

FORM B.

**WIDOW'S APPLICATION
FOR A PENSION**

The Comptroller of Public Accounts reserves the right to call for additional testimony if he deems it necessary.

Name of Applicant.

Mr. W. A. Bowers

County.

R. F. D. or Street No.

Postoffice Longview, Texas.

Filed May 8th, 1930.

Approved _____

Pension allowed from _____

Rejected May 17th, 1930.

W. A. Hubbard
Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Charged with Desertion.

COMPTROLLERS OFFICE
RECEIVED
MAY 8 1930

Compliments of
East Texas Genealogical Society

Widow's Application for Confederate Pension

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Gregg

I, Mrs. W. A. Bowers do hereby make application for a pension, pursuant to the provisions of the First Section of Title 109, Revised Civil Statutes, 1925, providing for Confederate Pension, amended by Chapter 95, General Laws of the Fortieth Legislature, as amended by Senate Bill 287, Acts of the Regular Session of the Forty-first Legislature of the State of Texas, approved March 5, 1929, on the following ground:

I am a widow of W. A. Bowers deceased, who departed this life on the 1st day of Sept., A. D. 1914, in the county of Harrison in the State of Texas.

I have not remarried since the death of my said husband,* and I do solemnly swear that I was never divorced from my said husband, and that I never voluntarily abandoned him during his life, but remained his true, faithful and lawful wife up to the date of his death. I was married to him on the 15th day of May, A. D. 1903, in the county of Harrison in the State of Texas.

My husband, the said W. A. Bowers, enlisted and served in the military service of the Confederate States during the war between the States of the United States and he did not desert the Confederate service. I have been a resident of the State of Texas since prior to January 1, A. D. 1920, and have been continuously since a citizen of the State of Texas. I do further state that I do not receive from any source whatever money or other means of support amounting in value above the sum of \$300.00 per annum, nor do I own in my own right, nor does anyone hold in trust for my benefit or use, estate or property, either real, personal or mixed, either in fee or for life, of the value of one thousand dollars, exclusive of the home of the value of not over \$2000; nor do I receive any aid or pension from any other State of the United States, and I do further state that the answers given to the following questions are true:

1. What is your age, and date of birth? Age 58 - May 14 1871
2. Where were you born? Harrison County Texas
3. How long have you resided in the State of Texas? whole life
4. How long have you resided in the county of your present residence? 2 years
5. What is your postoffice address? Fouquieu Texas
6. Have you applied for a pension under the Confederate pension law and been rejected? no
If rejected, state when and where: _____
7. Did your husband draw a pension? no If so, give his file number _____
8. Give, if possible, the postoffice address of your deceased husband at the time of his enlistment
no
9. What is your husband's full name? William A Bowers
10. In what State was your husband's command originally organized? Tennessee
11. How long did your husband serve? through the war If known to you, give date of enlistment and discharge Enlisted Oct. 1861 - Taken prisoner 1864 -
12. What was the name or letter of the company, or number of the regiment in which your husband served? If he was transferred from one branch of service to another, give time of transfer, description of command and time of service. (If applicant's husband was a pensioner give his file number, which is evidence sufficient for proof of service.) C. E - 4 Battalion - Brannan Tenn - Cavalry - transferred later to Ashley's Tenn - Cavalry
13. Name branch of service in which your husband served, whether infantry, cavalry, artillery, or the navy, or if commissioned as an officer by the President, his rank and line of duty, or if detailed for special service, under the law of conscription, the nature of such service, and time of service. Cavalry



14. Do you own any property other than that rendered for taxes in your county? If so, state value of same and county where located no

15. Have you transferred to another any property of any kind for the purpose of becoming a beneficiary under this law? no

Wherefore your petitioner prays that her application for a pension may be approved and such other proceedings be had in the premises as required by law.

(Signature of Applicant) W. A. Bowers

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of April, A. D. 1930
W. A. Hughes

[Seal] County Judge Gregg County, Texas.

*Where applicant has remarried it is necessary that she state facts covering particulars of last marriage, date, to whom married, and date of last husband's death. She must also state that she is now a widow.

A-5

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

[Note.—There must be at least two creditable witnesses.]

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Gregg

Before me, W. R. Hughes, County Judge of Gregg County, State of Texas, on this day personally appeared

_____, who are personally known to me to be credible citizens, who, being by me duly sworn, on oath state that they personally know that Mrs. W. a. Bowers

Bowers, applicant for a pension as the widow of William a. Bowers deceased, is in truth and fact the widow of W. a. Bowers deceased; that they personally know that she has not remarried since the death of her husband, for whose services in the army she claims a pension, and that they have no interest in this claim.* and that she is now

the widow
(Signature of Witness) Sid Henderson

(Signature of Witness) J. R. Meadows

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 9th day of April, A. D. 1930.

[Seal.] County Judge _____ County, Texas.

*Where applicant has remarried it is necessary that she state facts covering particulars of last marriage, date, to whom married, and date of last husband's death. She must also state that she is now a widow.

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

[Note.—There must be at least two creditable witnesses.]

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Gregg

Before me, W. R. Hughes, County Judge of Gregg County, State of Texas, on this day personally appeared

_____, who are personally known to me to be creditable citizens, who, being by me duly sworn, on oath state that they personally know the above named applicant for pension, and that they personally know that the said Mrs. W. a. Bowers has been a bona fide resident citizen of the State of Texas since prior to January 1, A. D. 1920, and that they have no interest in this claim.

(Signature of Witness) Sid Henderson

(Signature of Witness) J. R. Meadows

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 9th day of April, A. D. 1930.

[Seal.] County Judge _____ County, Texas.

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

(If possible the two witnesses should have served with the applicant's husband in the army, and if so, let them, or either of them, state it in their oath, also any other information regarding the army service of applicant's husband.)

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Gregg

Before me, W. R. Hughes, County Judge of Gregg County,

State of Texas, on this day personally appeared J. R. Meadows

....., who are personally known to me to be creditable witnesses, who, being by me sworn, on oath state that they are personally acquainted with the foregoing applicant, and that the facts set forth and statements made in her application are correct and true, to the best of his knowledge and belief, and that they have no interest in this claim. And further make oath to the following facts touching the service of applicant's husband in the Confederate Army: (Witnesses must state fully the source of their knowledge of service of applicant's husband)

Mr. William A. Bowers enlisted as a private in Co. E, 4th Battalion Brannens Tennessee Cavalry in Tennessee, fall of 1861, and was later in 1862 transferred to Ashbys regiment Tennessee cavalry and served during the war in that regiment, which I think was 2nd regiment of Tennessee cavalry, and I believe was a corporal in that regiment, I believe in Co. L,-

(Signature of Witness) J. R. Meadows

(Signature of Witness)

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 9th day of April, A. D. 1930

[Seal.]

County Judge Gregg County, Texas.

CERTIFICATE OF STATE AND COUNTY ASSESSOR

I, Oscar Wood, State and County Assessor in the County of

Gregg State of Texas, do certify that Mrs. W. A. Bowers

whose name is signed to the foregoing application for a pension is charged on the tax rolls of said county with a homestead of the value of Eight Hundred Dollars, and, in addition to homestead, of other property, real or personal, or both, of the value of None Dollars.

Given under my hand, this 7 day of May, A. D. 1930

Oscar Wood
State and County Assessor.



Comptroller's Department
 State of Texas
 Austin

May 8th, 1930.

To the Adjutant General,
 War Department,
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to request the Military record of W.A.Bowers, who is reported to have enlisted in Company "E" Regiment 4th Tennessee Cavalry, transferred to Ashley's Tennessee Cavalry.

RECEIVED
 MAY 12 1930
 OLD RECORDS DIVN

in service in the Confederate States Army.

Very respectfully,

Geo H Sheppard

TX

Comptroller of State of Texas.
 Mrs W.A.Bowers.

28 Received A. G. O. MAY 12 1930

WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

IN REPLY
REFER TO

O.R.D.

WASHINGTON May 13, 1930.

Respectfully returned to

Comptroller,
State of Texas,
Austin, Texas.

The records show that William A. Bowers, Co. E, 4th. Battn. (Branner's) Tenn. Cav., C.S.A., enlisted October 4, 1861, at Cumberland Ford. Muster roll Jan. & Feb. 1862, dated April 30, 1862, (latest on file,) shows him present, a Private.

(The Battn. was consolidated with another orgn. to form the 2nd. (Ashby's) Tenn. Cav., C.S.A., This Co. becoming Co. I, of that organization.) Muster roll Nov. & Dec. 1864, (latest on file,) shows him absent without leave, a Private.

Other records show that he deserted July 11, 1864, at Carrolton, Ga., rec'd. July 30, 1864, at Mil. Prison, Chattanooga, Tenn., and Oath administered July 30, -, a Private.

His name also appears as signature to an Oath of Allegiance taken at Louisville, August 10, 1864, a Private. Residence: Jefferson Co., Tenn.

Remark: Sent from the Dept. of the Cumberland to be released north of the Ohio River. No later record found.

C. A. Bridges,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.
By *TS:*

TX

A-5

District Court Meets on the 2nd Monday
in February, 1st Monday in June and
the 1st Monday in October.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County Court Meets on the 2nd Monday
in January, April, July and September

OFFICERS:

WILLIAM R. HUGHES, County Judge
DUSH SHAW, County Clerk
B. CLAY TODD, Com., Precinct No. 1
J. H. JONES, Com., Precinct No. 2
LEO BRADSHAW, Com., Precinct No. 3
J. S. KING, Com., Precinct No. 4
R. F. McSWAIN, County Agent

COUNTY OF GREGG

COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETS ON THE
SECOND MONDAY IN EACH MONTH

OFFICERS:

D. S. MERIDITH, Jr., Co. and Dist. Attorney
MRS. MAUDE WOOD, District Clerk
MARTIN HAYS, Sheriff
E. O. McWHORTER, Tax Collector
OSCAR WOOD, Tax Assessor
WALTER E. JONES, County Supt.
B. B. BROWN, County Treasurer
J. I. CHOICE, County Surveyor

LONGVIEW, TEXAS

May 8th, 1930

My dear Mr. Sheppard:

I beg to hand you herewith application of Mrs. William A. Bowers of this county for Confederate widows pension, as the widow now of William A Bowers, deceased Confederate soldier. Proper affidavits have been made in this application, and I shall be greatly indebted to you, as this applicant is a very deserving and needy widow, if you will approve this application.

I desire to mention, in support of this application, the following facts:

First- we are unable to find any one here who served in the same regiment with Mr Bowers, due to the fact that after the war he came to this state, as so many return soldiers did, starting a new and marrying here. However, in my efforts to locate all the information possible on the service of Mr Bowers, I have this statement from Mr. L. Wooley now an inmate of the Confederate soldiers home at Austin, and former County Commissioners of this county who knew Mr Bowers well and live many years neighbors to him- this however was years ago. Mr. Wooley's statement to is as follows: "Bowers and I were friends for a long while. I believe he was a true confederate soldier, but I never saw him until he came to Texas, and could not say what regiment he was in. I think he went to war from Tennessee, and was taken prisoner, escaped from prison, and made his way to Canada, and finally return South. He was a Justice of the peace at once time. I think Mrs Bowers is due a pension."

I would appreciate very much if you would get in touch with Mr Wooley at the home and make further inquiry, if desired, from him.

As I understand the Attorneys Generals opinion on the new law, ~~that~~ one person testifying as to service of the applicant soldier husband, is sufficient, or in lieu of this a record may be shown evidencing service- On inquiry here I am authoritatively advised that Mr Bowers was a member of the local camp of Confederate Veterans during its existence here- It is now disbanded. He was always regarded as a worthy soldier- a fine citizen, was at one time well to do, and for this reason I am told never applied for a pension.

Trusting this explanation together with the application, is sufficient, and that you will grant this

(IX)

District Court Meets on the 2nd Monday
in February, 1st Monday in June and
the 1st Monday in October.

OFFICERS:

WILLIAM R. HUGHES, County Judge
DUSH SHAW, County Clerk
B. CLAY TODD, Com., Precinct No. 1
J. H. JONES, Com., Precinct No. 2
LEO BRADSHAW, Com., Precinct No. 3
J. S. KING, Com., Precinct No. 4
R. F. McSWAIN, County Agent

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF GREGG

COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETS ON THE
SECOND MONDAY IN EACH MONTH

8

LONGVIEW, TEXAS

County Court Meets on the 2nd Monday
in January, April, July and September

OFFICERS:

D. S. MERIDITH, Jr., Co. and Dist. Attorney
MRS. MAUDE WOOD, District Clerk
MARTIN HAYS, Sheriff
E. O. McWHORTER, Tax Collector
OSCAR WOOD, Tax Assessor
WALTER E. JONES, County Supt.
B. B. BROWN, County Treasurer
J. I. CHOICE, County Surveyor

relief because a pension to this widow would be a relief
gratefully received, I beg to remain, awaiting your valued reply-

Yours very truly

W. R. Hughes
County Judge Gregg County



May 20, 1930.

Hon. W. R. Hughes,
County Judge,
Longview, Texas.

Dear Judge Hughes:

Replying to your letter of May 8th, enclosing an application for pension by Mrs. W. A. Bowers.

You are advised that in reply to my request to the War Department, Washington, D. C., for the military record of W. A. Bowers as a Confederate soldier, I have the following report:

"The records show that William A. Bowers, Co. E, 4th., Battn. (Branner's Tenn. Cav. C.S.A., enlisted October 4, 1861, at Cumberland Ford. Muster roll Jan. & Feb. 1862, dated April 30, 1862, (latest on file.) shows him present, a Private.

(The battn. was consolidated with another orgn. to form the 2nd. (Ashby's) Tenn. Cav., C.S.A., This Co. becoming Co. I, of the organization.)

Muster roll Nov. & Dec. 1864, (Latest on file,) shows him absent without leave, a private.

Other records show that he deserted July 11, 1864, at Carrollton, Ga., rec'd. July 30, 1864, at Mil. Prison, Chattanooga, Tenn., and Oath administered July 30, __, a Private.

The name also appears as signature to an Oath of Allegiance taken at Louisville, Aug. 10, 1864, a private. Residents:

(TX)

Page #2. Hon. W. R. Hughes, Longview, Texas.

Jefferson Co., Tenn.

Remark: Sent from the Dept of the Cumberland to be released north of the Ohio River. No later record found."

Since this report charges that Mr. Bowers deserted the Confederate States Army on July 11, 1864, and the record of the War Department shows that the Oath of Allegiance was administered on July 30th and that he is charged with having signed an Oath of Allegiance on August 10, 1864, he would not have been entitled to pension under these conditions, and neither would any one else be entitled to pension on his record, and for this reason the application of Mrs. Bowers is necessarily rejected.

Yours very truly,

State Comptroller of Public
Accounts.

JHT:E

cc to:
Mrs. W. A. Bowers,
Longview, Texas.