

Jemima Chambers Southern Claims Commission petition, Fayette County Tennessee

Interesting read about the Civil War and Reconstruction from one family's perspective.

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Personal note from this researcher (a relative):

Bear in mind that this is sworn testimony in the hopes of getting restitution for property taken by Union soldiers with officers present. The testimony was presented about 10 years after the fact by a 61 year old widow whose 57 year old husband died while this was happening. He had about 11 slaves at the time and they had 460 acres under cultivation. His will was stolen and his death left a 48 yr old woman with 15 and 8 year old daughters to protect the property. The testimony was also corroborated by at least one former slave (not theirs) present at the time of the incident.

Other facts:

The testimony includes no mention of how he died or who stole his will. The city of Moscow TN was subsequently burned to the ground. In the 1880's the family is in Titus County TX and the son in law is given a "Power of Attorney" by this widow to return to the area to salvage any remaining assets.

Ken Cox

February 2012

⁴¹
P/4291. May 31/72

PETITION.

Em. Gemina Chambers,
Incar, Fayette County,
Tennessee.

For mules, corn, fodder,
meat, cattle, oxen, hogs.

Amount - \$6,418.50.

Suspended May 31/71

Gilbert Rogers

Attorney.

Memphis, Tennessee.

I John C. Reeves Clerk of the County Court
of Fayette County Tennessee do certify that
Joseph P. Crossitt whose name and genuine sig-
nature appears to the attestation of the foregoing
affidavit of Fannina Chambers now and was
at the date of same an acting Justice of the
Peace in and for the County of Fayette and
State of Tennessee duly commissioned and
qualified and that full faith and credit
are due to his official acts

Witness my hand and official seal at
office in Knoxville this 4th day
of May 1872
John C. Reeves Clerk

May 14/77
clerk's copy

PETITION.

To the Honorable the Commissioners of Claims under
the Act of Congress of March 3, 1871:

Your petitioner (1)

Mrs. Fannina Chambers

respectfully represents that

she is a citizen and resident of Fayette County,
State of (2) Tennessee; and resided there when
this claim occurred;

that she is the original owner of the hereinafter mentioned claim;

(3) that the same has never been sold,
assigned, or transferred to any person;

that there was (4) *nothing* from the petitioner for the use of
the army of the United States, for which no payment has been made, or com-
pensation received in any manner or from any source for any part thereof,
the following described supplies, viz: (5)

By General G. M. Smith

at about October, 1862

1. *One* *hundred and sixty* *dollars*
(*\$160.00*) each, amounting
to one thousand four
hundred and forty dollars *\$1,440.00*

By the same on or about
December, 1862,

2. Four thousand (*4,000*) bushels
Corn worth one dollar
(*\$1.00*) per bushel, amount-
ing to four thousand dollars *4,000.00*

3. Six thousand two hundred
and fifty (*6,250*) bushels
Feedster worth one dollar
(*\$1.00*) per hundred, amounting
to six hundred and twenty-five
dollars *\$625.00*

By Col. Edward Hatch, cad

By Col. Edward Hatch, 2nd
Iowa Cavalry, on or about
March, 1863,
3 Three thousand (\$3,000) pounds
meat - worth twenty (20) cents
per pound, amounting to
six hundred dollars and
fifty cents 600.50

4 Three thousand (\$3,000) pounds
meat - worth twenty (20) cents
per pound, amounting to
six hundred dollars 600.00

5 Thirteen head of cattle
worth twelve dollars (\$12.00)
each, amounting to one
hundred and fifty-six dollars 156.00

6 Two (2) oxen worth fifty
dollars (\$50.00) each, amounting
to one hundred dollars 100.00

By the 46th Iowa Infantry
in 1864 at various times
7 Twenty (20) head Stock
sheep worth three dollars
(\$3.00) each, amounting to
sixty dollars 60.00

Total amount of claims
six thousand four hundred
and eighteen dollars and
fifty cents \$6,418.50

that the prices charged are the fair market value for the supplies at the time and place last mentioned, as your petitioner is informed and believes; that said supplies were (6) taken from her plantation located one mile north-west from Lenoir on or about the dates stated and by the persons and amounts stated in the foregoing account; that in Jan. Quint's Command was stationed at or near Lenoir when the hules, cows and Dairies were taken; that regular details with officers came authoritatively and took said property; that the meat and cattle were taken by Colonel Edward Hatch of the 2nd Iowa Cavalry who was at the time moving east along the line of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad with, as your petitioner believes, a brigade of cavalry; that the logs were taken at different times by the 45th Iowa Infantry which was encamped at Lenoir and sent out parties for provisions frequently; that your petitioner believes all of said property was needed for the Army and that it was used for the benefit thereof; that your petitioner's Post Office address is Lenoir, Fayette County, Tennessee.

that this claim (7) *has never been presented to any officer or Department of the Government for collection.*

Your petitioner further says that *she* hereby appoints
Gilbert Ingers,
a Memphis, Tennessee,
as *her* true and lawful attorney, to appear before the Claims Commission appointed under the act of Congress of March 3, 1871, or any Court, Department or Bureau of the United States, and prosecute this claim to final issue, with full power of substitution, hereby ratifying and confirming all said attorney, ~~or either of them~~, shall lawfully do in virtue hereof, and hereby annulling and revoking all other powers of attorney in the premises.

Your petitioner further states that *she* is now and ~~was~~ at the time the several items of *her* said claim accrued, an ~~active~~ citizen of the United States; that *she* remained a loyal adherent to the cause and Government of the United States, during the war of 1861, &c.; and ~~was~~ so loyal before and at the time of the taking or furnishing of the property for which this claim is made.

attest
J. D. Smith
W. J. Newby

her
Jemima + Chambers
(Petitioner's Signature.)
mark

(8) *Jemima Chambers*

being duly sworn ~~and~~ depose and say, that *she* is the petitioner named in the foregoing petition, and who signed the same; that the matters therein stated are true of deposant's own knowledge, except as to those matters which are stated on information and belief, and, as to those matters, *she* believes them to be true.

And deposant further says that *she* did not voluntarily serve in the Confederate army or navy, either as an officer, soldier, or sailor, or in any other capacity, at any time during the late rebellion; that *she* never voluntarily furnished any stores, supplies, or other material aid to said Confederate army or navy, or to the Confederate Government, or to any officer, department, or adherent of the same, in support thereof, and that *she* never voluntarily accepted or exercised the functions of any office whatsoever under, or yielded voluntary support to the said Confederate Government.

attest
J. D. Smith
W. J. Newby

her
Jemima + Chambers
mark
3 day of May 1872

Joseph J. Lynch Justice of the Peace for J. & C. County

Ab. May 7/75

No. 14.295

CLAIM OF
Mrs. Jennima Chambers.

OF
Fayette County,
State of *Tennessee.*
\$6.418.00

TESTIMONY OF

Belair act- 1+15 Page.
John P. Hendley 9+29
Samuel A Davis 6
Jeremiah B. Simmons 11

3 3
3 3

TAKEN BY

Henry J. Fox
Special Commissioner

Actual Fees and Costs, \$2130

AGENTS OR ATTORNEYS AT WASHINGTON:

Gilbert Meyer.

May 6. 1875.

Directions: This certificate, with accompanying printed questions, goes in front of the depositions. A single sheet, marked "Last Page," accompanies this double sheet, and goes at the end of the depositions, having on its outside a printed form of endorsement to be filled up by the special commissioner.

ACT MARCH 3, 1871.

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Claim of Mr. Jennima Chambers.
of the County of Fayette and State of Tennessee
numbered 14296

It is hereby certified that on the 1st day of April, 1875, at
Moscow in the County of Fayette and
State of Tennessee came personally before me, for the purpose of a hearing
in the above-entitled cause, the following persons, namely:

Mr. Jennima Chambers., Claimant.

Sprague for G. Moyers., Counsel.

Richard Baum
John P. Hendley
Samuel N. Davis
Jeremiah B. Simmons. } Witnesses.

Each and every deponent, previous to his or her examination, was properly and duly sworn or affirmed to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth concerning the matters under examination; the claimant's witnesses were examined separately and apart from each other; the testimony of each deponent was written out by me in presence of such deponent, who signed the same in my presence after having the deposition read aloud to such deponent, and the signature of such deponent was by me attested at the time it was affixed to the deposition.

Witness my hand and seal and this 3rd day of April 1875

Henry J. Dix
Special Commissioner





STANDING INTERROGATORIES.

The following questions will be put to every person who gives testimony :

1. What is your name, your age, your residence and how long has it been such, and your occupation?
2. If you are not the claimant, in what manner, if any, are you related to the claimant or interested in the success of the claim?

The following questions will be put to every claimant, except claimants who were slaves at the beginning of the war :

[Note.—If the original claimant be dead, these questions are to be answered by each of the heirs or legatees who was not less than sixteen years of age when the war closed.]

3. Where were you born? If not born in the United States, when and where were you naturalized? Produce your naturalization papers if you can.
4. Where were you residing and what was your business for six months before the outbreak of the rebellion, and where did you reside and what was your business from the beginning to the end of the war? And if you changed your residence or business, state how many times, and why such changes were made.
5. On which side were your sympathies during the war, and were they on the same side from beginning to end?
6. Did you ever do anything or say anything against the Union cause; and if so, what did you do or say, and why?
7. Were you at all times during the war willing and ready to do whatever you could in aid of the Union cause?
8. Did you ever do anything for the Union cause, or its advocates or defenders? If so, state what you did, giving times, places, names of persons aided, and particulars. Were the persons aided your relations?
9. Had you any near relatives in the Union army or navy? If so, in what company and regiment, or on what vessel, when and where did each one enter service, and when and how did he leave service? If he was a son, produce his discharge paper, in order that its contents may be noted in this deposition, or state why it cannot be produced.
10. Were you in the service or employment of the United States Government at any time during the war? If so, in what service, when, where, for how long, under what officers, and when and how did you leave such service or employment?
11. Did you ever voluntarily contribute money, property, or services to the Union cause; and if so, when, where, to whom, and what did you contribute?
12. Which side did you take while the insurgent States were seceding from the Union in 1862 and 1861, and what did you do to show on which side you stood?
13. Did you adhere to the Union cause after the States had passed into rebellion, or did you go with your State?
14. What were your feelings concerning the battle of Bull Run or Manassas, the capture of New Orleans, the fall of Vicksburg, and the final surrender of the Confederate forces?
15. What favors, privileges, or protections were ever granted you in recognition of your loyalty during the war, and when and by whom granted?
16. Have you ever taken the so-called "iron-clad oath" since the war, and when and on what occasions?
17. Who were the leading and best known Unionists of your vicinity during the war? Are any of them called to testify to your loyalty; and if not, why not?
18. Were you ever threatened with damage or injury to your person, family, or property on account of your Union sentiments, or were you actually molested or injured on account of your Union sentiments? If so, when, where, by whom, and in what particular way were you injured or threatened with injury?
19. Were you ever arrested by any Confederate officer, soldier, sailor, or other person professing to act for the Confederate government, or for any State in rebellion? If so, when, where, by whom, for what cause; how long were you kept under arrest; how did you obtain your release; did you take any oath or give any bond to effect your release; and if so, what was the nature of the oath or the bond?
20. Was any of your property taken by Confederate officers or soldiers, or any rebel authority? If so, what property, when, where, or by whom, were you ever paid therefor, and did you ever present an account therefor to the Confederate government, or any rebel officer?
21. Was any of your property ever confiscated by rebel authority, on the ground that you were an enemy to the rebel cause? If so, give all the particulars, and state if the property was subsequently released or compensation made therefor.
22. Did you ever do anything for the Confederate cause, or render any aid or comfort to the rebellion? If so, give the times, places, persons, and other particulars connected with each transaction.
23. What force, compulsion, or influence, was used to make you do anything against the Union cause? If any, give all the particulars demanded in the last question.
24. Were you in any service, business, or employment, for the Confederacy, or for any rebel authority? If so, give the same particulars as before required.
25. Were you in the civil, military, or naval service of the Confederacy, or any rebel State, in any capacity whatsoever? If so, state fully in respect to each occasion and service.
26. Did you ever take any oath to the so-called Confederate States while in any rebel service or employment?
27. Did you ever have charge of any stores, or other property, for the Confederacy; or did you ever sell or furnish any supplies to the so-called Confederate States, or any State in rebellion; or did you have any share or interest in contracts or manufactures in aid of the rebellion?
28. Were you engaged in blockade running, or running through the lines, or interested in the risks or profits of such ventures?
29. Were you in any way interested in any vessel navigating the waters of the Confederacy, or entering or leaving any Confederate port? If so, what vessel, when and where employed, in what business, and had any rebel authority any direct or indirect interest in vessel or cargo?
30. Did you ever subscribe to any loan of the so-called Confederate States, or of any rebel State; or own Confederate bonds or securities, or the bonds or securities of any rebel State issued between 1861 and 1865? Did you sell, or agree to sell, cotton or produce to the Confederate Government, or to any rebel State, or to any rebel officer or agent, and if so, did you receive or agree to receive Confederate or State bonds or securities in payment; and if so, to what amount, and for what kind and amount of property?
31. Did you contribute to the raising, equipment or support of troops, or the building of gunboats in aid of the rebellion; or to military hospitals or invalids, or to relief funds or subscriptions for the families of persons serving against the United States?

32. Did you ever give information to any person in aid of military or naval operations against the United States?
33. Were you at any time a member of any society or organization for equipping volunteers or conscripts, or for aiding the rebellion in any other manner?
34. Did you ever take an oath of allegiance to the so-called Confederate States? If so, state how often, when, where, for what purpose, and the nature of the oath or affirmation.
35. Did you ever receive a pass from rebel authority? If so, state when, where, for what purpose, on what conditions, and how the pass was used.
36. Had you any near relatives in the Confederate army, or in any military or naval service hostile to the United States? If so, give names, ages on entering service, present residence, if living, what influence you exerted, if any, against their entering the service, and in what way you contributed to their outfit and support.
37. Have you been under the disabilities imposed by the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution? Have your disabilities been removed by Congress?
38. Have you been specially pardoned by the President for participation in the rebellion?
39. Did you take any amnesty oath during the war, or after its close? If so, when, where, and why did you take it?
40. Were you ever a prisoner to the United States authorities, or on parole, or under bonds to do nothing against the Union cause? If so, state all the particulars.
41. Were you ever arrested by the authorities of the United States during the war? If so, when, where, by whom, on what grounds, and when and how did you obtain your release?
42. Were any fines or assessments levied upon you by the authorities of the United States because of your supposed sympathy for the rebellion? If so, state all the facts.
43. Was any of your property taken into possession or sold by the United States under the laws relating to confiscation, or to captured and abandoned property?

The following questions will be put to all male claimants or beneficiaries who were not less than sixteen years of age when the war closed:

44. After the Presidential election of 1860, if of age, did you vote for any candidates, or on any questions, during the war, and how did you vote? Did you vote for or against candidates favoring secession? Did you vote for or against the ratification of the ordinance of secession, or for or against separation in your State?
45. Did you belong to any vigilance committee, or committee of safety, homeguard, or any other kind of organization or combination designed to suppress Union sentiment in your vicinity?
46. Were you in the Confederate army, State militia, or any military or naval organization hostile to the United States? If so, state when, where, in what organizations, how and why you entered, how long you remained each time, and when and how you left. If you claim that you were conscripted, when and where was it, how did you receive notice, and from whom, and what was the precise manner in which the conscription was enforced against you? If you were never in the rebel army or other hostile organization, explain how you escaped service. If you furnished a substitute, when and why did you furnish one, and what is his name, and his present address, if living?
47. Were you in any way connected with or employed in the Confederate quartermaster, commissary, ordnance, engineer, or medical department, or any other department, or employed on any railroad transporting troops or supplies for the Confederacy, or otherwise engaged in transportation of men and supplies for the Confederacy? If so, state how employed, when, where, for how long, under whose direction, and why such employment was not giving "aid and comfort" to the rebellion.
48. Did you at any time have charge of trains, teams, wagons, vessels, boats, or military supplies or property of any kind for the Confederate government? If so, give all the facts as in previous questions.
49. Were you employed in saltpetre works, in tanning or milling for the Confederate government, or making clothing, boots, shoes, saddles, harness, arms, ammunition, accoutrements, or any other kind of munitions of war for the Confederacy? If so, give all the particulars of time, place and nature of service or supplies.
50. Were you ever engaged in holding in custody, directly or indirectly, any persons taken by the rebel government as prisoners of war, or any persons imprisoned or confined by the Confederate government, or the authorities of any rebel State, for political causes? If so, when, where, under what circumstances, in what capacity were you engaged, and what was the name and rank of your principal?
51. Were you ever in the Union army or navy, or in any service connected therewith? If so, when, where, in what capacity, under whose command or authority, for what period of time, and when and how did you leave service? Produce your discharge papers, so that their contents may be noted herein.

The following questions will be put to every person testifying to the loyalty of claimants or beneficiaries:

52. In whose favor are you here to testify?
53. How long have you known that person altogether, and what part of that time have you intimately known him?
54. Did you live near him during the war, and how far away?
55. Did you meet him often, and about how often, during the war?
56. Did you converse with the claimant about the war, its causes, its progress, and its results? If so, try to remember the more important occasions on which you so conversed, beginning with the first occasion, and state, with respect to each, when it was, where it was, who were present, what caused the conversation, and what the claimant said in substance, if you cannot remember his words.
57. Do you know of anything done by the claimant that showed him to be loyal to the Union cause during the war? If you do, state what he did, when, where, and what was the particular cause or occasion of his doing it? Give the same information about each thing he did that showed him to be loyal.
58. Do you know of anything said or done by the claimant that was against the Union cause? If so, please state, with respect to each thing said or done, what it was, when it was, where it was, and what particular compulsion or influence caused him to say or do it.
59. If you have heard of anything said or done by the claimant, either for the Union cause or against it, state from whom you heard it, when you heard it, and what you heard.
60. What was the public reputation of the claimant for loyalty or disloyalty to the United States during the war? If you profess to know his public reputation, explain fully how you know it, whom you heard speak of it, and give the names of other persons who were neighbors during the war that could testify to his public reputation.
61. Who were the known and prominent Union people of the neighborhood during the war, and do you know that such persons could testify to the claimant's loyalty?
62. Were you, yourself, an adherent of the Union cause during the war? If so, did the claimant know you to be such, and how did he know it?
63. Do you know of any threats, molestations, or injury inflicted upon the claimant, or his family, or his property, on account of his adherence to the Union cause? If so, give all the particulars.
64. Do you know of any act done or language used by the claimant that would have prevented him from establishing his loyalty to the Confederacy? If so, what act or what language?

63. Can you state any other facts within your own knowledge in proof of the claimant's loyalty during the war? If so, state all the facts and give all the particulars.

The following questions concerning the ownership of property charged in claims will be put to all claimants, or the representatives of deceased claimants:

66. Who was the owner of the property charged in this claim when it was taken, and how did such person become owner?
67. If any of the property was taken from a farm or plantation, where was such farm or plantation situated, what was its size, how much was cultivated, how much was woodland, and how much was waste land?
68. Has the person who owned the property when taken since filed a petition in bankruptcy, or been declared a bankrupt?

The following questions will be put to female claimants:

69. Are you married or single? If married, when were you married? Was your husband loyal to the cause and Government of the United States throughout the war? Where does he now reside, and why is he not joined with you in the petition? How many children have you? Give their names and ages. Were any of them in the Confederate service during the war? If you claim that the property named in your petition is your sole and separate property, state how you came to own it separately from your husband; how your title was derived; when your ownership of it began. Did it ever belong to your husband? If the property for which you ask pay is wood, timber, rails, or the products of a farm, how did you get title to the farm? If by deed, can you file copies of the deeds? If single, have you been married? If a widow, when did your husband die? Was he in the Confederate army? Was he in the civil service of the Confederacy? Was he loyal to the United States Government throughout the war? Did he leave any children? How many? Are any now living? Give their names and ages. Are they not interested in this claim? If they are not joined in this petition, why not? State fully how your title to the property specified in the petition was obtained. Did you ever belong to any sewing society organized to make clothing for Confederate soldiers or their families, or did you assist in making any such clothing, or making flags or other military equipments, or preparing or furnishing delicacies or supplies for Confederate hospitals or soldiers?

The following questions will be put to colored claimants:

70. Were you a slave or free at the beginning of the war? If ever a slave, when did you become free? What business did you follow after obtaining your freedom? Did you own this property before or after you became free? When did you get it? How did you become owner, and from whom did you obtain it? Where did you get the means to pay for it? What was the name and residence of your master, and is he still living? Is he a witness for you, and if not, why not? Are you in his employ now, or do you live on his land or on land bought from him? Are you in his debt? What other person besides yourself has any interest in this claim?

The following questions will be put to all colored witnesses in behalf of white claimants:

71. Were you formerly the slave of the claimant? Are you now in his service or employment? Do you live on his land? Are you in his debt? Are you in any way to share in this claim if allowed?

The following questions will be put to claimants and witnesses who testify to the taking of property, omitting in the case of each claimant or witness any questions that are clearly unnecessary:

72. Were you present when any of the property charged in this claim was taken? Did you actually see any taken? If so, specify what you saw taken.
73. Was any of the property taken in the night time, or was any taken secretly, so that you did not know of it at the time?
74. Was any complaint made to any officer of the taking of any of the property? If so, give the name, rank and regiment of the officer, and state who made the complaint to him, what he said and did in consequence, and what was the result of the complaint.
75. Were any vouchers or receipts asked for or given? If given, where are the vouchers or receipts? If not, state fully how lost. If asked and not given, by whom were they asked, who was asked to give them, and why were they refused or not given? State very fully in regard to the failure to ask or obtain receipts.
76. Has any payment ever been made for any property charged in this claim? Has any payment been made for any property taken at the same times as the property charged in this claim? Has any payment been made for any property taken from the same claimant during the war, and if so, when, by whom, for what property and to what amount? Has this property, or any part of it, been included in any claim heretofore presented to Congress, or any court, department or officer of the United States, or to any board of survey, military commission, State commission or officer, or any other authority? If so, when and to what tribunal or officers was the claim presented; was it larger or smaller in amount than this claim, and how is the difference explained, and what was the decision, if any, of the tribunal to which it was presented?
77. Was the property charged in this claim taken by troops encamped in the vicinity, or were they on the march, or were they on a raid or expedition, or had there been any recent battle or skirmish?
78. You will please listen attentively while the list of items, but not the quantities, is read to you, and as each kind of property is called off, say whether you saw any such property taken.
79. Begin now with the first item of property you have just said you saw taken, and give the following information about it. 1st. Describe its exact condition, as, for instance, if corn, whether green or ripe, standing or harvested, in sheaf, or husked, or shelled; if lumber, whether new or old, in buildings or piled; if grain, whether growing or cut, &c., &c. 2d. State where it was. 3d. What was the quantity; explain fully how you know the quantity, and if estimated, describe your method of making the estimate. 4th. Describe the quality to your best judgment. 5th. State as nearly as you can the market value of such property at the time in United States money. 6th. Say when the property was taken. 7th. Give the name of the detachment, regiment, brigade, division, corps, or army, taking the property, and the names of any officers belonging to the command. 8th. Describe the precise manner in which the property was taken into possession by the troops, and the manner in which it was removed. 9th. State as closely as you can how many men, animals, wagons, or other means of transport, were engaged in the removal, how long they were occupied, and to what place they removed the property. 10th. State if any officers were present; how you knew them to be officers; what they said or did in relation to the property, and give the names of any, if you can. 11th. Give any reasons that you may have for believing that the taking of the property was authorized by the proper officers or that it was for the necessary use of the army.
80. Now take the next item of property you saw taken and give the same information, and so proceed to the end of the list of items.

1.
Exposition of Claimant. Mrs. Je-
minia Chambers, as to loyalty.

2. 1st July. the deponent says.

Je-minia Chambers, 61 years old, resi-
dent Moscow Jennifer, I have lived
here 28 years, am housekeeper.

2. 2nd July. the witness says

I am the Claimant.

2. 3rd July. the witness says.

I was born in Robinson Co. Tenn.

2. 4th July. the witness says.

I have lived at Moscow 28 years.

I was housekeeper during all that time.

(1) I was cooking ^{for} and doing all I could
for the Federal soldiers during the
whole war, that is after the Federal
come.

2. 5th July. the witness says.

On the Federal side and they were on
that side during the whole war.

2. 6. July. the witness says.

No sir.

2. 7. July. the witness says.

Yes sir.

2. 8. July. the witness says.

I did nothing but cook. I did all
I could that way for them. That
was when the Federals were all in
here, I cannot give the date.

2. 9. July. the witness says.

Not that I know of.

2. 10. July. the witness says.

No sir, nothing but knit socks for
them. A heap of them wanted socks.
There were no hospitals near me that
I know of. The soldiers did not pay
me for knitting socks. I don't know
how many socks I knit for them. I
don't know their names.

2. 11. July. the witness says.

No sir.

Do. 12. July, the witness says.

I was on the side of the Union, I always was on that side. I did not do anything, I did not converse with any one about it but stayed right at home.

Do. 13. July, the witness says.

I adhered to the Union Cause,

Do. 14 July, the witness says.

(2) I don't recollect about the battle of Bull Run or Manassas. I heard about the Capture of New Orleans, but I don't remember which side won, I believe I remember about the battle of Vicksburg but not much about it, I was glad when the war was ended, I always, at all times rejoiced at the success of the Union armies,

Do. 15. July, the witness says.

I had coffee flour rather things given me. A Union soldier brought me some coffee & some flour. The Confederates never brought me anything. There were those Union soldiers with this one who brought me coffee & flour, I did not do anything for them except give them what they wanted to eat, He said he just gave it to me, I remember his name was Bloom. I think he belonged to Col. Quimby's Regiment. His command was stationed at Moscow. I think that command was there about two months, It was in October, the second year of the war,

Do. 16. July, the witness says.

No. It was never required.

Do. 17 July, the witness says.

Alfred Darden, Samuel Davis, George Crossitt and A. H. Crossitt, Mr. Samuel Davis & A. H. Crossitt will be my witnesses, the others if needed.

2. 18 July. the witness says

I was never threatened nor was I molest-
ed or injured on that account,

Do 19 July. the witness says.

No sir

2. 20 July. the witness says.

(3) No. Nothing except what they would
come & take to feed any time and that
was not of my. They never paid me
for it & I never claimed any pay for it.

2. 21 July. the witness says.

No sir,

2. 22 July. the witness says.

No sir,

2. 23 July. the witness says.

None.

2. 24 July. the witness says.

No sir.

2. 25 July. the witness says.

No sir -

2. 26 July. the witness says.

No sir,

" 27 July. the witness says.

No sir - as to all the questions,

" 28 July. the witness says.

No sir.

" 29 July. the witness says.

No sir -

" 30 July. the witness says.

No sir. as to the whole question.

" 31 July. the witness says.

No sir as to all

" 32 July. the witness says.

No sir.

" 33 July. the witness says.

No sir,

" 34 July. the witness says.

No sir,

" 35 July. the witness says.

No sir

" 36 July. the witness says. No sir. Not

that I know of,

2. 37. Duly. the witness says

No sir,

" 38. Duly. the witness says,

No sir,

" 39. Duly. the witness says.

No sir,

" 40. Duly. the witness says,

No sir,

" 41. Duly. the witness says.

No sir,

" 42. Duly. the witness says.

No sir,

" 43. Duly. the witness says.

No sir,

" 66. Duly. the witness says.

(4) I was the owner of some of it, and my late husband, Mr. Chamber was the owner of some. Some was taken before his death and some was taken after his death. He bought and raised it. That that was taken after wards was mine because he left it to me by his will, a copy of which I will file with my deposition.

" 67. Duly. the witness says.

It was all taken from the plantation except one mule. It was about 1 1/2 miles North of Moscow Denver. It contained over 400 acres, 460 acres I think I don't know how much was under cultivation nor how much was woodland.

" 68. Duly. the witness says.

No sir,

" 69. Duly. the witness says.

I am single - a widow. My husband's name was William Chamber. I cannot give the date of his death, but I know some of the property was taken before and some after his death. My brother Jack Healey now of Moscow Denver was his Administrator. The estate owes

a "right smart", My husband was not in the Confederate Army, nor in the civil service of the Confederacy. He was loyal to the United States Government until his death. I don't know how he voted on the question of secession, He left four children two of whom are still living Martha R. League, wife of Seaborn League aged 27 years. and Emma Caroline Cox, wife of James Cox, aged 19 years. will be 20 in April, 1878, I don't know that they legally are entitled to any part of this claim, They are not joined in my petition because the property was seized from, I never belonged to any such society & I answer not to the balance of the question. There were no Confederate hospitals or any such sewing societies in this vicinity known to me.

I will put the respondent with not
 by name of *Jemina* her
Decay F. Dix *X Chambers*
mark.

Deposition of Saul M. Davis.

As to Loyalty -

2. 1st July, the witness says,

Saul M. Davis, age 48 years, resident
Moscow Denmark, has lived here 20
or 21 years, and occupation a farmer.

2. 2nd July, the witness says,

(b) I am not in any manner related to
the Claimant and am not interested
in the success of this claim.

2. 52nd July, the witness says,

Here & Mrs. Jeronima the Mr. Mrs. Chambers
deceased and Mrs. Jeronima Chambers.

" 53rd July, the witness says,

I have known both of them 20 years and
intimately.

2. 54th July, the witness says,

About three fourths of a mile for 20
years, past.

" 55. July, the witness says,

I met them both often, sometimes sev-
eral times a day and then every few
days or neighbors will see each other.

" 56. July, the witness says,

I reckon I have conversed with said Mrs.
Chambers about the war its causes, progress
and results. I can not designate the
the first time. I know I talked with
him about it as early as 1861. I can
not remember any one particular occasion
when we talked about the war, but I
know we did. I can not state what
he said at any time substantially.

2. 57th July, the witness says, I talked with Mrs.

Chambers about the war but I do
not remember the occasion and can-
not state substantially what she said.
I don't think I can heard her say
any thing about it until after the
Federals came here in 1862.

2. 57. Q. The witness says.

Nothing as to either of them, except they used to feel the Union sacred - sometimes the secessionists paid them and sometimes they did not.

2. 58. Q. The witness says.

I do not exact as follows. In February 1861, when the State voted on the question of secession, Mr. Chambers voted for secession, I don't remember that I saw him vote but understood from him that he so voted. And at the last election in June 1861. he voted the same way for secession, I so understood from him. I am mistaken about that - that is the Combs did not understand me - He voted for the Union at the last election in June 1861. as I understood from him, I do not know anything further as to Mr. Chambers. - I am satisfied on reflection that I am mistaken in the above, it was in February 1861. that he voted for the Union, and in June 1861 when the State went out that he voted for secession. We both voted at Moscow at the same precinct.

I answer No. so far as Mr. Chambers is concerned.

2. 59. Q. The witness says.

Nothing as to either, except. I know Mr. Chambers sold his cotton to the Federals in 1862. He wanted the Federals to have his cotton & that was considered an act in favor of the Federals.

" 58. Q. The witness says.

No exact as I have just stated.

" 60. Q. The witness says.

Mr. Chambers was considered at the beginning of the war a Secessionist. That was his public reputation. It

was publicly known that he voted for
secession, the Federals came here in
June 1862, I think, the same ^{Month} day Mem-
phis was taken, (June 6th 1862) and a
week or two after they came, Mr. Cham-
bers took the oath of allegiance to the
U. S. and after that during the war, or
rather as long as he lived, he was
considered a Union man, that was his
public reputation, I can't state whom I
heard speak of it.

I don't know what Mr. Chambers pub-
lic reputation was, never heard any-
thing said for or against him -

2. 61. Q. by the witness says.

Alfred H. Darden, J. J. Cravath & R. M.
Roberts were Union men, I don't know
that they will testify to Mr. or Mrs.
Chambers loyalty.

" 62. Q. by the witness says.

I was & Mr. & Mrs. Chambers knew it.

" 63. Q. by the witness says and I have
been paid \$1562.10 (I think the Act is.)
by the Govt. for property taken from
me, I think it was before the Southern
Claims Comm. I got the money
in February 1872 I think.

" 63. Q. by the witness says.

No sir,

" 64. Q. by the witness says.

No sir as to both Mr. & Mrs. Chambers -
except perhaps selling his cotton to the
Federals as above stated, but aside
of that I think he could have es-
tablished his loyalty to the Confederacy.

" 65. Q. by the witness says.

No sir. Nothing except what I have
stated.

After further reflection I think Mr. Cham-
bers voted for secession at both elections
in July & June 1861. I am pretty positive
it was that way.

And further deponent swears that
Saml. M. Davis -
Deponent J. Davis -

was publicly known that he voted for
secession, the Federals came here in
June 1862, I think, the same ^{Month} day Mem-
phis was taken, (June 6th 1862) and a
week or two after they came, Mr. Cham-
bers took the oath of allegiance to the
U. S. and after that during the war, or
rather as long as he lived, he was
considered a Union man, that was his
public reputation, I can't state whom I
heard speak of it.

I don't know what Mr. Chambers pub-
lic reputation was, never heard any
thing said for or against him -

20. 61. Q. by the witness says,

Alfred H. Darden, J. J. Cravath & R. M.
Roberts were Union men, I don't know
that they will testify to Mr. or Mrs.
Chambers loyalty,

" 62. Q. by the witness says,

I was & Mr. & Mrs. Chambers knew it,

" 63. Q. by the witness says and I have
been paid \$1562.¹⁰ (I think the Act is.)
by the Govt. for property taken from
me, I think it was before the Southern
Claims Comm. I got the money
in February 1872 I think,

" 63. Q. by the witness says,

No sir,

" 64. Q. by the witness says,

No sir as to both Mr. & Mrs. Chambers -
except perhaps selling his cotton to the
Federals as above stated, but aside
of that I think he could have es-
tablished his loyalty to the Confederacy.

" 65. Q. by the witness says,

No sir. Nothing except what I have
stated.

After further reflection I think Mr. Cham-
bers voted for secession at both elections
in July & June 1861. I am pretty positive
it was that way.

And further deponent swears that
deponent is - Samuel M. Davis

- Deposition of John P. Heedley.
2. 1st July. the witness says.
John P. Heedley. age 75 years. resi-
dence Moscow Tenn. & I have lived
here since 1849. and occupation
a farmer.
2. 2^d July the witness says.
Mr. Jennina Chambers, the claim-
ant is my sister, I am not
interested in the success of this claim.
2. 52 July the witness says.
Mr. William Chambers, dead and
Mrs. Jennina Chambers.
2. 53 July, the witness says.
I have known Mr. Chambers all
9) my life, and I knew Mr. Chambers
45 years, I have lived near neigh-
bors to them all that time.
2. 54. July. the witness says
I did not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of a
mile from them - Mr. & Mrs. Chambers.
2. 55. July. the witness says.
I met Mr. Chambers often, He was
sick several months before his death
and I went and helped take care of him.
Before that, in 1860 & 1861, I probably
saw him every week, I saw Mrs.
Chambers as often.
2. 56. July. the witness says
I never talked with Mr. Chambers
about the war its causes, progress
or results. I never did, about it with
Mrs. Chambers except to speak of our
distress &c.
2. 57. July. the witness says.
Whenever Mr. Chambers came to the house
and told him they (Federals) wanted
Cotton or fodder he told them to
take it. I was not then and
did not ~~know~~ ^{see it} - I do not know
of any thing else, as to either -

2. 58. July. The witness says.
I do not as to Mr & Mrs Chambers.
2. 59. July. The witness says.
I never heard of any thing as to both
2. 60. July. The witness says.
He was always called a loyal
man. I have heard men say
10. He was a Union man but I can
not give the names of any one
who so spoke of him. I can not
remember. I say the same of Mr. Chambers.
2. 61. July. The witness says.
Mr. J. D. Crossitt, Alfred H. Dunder &
John R. Pierson (Pierson) were Union
men. I don't know whether they
will testify to the loyalty of Mr.
& Mrs. Chambers.
2. 62. July. The witness says.
I always was. I expect Mr &
Mrs. Chambers knew it but I
don't know.
2. 63. July. The witness says.
Not that I know of as to both
Mrs & Mr. Chambers.
2. 64. July. The witness says.
I never did as to either Mr. or
Mrs. Chambers. I do not -
2. 65. July. Witness says.
I can not as to either Mr. or
Mrs. Chambers.
I do not know how Mr. Cham-
bers voted on the question of secession
& further deposed - with rest.

Deponent of
Henry D. Dix

John P. Kennedy

Deposition of Jeremiah B. Simmons.

20. 1st July. the witness says.
Jeremiah B. Simmons, age 42 years old, resident Moscor Tenn. I have resided at Moscor since 1858. My occupation, farmer.
20. 2^d July. the witness says.
I am not related to the Claimant Mrs. Jemima Chambers, and I am not interested in any way in the success of this claim.
20. 5th July. the witness says.
I do not know any in favor of Mrs. P. Chambers. the late husband of the Claimant Jemima Chambers.
- (11) I do not know anything about the loyalty of Mrs. Chambers, except I never heard anything but that she was a loyal lady.
20. 5th 3^d July. the witness says.
I have known both Mr. & Mrs. Chambers since 1851. ~~with~~ ^{and} live intimately.
20. 5th 4th July. the witness says.
I live about one mile from ^{Thurg.} during the ¹⁸⁶³ ~~war~~ ^{when I went to Mississippi to reside -} That is, until July.
20. 5th 5th July. the witness says.
I met Mr. Chambers a good many times, that is from the time of the last vote on the question of secession (June 8th 1861 Comm.). up to March or April 1863. I saw him 3 or 4 times. I did not see Mrs. Chambers more than about twice.
20. 5th 6th July. the witness says. - Yes sir - Well sir. The last time I saw him in 1863. he said "we would be a heap better off without the Confederacy than with it. That was not the first time I conversed with him. The first time was the time of the second election when the State voted to go out -

I heard him say to Old Billy Head that he never had voted the secession ticket and never would - that he would have his throat cut first, I think that was all he said. Old Man Head was known as a bitter Union Man, and Chambers sided with Head. All the Judges of the election & the people round the polls were present. E. H. Stickles, R. L. ~~Evans~~ Evins, Darling Allen were some of them, and then they heard it, I think the next conversation was when I bought his cotton in 1863. I have already stated what he then said. We were talking about the cotton he had had burned by the Confederates. I think there are the only conversations I had with him. I never conversed with Mr. Chambers about it.

257. Int. the witness says.
I know of nothing by Mr. Chambers except Col. Achane of the 72^d Ohio Regt. told me that the Federals had him down and got his corn and she said it would not cost them anything. This Col. was commanding a Brigade stationed at Moscow. I know of something done by Mr. Chambers. It is this. When I bought 16 Bales of Cotton of him in 1863. he said he sold it to keep the Confederates from burning it up. We voted at the same precinct. I do not know how he voted at the elections but I heard him till Old Man ~~Mr~~ Head who now lives at Moscow

that he never had value the se-
cession ticket & never would. That
was just after the last election
when the state went out,

No. 58. Ques. The witness says.

I am not either of Mr. or Mrs. Chambers.

No. 59. Ques. The witness says.

I can not state anything more than
I have with one exception, to the
best of my knowledge Mr. Samuel Davis
told me "Old Billy Chambers mean-
ing Claimants late husband," ~~that~~
strictly a Union Man and no
man could make anything else
out of him," that was in January

13. or February, 1863. - I can't say that
I heard anything said about Mr.
Chambers, except Mr. Samuel Davis said

No. 60. Ques. ~~The witness says~~ She is strictly
a Union Woman, that was in 1863.
in February. at the time he spoke
of Mr. Chambers, that is all.

No. 60. Ques. The witness says.

His public reputation as to loyalty
was good. He was considered
through the whole community
a loyal man, I never heard
any one dispute that. I know
from the daily conversations
I heard of the people, I heard
R. M. Roberts say Mr. Chambers was
a Union Man, that was down
by my house in ~~1862~~ ¹⁸⁶³ or 1863. I can
give the date never then that
Alfred Darden was another. He
said several times that he had
had several talks with Mr. Cham-
bers and he was strictly a Union
Man, and I heard others speak
of him as a Union Man. but I

dont know as I can enumerate
them, I think they can testify to
said Mrs Chambers public reputation
The public reputation of Mrs. Cham-
bers was that she was a Union
woman, I reckon I heard a dozen
14. speak of it. I heard Mr. Saul. Davis,
Alfred Durdan, J. I. Crasutt and John P.
Hendley speak of it, they were &
are now her neighbors and I think
they can testify to her public repu-
tation.

To 62nd - the witness says.
R. M. Roberts & Mr. Saul. M. Davis.
John P. Hendley. A. H. Durdan
& J. I. Crasutt. were, They are
her neighbors now and I think
they can testify to the loyalty of both
Mr. & Mrs. Chambers -

To 62nd Ind. the witness says
I was. Mr. Chambers knew I was
a Union man. I dont know whether
Mrs. Chambers did,

To 63rd Ind. the witness says.
I heard Mr. Chambers was threat-
ened but I can not now unde-
take now to tell what it was, and
am not now certain by whom
it was. It was by some Con-
federate Officer, - Nothing else

To 64. Ind. the witness says.
I know of nothing except what I
have stated as to either -

To 65. Ind. the witness says.

No Sir,
And further defendant saith not -
J. B. Simmons
Defendant of 3.
Henry & Dix

B74
No. 14298

CLAIM

—OF—
Summa Chambers

—OF—
Moseon
Payette Co Tenn
\$6418.00

Application to have Testimony Taken by Special Commissioner

Henry J. Driby

G. Meyers
ATTORNEY
Memphis Tenn

Office of **GILBERT MOYERS,**

Memphis, Tenn.,

Sept. 3rd 1872

The existing rule upon the subject of taking testimony by special commission, of or near the residence of claimants has been so modified as to read as follows:

Claimants whose claims do not exceed three thousand dollars may take their testimony before a special commissioner appointed by this Board, without making application to the Commissioner at Washington; but their petition must have been duly presented and filed with the clerk. They may apply in writing to such special commissioner within the State as it is most convenient to apply to. The application must state that the claimant has duly presented his petition to this Board, at Washington; must set forth the substance of the petition; must contain an account, by item, of the property taken or furnished—the items being considered in succession and their total value stated at the foot of the account; and must state as in the petition, when, where, and by whom such property was taken for the use of the army. The application must specify the names of the witnesses and their residences as given in the petition, and whether called to prove the liability of the claimant or the other facts. The commissioner will preserve such application, and will take the depositions of the witnesses named. He will affix the application to the depositions when taken, and send it with the depositions to the clerk.

No. 14295

Before the Commissioners of Claims.

(Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1871.)

In the matter of the claim of *Mrs. Emma Chambers*
of *Moreau*, in the County of *Fayette*
and State of *Tennessee*

Comes now the claimant before *Henry F. Dix* Esq., Special
Commissioner for the State of *Tennessee* and represents that he has heretofore filed
with the above-named Commissioners a petition for the allowance of a claim for property *taken*
for the use of the army of the United States, which claims, as stated below, does not exceed the sum of three
thousand dollars.

That the said claim, stated by items, and excluding therefrom all such items as refer to the *Damage, Destruction and Loss, and not the Use, of property*; to unauthorized or unnecessary *Depredations* of troops or other persons upon the property, or to *Rent* or compensation for the occupation of buildings, grounds, or other real estate, is as follows:

| No. | QUANTITIES AND ARTICLES. | VALUE. | |
|-----|--------------------------|----------|---------|
| | | DOLLARS. | CENTS. |
| 1 | 9 Hides | \$160.00 | 1440.00 |
| 2 | 4000 Bushels Corn | \$1.00 | 4000.00 |
| 3 | 6,250 " Fodder. | \$1.00 | 62.50 |
| 4 | 3,000 " Meat | 20¢ | 600.00 |
| 5 | 13 Head Cattle- | \$12.00 | 150.00 |
| 6 | 2 Oxen | \$50.00 | 100.00 |
| 7 | 20 Head Stock Hogs | \$3.00 | 60.00 |

Total.

\$6418.00

That, as stated in the petition referred to the property in question was taken from or furnished by
Summa Chambers
 of *Hayes Co*, in the State of *Tennessee*, for the use
 of a portion of the army of the United States, known as

, and commanded by
 and that the person who took or received the property, or
 who authorized or directed it to be taken or furnished, were the following:

| NAME | RANK | CO. | Regiment or Corps or Station. |
|--------------------|-------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| <i>Genl Leitch</i> | <i>Genl</i> | | <i>Command -</i> |
| <i>Ed Hatch</i> | <i>Col</i> | | <i>2nd Iowa Inf.</i> |
| | | | <i>45 Iowa Inf.</i> |

That the property was removed to

and used for or by

all this

on or about the following dates, as appears by the petition presented to the Commissioners:

Sum 1203 Taken Oct. & Dec 1862 Leitch
456 March 1863 Ed Hatch
7 Aug 1864 45 Iowa Inf

That, by the following-named persons, the claimant expects to prove that from the beginning of hostilities against the United States, to the end thereof, his sympathies were constantly with the cause of the United States; that he never, of his own free will and accord, did anything, or offered, or sought, or attempted to do anything, by word or deed, to injure said cause or retard its success, and that he was, at all times, ready and willing, when called upon, or if called upon, to aid and assist the cause of the Union, or its supporters, so far as his means and power and the circumstances of the case permitted:

of

"

"

"

"

"

That, by the following-named persons, the claimant expects to prove the taking or furnishing of the property for the use of the army of the United States:

..... of

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

The claimant now prays that the testimony of the witnesses just designated to be taken and recorded at such place, and at such time as the special commissioner may designate, at the reasonable cost of the said claimant; and that due notice of the time and place of the taking thereof be given to the claimant, or to his counsel.

Submitted on this 3rd day of Sept., 187 2

Samuel Chamberlain, Claimant.

G. B. Ryan, Attorney.

P. O. Address of Attorney:

Memphis
Tennessee

- DIRECTIONS.**—(1)—Insert number of claim, when known.
 (2)—"Taken" or "Detained."
 (3)—Describe the military organization by name as fully and particularly as possible.
 (4)—State as well as can be done the place to which the property was conveyed for the use of the army.
 (5)—State as fully and minutely as is possible the particular persons or commands using the property, and to what particular use it was applied.
 (6)—Give the reasons why the witnesses cannot be brought to Washington.
 (7)—The claimant's name should be signed here in person or by attorney.

1
deposition of Jermina Chambers, Claimant
as to property.

2. 72nd Query the witness says.

I was present and actually saw some
of it taken, I saw them take off some
mules once, and another mule at another
time. also saw them take meat and
drive off the cattle, I think that is all
I saw taken. I now remember corn & fodder.

2. 73rd Query the witness says.

(151) None of it was taken in the night time
that I know of, they come in the
day time & took it openly -

" 74th Query the witness says.

Not that I know of,

" 75th Query the witness says.

No sir, not that I know of.

" 76th Query the witness says.

No to the whole question

" 77th Query the witness says.

It was all taken by troops encamped &
in this vicinity - at Moscow. One mile
a half miles from where it was taken.

" 78th Query the witness says.

I saw mules, corn fodder meat, cattle &
other taken -

" 79th The first thing was 7 mules. I think
six of them were hitched to a wagon. They
were all in a lot near the house. I
was at the house, they were all nice
large mules, all of them. I think they
were worth 160 - each, I don't know how
old they were, I think some of Col.
Quimby's men took them. but I don't
know, He was stationed at Moscow,
I don't know what Regiment he belonged
to. Four or five soldiers perhaps more, came
to the lot, unhitched them on the wagon

and rode them off on the road to Moscow, they rode off before at that time I saw them. I never saw those mules again. I don't think there was any officer, but don't know, I did not hear anything said. A black boy was with the team hitched to the wagon. His name was Isaac, Chambers. I don't know where he now is. I can not tell what year or month this was. It was the year the Federals first came I think in the fall of the year. My husband was then alive. A short time afterwards - about four weeks, they took two more mules, but I did not see that. My husband was alive.

Item 2. The corn was in the crib harvested in the shock. There were two cribs full standing near the house. I don't know how much corn there was, or the size of the cribs or its value, I think it was all raised that year, I can not give the date when it was taken, but think it was about Christmas the year the mules were taken. I don't know what troops got it. I don't know of any command near here at that time except Col. Quincy's at Moscow. They took the corn in wagons and I think some in sacks. I don't know how many wagons they used, nor how many men were engaged in it. I saw a heap of them. I should think 100 ^{men} getting corn together. They would not have more than two or three wagons there at once, I should think there were 10 men with three 2 or 3 wagons. They were several days getting it but I don't know how many. They went off towards Moscow with it.

My husband was alive when this corn was taken - I don't know as I saw any officers present, and did not hear any thing said except one of the soldiers said on one occasion "We want corn," He said this to me, my old man and one of our daughters in the house. My old man and I said "Go and get it" He was alone some foot. The next day I think it was some wagons, I don't remember how many came ~~there~~ ^{there} and got corn, I don't think he was an officer.

(17) I think one of the cribs was a little longer than the other, they are still standing on the plantation & can be measured. They were both full of corn.

Item 3. The fodder was in stacks down in the field. I don't know how many stacks there were, it was put up the year it was taken. I can't tell how much there was of it, or its value. The same troops took this, who did the corn. I don't know who they were. They hauled it all off on wagons. They were 2 or 3 days, hauling it off. I counted 25 loads they got, one day. I don't know how many loads they hauled any other day. They were not big wagons. Some had two or some four mules to a wagon - They went off towards Moscow with it - I did not see any that I knew were officers, and heard nothing said. My husband was alive. I can not give the date, but think it was about the same time they took the corn.

Item 4. All the meat I saw taken was from the smoke house near the house in the yard. It was at the house. They fired the door down. There was at ^{least} 4000 lbs. I think there was more - I got at the amount from knowing we ~~usually~~ ^{usually} killed from 40 to 50 head. I don't remember just how many we ~~usually~~ ^{usually} killed that year.

(18.)

but know about the usual number, they were large hogs & would have weighed from 200 to 250 pounds, dressed, Meat was worth 20 cts when this was taken, I don't know what Regiment or command they belonged to. I suppose they were the troops from Moscow. As I think there were no other soldiers about here, they were Infantry soldiers, and they just broke down the door and went in - they carried it off on their shoulders, two or three of them would take a stick and carry off as much as they could, "tati" - there were no wagons - they kept carrying it until they got it all, they were two days getting it. I should think there were 500 soldiers, first of all, coming & going I know there were as many as that, they went off towards Moscow with it. I did not see them destroy any of it, I don't know as I saw any officers, and did not hear anything said, I can not give the date, it was after the corn was taken but I can't say how long. I think now it was in the Spring after the corn was taken, the meat was all put up that winter, it was hams & shoulders all kinds of meat, all cured.

Item 5, they drove off the cattle in gangs, we had as many as 20 I know, two milk cows were taken to Moscow & they sent me word that I could have them. They come home themselves. These cows had calves and they did not come back, I think 5 of them were cows, the others were dry cattle and yearlings or, these whole 20 had went off at that time & we supposed the soldiers got all of them, there were as many as ten soldiers and I saw them driving the cattle off towards Moscow, I do not know what soldiers there were, I did not see any officer to know him and heard nothing said -

I can not give the date but it was after they took the meat, the same Spring. None of the cattle except the two cows come back, I never saw them any more.

Item 6. I saw the oxen taken from the lot over the house, I don't know how much there were, I don't know how much they might be worth, I don't know how many were taken a very few days after the cattle were, there were 5 or 6 soldiers on foot they went into the lot & drove the oxen off towards Moscow. I don't know what soldiers they were, it was in the day time but I don't remember the color, I saw no officer and heard nothing said. This was before my husband died - I do not know the names of any of these soldiers - I don't remember whether the Command at Moscow in the Spring was Col. Dumb, that was then the fall before, I don't remember what Command was there in the Spring -

Item 7. I did not see them take the hogs. I think we had as many as 40 head and there were but few left, they all went some where, I think they were taken the same time the cattle were, that is about the same time. Part of them were taken before my husband died & part after, but I can't give the number. We could see when they killed skinned them -

After reflection, I am sure it will be 12 years next July since my husband died. And further document with me

In presence of
Henry F. Dix

Witness
Jennima F. Claiborne
Mark.

Deposition of Loison Decroden, Colod.

2. 1st. Duty. the witness says.

Loison Decroden, age about 34 years.
residence Moscow Tenn, have lived
him about 15 or 16 years. and occu-
pation a farmer,

2. 2^d Duty. the witness says.

(20) I am a Colored man, not related
to the Claimant and am not in-
terested in the success of this claim.

2. 71. Duty. the witness says.

No. I was Alfred Decroden's. I am not
in Mr. Chambers employment or serv-
ice. I don't live on his land, I don't owe
her anything. I am not in any way
to share in this claim if it is paid.

2. 72. Duty. the witness says.

I am present and actually saw the fol-
lowing taken. Seven Mules, some corn,
meat, and cattle, that is all,

" 73. Duty. the witness says.

No. All I saw taken was in the daytime.

" 74. Duty. the witness says.

I never heard any.

" 75. Duty. the witness says.

Not that I know of.

" 76. Duty. the witness says.

I do not know.

" 77. Duty. the witness says.

It was taken by troops stationed at
Moscow Tennessee.

" 78. Duty. the witness says.

I saw Mules, Corn, fodder, meat, cattle
and hogs taken.

2. 79. Duty. the witness says.

I first saw 7 mules taken. The mules were
at the home, then were 4 of them hitched
to a wagon that the barrels were hauling
wood with. The others were in the lot.

There were in the lot, they were all good
 farm mules, all work mules. I don't
 know how much they were worth. The
 troops belonged to a command stationed
 at Moscow. - I supposed so because there
 were no others near him. Col. Smith
 was in command there. The soldiers
 were all on the plantation that day
 passing from neighbor to neighbor, I
 should think there were 100, less
 that day. I think they were infantry.
 but some were riding. I should
 think there were as many as 15 or
 20. unloading the mules from the
 wagon and catching them in the
 lot, they led some off & rode some.
 I did not pay much attention to it.
 I was then living with Maria Alfred
 Dwyer, about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from Mr.
 Chambers, but I was over to Mr. Cham-
 bers at the time the mules were taken.
 They went off towards Moscow with the
 mules. I never saw the mules again.
 I don't remember whether there was any
 officer, I could tell an officer, and
 rather think there was one, but don't
 remember to be certain. I did not
 hear any thing said by any one at
 the time. I think they were taken in 1863. the
 year after the rebels first gave up fight for good.

Item 2. The corn was in two cribs - ^{horizontally}
 in the shed. The cribs were near the house
 and I was one at Mr. Chambers house.
 I have no idea how much corn there
 was, the cribs were some when near full.
 very near full. I don't know what Regt.
 or Command they belonged to. They were
 encamped at Moscow. I think it was
 taken in 1863. the same year the mules were.
 It was about Christmas I think. in the
 fall or winter, they loaded the corn off
 in wagons. I should think there were
 30 or 50 wagons coming & going, off &
 on. I don't know how long they were

getting it. I saw them hauling on two
days. I don't know how many soldiers
they had to a wagon, I don't know
whether they got all the corn. They
hauling it off towards Moscow, I saw
some officers - Lieutenants, going back
and forth with the teams. I did
not know their names. I knew the
officers by from their dress. I did
not hear any thing said by any one
while they were getting the corn -
I don't know the size of the cribs - or the
quantity of corn in them. I know that

~~Item 3. I don't know about the fodder~~
Mr. Chambers had his whole plantation
in corn that year, I am not certain
how many acres he had, but think
more than 200 acres in corn. He had
about an average crop. His land
would produce from 4 to 5 Bbls per acre.
There are 5 bushels in a Bbl,

Item 3. I know the soldiers got some of
Mr. Chambers fodder from his field.
It was in stacks and I was down -
then when they were getting it, they were
hauling it off in wagons towards Moscow.
I think it was about the same time
they got the corn. I don't know what
Command they belonged to but they
came from Moscow. All the fodder
Mr. Chambers raised that year was
taken in the field. I don't know whether
they got all of it. There were some
officers with them at the time they
were hauling, but I did not hear
any thing said by any of them.

Item 4. I saw them taking meat from the
cattle house. It was pretty full of
Meat. I think Mr. Chambers had laid
in some 20 or 25 hogs. & some of
them were large. I heard it said
just after it was taken that he had
killed more than 2000 pounds of meat,

5-

I was at Mr Chambers when they ~~had~~ were taking the meat. It was horse & shoulder, I don't know how much it was worth, I can't tell what year it was. But think it was after the mules & cows were taken but I can't tell how long. They carried off the meat in wagons, all that I saw taken. I remember that - I saw them loading two wagons at the smoke house, I don't know whether they got all of it, I saw about 8 or 10 men at the smoke house getting the meat, they loaded it off towards their camp at Moscow. 23. I don't know what Regt. they belonged to - I think it was not Col. Dimble's Command that got the meat, but don't know where it was.

I saw officers at the house when the soldiers were taking the meat, but saw none at the smoke house, and did not hear any orders given, or any thing said about it.

Item 5, I saw the soldiers driving cattle off towards Moscow, but don't know about many they got, don't know about many Mr. Chambers had, I can't give the date, I saw them drive off some yearlings & some old cows. He had all kinds of cattle. I should think there were as many as 100 soldiers in the field and I can't tell how many I saw driving off the cattle. I don't know what command they belonged to. I saw officers with them. I knew an officer from his dress. They had stripes on their shoulders. I did not hear any orders given or any thing said. I was not near enough, I was in the field & went off home to get away from them.

3

Item 6. I did not see the oxen taken but know Mr. Chambers had two oxen, and I did not see them any more after the cattle were taken -

Item 7. I saw them take as many as 15 or 20 hogs, I can't state what year it was, I think it was before the oxen were taken. They shot the hogs in the field, some they skinned & some they picked up & carried off without - They carried them off on sticks towards their camp at Moscow, I never saw any officers with the soldiers killing the hogs. They killed them all along, first one day and then another,

As to the whole property - I believe it was taken for the use of the army from the fact that the army was encamped at Moscow, and the soldiers always went off towards Moscow, and many times officers were with them and must have known the soldiers were getting the property -

And for the defendant said not

In presence of
Henry F. Dix -

Inscribed by
Linsan X Dearden
Mark,

- Deposition of Richard Bourn Colld.
2. 1st July. the witness says.
Richard Bourn, age, 28 years, resident in Moscow Tenn. & have always lived here. Am a farmer.
3. 2nd July. the witness says
I am a Colored man. not related to the Claimant and am not interested in the success of this claim.
2. 71st July. the witness says.
I was never Claimant's slave nor Mr. Chambers. Am not now in his service or employment, do not live on his land. I do not owe him anything. I am not to share in this claim if it is allowed.
- (25) " 72nd July. the witness says.
I was present and actually saw the meat & corn taken and one mule.
- " 73. July. the witness says.
That which I saw was taken in the day time -
- " 74. July. the witness says
None that I know of
- " 75. July. the witness says.
I do not know.
- " 76. July. the witness says.
I do not know anything about it -
- " 77. July. the witness says.
They were encamped at Moscow,
- " 78. July the witness says -
I saw One mule, some Corn, Meat, some cattle & some dogs taken -
- " 79. July the witness says -
Item 1. One mule. This one mule was used in the lot. Some 10 or 15 soldiers went to the lot, caught the mule and one rode him off towards Vienna. I don't know that there was any soldiers off that way. I don't know what command that soldiers belonged to. They

were Cavalry soldiers, and they all
rode off together. The soldier who
got the mule left an old horse
he had been riding, which after-
wards died. He was broken down
26. when the soldier left him. These
soldiers were scouting round. There
had been no battle or skirmish. I
cannot state what date that was.
I think it was in 1863. but am not
certain & can't state the month.
I did not see any officers that I
know of. Some of them came up to
the house, where I was. I did not
hear them say anything about the
mule.

27. The corn was in two cribs in the house.
The cribs are both still on the place.
I don't know how much there was of
it except I know the cribs were full.
I think Mr. Chambers had over 200
acres in corn that year. He raises nothing
else that year. He had his whole bot-
tom in corn, & it is called more than
200 acres. He had just about an
average crop. An average crop is
4 or 5. Bbls to the acre - I know he
had some in the field that had not
been harvested. but I don't know how
much there was of it. I understood
that in the field was also taken. They
took all there was in the cribs - I don't
know just how much corn was worth
at that time. I can not give the
date. The soldiers that got it belonged
to Col Quinby's Company, which
was stationed at Moscow. They hauled
the corn off in wagons towards Moscow.
I saw some 10 or 15 wagons hauling

- one day, and I saw them hunting 3 or 4 days - but I can not tell how many loads I saw them take in all. I did not see any officers with the men getting corn, and heard nothing said by any of the soldiers about it.
- Item 4. I saw them taking meat from the Smoke house, the soldiers "toted" it off with sticks. They unlocked the door & went in, there were about 8 or 10 soldiers when they first went in. They did not carry off any of it in wagons, but kept coming & going on foot & got the meat. They came from towards Moscow. I saw no officer with them & don't know what command they belonged to, nor any of their names. I saw them several days taking this meat. I heard some of the soldiers tell Mrs. Chambers that they were going to take what they wanted, that was when they first commenced, she did not say anything except to tell them to take it. I don't know how much there was of this meat but I reckon there were between 2000 & 3000 pounds. It was meat that was killed on the place that year, I don't know how many bags Mr. Chambers killed & don't know how much the meat was worth.
- Item 5. I did not see them take more than 2 or 3 cattle and don't know how many cattle Mr. Chambers had, but know he had a good many. Sometimes they killed the cattle on the place and took only a quarter, I saw them drive off two towards Moscow. There were 4 or 5 soldiers on foot. The cattle were in the field. I think there was an officer with them, I did not hear

any thing said, was not close to them, I can't tell what year it was. Think it was the same year the battle of Vicksburg was fought but can't tell whether it was before or after,

Item 9. I did not see them get more than 5 or 6 hogs. I know Mr. Chambers shot 30 or 35 head. They killed them (28) I saw them take, skinned them & took the meat, I saw some 5 or 6 soldiers perhaps more killing the hogs. I think there was an officer with them but am not sure, I was not very near them and did not hear any thing said.

I think they took this property ~~was taken~~ for the use of the army because they always went off towards Moscow where there was a command stationed and in many cases there was an officer present when the property was taken. I could tell an officer from the stripes on his shoulder,

And further deponent says not

In presence of
Henry F. Dix

Richard ^{his} Boon
Mark

deposition of John P. Hendley.
I was the administrator of the
estate of Mrs. Chambers said.
He left a will but appointed
no Executor, and I qualified
as adminr.

The estate was solvent, &
paid off all the debts, and
made my settlement, and
was ^{discharged} qualified as soon as the
Courts opened after the close
of the war, I should think
it was 4 or 5 years after I quali-
fied, when I was discharged
(29.) I cannot tell the date,

And for the deponent saith not,

In presence of
Henry A. Dix

John P. Hendley

Chancery Court at Lowersville Term May
Term 1866.

John P. Hendley vs. Fannina Chambers App. S.
Jaeger and Wife Martha Adeline Chambers &
Emma Chambers.

Be it remembered that on this
the 21st day of May A.D. 1866. this cause came
on for final hearing and directions, before
the Hon John W Harris Chancellor &c. presiding
upon Bill answer of Minor Defendants and
app. Confess. as to Fannina Chambers Wm
S Jaeger & Wife. Martha Jaeger formerly
Martha Chambers. Taken and had at Jan-
-uary Rules 1866. all the said Defendants
having been duly served with process,
when, it appeared to the Court that on
the 28th day of July 1863. William S.
Chambers, who was then a resident and
Citizen of Fayette County and State
of Tennessee. Deceased this life. leaving
him surviving his wife. the said Fannina
Chambers. and their children above named
the said Martha since having intermarried
with William S. Jaeger. that on the 28th
of July 1863 (three days previous to his death)
the said Chambers made his will in writing signed
by him and attested by Robert Flemming

Joseph I. Crossett and Wyatt P. Madson who
at the request of the said Chambers and in
his presence, subscribed the same as witnesses
the said Chambers was then of sound mind
and disposing Memory, and said will
was written for him at his request
by the witness Robert Fleming, at the
house of the testator, the Complainant
and the subscribing witnesses aforesaid
being present at the making and execu-
-tion of the same, and it further
appearing to the Court, that complain-
-ant, took possession of the said
will immediately after it was made
carried it to his house after having
put it in an envelope, and kept
same until the month of June 1866
when Manding Saldus searched and
robbed complainant's house, and took
from his house said will, since
which time the same has been miss-
-ing and same carried off, or dist-
-royed by said Saldus, when upon
and upon the facts and circumstances
shown by the proof, in this case, the
Court of opinion that the said paper
writing was destroyed by some persons
without the authority or consent of

the said William P. Chambers, so that
the same could not be produced
for probate in the County Court, and
the Court, being further of opinion
that in such a case, a Court of
Chancery has jurisdiction to set
up and establish said paper writing
as the last will and testament of the
said Wm. P. Chambers, and that the
same was the last will and testament
of said William P. Chambers, the Court
thereupon declare that said
paper writing was the last will and
testament of the said William P.
Chambers, and that the same was
in substance and effect as follows
Viz. I William P. Chambers, do make
this my last will and testament. I
direct first that all my just
debts be paid, after that, the res-
-idue of my Estate, both real and
personal, to be equally divided between
my wife Jemima Chambers and my
Children, Martha Adaline and Emma
Chambers, but to be kept together in
the hands of my Executor, until the
death of my wife, or my youngest
child becomes of age, for benefit

of my wife and children, their support
and education of my children, I appoint
John P. Hendley, Executor to this my
will, which was signed by said William
P. Chambers, and published by him in
presence of said Robert Humming,
Joseph D. Everett and Wyatt P. Mott
who became subscribing witnesses thereto,
it is therefore ordered and adjudged
and decreed that the said paper Writing
set forth, as aforesaid, be set up and
established, as the last will and testament
of William P. Chambers, Deed, and that
the same be Certified by the Clerk of
this Court, to the County Court of Tazewell
then to be proceeded on and under, as
the last Will and testament of the
said William P. Chambers Deed, and
that said Executor, be allowed to be
qualified as such under said Will
or in case he should fail, so to
become qualified that such other
person, as may be by law, be allowed
to administer on said Estate of William
P. Chambers Deed, with the will annex-
ed, and it is further ordered that
all the cost ^{of this Cause} be paid out of said
William P. Chambers Estate, —

that the same be paid by Complainant
and allowed him against the Estate
and execution issued therefor, unless
paid in sixty days.

State of Tennessee J. C. McEllan, C. M.
Payette County of the County Court
at Somerville Tenn
do hereby Certify that the foregoing
is a correct Copy of the Decree
entered in the Case of Mrs P. Hendley
vs. Jennie Chambers, & al at the May
term 1866, of said Court, and that
the same is of record in my office.
Witness My hand and private Seal
(there being no seal of office) at office
in Somerville Tenn. Jan'y 8th 1868

The J. C. McEllan C. M.

State of Tennessee J. M. Morton Clerk
Payette County of the County Court of
said County. Certify
that the foregoing is a true and perfect
Copy of the Decree of the County Court
establishing the will of William P.
Chambers, Decd, as appears of rec.

-ord and on file in my office

My hand at office this the 2nd day
of April 1875

W. M. Morton Clerk

Note.—On this page the special commissioner may enter any explanation, statement, note or comment of his own which may be of service in the examination and decision of the claim at Washington. If there be anything noticeable in the appearance, conduct, or condition of a witness, the fact should be noted on this page. If the special commissioner knows or hears anything, apart from what appears in the depositions, that either confirms or impugns the credibility of the testimony or the merit of the claim, he should state what he knows or has heard, with his means of knowledge, or the names of his informants, as the case may be, in order that formal inquiry may be made, or further evidence demanded, if necessary. It would be serviceable to both sides if the special commissioner were to ascertain and set down the names of the men, still living, who, by general reputation, were leading Unionists of the war-period in the vicinity of the claimant. Comment or opinion based merely on the testimony taken is not desired.

§
1210
COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS.

ACT MARCH 3D, 1871.

No. 11291. (160) ~~182~~

CLAIM

OF

Semima Chambers

FILED

MAR 11 1902

Taylor & Co.
Referred to Commissioners

State of *Tennessee*

SUMMARY REPORT.

Pattern Tenn

Amount allowed, \$ —

SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS

W. C.

187

E. W. Hartman
FILED

MAY 2 1902

Referred to Committee on

No. 11291
The Claim of Demima Chambers of Gayette County in the State of Tennessee

| No. of Debt. | NATURE OF CLAIM. | AMOUNT CLAIMED. | | AMOUNT ALLOWED. | | AMOUNT PAID/ALLOWED. | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|------|-----------------|------|----------------------|------|
| | | Dollars. | Cts. | Dollars. | Cts. | Dollars. | Cts. |
| | Widow's "con. Exors. Mort. Cable's Prop. | 211.10 | 50 | — | — | 211.10 | 50 |

REMARKS.

The petitioner is the widow of W. P. Chambers deceased. They were residents of Gayette Co. Tenn. He died sometime during the war. Part of the property was taken before, as a part of, his death. Mrs. Chambers claimed the property under her husband's will but failed to establish her right. There was no administrator of the estate who ought to have filed the petition. From Mrs. Chambers' testimony we think the estate was insolvent and if there was any property it should go to the creditors.

The evidence of loyalty is uncontradicted. The balance of the testimony furnished by the claimant herself is decidedly against her husband's loyalty. The claim is disallowed.

A. C. Allen
O. Brown } Commissioners
of
Claims.