

County of Vanderburgh Ind.

In the claim of Isabel Anders Widow
of Abram T. Anders plaintiffs vs H. G. Wright & wife
No 383.799

On this the 21st day of April 1898
Personally appeared before me a Clerk of
Vanderburgh County Indiana

Charles Hamilton of Evansville Ind
No 911 West Virginia at age 24

Who being sworn according to Law
says as follows Has known Claimant for
6 or 8 years I lived in same House Two years
and lived in 8 squares of two the balance of the
time therefore I think I have a perfect knowledge
of what I swear to in this case I must say that
I never saw or knew of anything Wrong With Claimant
I therefore believe her to be a virtuous woman
I think her Pension must have been stopped through
Inimty. She has two small children
to care for and has no means of support
Furthermore I declare that I have no interest
in the Prosecution of this claim and am not
Concerned in it whatever

affiants Name
Chas Hamilton



23
Signed and sworn to before me this 21st day
of April 1898
Chas Selley Clerk
V. C. C.

State of Indiana

County of Vanderburgh } S.S.
Before me the Clerk of Vanderburgh
County State of Indiana

on this the 20th day of Feb 1898
Personally appeared Nada Ferguson of
Evansville Inda # 916th west Ohio st Age 35

Who being sworn according to Law
says that she has known Claimant Rachel
Sanders for 5 years lived alone by just across the
street in same city for three years

Furthermore I believe said Claimant to be
an honest up right and virtuous Woman
and that I have no interest in the Prosecution
of this claim and am not concerned in the
Case whatever

I . ~~James~~ Nada Ferguson

Subscribed and Sworn to before
me this 20th day of February 1898
Chas. Scher
Clerk VCC.



Michael Sanders

Mo 388.799

Thos W Thorndyke

o Allys Esmond
#816 sycamore st

State of Indiana
County of Vanderburgh S.S.
in the claim of Isabel Sanders
widow of Hiram J. Sanders Vs. etc.
D.O. H. 50 " regt all the Sup & No 383.799

on this the 21st day of April 1898
appeared before me a Clerk of Vanderburgh
County Court. William A. Smith of
Crawsville & 115 Walker st age 40.

Who being sworn according to Law - Says
that he has known said Plaintiff for
19 years past knew her while her husband
lived has known her. 2 1/2 years since he
died. I never knew any thing of her moral
Character - never saw anything wrong with the
woman in my life. I therefore believe her
to be a good Honest Woman. Continuous and up-
right. I hold that her Pension was stopped because
she would not or could not pay her Grocery bill
her Daughter having Died.

I have no interest in the Prosecution
of this case and am not concerned in it in any way.

Applicant's Name

Wm. A. Smith

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 21st day of April, 1898

Charles H. Clerk
Notary

Joakel Sanders

Cr 383.777

widow of Hiram J.

Sanders Co H. 60" wgt

All for self

The J. R. Thompson

416 Steamer N.

Seawall

and

State of Indiana

County of Vanderburgh } ssd.

In H. Case of Isabel Sanders

wife of Hiram J. Sanders vs. H. O. O.

vs. See Vol. Infantry

on this the 21st day of April 1898

Personally appeared before me a Clerk
of Vanderburgh County Court

Willie Hamilton of Evansville Indiana

11 & 11 West Virginia. age 45 years

Who being sworn according to Law says
I have known said Claimant for 4 years past
and know that said Claimant is an Industrious
working Woman has lived in 4 or 5 squares from
Claimant - Never saw any thing wrong with the woman
has two little children of her own raising
I think she is sobering and a Lady I therefore
believe her a virtuous Woman. I believe her

Pensioner was stopped through spite because
she did not pay her Grocery Bill at a certain
time but had to pay her Daughters Funeral
Expenses. I have no interest in the

Prosecution of this claim nor am I concerned
in the case whatever

affiants Name

Willie Hamilton

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 21st

day of April 1898 Jas. A. Clark V.C.C.

Robert Sanders
Cmt 353799
For Restoration of
Donor
Thos. W. Hensley
816 Sycomore at
Granville and

State of Indiana
County of Vanderburgh J.S.S.

in the name of Isabel Landers
widow of Hiram T. Landers of Co. H. 68 regt
Ill Vse Infantry - No 383.799

On this the 21st day of April 1898
Personally appeared before me Clerk of the
Court of Vanderburgh County Ind
Theodocia Bell of Evansville Ind
442 Groove st age 41 years

Who being sworn according to Law
Says that she has known Claimant acc^{to} her
Life Personally having by her and for three years
lived in same House. Therefore has a thorough
knowledge of knowing said Claimant and the
facts to which I am aware to I therefore I declare
that I believe her to be a Virtuous Lady
and of a good Character I believe that her Pension
was stopped through spite & her Mother says her Pension would
be stopped if she did not pay him
I further declare that I have no interest in said

Claim and am not concerned in its Prosecution

Witnesses
G. E. Goerin

affiant

Theodocia + her
marks

Wiley Hamillor

subscribed & sworn to before me this 21st day
April 1898.

Geo. Asher
Clerk V.C.C.

State of Indiana
County of Vanderburgh } 30

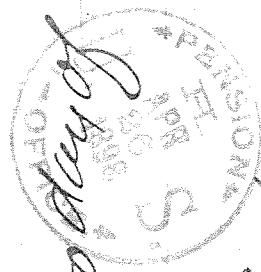
on this the 20th day of April 1898
Personally appeared Robert Kell of
Vanderburgh County in the state of Indiana
has Post Office is Evansville #442 Moore st-
age 51 years John Virgin of Vanderburgh
County Ind of Evansville #440 Broadway st-
age 48 who being sworn according to Law
says that they are personally and well acquainted
with Isabel Sanders widow of H. J. Sanders
late Pri of Co H. 50th Ill Vol Infy

we have known Plaintiff for 6 or 8 years and
28 years we have lived close by her and see
her most Every Day she has been at our house
and we have been at her home and if there
had been any thing wrong in her character we would
have known it we therefore believe her to be a
virtuous woman

we have known Defendant in the Prosecution of this
claim and am not concerned in it what ever
affiants Robert Kell and

John D. Virgin

Superior & Superior to before me this 20 day of
April 1898
Was Henry Clark
Vanderburgh Circuit Clerk



MS

Isabel Anders

Widow of Henry Anders

Co 47 60th Reg All Am

Filed by

Thos. W. Thompson

atty

Ent No 383.799

J.M.

L. R. M.

BOARD OF REVIEW.

3-511.

Widows Cert. No. 383,799, **Department of the Interior,**

Isabel, widow of
Hiram T. Sanders,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

Co. "H", 60th Reg't Ill. Vol. Inf.

Washington, D. C., February 11, 1897.

Madam:

I have to advise you that it appears from evidence on file, obtained by means of a special examination that you have violated the act of Congress of August 7, 1882, having lived in open and notorious adulterous cohabitation with various men since the death of your late husband, the above-named soldier, and since the passage of said law, the penalty for which is the termination of your pension under the certificate above numbered.

Under the provisions of the act of Congress of December 21, 1893, you will be allowed a period of thirty days from this date in which to file testimony in rebuttal of the evidence referred to, and if the same is not satisfactory, and no sufficient reason appears why an extension of time should be made, your name will be dropped from the pension roll at the time indicated above.

Such evidence must be submitted in the form of affidavits, and the envelope inclosing the same should be addressed to the Commissioner of Pensions, and marked in the lower left-hand corner, "Board of Review." This letter should be returned therewith.

Very respectfully,

W. D. Murphy

Commissioner.

Mrs. Isabel Sanders,

Evansville, Vanderburg Co.,

Indiana.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The civil officer before whom this affidavit is sworn should be careful to fill in all spaces, both in the caption and jurat.

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT

U.S. DEPT. OF PENSION
FINANCE DIVISION
JAN 6 1902

State of Kentucky, County of Butcher ss:

In the matter of: Cy #383799, Amanda Sanders

ON THIS 2nd day of Jan, A. D. 1902, personally appeared before me

A. M. G. Public in and for the aforesaid County, duly authorized to administer

oaths Amanda Sanders aged 60 years, a resident of Cloverport,

in the County of Butcher, and State of Kentucky

whose Post-office address is Cloverport Ky

well known to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who, being duly sworn, declared in relation to aforesaid

case as follows: That she has no old quarterly

Vouchers or old Pension P's having been

(NOTE.—Affiant should state how he gains a knowledge of the facts to which he testifies.)

heretofore drawn pension in her own name

that her late husband, Herman T. Sanders

drew a pension, but that she knows

nothing of the old certificate or its

whereabouts

further declares that no interest in said case and not concerned in its prosecution.

Wm. Minicott.

R. C. Hoffmiller

(If Affiant signs by mark, two witnesses who can write sign here.)

Amanda Sanders

(Signature)

STATE OF Kentucky, COUNTY OF Dickman, ss:
Sworn to and subscribed before me this day by the above named affiant, and I certify that I read said affidavit to said affiant, including the words

erased, and the words her
added, 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 personally known to me and that her credible person.

My Commission Expires
[L. State, Mich. 1902.]

M. A. Neutchenholt
(Official Signature.)
Notary Public R. C.
(Official Character.)
Cooperport Ky

To be executed before a Court of Record or some officer thereof having custody of its seal a Notary Public, or Justice of the Peace, whose official signature shall be verified by his official seal, and in case he has none, his signature and official character shall be certified by a Clerk of a Court of Record, or a City or County Clerk, unless such certificate is already on file in the Pension Office, when such fact should be stated.

Division _____
Pension _____
No. _____

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE.

CLAIM OF

AFFIDAVIT OF

FILED BY

Printed and for sale by John F. Sherry, Claim Blank Printer,
419-415 Ninth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The civil officer before whom this affidavit is executed should be careful to fill in all spaces, both in the caption and jurat.

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

State of Kentucky, County of Breestown, ss;

In the matter of Amanda Saunders widow
of William J. Saunders, Co H 60th Regt Ill vol

ON THIS 11 day of December, A. D. 1911, personally
appeared before me a Notary Public

said County, duly authorized to administer oaths Amanda Saunders

aged 60 years, a resident of Mattingly, in the County

of Breestown, and State of Kentucky

whose Post-office address is Mattingly and

Mattingly, aged 60 years, a resident of

Mattingly, in the County of Mattingly,

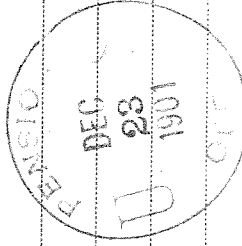
and State of Mattingly, whose Post-office address is

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

That she is the widow of
the said William J. Saunders — that

(NOTE.—Affiants should state how they gain a knowledge of the facts to which they testify.)

she is the claimant — that she
cannot return her husband's
Old Pension Certificate for the
reason that she never saw it,
he having absented himself
from his home in Kentucky
and was living in the State
of Indiana from the time
of his obtaining his pension
until the day of his death



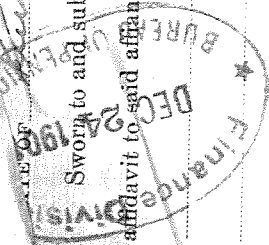
I further declare that I have no interest in said case and am

not concerned in its prosecution.

Notary
William J. Saunders
(If Affiants sign by mark, two witnesses who can write sign here.)

Amanda Saunders
mark
(Signatures of Affiants.)

STATE OF Massachusetts, COUNTY OF Braintree, ss:
Sworn to and subscribed before me this day by the above named affiant, and I certify that I read said
affidavit to said affiant, including the words _____
erased, and the words all the words
added, and acquainted her
with its contents before she executed the same. I further certify that I am in nowise inter-
ested in said case, nor am I concerned in its prosecution; and that said affiant is personally
known to me and that she is a credible person



M. J. Murray
(Official Signature.)

[L. S.]

My Com. Expires at the Notary Public's Expiration
end of the next Reg. Session 1970
(Official Character.)

To be executed before a Court of Record or some officer thereof having custody of its seal, a Notary Public, or Justice of the Peace, whose official signature shall be verified by his official seal, and in case he has none, his signature and official character shall be certified by a Clerk of a Court of Record, or a City or County Clerk, unless such certificate is already on file in the Pension Office, when such fact should be stated.

Division _____
Pension _____

No. _____

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE.

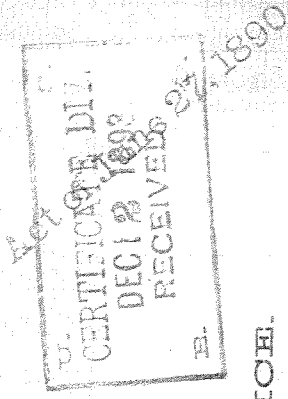
CLAIM OF

AFFIDAVIT OF

FILED BY

Certificate Division.

(3-567.)



ACCURED PENSION NOTICE.

Department of the Interior,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

Washington, D. C., Oct 4th, 1898

You are hereby notified that the U. S. Pension Agent
at Indianapolis, Ind., has been this day directed
to pay to you as the widow
of William T. Sanders, deceased, pensioned by
Certificate No. 646071, whatever pension has accrued in the
case up to and including the date of his death.

Very respectfully,

Wm. Coghrow

Commissioner.

Mrs. Isabel Sanders

McKarmel

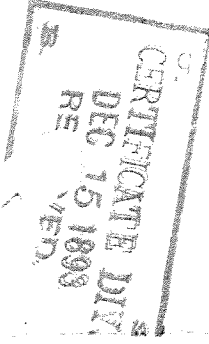
Ma

State of Indiana
Vanderburgh County, { 55

On this 1st day of December 1893
personally appeared before me
a Notary Public in and for the
County of Vanderburgh and State
of Indiana Loabell Sandens
who I duly sworn on her oath
says & we is the widow of H. J.
Sandens and Claimant for
widows pension No 383, 797- and
further says that she has first
been informed by her attorney
Mr. Walborn that her pension
had been secured with instric-
tion to inform the Hon Isaac
Clements U S Pension agent at
Chicago of her present Post
Office address in his own
hand writing and not being
able to write makes this offi-
ciant as to her identification
and Post Office address
which is as follows 1230-
Many street Evansville Vanderburgh
County Indian but as she expe-
cts to move from that place
and will probably do so before

the certificate will be delivered
She requests that it be sent to
No 203 Upper 4th Street G. M. C. A
Building Evansville Vanderburgh
County State of Indiana in
Case of C & Roberts
Witness
Geo. J. Heath Isabelle X Sanders
Emel W. Jaeger

Subscribed and sworn to before
me this 1st day of December
1893 Charles L. Roberts
Notary Public



L. B. L.

Department of the Interior,
Bureau of Pensions,

Washington, D. C., October 25, 1901.

Ctf. No. 383,799,	:
Isabel Sanders,	:
and	:
Orig. No. 733,683,	:
Amanda Sanders,	:
contesting widows of	:
Hiram T. Sanders,	:
Co. H, 60th Ill. Vol. Inf.	:
	: Legality of Marriage - Kentucky.

Chief of the

Criminal Section.

Sir:

Herewith are returned the papers in the above entitled claims with opinion as follows:

Isabel Sanders, as widow of Hiram T. Sanders, late private, Co. H, 60th Ill. Vol. Inf., filed a declaration April 7, 1892, for pension under the provisions of Section 3 of the Act of June 27,

1890, alleging therein that she was married to soldier November 8, 1875, at Scuffletown, Kentucky, by the Rev. Louis Renole, and that he was killed February 23, 1892.

This claimant furnished record evidence of the celebration of a marriage between herself and the soldier in Kentucky on November 8, 1895, and proved a continuous living together from the date of the ceremony, three children having been the accredited issue of their union, until the soldier's death which occurred in Indiana on February 23, 1892. All other requirements were accepted as satisfactory and claimant was accordingly pensioned as the widow of said soldier under certificate No. 383,799, dated October 4, 1893, at the rate of \$8 per month from date of filing with allowance for three minor children.

This pensioner's name was dropped from the rolls April 21, 1897, on ground of her adulterous cohabitation with various men, in violation of the act of Congress of August 7, 1882. On July 9, 1897, said pensioner filed an application for restoration of pension as widow of the soldier, Hiram T. Sanders, which said claim was rejected April 8, 1898, on the ground of no title, for the reason that claimant is not soldier's legal widow, he having a living and undivorced wife at the time of his marriage to claimant and at time of his death, as shown by special examination. A

claim was subsequently filed July 30, 1897 (see Orig. No. 659,386), in behalf of soldier's minor children, which was rejected December 19, 1900, on the ground that claimants are not the legitimate children of the soldier, he having a living and undivorced wife at the time of his marriage to the mother of the claimants.

On January 10, 1901, Amanda Sanders, as widow of Hiram T. Sanders, the soldier aforesaid, filed a claim for pension under the Act of June 27, 1890, Orig. No. 733,683, alleging that she was married to him November 14, 1866, at Hardinsburg, Kentucky, that he died in 1892, and that there was no former marriage of either party. The fact and date of this marriage to the soldier, as alleged in declaration, is duly shown by an attested copy of the marriage records of Breckinridge County, Kentucky.

These claims have been specially examined, and the evidence adduced, material to the purposes of this opinion, may be briefly stated as follows.

The soldier, it would appear, was first lawfully married in Kentucky in 1866 to the claimant, Amanda. These parties lived together as husband and wife, three children being born to them, until sometime in the early seventies when they separated. The soldier, on January 13, 1873, instituted proceedings for divorce against said Amanda on the ground of her alleged abandonment in the

Circuit Court of Breckinridge County, Kentucky. Said Amanda filed her answer April 16, 1873, but the cause was subsequently, at the April Term of 1875 of said court, dismissed without prejudice to a future action, and the soldier subsequently inter-married in Kentucky with the former pensioner, Isabel, on November 8, 1875, with whom he thereafter lived until his death on February 23, 1892, as heretofore stated. Said Isabel asserts and alleges that she knew nothing of soldier's prior marriage and heard nothing to arouse her suspicions relative thereto, that she was never told of a former wife who had been divorced or died, and knew nothing whatever of said former marriage. The investigation has failed to disclose a record of a divorce of soldier or the claimant, Amanda, or that said parties ever instituted legal proceedings for that purpose subsequent to the dismissal of the suit instituted in 1873 above referred to.

In view of these facts the question is presented as to which, if either, of these contestants, the former pensioner, Isabel, or the claimant, Amanda, is the legal widow of the soldier.

We have record evidence of a ceremonial marriage of the soldier and the claimant, Amanda, in Kentucky in 1866. These parties sustained marital relations from the date of the ceremony until sometime in the early seventies when they separated. The investi-

5 - Chief, Crim. Sec.

gation has failed to develop the record of a divorce and it is safe to assume that said marriage subsisted and existed between the soldier and said Amanda, not only at the date of his second marriage to the former pensioner, Isabel, but continued until it was dissolved by his death, therefore, after careful consideration of all the facts disclosed by the evidence, I am of the opinion that the claimant, Amanda, is, in law, the widow of the soldier, and that the former pensioner, Isabel, never was, under the laws of the State of Kentucky, his lawful wife and is not his widow and can not be lawfully recognized as such, and it is so held.

Very respectfully,



Chief of Law Division.

M.S.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1897.

The Commissioner of Pensions,

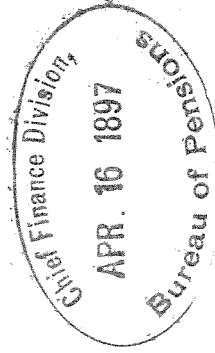
Sir:

The recommendation contained in your letter of the 10th instant, that the name of Isabel Sanders, certificate numbered 383,799, Act of June 27, 1890, be dropped from the roll on the ground that she has violated the Act of August 7, 1882, is hereby approved.

Very respectfully,

W. R. Rogers
Acting Secretary.

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TO SPECIAL EXAMINER'S REPORT.

Claim of *Belle Sanders* *ex. No. 1 ?*

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Bowling Green, Ky.
Oct. 30, 1896.

Hon. Commissioner of Pensions,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Enclosed are herewith to submit the attached evidence and herewith the following preliminary report in pension claim of Wm. (?) of Bellevue Sanders, widow of Thomas Sanders, who was in Co. (?) - 4th Reg. Va. Inf.

His pensioner lives in a suburb of Evansville, Ind. called "Independent", located on Pigeon Creek. Evansville is able to secure the command in which soldier served on other means of identification of claim in my district; but the full facts can be obtained from Geo. F. Smith, Louisville St. near Oregon and Louisville Sts., Evansville, Ind.

It is believed that a fraud has been perpetrated against the Government, and that the pensioner Sanders is not entitled as widow of said Thomas Sanders, for the reason that he had been divorced wife at the time of his death.

to prisoners -

I would have written to Mr. Geo. R. Smith for means of designation of claim of prisoners; but for the fact, that he will have to be seen anyway. Besides, I regard it as the men's absolute cause to have a Special & summary call upon him, and secure a deposition from him as to all points placed as issued herein, without giving him notice of the charges preferred.

Very respectfully,

F. W. Fow

Special Examiner