

DEPOSITION

Case of LAVINIA BENNETT, No. 1,013,895

On this 23 day of DECEMBER, 1915, at

CAMBRIDGE, county of DORCHESTER

State of MARYLAND, before me, W. H. STOVALL

a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared WILLIAM L. SLATER, 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:

1 I am 60 years old, occupation running restaurant, and post office
 2 address 416 High St, Cambridge Md, and I have lived in this town
 3 since my birth and known Lavinia Bennett all this time. We
 4 grew up together, she is a little the oldest maybe. She has not
 5 been married to any man beside that fellow Williams of Baltimore
 6 and Robert Bennett, I saw Williams here in Cambridge a few times
 7 and heard he was dead but dont know the date of his death. He
 8 was dead at date of her marriage to Robert Bennett. I knew of
 9 her marriage to Bennett though not actually present, she was not
 10 divorced from him but lived with him as his wife from their
 11 marriage to his death, and Lavinia has not married again since he
 12 died. She bears a good reputation in our church. She never
 13 had a child in her life to my knowledge. I remember when La-
 14 vinia Bennett resided in Baltimore and would see her every year
 15 more or less as the folks she was in service let her off, and I
 16 am sure she contracted only the one marriage in Baltimore, the
 17 marriage with Williams I mean. I may be 62 or 63 years old
 18 as Lavinia is not over two or three years ahead of me in age.
 19 I knew Robert Bennett from my childhood, can recollect him from
 20 1866 easily, and knew the wife Lydie Bennett he had in those days
 21 and was at her funeral but the year she died is to much for me,
 22 she died a right smart while before Bennett married Lavinia Wil-
 23 liams I know. Bennett was but twice married. He was the father
 24 of two children by the wife Lydie Bennett but of no others, if he
 25 had children by any outside woman its more than I ever heard. I
 26 have no interest in this claim and not related to soldier or
 27 claimant. My former affidavit was made out at my place of bus-