

HISTORY OF THE CASE.

Eli Fisher served in Co. C, 30th United States Colored Volunteer Infantry during the late war of the rebellion, and was pensioned under the provisions of the act of June 27, 1890, by certificate No. 647706, issued to him on August 21, 1891.

On some date not shown in the evidence, this pensioner who had formerly resided in Caroline county, Md., took up his residence in the City of Baltimore, where he remained until about the year 1902, when he returned to Caroline county. After the soldier got back to Caroline county, Mr. W. E. Temple, a justice of the peace, of Ridgely, the accused, commenced to fix the quarter yearly vouchers in this claim with an utter disregard of the requirements of the law. After the pensioner returned to Caroline county, he resided with his brother, Thomas Fisher, near Ridgely, and for at least one year prior to his death, said pensioner was so paralyzed as to be helpless and speechless, and Mr. Temple would send to Thomas Fisher for the vouchers and, after placing false jurats thereon would forward the paper to Washington, D. C., for payment.

The soldier died at Ridgely, on November 20, 1904, and at Ridgely, in Caroline county, Md., on December 5, 1904, fifteen days after the soldier's death, Mr. William E. Temple forged the signature of Eli Fisher to the voucher for the quarter yearly installment of pension due December 4, 1904, and after having made a false