

DEPOSITION A

Case of Minors of George Preston, No. 921,659

On this 20 day of December, 1910; at
Oella, county of Baltimore
 State of Md., before me, L.S. Perkins, a
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Sallie Brown, 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:

1 I am about 47 years of age; p. o. address R.F.D. No. 1, Ellicott
 2 City, Md.; am the wife of Alexander Brown, a colored laborer.

3 I am the legally appointed guardian of the minor children of
 4 the late George Preston, a colored soldier who served in the
 5 union army in the civil war; I do not know in what organization. He
 6 died a week before Christmas two years ago, in this neighborhood,
 7 leaving three children, Ida, Daniel and Della, under the age of
 8 sixteen years. The mother of these children, Agnes Preston, died
 9 at this place a little over a year before her husband.

10 In making application as guardian of these minor children I
 11 mentioned two other children, Dora and Reba Preston, thinking they
 12 ~~were~~ still alive, but I have since learned that ^{they} were dead. I cannot
 13 state the dates of their death, but they died in the institutions
 14 where they had been placed, but which I cannot name now.

15 All of the soldier's children except Della were taken away from
 16 their parents and placed in charitable institutions several years
 17 before the parents died. This was because the soldier's house
 18 burned, his wife was blind, and they could not take proper care of
 19 the little ones.

20 I knew George Preston from my earliest childhood, and know that
 21 he was a bachelor when he married Agnes Green, the mother of these
 22 minors; I also know that Agnes was not previously married. They
 23 were married to each other at Ellicott City, Md., about 18 years ago.
 24 I was not present, but often visited them afterward.

25 I was not present at the birth of any of soldier's children,
 26 but have known them from their earliest childhood. In making my
 27 claim for pension, I asked the neighbors as to the date of birth of
 28 the children, and made the claim according to what was told me of
 29 their ages. Eliza White, the midwife, at first refused to tes-