

14
16625

FORM A

Soldier's Application for Pension

The Commissioner of Pensions reserves the right to call for additional testimony if he deems it necessary.

Name of Applicant.

Robert Coker

Smith

County

Postoffice

Tyler

JUL 17 1909

Filed

AUG 31 1909

Approved

Pension allowed from

Rejected

Commissioner of Pensions.

VON BOECKMANN-JONES CO., PRINTERS, AUSTIN

Compliments of
East Texas Genealogical Society
www.rootsweb.com/~txetgs

FORM A

For use of Soldiers, who are in indigent circumstances

THE STATE OF TEXAS }
 County of Smith }

I, Robert Coker, do hereby make application to the Commissioner of Pensions for a pension to be granted me under the Act passed by the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Texas, and approved March 26, A. D. 1909, on the following grounds:

I enlisted and served in the military service of the Confederate States during the war between the States of the United States, and that I did not desert the Confederate service, but during said war I was loyal and true to my duty, and never at any time voluntarily abandoned my post of duty in the said service; that I was honorably discharged or surrendered I was surrendered at the close of the war 1865

(Give date and cause.)

that I have been a bona fide citizen of this State since prior to January 1, A. D. 1880, and have been continuously since a citizen of the State of Texas. I do further state that I do not hold any national, State, city or county office which pays me in salary or fees one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, nor have I an income from any other employment or other source whatever which amounts to one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, nor do I receive from any source whatever money or other means of support amounting in value to the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, nor do I own in my own right, nor does any one hold in trust for my benefit or use, nor does my wife own, nor does any one hold in trust for my wife, estate or property, either real, personal or mixed, either in fee or for life, of the assessed value of over one thousand dollars; nor do I receive any aid or pension from any other State, or from the United States, or from any other source, and that I am not an inmate of the Confederate Home, and I do further state that the answers given to the following questions are true:

1. What is your age? Seventy one years and four months
2. Where were you born? in Clark County Miss
3. How long have you resided in Texas? Thirty four years
4. In what county do you reside? in Smith
5. How long have you resided in said county and what is your postoffice address? Seven years and my Post office is Tyler
6. Have you applied for a pension under the Confederate pension law and been rejected? If rejected, state when and where. Never did apply for pension
7. What is your occupation, if able to engage in one? Not able to engage any
8. In what State was the command in which you served organized? in Miss
9. How long did you serve? Give, if possible, the date of enlistment and discharge. May 1861 to Apr 1865
10. What was the letter of your company, number or name of battalion, regiment or battery? Co. G. 13 Miss Regiment
11. If transferred from one command to another, give time of transfer, name of command and time of service. Never Transferred
12. What branch of the service did you enlist in—infantry, cavalry, artillery or navy? in the infantry



13. If commissioned direct by the President, what was your rank and line of duty?.....

14. If detailed for special service, under the law of conscription, what was the nature of your service and how long did you serve?

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

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

(Signature of Applicant) Robert Coker

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 14 day of July, A. D. 1909

[SEAL.]

J. A. Bullock
County Judge Smith County, Texas.

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

[NOTE.—There must be at least two credible witnesses.]

THE STATE OF TEXAS }
County of Smith

Before me J. A. Bullock, County Judge of Smith County, State of Texas, on this day personally appeared J. W. Massey & G. H. Massey, who are personally known to me to be credible citizens, who, being by me duly sworn, on oath state that they personally know.....

.....the above named applicant for a pension, and that they personally know that the said.....
.....has been a bona fide resident citizen of the State of Texas since prior to January 1, A. D. 1880, and that they have no interest in this claim.

(Signature of Witness) J. W. Massey

(Signature of Witness) G. H. Massey

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 14 day of July, A. D. 1909

[SEAL.]

J. A. Bullock
County Judge Smith County, Texas.

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

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

THE STATE OF TEXAS }
County of.....

Before me....., County Judge of..... County, State of Texas, on this day personally appeared.....

who are personally known to me to be credible citizens, 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 his application are correct

For questions only

EX PARTE

Roth Coker

Applicant for Confederate Pension.

Pending in the Honorable Commissioners Court

of *Smith* County, Texas,

before the Honorable County Judge of said County.

The Honorable County Judge of *Smith* County, Texas, will please take notice that, five days after the service hereof, applicant herein will apply to the Clerk of the County Court of said County and State, for a commission to take the depositions of *G. S. Donald* and *D. C. Garrison* who reside in the County of *Clock* in the State of *Mississippi* in answer to the following interrogatories and such cross interrogatories as may be propounded by the County Judge of said County, which will be read in evidence upon the hearing of applicant's claim for pension in behalf of applicant; said testimony is material and indispensable to applicant in furnishing the required proof to his claim for a pension under the Act of May 12, 1899, the application for which is now pending before the Honorable County Judge, and the facts necessary and required to be proven under the provisions of said Act, applicant believes can not be proven by any witness residing in the County of *Smith* and State of Texas, of which he is a bona fide resident.

Roth Coker

(Applicant) Attorney for Applicant.

Direct Interrogatories to be Propounded to the Witness.....

- INT. 1. What is your name? Age? Present place of residence and postoffice address?
- INT. 2. Do you personally know, or did you at any time know *Roth Coker* who is an applicant for pension under Act of May 12, 1899?
- INT. 3. How long have you known the said *Roth Coker* applicant for pension and when and where did you first know him?
- INT. 4. Do you personally know that the said *Roth Coker* applicant for pension enlisted in the service of the Confederacy, and performed the duties of a soldier or a sailor?
- INT. 5. Do you personally know in what company and regiment the said *Roth Coker* applicant, enlisted and served in the Confederate army? When? Where? And the time of service? If you personally knew and so have stated that he enlisted and served in the Confederate navy, then state: When? Where? And how long he so served? *Roth Coker*
- INT. 6. Do you further know that *Roth Coker* the said applicant for pension, is unable to support himself by labor of any sort?

CROSS INTERROGATORIES.



To be Propounded to *D. C. Garrison and G. S. Donald*

CROSS INTERROGATORY 1. If, in answer to the foregoing direct interrogatories, you have stated that you personally know or did know said applicant, and that you know that he enlisted in the service of the Confederacy and performed the duties of a soldier or sailor, and having named the company and regiment in which applicant so enlisted and served, then please state fully what is your source of such knowledge? And state whether or not you know or at any time you knew of any other soldier or sailor by the name of *Roth Coker* serving in the same company or regiment in which you say the said applicant *Roth Coker* enlisted, or if you have stated that said applicant enlisted and served in the navy of the Confederacy, then state whether or not you know

any other sailor of the same name as said Robert Coker applicant serving in the same command?

If you say that you so knew other soldiers or sailors of the same name of applicant's, then can you and how do you identify and locate the one from the other or others?

CROSS INT. 2. Are you positively certain that said Robert Coker applicant for pension, is the identical person serving as testified by you?

CROSS INT. 3. If you have answered Direct Interrogatory No. 6 in the affirmative, then please state your source of knowledge or information? Is not this your answer simply based on conjecture?

CROSS INT. 4. Do you know whether or not the said Robert Coker applicant for pension, ever deserted the service in the Confederate army or navy?

[Dotted lines for handwritten answers]

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Smith

I, J. A. Beard, County Judge of said County, in said State, do hereby waive copy of interrogatories, notice, time and issuance of commission, and it is hereby agreed that the answers to the hereinabove direct and cross interrogatories of the said herein named witness..... may be attached hereto.

J. A. Beard
County Judge Smith County, Texas.
Robert Coker
(Applicant) Attorney..... for Applicant.

In Re
Application for Confederate
Pension.

IN COMMISSIONERS COURT,
Smith
County, Texas,

Pending before the County Judge of said County.

EX PARTE
Robert Coker
Applicant.

INTERROGATORIES
PROPOUNDED TO

Witnesses.

[Dotted lines for handwritten answers]

DEPOSITION IN PENSION CLAIMS, WITH CAPTION AND CERTIFICATES.

EX PARTE

Robert Coker

IN RE APPLICANT FOR CONFEDERATE PENSION

Under Act May 12, 1899, pending in County Commissioners Court of *Smith*

Applicant for Confederate Pension.

County, Texas, before the Honorable County Judge of said County.

Answers and depositions of (1) Major G. L. Donald of Quitman, Miss. and D. C. Gavin of Quitman, Miss.

to the accompanying interrogations (2) _____
propounded to _____ in the above entitled cause taken before (3) _____
in accordance with the accompanying (5) _____

To the first interrogatory the said _____

Witness, answers _____

Answer to interrogatory 1. My name is G. L. Donald, my age is 70 yrs. and my residence and Postoffice address is Quitman, Mississippi.

Answer to interrogatory 2.- Yes.

Answer to interrogatory 3.- I knew him during the entire war from 1861 to 1865.

Answer to interrogatory 4.- Yes, I know that he enlisted in the service of the Confederacy and performed the duties of a soldier.

Answer to interrogatory 5.- Yes he first enlisted in Company "I" of the 13th Miss. Regiment and after the reorganization in 1862, it became Company "G". He enlisted at Pierces Springs, Clarke County, Miss. in April, 1861 and served during the entire war.

Answer to interrogatory 6.- Robert Coker having removed from this state to the state of Texas soon after the close of the war, I know nothing of his physical condition.

Answer to cross interrogatory 1.- I know what I state from personal observation. During the first year of the war I was first Lieutenant of the Company to which said Robert Coker belonged. I was afterwards Captain of the same Company and after wards Major of the regiment to which he belonged. I never knew any other Robert Coker.- I never knew any other Robert Coker.

Answer to cross interrogatory No. 2.- I am.

Answer to cross interrogatory No. 4.- He did not

G. L. Donald

TX

Answer to interrogatory No. 1.- My name is D. C. Gavin. My age is 68 yrs. and my residence and postoffice address is Quitman, Mississippi.

Answer to interrogatory No. 2.- I did.

Answer to interrogatory No. 3.- I knew him during the entire war from 1861 to 1865.

Answer to interrogatory No. 4.- Yes, I know that he enlisted in the service of the Confederacy and performed the duties of a soldier and he performed them well.

Answer to interrogatory No. 5.- Yes, he first enlisted in Company "I" of the 13th Miss. regiment and after the reorganization in 1862, it became Company "G", he enlisted at Pierces Springs in Clarke county, Miss. in April 1861 and served during the entire war.

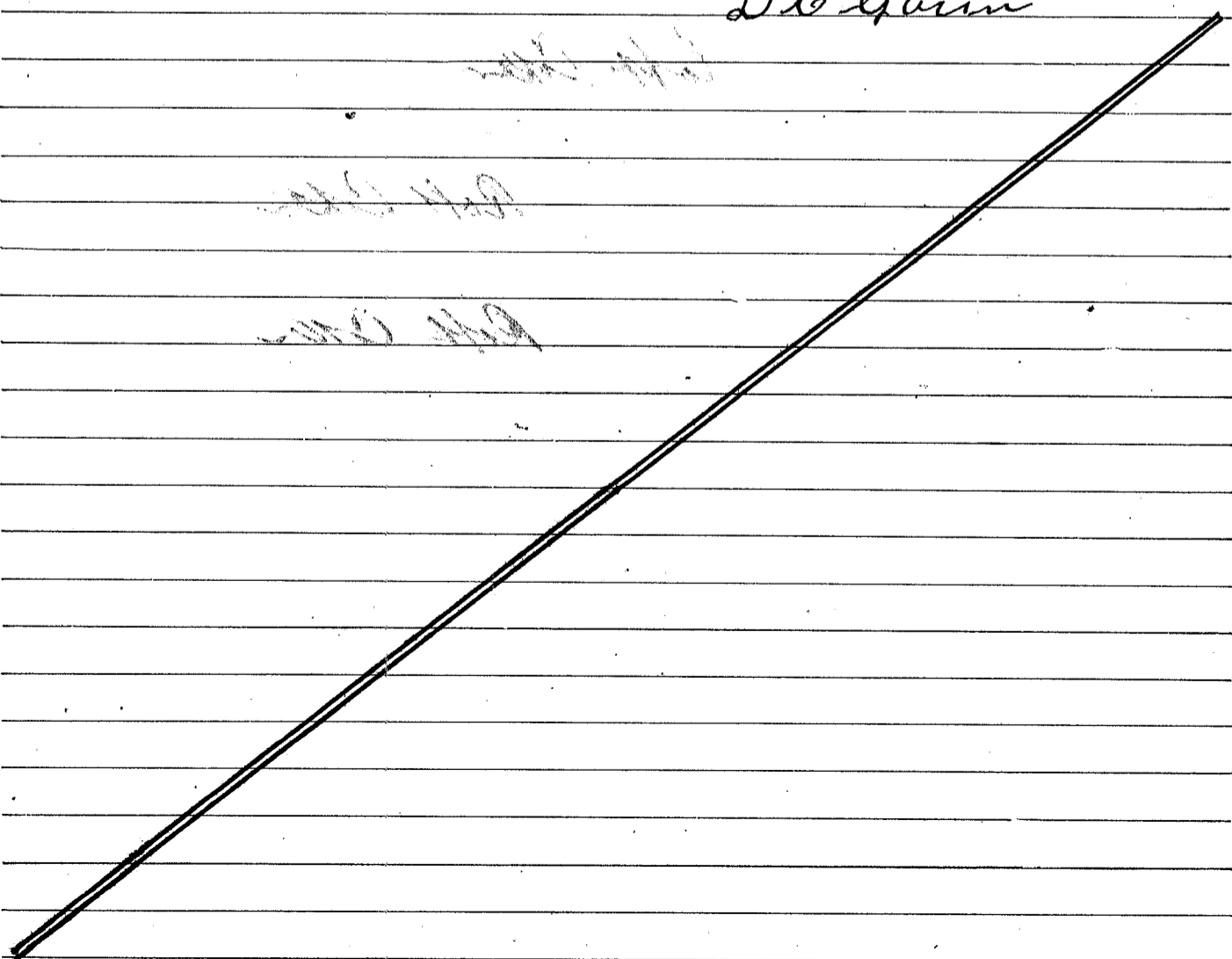
Answer to interrogatory No. 6.- I lost sight of said Robert Coker soon after the surrender. He moved from this part of the country and I never heard of him any more till recently. I heard that he wanted my testimony in regard to his service in the war. I know nothing now of his physical condition.

Answer to cross interrogatory No. 1.- I know of what I state from personal observation because Robert Coker and myself were in the same Company and Regiment together during the entire war. I never knew any other Robert Coker.

Answer to cross interrogatory No. 2.- Yes, I believe he is the same Robert Coker that served with me, but I don't know it.

Answer to cross interrogatory No. 4.- He never deserted the service of the Confederacy, he was always at his post of duty and performed his duty well

D. C. Gavin



[Faint handwritten marks]

Blank lined area for notes or additional text, crossed out with a diagonal line.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 12th day of July, 1909

Jas B Evans
Chancery Clerk

MISSISSIPPI.
THE STATE OF TEXAS }
COUNTY OF CLARKE

I, Jas. B. Evans, Chancery Clerk
(Here give name and official character of officer before whom taken.)

do hereby certify that G. L. Donald of Quitman, Miss.
and D.C. Gavin of Quitman, Miss. are personally known to me to be credible citizens of said
County and State, and that the foregoing answers of the said G. L. Donald and D. C.
Gavin

the witnesses before named, and -----
-----, whose names appear signed to the foregoing deposition, were made before me
and were sworn to and subscribed before me, by said ~~witness(es)~~ witnesses

Given under my hand and official seal, this the 12th day of July, 1909
(L. S.) *Jas B Evans*
Chancery Clerk.

NOTE.—In Texas, any Clerk of the District Court, any Judge and Clerk of the County Court, or any Notary Public or Justice of the Peace, within their respective Counties, are authorized to take depositions. Out of the State and within the United States—any Clerk of a Court of record having a seal, any Notary Public, or any Commissioner of Deeds of Texas.

File No. _____

In the Commissioners Court

OF

_____ County, Texas.
Before the Honorable County Judge of said County.

EX PARTE

Applicant for Confederate Pension

DEPOSITION
OF

Witness— for Applicant

Filed _____ day

of _____ 190_____

Clerk.

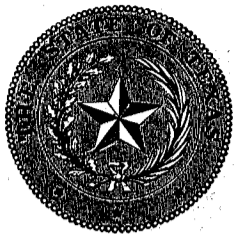
By _____ Deputy.

Fee for taking Deposition, \$ 50

[The body of the document is a large area of ruled lines, which has been completely crossed out with two parallel diagonal lines running from the top-left to the bottom-right.]

TX

- (1) Here give the name and residence of each witness.
- (2) Here state "and cross interrogatories," if any.
- (3) Here give the name and official character of the person taking the deposition.
- (4) Here state "respectively," if more than one witness.
- (5) Here state whether "Commission, or agreement," if Commission was waived.



OFFICE OF
Commissioner of Pensions

State of Texas

Austin AUG 11 1909

E. A. BOLMES, Commissioner

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

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to request the military record
 of Robert Coker who is reported to have enlisted in
 Company G., 15th Regiment Mississippi Infantry
 in the service of the Confederate States Army.

Purpose: The widow of the person above named is an applicant for a
 Confederate pension granted by this State, and I desire to verify his
 proof of service.

Very respectfully,



E. A. Bolmes

Commissioner of Pensions.

16625

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

1555125

1555125

Address: "The Adjutant General,
War Department, Washington, D. C."

WAR DEPARTMENT, 1555125

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, August 17, 1909.

Respectfully returned to the
Commissioner of Pensions,
State of Texas,
Austin.

The records show that Robert Coker, private, Company G, 13th Mississippi Infantry, Confederate States Army, was enlisted June 1, 1861 (also shown as June 8, 1861), near Union City, Tennessee. On the company muster roll for July and August, 1864, last roll on file, he is reported present. On another record, covering the period from April, 1861, to February 28, 1865, dated Near Richmond, Virginia, March 2, 1865, he is reported "A good soldier in camp and field."

No later record found.

The Adjutant General.

[A. G. O. 72-1]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
RECEIVED
AUG 18 1909

Affidavit of Physician

THE STATE OF TEXAS, }
County of **Smith.** }

Before me **Jesse F. Odom**, County Judge of **Smith** County,
State of Texas, on this day personally appeared **Dr. Wm. Hodges**

who is a physician in good standing, who, being by me duly sworn, on oath says that he has carefully examined
Robert Coker and finds *him* laboring under the following disabilities.

(If a soldier, state fully whether he lost a limb, or limbs, or is blind or totally disabled; in the latter case stating specifically the personal ailment and conditions that render.....entirely helpless and incapacitated, physically or mentally, for any work or business; if the widow of a soldier, "for any kind of work suitable for her sex.")

I have known Robert Coker for just 3 years and I consider him unable to do manual labor by reason of his age and Catarrh of Head and Bladder renders him very feeble -



Wm. Hodges

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this **16th** day of **April**, A. D. 19**14**

(SEAL.)

Jesse F. Odom

County Judge **Smith** County, Texas.

16625

April 22, 1939

17

Robert Coker, Deceased
Confederate Soldier
Pension File No. 16625
Smith County.

Mr. R. E. Sparkman
Italy, Texas.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of April 21 in which you request the military service record of R. W. Coker of Tyler, or Smith County.

The records show that one Robert Coker, not borne as R. W. Coker, of Tyler, Smith County, Texas, drew a Confederate Pension from Texas under file number 16625. He was a private in Company G, 13th Mississippi Infantry, Confederate States Army. He was enlisted June 1, 1861 also shown as June 8, 1861. He served until May, 1865.

The application for pension of Robert Coker was approved on the report of the Adjutant General, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Yours very truly,

(13)
Geo. H. Sheppard
Comptroller of Public Accounts.

JHT:EE