

To the Commissioner of Pensions
Washington D.C.

Sir,
I Emily S Loster do hereby apply for
the amount of pension due me by reason
of being the surviving Widow of John
H Loster late a Sergeant in Co. ~~H~~ of
the 1st Arkansas Vols War of 1861, and by
being the owner of Pension Certificate No
107, 781.

My last office address is
Greenwood Sebastian County Arkansas

Witnesses

J. King,
C. B. Noel

Emily S. Loster
max

State of Arkansas }
County of Sebastian };

On this 8 day of March 1879 personally
appeared before me ~~Wm J. Gitting~~ Clerk
of the County Court in and for the County
and State of Arkansas Emily S Loster the
party named in pension Certificate No
107, 781, which Certificate she exhibited
to me dated February 4, 1868.

Witness my hand and Official
Seal, this 8 day of March 1879,
W. J. Gitting Clerk

Sebastian County Ark.
By Jas B. Tomatis Deputy

Widow's Increase of Pension, Act of July 25, 1866.

APPLICATION PENDING.

STATE OF Arkansas
COUNTY OF Sebastian } ss.

On this 28 day of December, 1867, personally appeared Emily S. Laster, a resident of Sebastian, in the County of Sebastian, and State of Arkansas, who, being duly sworn, on her oath declares that she is the widow of John H. Laster, who was a Sergeant in Company F of the 1st Regiment of Arkansas Infantry, in the war of 1861, and is an applicant for a pension No. _____ and entitled to increase of pension under Act of July 25, 1866, on account of the following-named children of her deceased husband and herself, under sixteen years of age at the date of the passage of said act, and who are now living,

the dates of whose births are as follows, to wit: Julia Ann Laster, born May 16th 1853; Robert C. Laster, born December 24th 1855; Joseph W. Laster, born October 14th 1857; and Jehoa L. Laster, born October 21st 1859

That her said husband left no minor child or children by a former marriage, and the above-named are the only legitimate children of herself and her deceased husband, now living. That she has not re-married since the death of her said husband, but is still a widow, nor has she abandoned the support of any one of the said children above named, nor permitted any of the same to be adopted by any other person or persons as his, her, or their child. And she hereby appoints SANBORN & KING, of Washington, D. C., her attorneys, and authorizes them to present and prosecute this claim, and to receive and receipt for the certificate that may be issued upon her foregoing application, and to do any and all acts necessary to effect the purpose of their said appointment, hereby revoking all Powers of Attorney, if any, heretofore given by her for a like purpose. That her

Post Office address is _____
J. N. News
C. W. Rice

Emily S. Laster
Claimant's Signature.

Also personally appeared J. N. News, and G. L. Gilliam, residents of Sebastian, County of Sebastian, and State of Arkansas, to me well known

to be credible persons, who, being by me duly sworn, declare, each for himself, that they are personally acquainted with the above-named Emily S. Laster, and saw her sign her name, and know her to be the person she represents herself to be, and they know the fact that she has not re-married, but is still a widow, and that she has not abandoned the support of any one of the said children, and that her statements in reference to the same are true, to their personal knowledge and belief, and that they have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

J. N. News
G. L. Gilliam
Signatures of Witnesses.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 28 day of December, 1867, and I hereby certify that the contents of the above were made known and explained to the applicant and witnesses before signing, and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

Official Signature: William Paterson Clark
of the Circuit Court in and for the County of Sebastian & State of Ark



[Here attach proof of birth as required by Circular No. 27 from Pension Office.]

NOTE.—In all cases where a mark is substituted for the written signature, two disinterested witnesses are required who can write.

Two witnesses if X mark is made by claimant.

State of Arkansas,
County of Johnson }

I certify that on this
31st day of January A. D. 1868 personally
appeared before me Dennis C. Kieff
Clerk of the circuit court in and
for the county and state aforesaid
Augustus M. Wards, and Sarah F.
Robinson, who being duly sworn
according to law, depose and say
that they are well acquainted Emily
Laster, formerly Emily James, and
John Laster deceased, late of the
federal army; that they have known
said parties for upwards of twenty-
five years; and that to the best of
their knowledge and belief upwards
of twenty years ago they were present
when the marriage ceremony was
solemnized between the said John
Laster deceased and Miss Emily
James; that said marriage took place

time of said marriage upwards of
Twenty years ago, from the date hereof
that he the said Ward was Clerk of
the Circuit Court in and for the
County of Johnson and State of
Arkansas; and that he in position he
recorded the marriage certificate between
John Lester deceased and Miss Emily
James; and that he has this day
made diligent search of the
remaining Records in the Clerk's
Office for the County and State
aforesaid and that the book in
which he kept a record of marriages
is not now on file in said office
and that they each of the subscribing
witnesses have no interest in the
claim of Mrs Emily Lester whatever.

Augustus M. Ward
Clerk

Sworn and subscribed to before me
this 30th day of January A.D. 1855,
and I further certify that I am well
acquainted with the parties herein
and know them to be credible
persons and worthy of belief; and
that I have no interest in this
claim whatever.

In testimony whereof I have
hereunto set my hand and
Official Seal of said Court
as Clerk and Ex. officio
Recorder.

Chas. Rice
Clerk



PROOF OF NAMES AND DATES OF BIRTH OF CHILDREN OF WIDOW APPLYING FOR PENSION UNDER ACT OF JULY 25, 1866.

STATE OF Arkansas
 COUNTY OF Sebastian } ss.

On this 28th day of December, A. D. 1867, personally appeared Amie Morris, of Sebastian County, State of Arkansas and _____ of _____ County, State of _____

who, being duly sworn, doth each for himself depose and say, that they have been acquainted with Mrs. Emily S. Slaughter for 20 years, and know her to be the widow of Johann Slaughter late Sgt in Co. B. 1st Regiment of Arke Infy Vols., who was killed in the service of the United States on or about the 1st day of May, 1865. That said Johann Slaughter left surviving him the following-named children under sixteen years of age, and none others, who were born as hereinafter stated:

- Julia Ann born May 16 1853, living at her home
- Robert C born Dec 24 1855, living at in
- Joseph W born Oct 14 1857, living at Sebastian
- John S born Oct 21 1859, living at County
- _____ born _____ 18____, living at Arke

That the deponent (1) Amie Morris was (2) Accoucheur at the birth of the aforesaid children (3) Julia Ann Robert C Joseph W & John S, and was present in the (4) Room at the birth of (5) Each of said children (6) and have personal knowledge of the facts here stated. (7) _____

That the deponent (1) _____ was (2) _____ at the birth of the aforesaid child (3) _____, and was present in the (4) _____ at the birth of (5) _____ said child (6) and have personal knowledge of the facts here stated. (7) _____

And they farther say that they have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

Amie Morris

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the day and year above written, and I further certify that the witnesses herein are respectable and entitled to credit, and subscribed and made oath to the above statements. I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim. Contents made known to all parties before signing and executing the same.

William Peterson

I CERTIFY that _____, before whom the foregoing declaration and affidavit were made, is a _____, duly authorized to administer oaths, and that the above is his signature.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal, this _____ day of _____ 1867

WIDOW'S CLAIM FOR PENSION.

State of Arkansas }
County of Sebastian } SS.

On This 31st day of October, 1866, personally appeared before me, a
Clerk of a Court of Record in and for the County and State aforesaid, Emily
S Laster a resident of Center Township in the County of Sebastian
and State of Arkansas aged 45 years, who, being duly sworn,

makes the following declaration, in order to obtain the Pension provided by the Act of Congress
approved July 14, 1862: That she is the widow of John H Laster

who was a Sergeant in Company "F" commanded by Capt. George
W. Raymond in the First Regiment of Arkansas Infantry Vol.,
in the War of 1861; that her maiden name was Emily S James and

that she was married to said John H Laster on or about the 30th
day of September, 1841, at Clarksville in the County of Johnson
and State of Arkansas by James Willson a

Justice of the peace and that she knows of no record evidence of said marriage now in existence
except the record contained in her family bible a copy of which is here
to annexed and certified by the clerk of the circuit court marked by W. H.

She further declares that said John H Laster her husband, was killed
and died in the service of the United States as aforesaid at Mosard Prairie near Fort Smith Sebasti-

an, Co. in the State of Arkansas on or about the First day of
May 1865, of a gun shot wound which came from the

enemy Rebels. Said John H Laster died of the wound instantly and while
in the military service of the United States. She also declares that she has remained a widow ever since the death of

said John H Laster and that she has not in any manner
been engaged in, or aided or abetted, the rebellion in the United States; and she hereby appoints

Sanborn & King of Washington D, C

as her lawful attorney, with power of substitution, and authorizes him to present and prosecute this
claim, and to receive her pension certificates. The following is the name and date of birth

and place of residence of all the children of my deceased husband who were under sixteen years
of age at the time of his death there being four. July Ann Laster born May 6th 1852

Robert C Laster born December 24, 1855. Joseph W Laster born October the
6th day of 1857. John S Laster born October the 21st of 1857. all
reside with me their mother at my residence as above written

My Post Office address is Greenwood, Co. Sebastian county State of Arkansas

Witnesses to claimant's signature John Howard (Signature of Claimant) Emily S Laster

ALSO PERSONALLY APPEARED before me, James J Gilliam and
Sary M Gilliam residents of Sebastian
County, and State of Arkansas, to me well known as credible persons, who

being duly sworn, declare, that they were present and saw said Emily S Laster claimant

to this declaration sign her name to the foregoing declaration, and that they have every reason
to believe, from the appearance of said applicant, and their acquaintance with her, that she is the
identical person she represents herself to be, and know that said deceased recognized said applicant
as his lawful wife, and that she was so recognized by the community in which they resided; and that
they have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim. and further we were
eye witnesses to the said marriage of John H Laster and Emily S James

and know she was and James J Gilliam Witness.

Witnesses to Claimant's signature

John Howard

(Signature of Claimant:) *Emily S Laster*

ALSO PERSONALLY APPEARED before me, *James T. Gilliam* and

Sary M. Gilliam residents of *Sebastian*

County, and State of *Arkansas*, to me well known as credible persons, who

being duly sworn, declare, that they were present and saw said *Emily S. Laster* claimant

to this declaration sign her name to the foregoing declaration, and that they have every reason

to believe, from the appearance of said applicant, and their acquaintance with her, that she is the

identical person she represents herself to be, and know that said deceased recognized said applicant

as his lawful wife, and that she was so recognized by the community in which they resided; and that

they have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim. *and further we were*

eye witnesses to the said marriage of John H Laster and Emily S Jan

the claimant and know she is and

is the lawful wife said soldier

John H Laster and that we are

not directly or indirectly

interested in the

prosecution of this claim

James T. Gilliam Witness.

Sary M. Gilliam Witness.

Exhibit (A.)

State of Arkansas,
County of Sebastian }

I Certify that the following
is a true copy of the family Record
of John H. Laster, deceased, as recorded
in a Book Called the Holy Bible in
page 577, to, wit,

"John H. Laster, & Emily S. James
was married, September the 30th A.D. -
1841." And do further Certify that
~~this is~~ I am a Clerk of a Court
of Record,

In testimony whereof I have
hereunto set my hand and
affixed the Seal of said Court
at Murfreesboro Arkansas, this 31st
day of October A.D. 1866,

John S. Spradling
Clerk of the Circuit
Court,

Widow's application for Pension:

State of Arkansas
County of Sebastian ^{SS:} On this the 30th day of January
A.D. 1866. personally appeared before
the undersigned the Clerk of the Circuit Court, and ex officio
Clerk of the County Court in and for the County and State aforesaid
a person duly authorized by law to administer oaths and take
the acknowledgment of deeds and powers of attorney Mess Emily S.
Laster who being duly sworn by me as the law directs deposes
and says that she is Forty three years of age a resident of Sebastian
County State of Arkansas and that she is the identical
widow of John H. Laster who was a Sergeant in company
'41" commanded by Captain George W. Raymond in the 1st Ar. S.
Inf. Regt. commanded by Colonel James M. Johnson in
the war of 1861 and who died of gun shot wounds
received from rebel Bushwhackers between Fort Smith
and Jenny Lind on the 1st day of May 1865 while
in the service and line of his duty that she was
lawfully married to the said John Laster at the County of
Johnson State of Arkansas on the 30th day of September 1841
by one James Wilson a Justice of the Peace
that she supposes there was a public record made of said
marriage in the Clerk's office of said County of Johnson
that she also has a private or family record of said
marriage in her possession recorded in the 1st July Bible
an authenticated copy of which is herewith transmitted
and asked to be considered, that her name before her said
marriage with the said John Laster was Emily S. James
that her husband the aforesaid Soldier John Laster died
as above stated and that she has remained a widow
ever since that period and is a widow at this time

That the said John Laster her aforesaid hus-
band left at the time of his death the follow-
ing named Children under the age of sixteen years
who now reside with this declarant six miles north
of Greenwood Sebastian County Arkansas Viz:

1 Julia Ann Laster Born May the 16th 1852;

2 Robert L Laster Born Decemb^r the 24th 1855;

3 Joseph Walter Laster Born Octob^r 6th 1857,

4 John D. Laster Born Octob^r 21st 1859.

That she has never been engaged in or aided or
abetted the rebellion in the United States that she
makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining
the benefit of the Provision of ~~the~~ Act of Congress
approved July 14 1862 and ~~other~~ acts
granting Pensions to the widows of deceased officers
and soldiers of the United States ~~Volunteer~~ forces
and she hereby certifies ~~and appoints~~ Messrs
John I. Hudson & Newton J. Temple attys and counsellors
at Fort Smith Arkansas her true and lawful agents
and attorneys to prosecute her said claim for Pension
and to receive the certificate therefor when issued.
She states that her Post office address is
Fort Smith Arkansas.

Emily ^{W. S.} Laster
make

And at the same time and place come Justices
L. Gilliam and Stephen L. Crossen with whom
I am personally acquainted who being duly sworn
as the law directs depose and say that they are
personally acquainted with Mrs Emily S. Laster who
makes the foregoing declaration for pensions and was
present and saw her make her ~~sole~~ ^{sole} ~~testimony~~ ^{testimony} that

they were acquainted with the said John Laster in his lifetime that they both served as Soldiers in the same Company and Regiment and were both along at the time he was killed that they saw him after he was dead that he was killed in the manner and at the time she has stated that they are acquainted with the children she has mentioned in her declaration that from their appearance they believe their ages to correctly stated that they with her as she has stated and from their acquaintance with the said Emily and their own personal knowledge of the facts stated they are well satisfied that all her statements are true and correct They further state that they have no interest in said claim or the prosecution thereof either directly or indirectly

(+ Declaimant name signed by mistake)

J. J. Gilman
E. J. Laster
Steph. J. Croson

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 30th day of January A.D. 1866. And I certify that I am the Custodian of the records and the seal of the said Circuit Court of which I am Clerk and that I have no interest in the prosecution of the aforesaid claim either direct or indirect

In testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at office in Greenwood this day and year above written

James, Edmondson,
Clerk

PROOF OF NAMES AND DATES OF BIRTH OF CHILDREN OF WIDOW APPLYING FOR PENSION UNDER ACT OF JULY 25, 1866.

STATE OF Arkansas }
 COUNTY OF Sebastian } ss.

On this 11th day of January, A. D. 1867, personally appeared John L Gilliam of Sebastian County, State of Arkansas

and Henry Moltham of Sebastian County, State of Arkansas, who, being duly sworn, doth each for himself depose and say, that they have

been acquainted with Mrs. Emily S Laster for 15 years, and know her to be the widow of John H Laster, late a Sergeant in Co. "F" 13th Regiment of Arkansas Infantry Vols, who died in the service of the United States on or about the 19th day of May, 1865. That said John H Laster

left surviving him the following-named children under sixteen years of age, and none others, who were born as hereinafter stated:

- Julia Ann Laster born May 16th 1853, living at _____
- Robert C Laster born December 24th 1853, living at _____
- Joseph W Laster born October 4th 1857, living at _____
- John L Laster born October 21st 1857, living at _____

all reside with their mother Emily S Laster at Sebastian Township in the county of Sebastian State of Arkansas

That the deponent Henry Moltham was (2) at the house of Mrs Laster at the birth of the aforesaid child (3) Joseph Walter Laster and was intimate with the family (4) of Mr John H Emily Laster at the birth of (5) all of said children (6) and have personal knowledge of the facts here stated. (7) He being a relative by marriage and having been a member of said family for some fifteen years

That the deponent John L Gilliam was (2) a member or resided with said John H Laster at the birth of the aforesaid child John H Laster as above named and written and was present in the (4) _____ at the birth of (5) _____ and have personal knowledge of the facts here stated. (7) from an acquaintance with the family of said John H Laster and Emily his wife of some fifteen years and know the facts stated above to be true and correct

And they further say that they have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

John L Gilliam
Henry Moltham

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the day and year above written, and I further certify that the witnesses herein are respectable and entitled to credit, and subscribed and made oath to the above statements. I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim. Contents made known to all parties before signing and executing the same.

I CERTIFY that _____, before whom the foregoing declaration and affidavit were made, is a _____, duly authorized to administer oaths, and that the above is his signature.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal, this 11th day of January 1867
 (Which Certify is a court of record) John S Spadling
 Clerk of the Circuit Court

State of Arkansas }
County of Sebastian } Emily S. Laster - late wife of
John H. Laster deceased and
who was a sergeant of and in Co. "F"
of the 1st Regiment of Arkansas Infantry
and who died or was killed on the first
day of May A.D. 1865 while in the
United States Military service. do
state on oath that I was the lawful
wife and now the lawful widow of
said John H. Laster & has the proof
herewith transmitted (and which
is denominated 4th class proof) is the
best evidence of the date of births and
ages of of the minor heirs of the
said John H. Laster that I am
able to adduce. all other classes
of proofs being absent and not com-
etable

And I further state
that my Post office address is
Greenwood Post office
Sebastian County
State of Arkansas

Signature

Emily S. Laster

Subscribed and sworn to before
me a clerk of a court of Record in and
for the County and State above written
on this the 11th day of January A.D. 1867

I to wit my whereof I have hereto
subscribed my name and aff-
ixed my seal of office

John A. Hedley
clerk of the circuit
court - for the county
and State above written

State of Kansas }
County of Johnson }

Application having been made to me this day for a copy of the Marriage certificate between John Laster deceased and Emily Laster, formerly Miss Emily James, of the county and state aforesaid; I hereby certify that all the records for Marriages in and for and belonging to this Office prior to the year Eighteen Hundred and Fifty have either been removed or destroyed since and during the rebellion, and that no record now exists in this office of the Marriages of the parties aforesaid.

In testimony whereof I Charles C. Reed Clerk of the Circuit Court and Ex-Officio Recorder in and for the County and State aforesaid, have hereunto set my hand and Official seal of said court this 30th day of January A.D. 1866.

Charles C. Reed
Clerk



Circumstances connected with death
Officers Affidavit to ~~Disability~~ of Soldier.

STATE OF Arkansas,
Sebastian COUNTY.

On this 28th day of December 1867, before me, clerk of the Circuit Court of the _____, in and for the County and State above named, personally appeared Thomas H. Scott, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he was captain of Company B, of the 1st Regiment of Arkansas Volunteers, and was acquainted with John H. Laster, ^{*whose widow*} who was a member of ~~said~~ of Company, and ~~was~~ is an applicant for an Invalid Pension. That the said John H. Laster was mustered into service on or about the 26 day of February 1864, and ~~discharged for disability~~ ^{*was killed*} about the 1st day of May, 1865, having become disabled from doing duty as a soldier from on or about the 1st day of May, 1865, while in the service of the United States, and in the line of his duty as a soldier, in the manner and at the place as follows:

Shot by Bushwhackers, while upon secret duty conveying Union families from Fort Smith Ark to their homes

That the said soldier was in good health at the time he entered the service, and ~~the disability~~ ^{*his death*} referred to affected him while in the service and at his discharge as follows: his death resulted from wounds as above stated

That the above facts stated in this affidavit respecting the service and cause of the ~~disability~~ ^{*death*} of the soldier named, are derived from my personal knowledge of the service, and of cause of the ~~disability~~ ^{*death*}, and that he has no interest in the claim for an Invalid Pension.

Thomas H. Scott

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 28th day of December, 1867, and I hereby certify that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim, and that the affiant is known to me as a credible person. And I certify that the above answers and interlineations were made before signing

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed my official seal.

William Paterson Clerk

No. 107,781

Arkansas

Emily S. Laster
WIDOW OF

John H. Laster
Rank Serg't., Co. "F",
Regt. 1st Ark. Inf. Vols.

Little Rock, Agency.

Rate per Month \$ 8

Commencing 2 May 1865

Additional sum of \$2 per Month for each of
the following children, until arriving at the age of
16 years, commencing 25 July 1865

Julia A. 15 May 1865

Robert C. 23 Dec. 1867

Joseph W. 13 Oct. 1867

John L. 20 Oct. 1867

Certificate dated 4 Feb. 1868.

Sent to Sanborn & King,
Washington, D.C.

Act 14th July, 1862.

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Wm. H. Donoho, Clerk