

NOV 24

538059

1891

Write nothing above this line.

(3-060 a.)

MILITARY SERVICE.

NAME OF SOLDIER:

W. B. Gray

East Div. Bureau of Pensions,
 Hq. Ex'r. 11/23, 1891
 No. 1024753

SIR:

It is alleged that the above-named man enlisted
 Apr 19, 1861, and served as a Pri
 in Co. G, 5 Reg't Mass Inf
 also as a _____ in Co. _____, Reg't
 _____, and was discharged at

on July 31, 1861
 Served in E 24 Mass
 Inf from Sep 2, 1861
 to July 4/64 as Lt 1st
 Co. for July 4/64 to Feb 4/
 66. Report all service

No. of prior claim

None

The War Department will please furnish an official statement
 in this case, showing date of enrollment and date and mode of
 termination of service.

Very respectfully,

Gen B. Raum

Commissioner.

THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE
 RECORD AND PENSION DIVISION,
 WAR DEPARTMENT.

0-4

War Department,

Record and Pension Division,

NOV 24 1891

Respectfully returned to the

COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS.

The rolls show that William B. Gray
 Gray Co 5 Mass Inf
 mentioned in the preceding indorsement, was enrolled
 Apr 19, 1861, and M.O. a
 Feb 31, 1861
 again enrolled as
 William B. Gray in
 Co E 24 Mass Inf
 Sept 2. 61 & discharged
 July 3. 64 by reason
 of promotion to 2nd Lt. in
 U.S. C. Cav.

William B. Gray 2nd Lt
 Co D 1 U.S. C. Cav. was enrolled
 July 4/64 and mustered in
 the same day, and M.O.
 as 1st Lt. Feb 4/66, as of Co
 I 1 U.S. C. Cav. to which
 trans.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

H. H. Hensworth

Captain and Asst Surgeon, U. S. Army.

Per

4909 b-50 m

ACT OF JUNE 27, 1890.

DECLARATION FOR WIDOW'S PENSION.

To be executed before a Court of Record or some officer thereof having custody of its seal, a Notary Public or Justice of the Peace, whose official signature shall be verified by his official seal, and in case he has none, his signature and official character shall be certified by a Clerk of a Court of Record, or a City or County Clerk.

State of Louisiana, County of St. Mary, ss:

On this 28th day of April, A. D., one thousand eight hundred and ninety, personally appeared before me, Newton J. Foote

a Notary Public within and for the county and State

aforesaid Maria L. Gray, aged 47 years, a resident of

the town of Morgan City, county of St. Mary, State of

Louisiana, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the widow

of Wm. B. Gray, who enlisted under the name of Wm. B. Gray

at Lee E-24, on the 2nd day of September

A. D. 1861, in 1st W.C. Cav. as St. J. August 1864

(Here state rank, company, and regiment, if in Military service, or vessel, if in Navy.)

and served at least

ninety days in the late War of the Rebellion in the service of the United States, who was HONORABLY DISCHARGED

4th Feb 1866, and died October 1905

(The cause of death need not be stated.)

That she was married under the name of Maria L. Markstein, to said

Wm. B. Gray, on the 1st day of October

1878, by Joseph P. Bohannon, at Anna, Ill.

there being no legal barrier to said marriage.

(If there was a former marriage of claimant or her husband, state it here and

how dissolved.)

That she has not remarried since the death of the said Wm. B. Gray

(Name of soldier or sailor.)

That she is without other means of support than her daily labor. That names and dates of birth of all the

children now living under sixteen years of age of the soldier are as follows:

Philandon B., born June 7th, 1901, born 18

born 18, born 18

born 18, born 18

That she has heretofore applied for pension and the number of her former application is 870.584

(Be careful to fill this part of the blank correctly.)

That she makes this

declaration for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United States under the provisions of the

Act of June 27, 1890.

She hereby appoints with full power of substitution and revocation,

W. W. DUDLEY, of WASHINGTON, D. C.,

her true and lawful attorney to prosecute her claim, the fee to be TEN DOLLARS as prescribed by law. That

her post-office address is Morgan City, County of

St. Mary, State of Louisiana

Maria L. Gray

(Claimant's signature.)

1 Ernest E. Ditch

2 David C. Yahn

(Two witnesses who write sign here.)



ATTY FILED

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The civil officer before whom this affidavit is executed should be careful to fill in all spaces, both in the caption and jurat.

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

State of Louisiana, County of Stellary, ss:

In the matter of the claim No. 870,584 of Marie L. Gray, widow of William B. Gray, E, 24th Mass. Vols. & D & I, 1st U.S.C. Cav.,

ON THIS 27th day of June, A. D. 1908, personally appeared before me a Notary Public in and for the aforesaid County, duly authorized to administer oaths Marie L. Gray aged 47 years, a resident of Morgan City

in the County of Stellary, and State of Louisiana

whose Post-office address is Morgan City, Louisiana

well known to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who, being duly sworn, declared in relation to aforesaid

case as follows: That she is the claimant in the above entitled claim,

and that she is unable to furnish evidence required by the Commissioner

(NOTE.—Affiant should state how he gains a knowledge of the facts to which he testifies.)

of Pensions to show whether the soldier was married prior to his marriage to her, for the reason that previous to said marriage of the soldier and herself the soldier lived with a woman at Morgan City, La.; that they separated, the woman left Morgan City, and claimant is unable to furnish witnesses who could positively swear that the soldier and the said woman were not married. That all of the persons with whom she has talked relative to this matter are unable to state from whence the woman came, or where she went after leaving Morgan City, nor do they know her present whereabouts. That in these circumstances she requests that if further evidence be required that her claim may be sent to a Special Examiner for the purpose of determining beyond question whether the soldier was married prior to his marriage to the claimant.

further declares that no interest in said case and not concerned in its prosecution.

(If Affiant signs by mark, two witnesses who can write sign here.)

Mr. Marie L. Gray
(Signature of Affiant)

Claimant

4.

THE STATE OF OHIO,

Licking

County, ss.

I, *Edwin M. Larason*, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, in and for said County, do hereby certify that I have made diligent search, and find no ~~judgments unsatisfied, or suits pending, against~~ ^{*filed or instituted*}

in the Common Pleas or Circuit Courts of this County as disclosed by the indexes of the dockets in said Courts, wherein Catherine R. Gray was plaintiff versus William B. Gray defendant during the period 1875 to 1880

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Common Pleas Court at

Newark Ohio, this *9th* day of *November* A. D. *1909*
Edwin M. Larason Clerk.

CERTIFICATE OF RECORD OF MARRIAGE.—Printed by Roy S. Gear, Jonesboro, Ill.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, } ss
Union County,

CERTIFICATE OF RECORD OF MARRIAGE.

I, CHARLES L. KIMMEL, Clerk of the County Court of said County, do hereby certify that Mr. *William B. Gray* was married to *Miss Marie Louise Markstine* in said County, on the *First* day of *October, 1878,* by

Joseph P. Bohannon a Justice of the Peace

duly authorized to solemnize marriages by the Statute of the State of Illinois, as appears by his return and certificate of marriage attached to the license granted therefor by the Clerk of this Court, and now of record in my office.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and attached the Seal of said County Court, at my office in Jonesboro, this *28th* day of *May* 1908.

Charles L. Kimmel, CLERK.

By *John A. Tibbets* DEPUTY.

10.

GRAY.

The Family Record.

NOAH GRAY, } Born at Andover, Mass., Jan. 31., 1797.
 } Died at Kalamazoo, Michigan, Sept., 1851. Age 54 years 8 months.

ELIZABETH SIMPSON, } Born at Andover, Mass., Sept. 12, 1799.
 ELIZABETH GRAY, } Died at Charlestown, Mass., Dec. 17, 1847. Age 47 years.

Noah Gray and Elizabeth Simpson were married June 8, 1817. Their children were:

NOAH A. GRAY, } Born at Andover, Mass., March 2, 1818.
 } Died at Morgan City La., Oct. 20, 1878.

WM. H. GRAY, } Born at Reading, Mass., Nov. 25, 1820.
 } Died at Bethel, Me., Sept. 23, 1890.

EVELINE H. GRAY, } (Adopted daughter), Born at Malden, Mass., Jan. 23, 1820.
 } Died at Cambridge, Mass., Jan. 31, 1845.

MARY A. CAPEN, } Born at Bethel, Me., Jan. 28, 1824.

Wm. H. Gray and Mary A. Capen were married Nov. 8, 1841. at Boston, Mass., by Rev Father Taylor. Their children were:

WM. B. GRAY, } Born at Boston, Mass., Nov. 7, 1842.

CHARLES S. GRAY, } Born at Acton, Mass., Jan. 14, 1856.

MARIE L. MARKSTINE, } Born at New Orleans, La., Oct. 26, 1860.

Wm. B. Gray married Marie Louise Markstine at Ama, Ill., Oct. 1, 1878. Their children were:

WM. H. GRAY, JR., } Born August 18, 1879.

LEROY C. GRAY, } Born at Morgan City, La., July 26, 1885.

LEONARD WISE GRAY, } Born at Morgan City, La., Sept. 1, 1887.

MARIE LOUISE AMELIA GRAY, } Born at Morgan City, La., May 28, 1893.
 } *Died Dec. 6, 1895. at D.C.*

MARIE PAULINE GUEDRY } Born at Bayou Lafourche, Assumption parish, La., July 19, 1862.

Charles S. Gray married Marie P. Guidry Dec. 8, 1881, at Morgan City, La. Their children were:

EVANGELINE A. GRAY, } Born at Bayou Lafourche, Assumption Parish, La., Sept. 9, 1886.

CHARLES S. GRAY, JR., } Born at Morgan City, La., Sept. 1, 1890.

PERITA GRAY, } Born at Morgan City, La., Aug. 27, 1892.
 } Died at Morgan City, La., Aug. 27, 1892.

NOTICE.—The civil officer before whom this affidavit is executed should be careful to fill in all spaces, both in the caption and jurat.

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

State of Louisiana, County of Orleans, ss:

In the matter of

ON THIS

16th

day of

May

, A. D. 19

, personally

appeared before me

a Notary Public

in and for the afore-

said County, duly authorized to administer oaths.

Just M. Samare

aged

65

years, a resident of

New Orleans

, in the County

of

Orleans

, and State of

Louisiana

whose Post-office address is

1342 Columbus St. New Orleans La

and

Andrew Heine

, aged

69

years, a resident of

New Orleans

, in the County of

Orleans

and State of

Louisiana

, whose Post-office address is

2329

Orleans St. New Orleans, La.

well known to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who, being duly sworn, declared in relation to aforesaid case as follows:

We have known this claimant, whose maiden name was Marie S. Markstein from her girlhood, and we know that she was never married prior to her marriage to William B. Gray, and having always been friends of the family we know that claimant and Soldier William B. Gray did live together as man and wife from the date of their said marriage until the date of his death and that they were never divorced from each other. And we further declare that said claimant has not remarried since the death of said William B. Gray.

(NOTE.—Affiants should state how they gain a knowledge of the facts to which they testify.)



They further declare that they have no interest in said case and are not concerned in its prosecution.

Just M. Samare
Andrew Heine

(If Affiants sign by mark two witnesses who can write sign here.)

(Signatures of Affiants.)

Marie L.Gray,widow of
 William B.Gray
 Co.I.1 U.S.C.Cav.
 War of the Rebellion.
 Act of June 27,1890.
 P.O.Address:Morgan City,St.Mary Co.,La.

Marietta,Ohio,August 3,1909.

The Commissioner of Pensions,
 Washington,D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to herewith return the papers, and to submit my report in the above cited claim for pension.

The claim was referred to the Special Examination Division to determine legal widowhood, dependence and date of birth of minor and came to me, notice waived, for further examination as to legal widowhood for the testimony of Kate Roberts Gray the first wife of soldier and her daughter Vivian Roberts if they could be located.

After an extensive search I at last located the said daughter Vivian Roberts through friends of hers at Letart Falls and Racine, Meigs Co., Ohio.

From the testimony herewith it appears that the correct name of the said daughter is Geniveve but she was commonly called Vivian.

Mrs. Clark states that Mrs. Gray died in Syracuse, N.Y. several years ago but she heard from Vivian within one year and so it seems that she will be easily found. It will be noted that Miss Fannie Bibbee states that Mrs. Gray had a son, Ellis Gray, when she visited her daughter and when this daughter is seen she should be asked about this boy. Was he a child of her mother by the soldier? It seems likely that he was a son of the daughter.

If this Ellis Gray was a son of the soldier, his brother Charles S. Gray who testified extensively in report No. 1 should have known it and it is very doubtful if he told all he knows about the relations of the soldier and this woman.

It is reasonable certain that he is the young relative of the soldier that visited Vivian while she was at Letart Falls, Ohio as mentioned by Miss Bibbee.

Further examination as to legal widowhood is recommended as follows:

Mrs. Jeniveve Dennison, 24 N. 8th Street, Hamilton, ^{Better} Hamilton Co., Ohio.

If Mrs. Dennison, the said daughter of the said first wife of the soldier has removed from the above address she might be located through Mrs. Mollie Moore 410 Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio. She too might be a good witness as she has been an intimate friend of the family.

The witnesses whose testimony is herewith are of the best reputation and are credible persons.

Very respectfully,

W. H. North

DEPOSITION *a*

Case of Maria L. Gray, No. 870584

On this 10 day of Nov., 1907, at Houston, county of Harris, State of Texas, before me, C. M. Lane, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Mrs. Emma Wilson, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 I am 76 years of age, no occupation
2 P.O. address Hyde Park, Houston, Texas.
3 I got acquainted with W. B. Gray, called
4 Bailey Gray, at Morgan City, La. in 1876
5 about as soon as he came.
6 He came and brought with him a
7 young girl named Genevieve whom
8 Bailey represented as his step daughter
9 and then there was a little boy said to be
10 Bailey's. Early in the year 1877 don't know
11 the month, one Kate appeared at
12 Morgan City, La. and she and Bailey were
13 introduced as husband and wife, they
14 lived together in the house with his parents
15 and then left house a little while separately
16 from the parents. I always believed that
17 Bailey and Kate had been married.
18 Kate passed as the mother of Genevieve and
19 the little boy refused to.
20 About Sept. 1877 this Kate left Bailey at
21 Morgan City, La. and I never knew
22 where she was after that.
23 I never heard whether Bailey secured
24 or attempted to get a divorce from Kate.
25 I fully believe that Kate was justified
26 in deserting Bailey.
27 I never knew whether Kate secured a
28 divorce from Bailey but in 1883 on
29 a steamboat on the Mississippi

30 River an actress named Maud
 31 whom I had met at Morgan City, La. when
 32 she was there playing, told me that Kate
 33 had told her that she (Kate) had
 34 secured a divorce from Bailey but if Maud
 35 said when and where, I have forgotten.
 36 Don't think she said, I do not know what
 37 Maud's surname was. She had a sister
 38 called Helen De Est at head of the troupe
 39 but I do not know but what Helen De Est
 40 was a stage name. It seems to me that
 41 these girls had two brothers in the troupe but I forget
 42 their names and do not know where these stage people
 43 were from. Maud and Helen both knew Bailey
 44 and Kate and I presume they knew Marie, the
 45 second wife & know of Bailey having
 46 Charles Gray and Marie both ought to be able to
 47 recall Maud and Helen.

48 Bailey went away from Morgan City, La. about Spring
 49 of 1878 and he went away with this Helen De Est
 50 troupe. Sometime in 1879 Bailey returned to Morgan
 51 City, La. with one Marie Louise as his wife and
 52 they lived together as husband and wife in Morgan
 53 City until he died a few years ago.

54 I knew both Kate and Marie, I never
 55 heard the latter's or former's maiden
 56 names as I recollect but I know I
 57 never heard of Bailey's being married to any
 58 but the two women mentioned. I do not know where Bailey was
 59 from the time he went away with the troupe until he returned with Marie Louise.
 60 Am not related to claimant and have no interest in the claim. I have heard
 61 the foregoing read and understood questions asked, my answers are
 correctly recorded.

Emma Wilson

Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10 day of Nov.
 1909, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent
 before signing.

OM Lane

Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION BCase of Mari L. Gray, No. 870584

On this 27th day of Nov., 1909, at
Port-Arthur, county of Jefferson
 State of Texas, before me, E. M. Lane, a
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
E. B. Ments, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 I am 60 years of age, atty. at law
 2 P.O. address Port Arthur Texas.
 3 I got acquainted with one Bailey
 4 Gray at Morgan City, La. about 1894.
 5 I left there in 1893 before that I had
 6 been at Morgan City - all the time.
 7 A while after I met him cannot give the date.
 8 Bailey brought a woman there, whose
 9 name I cannot recall, but who had a
 10 girl called Vivian. This woman was
 11 an actress. She and Bailey lived together
 12 as husband and wife part of the time
 13 at the hotel where I stayed but I did
 14 not believe and don't think many did
 15 believe that they were married.
 16 They did not live together long at
 17 Morgan City until she picked up
 18 and left after they had had a fuss
 19 and I never heard of the woman again
 20 and never knew where she was.
 21 Bailey did not seem to care that this
 22 woman left him. He did not follow.
 23 Some little time after she left I said to
 24 Bailey in a joking way that he would
 25 be coming to me for a divorce, and he
 26 replied that there would be no necessity
 27 for a divorce as he had never been
 28 married to the woman.
 29 I never knew or heard whether Bailey

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30 or the woman in question did get or even
 31 apply for a divorce. Bailey became manager
 32 of a theatrical troupe and in this troupe
 33 he met a girl named Marie and was
 34 married to her on the road somewhere.
 35 She was from New Orleans. Bailey and
 36 she soon came back to Morgan City, La. and
 37 made their home. I never knew or heard
 38 that Bailey Gray was married to
 39 anyone other than the two referred to,
 40 supposing he was married to the woman
 41 supposed to be the mother of Vivian.

42 I do not know where the man and
 43 Helen Berst Mrs. Wilsons speaks of
 44 were from. I do not recollect that
 45 Bailey Gray applied for a divorce
 46 from that woman supposed by
 47 some perhaps to be his first wife
 48 notwithstanding the fact that Philip
 49 Menty has stated he did.

50 I am not related to the claimant
 51 and have no interest in the claim.

52 I have heard the foregoing read and
 53 understood questions asked my
 54 answers are correctly recorded.

55 E. J. Menty
 56
 57
 58
 59
 60
 61

Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27 day of Nov.
 1909, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent
 before signing.

C. M. Lane

Special Examiner.

New Orleans, La.,

May 31, 1909.

Hon. Commissioner of Pensions,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to return herewith all papers in pension claim, Wid. Orig. No. 870,584. Marie L. Gray, widow of William B. Gray, 1st Lieut. Co. I. 1st U. S. C. Cav. together with report relative thereto.

The papers were referred to this district for initial examination to determine question of legal widowhood, date of birth of minor, and test evidence of dependence. The usual notice was served claimant and all her rights fully explained. She did not desire to be present or represented when witnesses were seen, and waived right to further notice. All the testimony has been read to her except the depositions of Just M. Lamare and Andrew Heine, which I secured after returning to New Orleans and after her final statement was secured. It did not appear to be necessary to see claimant again as the testimony is favorable. There appears to be no doubt but that the claimant has only been married the one time and that to the soldier. As to the soldier, that is an open question, and the claimant is unable to establish the fact that he was not married prior to his marriage to her. When I called upon Mr Jolley, I told him that I wanted to find out something about the early history of William B. Gray, and the first thing he said was that "It would be a d--- dirty story!" The man had a very poor reputation and was noted for running around with women. The claimant was aware of this, so she said, and told me that he ran after them "Right under her nose!" There does not appear to be any doubt but that he had a woman named Kate with him for a while at Morgan City prior to the time that he brought claimant there and that he represented Kate as his wife, and that there was a girl named Vivian whom he referred to as his step-daughter. As to who this woman was, where she came from or where she went no one appears to know. I made diligent inquiry among the older citizens of Morgan City, but could learn nothing that

Page 3 B

870,584. Gray.

would help trace her, and the claimant could not help out in any way. The soldier's parents are dead; he had no sister, and only one brother, whose testimony is herewith. He only knows that his brother had this woman Kate at Morgan City, for awhile, and that she was last at Marietta, Ohio, about 1878. The data is the best to be obtained, and does not warrant further examination there or at Letart Falls, Ohio, which he also mentions. It appears that the burden of proof is on the claimant and she is unable to prove that the soldier was not married prior to his marriage to her, and if he was, that the former wife was dead, or divorced at the time he married claimant. I interviewed Judge William Costello and his wife, Thomas Shannon, who are reputed to be the best posted old citizens of Morgan City, and while they recalled Kate, they could furnish no information about her except that she was with Gray, and he referred to her as his wife. In the old family Bible now in the possession of Charles S. Gray, there is no mention of any marriage of the soldier except to the claimant, and Mr Gray states that the record is in the handwriting of his father, and that if his brother was married, that his father suspected that he was not, and would not permit him to keep Kate at the family home. On April 26th I interviewed Mrs Conklin but could not secure a deposition that day on account of the fact that her son-in-law was drowned the day before, and when I called at her house in Algiers again, was informed that she had returned to Morgan City. Her deposition is herewith. Upon information secured from her, a letter was addressed to the Bureau, and forms basis for a report made by Special Examiner R. B. Lish, which is herewith. It might be well to make further search of the marriage records in New York City, N. Y. as Mrs Conklin is certain that the soldier told him that he married the first woman there while he was in uniform. The Gray family record in printed form is made an exhibit, and will help out in identifying possible record. The one obtained by Mr Lish does not appear to relate to soldier, as shown by parents name and place of birth, but soldier had the reputation of being such a liar that it might relate to him.

Page 4

870,584. Gray.

It is a well known fact that the soldier left claimant in very poor financial circumstances, and that she has not been free of debt since his death. The printing office is a large rough frame building located on the outskirts of the town, and the claimant has not been successful in the running of it. She has had a number of managers but they have all quit and left her worse off than she was before. She had electric lights in the building, and the company cut the current off on account of her inability to pay, and while I was working on this case, the 'phone was removed because she was back two months in the payments, and when I called last Friday, she informed me that she had gotten the order for the quarterly telephone directory, which she was going to print, and that her 'phone would be restored in payment for the job. That she was dependent from May 31, 1907 to April 19, 1909 can safely be accepted.

The minor, Philander B. Gray, was born June 3, 1901 as shown by the family Bible in possession of claimant, and the record contained therein is genuine without doubt. Mrs Fred Becker and Mrs William Drews BJ 14) did not state the day of month of birth, and in view of the fact that claimant had record evidence, it did not appear to be necessary to see them. John Dalton stated in his affidavit that he did not know anything relative to prior marriages (BJ 13). I called twice to see him and C. H. StClair, but they were absent from the city.

I recommend that papers be referred to New York City, New York Co., N. Y. for further search of records for marriage of William Bailey Gray, son of William Howard Gray and Mary Ann Capen to a woman named Kate during period from 1866 to 1877.

Very respectfully,

Don E. Larky,
Special Examiner.

N. B.—Examiners should be particular to have affiants sign on the line next below the closing words of their depositions, so as to leave little or no space between their signatures and the end of their depositions.

3-290.

DEPOSITION *A*

Case of *Marie L. Gray*, No. *870,584*.

On this *21* day of *April*, 1909, at
Morgan City, County of *St. Mary*
State of *La.*, before me, *DON E. CLARKE*,

a special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Marie L. Gray, who, being by me first duly sworn to
answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special
examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says: I am *48*
years of age; my post-office address is *Rose Cottage, Morgan*

City, La. I am the owner of Gray's Printing
House and Publisher of Rural Topics. Am the
widow of William B. Gray who died at this
place Oct. 16, 1905. He was a pensioner at
time of his death and O. J. Foote has his
papers. I am claiming pension as his widow.
My first application was filed about two weeks
after his death when I returned his vouchers
to the Bureau. I think I had a notice that
the claim was filed in the early part of 1906,
I think I made the papers out myself and
copied the name and service from his papers.
The first claim was filed by Elias L. White
of this place and the letter dated July 14,
1906 related to that claim, which I thought
had been filed. As no action was taken in
that claim, I sent another one in May
1907 and another in May 1908. Have not
filed any other claims for pension.
I was born in New Orleans. My maiden
name was Markatein. My parents are
dead. I first met William B. Gray at
Bayou Sara, La. in May or June 1878.
He was advance agent for a theatrical
troupe to which I belonged and he joined

Page

26 at Bayou Sara. We were married Oct.
 27 1, 1878 at Anna, Ills by J. P. Bohannon,
 28 when I was 18 years old. That was my
 29 first and only marriage and I lived with
 30 him as his wife until he died and have
 31 not since remarried. He was born in
 32 Boston and I think he came south with
 33 his folks after the war and came to Morgan
 34 City, but dont know when. Think he joined
 35 the troops shortly after he left here. After
 36 our marriage we returned here together
 37 in Nov. 1879 and stayed until he died and
 38 I have been here since. His parents are
 39 both dead. His brother, Elias S. Gray, lives
 40 here. He has no other brothers or sister. I
 41 had been in New Orleans before I met my
 42 husband and he had been in Morgan
 43 City part of the time since he came south
 44 but dont know where he was the balance of
 45 the time. J. R. Jolley, and his wife, C. H.
 46 St. Clair, R. H. Gengenheim, John Dalton
 47 and Gus Drew, Sr., are old residents of
 48 this place and perhaps knew him before
 49 I did. I understood that my husband had
 50 a woman at this place before our marriage
 51 but dont know and never heard they were
 52 married. His brother said her name was
 53 Kate, never heard her family name or
 54 whether she was called Gray. Dont know
 55 of her family or relatives or of any one who
 56 knows them. I dont know where she came
 57 from or when or where he met her or how
 58 long they were together, but judge they were
 59 together but I am not acquainted with the
 60 circumstances. Have never known when she
 61 left here or where she went. Have never
 62 seen a picture of her or a letter written to
 63 or from her. Never heard she was dead.

64 Never heard that she made any friends
 65 in town and no inquiries have been made
 66 by her or her people since his death. He
 67 told me that she was older than he and
 68 that she had children before he knew her.
 69 His mother said she was not a good woman
 70 and from the way he talked I did not
 71 think he was married to her or that they
 72 were recognized as man and wife. She
 73 was in this town for awhile and was at
 74 his house for a time but don't know
 75 whether they did or did not live together
 76 as man and wife. He did not tell me
 77 much about her and I did not ask because
 78 I did not believe they were married. He
 79 said they were not but I am not sure of
 80 it. I'll have to depend upon the witnesses
 81 named to show the facts about the first
 82 woman.

83 I only had one child under 16 years of
 84 age when the claim was filed. His name
 85 is Philander B. Gray and he was born
 86 June 3, 1901. That's the correct date and
 87 it is shown by the family record (Bible
 88 published 1884 by F. M. Dillie & Co. Cin, O.
 89 record in ink, no alteration and apparently
 90 ok. D.C.) The minor is still living and
 91 is under my care and custody.

92 When the claim was filed May 31, 1907
 93 the only real estate owned were two
 94 lots in square B. Morgan City, which at
 95 that time were worth about \$250 each.
 96 One of the lots is a nine room 1 1/2 story frame
 97 cottage which I have occupied as a home.
 98 The cottage has never been clear of debt
 99 since it was built. On the other lot is
 100 a frame ware house 40x40 in which
 101 the printing office is located. The real
 102 estate and buildings were placed in

Page 9

103 my name before he died and if that had
 104 not been done I would have lost all as he
 105 was heavily involved in debt. He was
 106 sick for 18 years before he died and
 107 during the last five years was hardly
 108 able to pay his bills. Shortly before
 109 the claim was filed I borrowed \$1750. on
 110 a note for 1 year at 8%. That was a
 111 mortgage note and instead of getting that
 112 cleared up I owe \$2000. now. The building
 113 in which the plant is located was built
 114 eight months before his death and I paid
 115 \$490. on that after he died. He bought a
 116 press for \$520. but had only paid \$40. on
 117 it and I paid the balance. During the
 118 period from May 1907 to April 1908 I had
 119 a manager in the office and he ran
 120 me into debt heavily. I have never been
 121 out of debt since my husband died and
 122 what money is taken in is paid right out.
 123 Have not had any stocks notes or bonds.
 124 His life had been insured in the local
 125 K of P but he lost that on account of not
 126 being able to pay assessments. I did not
 127 get any insurance money after his death
 128 but the K of P and Elks gave \$50. each
 129 toward burial expenses. I kept roomers
 130 during 1906-7 and received \$15. a month
 131 from that source. I had no income from
 132 the office as I had to pay out all money

Marie L. Gray

Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21 day of April
 1909, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent
 before signing.

Don E. Clarke,

Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION *G*Case of *Marie L. Gray*, No. *870,584*.

On this _____ day of _____, 190____, at _____, county of _____

State of _____, before me, *DON E. CLARKE*, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared *Marie L. Gray* ~~cont~~ who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 as fast as received to pay debts. I have
 2 no book record of transactions. During
 3 that year I had a manager who was
 4 not successful which threw me back
 5 and my child was sick with diphtheria
 6 so I was quarantined for a while and
 7 could not look after the business at all.
 8 I had no regular income from the office.
 9 My taxes for town and state were about
 10 \$46. The receipts are at the house locked
 11 up and I have to hunt for them among
 12 other papers. I had the building insured
 13 for about \$3000 which I carried only on
 14 account of the mortgage. Everything was
 15 in my name at time of his death so
 16 no will was filed. I don't desire further
 17 notice and waive right to be present
 18 or represented when witnesses are seen.
 19 H. W. Dudley & Co. Washington, D.C. are
 20 my attorneys and I have a written
 21 agreement to allow them ten dollars
 22 if claim is allowed. W. J. Fooks, at this
 23 place does my writing. Have no agreement
 24 with him. Have only paid for preparation
 25 of papers. Have heard this deposition
 26 read; have understood questions and
 27 answers are correctly recorded.

Marie L. Gray

DEPOSITION B.Case of Maris L Gray, No. 870,584

On this 30 day of April, 1909, at
Morgan City, county of St Mary
 State of La., before me, DON E. CLARKE, a
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Charles S Gray, who, being by me first duly ~~sworn~~ ^{affirmed} to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to ~~her~~ during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 Age 53 years. Address Morgan City, La. I am
 2 a professor of music and a painter. William
 3 B. Gray was my brother, 14 years older than
 4 me. He was born at Boston, Mass. Nov. 7, 1843
 5 and married to Maris Louise Markstein, Oct
 6 1, 1878, as shown by the old family Bible
 7 published in 1820 (ok &c.) That's the only
 8 record I have relative to him and the question
 9 of marriage. I don't remember seeing my brother
 10 after he left the service until 1871 when I saw
 11 him at Mandeville, La. for a few months. He
 12 was living at that time with an Indian woman
 13 called Missouri or Zoo, who was from some place
 14 on the Chickahominy River in Virginia. I never
 15 saw her before or since, she claimed they were
 16 not married and so far as I know they were not.
 17 I cannot tell the history of that woman except
 18 that she nursed him or saved his life during
 19 service. Don't know what became of her. I did
 20 not see him again until about 1877 when I saw
 21 him at Morgan City. He was here before I came.
 22 When I arrived he was in the same house
 23 with a woman named Kate Gray, he passed
 24 her off as his wife but she had a daughter
 25 named Vivian Roberts and she told me that
 26 she (Vivian) was in terror because my brother
 27 was living with her. It seems, so she told me,
 28 that he had taken advantage of her and she
 29 wanted to get away from him. I understood

that he met Kate Roberts while he was a conductor on a railroad in the neighborhood of Jamestown, N.Y. or Warren, Pa. I never heard when he met her, or how long after discharge. I never heard that he was with her in New York City. I understood that he had her and the daughters, who passed as his step-daughters, at my parents' home, and they suspected that my brother and Kate were not married, so they moved to another house. When I came here and learned how he was treating the girl, my father and myself took steps to send the woman and her daughter away. I judge the woman was about 15 years older than him. She was an abolitionist. If he ever married Kate, I never heard of it and don't know when or where. I last saw Kate about 1878 in Marietta, Ohio and since that time I have not heard from her direct or indirectly. Vivian was with her and I have not seen or heard from her since. I have no idea what became of the two. The girl was a music teacher and lived with an old couple, don't know names, at Detart Falls, Ohio. I heard from them after they left here is how I knew they were at that place, and I was with a theatrical troupe and was on the road. My brother wanted to get the girl again, but I did not want him to get her on account of the way he had treated her at this place. I was at Marietta about a week. I headed him off and so far as I know he never saw the girl or woman again, and neither did I after I left.

C. S. Gray

Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30 day of April 1909, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Don E. Barker

Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION B

Case of Maries L Gray, No. 870,584

On this _____ day of _____, 190____, at
Charles S Gray, county of _____
State of _____, before me, DON E. CLARKE, a
Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Charles S Gray contd, who, being by me first duly sworn to
answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 Marietta. I cannot furnish any information
2 that would assist in tracing the woman or
3 girl after I last saw them at Marietta, Ohio.
4 The claimant is my sister-in-law. I am not
5 interested in her claim. Have heard this
6 deposition read; have understood questions
7 and answers are correctly recorded.
8 C. S. Gray
9 Deponent.

DEPOSITION La.

Case of Marie L. Gray, No. 870,584

On this 28 day of May, 1909, at
Morgan City, county of St. Mary
State of La., before me, Don E. Clarke, a
Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Charles S. Gray, who, being by me first duly sworn to
answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 I am the same person who made a statement
2 before you April 30, 1909. The old family
3 record published in 1820 shows that "Wm."
4 Bailey Gray Born at Boston Nov. 7th 1842.
5 My father was William Howard Gray.
6 Born Nov. 25, 1820 and died Sept. 23, 1890.
7 My mother was Mary Ann Lafren. They
8 were married Nov. 8, 1841. My grandfather
9 was Noah Gray and my great grandfather
10 was Thomas Gray, and his father was
11 also named Thomas. I have the family
12 tree which is in my father's handwriting.
13 I fail to find any mention of Helen Gray
14 or Myrtle, and I never heard of any one
15 in the family named Helen. Part of the
16 family record has been printed by my
17 brothers and you can have a copy for use
18 in the claim. The record was printed by
19 my brothers. There is no mention of his
20 marriage except to the claimant. Have
21 no further information relative to Kate.
22 If her name was Gregg I never heard
23 it before. Have read this statement:
24 have understood questions and answers
25 are correctly recorded
26 Chas. S. Gray

DEPOSITION *D*Case of *Marie L. Gray*, No. *870,584*

On this *28* day of *May*, 190*9*, at
Morgan City, county of *St. Mary*
 State of *La.*, before me, *Nan E. Clarke*, a
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Martha B. Conklin, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 *Age 67 years Address Morgan City, La. No*
 2 *occupation Am a widow. I first met William*
 3 *B. Gray in Morgan City during the 70's*
 4 *but don't recall the exact year. Met him*
 5 *before the yellow fever in 1878 but don't*
 6 *know how long before. His parents were here*
 7 *before he came and when he arrived he*
 8 *came alone. Sometime after he arrived*
 9 *a woman came, don't know her name,*
 10 *and she was introduced to me as Mrs*
 11 *Gray, but not by his parents as they*
 12 *did not recognize her as their son's*
 13 *wife. I never saw the woman at his*
 14 *parents home or with them. Never heard*
 15 *where she came from. I don't recall how*
 16 *long she stayed but don't think it was*
 17 *very long. I did not know of him living*
 18 *with the woman while she was here.*
 19 *Yes, the woman was called Mrs Gray*
 20 *while here but I did not know William*
 21 *B. Gray to live with her. Don't know*
 22 *whether they lived in the same house.*
 23 *I only met her once but never associated*
 24 *with her. She had a girl with her. I*
 25 *never met her and don't know how she*
 26 *was introduced. The woman went away*
 27 *and left Gray here, but don't know*
 28 *when or where she went or what became*
 29 *of her. She went away before he brought*

Page 19

30 Mrs Maria Gray here, think it was a
 31 good number of years before. He told
 32 me that he was first married in
 33 New York City at St Georges Church
 34 after his discharge and while he wore
 35 the uniform of a lieutenant. He never
 36 told me the name of the woman he
 37 married or what became of her or the
 38 date of the marriage. Never heard
 39 whether it was the same woman who
 40 came here later. Yes, she was introduced
 41 to me as Mrs Gray, but don't know
 42 how she happened to get that name.
 43 Never saw her and Gray together.
 44 Am related to Mrs Gray by marriage.
 45 Am not interested in the claim. Have
 46 read this deposition; understood questions
 47 and answers are correctly recorded.

48 A. M. M. A. B. Conklin
 49 Deponent.
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Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28 day of May

DEPOSITION *K.*Case of Marie L. Gray,, No. 870,584.

On this 31 day of May, 1909, at
New Orleans, county of Orleans
State of Louisiana, before me, Don E. Clarke, a
Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Just M. Lamare, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 Age 66 years. Address 1342 Columbus St., New Orleans, La. Am a
 2 printer. I first knew Marie Louise Gray in New Orleans when she was
 3 a small girl. Her maiden name was Markstein, and I was well
 4 acquainted with her and her family. She left here about 30 years
 5 ago and went on the road with a theatrical troop. I had a report of
 6 her marriage to William Bailey Gray, and that they were living at
 7 Morgan City, La. She married him shortly after she went on the road,
 8 and I heard that they were in Morgan City not long after there
 9 marriage. I never lived there but visited them, and the firm that I
 10 was with owned the house where they lived for a while. She was not
 11 married while here, and I never heard that she was married prior to
 12 her marriage to Gray. If she had been, am sure that I would have
 13 heard of the fact on account of our friendship. So far as I know
 14 she was his wife up until the time of his death, but I was not living
 15 near them during the period of their married life. I never heard
 16 that they were divorced at any time. Have not heard that she has
 17 remarried since his death, but my only information on that point
 18 is hearsay. I did not know Gray prior to his marriage to the claim-
 19 ant and never heard whether he had been married prior to his marriage
 20 to her. Don't know anything about his early history. Have heard
 21 read BJ 11, which I signed and same is correct except that she left
 22 him for a short time, and was in New Orleans, but returned to him
 23 and they lived together until his death. Never heard that she
 24 applied for a divorce, and never heard that there was mention of
 25 one. Don't recall when she left him, but they were only parted for
 26 a short time. Am not related to Mrs Gray, and have no interest in
 27 her claim. Have read this deposition; understood questions, and
 28 answers are correctly recorded.

Just M. Lamare
 Deponent.

File with G. 92-C.I. 70

~~ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE~~

~~JUL 25 1907
2648595~~

~~WAR DEPARTMENT~~

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

JUL 26 1907
1267093

WAR DEPARTMENT

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

SOUTH DIV.

JUL 27 1907

ELR. Y

FB.

Department of the Interior,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS.

Washington, D. C., July 24, 1907.

Respectfully returned to

The Adjutant-General,

War Department,

requesting a full military and
medical history, with birth-
place, occupation, and personal
description of the soldier.

No other report on file.

Wid. Orig. No. 870, 584,
William B. Gray,
Co. G, 5th Mass. Vol. Inf.
Co. E, 24th Mass. Vol. Inf.
2d Lt., Co. D, 1st U.S.C. Vol. Cav.
1st Lt. Co. I, 1st U.S.C. Vol. Cav.

J. L. Overmire
Acting Commissioner.

One enclosure.

DEPOSITION

Case of Marie L. Gray. Orig. Widow, No. 870,584

On this fourth day of January, 1900, at
Mandeville, county of St. Tammany
 State of Louisiana, before me, William S. Fitch, a
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Alfred Francois, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 My age is 38 years; postoffice address, Mandeville, La. I am
 2 a charcoal burner. I have resided in this town since my childhood.
 3 I was acquainted with William Bailey Gray in Mandeville in 1870 and
 4 1871. He was an ex-Union soldier, captain of a company in a colored
 5 regiment. His brother, Charley Gray, taught school here. I worked
 6 with William Bailey Gray. We had five or six charcoal kilns which we
 7 tended. He was in the charcoal business and chartered a schooner to
 8 take his charcoal to New Orleans across the lake. He had a colored
 9 wife. She looked to be colored. I never asked her whether she was
 10 colored and I don't know that she and Bailey Gray were legally married,
 11 but she went by his name and was known as his wife and they had several
 12 children. Bailey Gray's father and mother visited him and his wife
 13 while they were here. He was elected treasurer of the St. Tammany
 14 Parish school board and also justice of the peace. He got behind with
 15 the school funds, used the money in his business. When he was called
 16 on to turn over the money he could not do it, wanted time and they
 17 would not give him time. So he skipped, owing a lot of people here.
 18 I never knew what became of him. His wife and children stayed here a
 19 short time after he left and then they went away. We raised money to
 20 help her to leave and I afterwards had a couple of letters from her.
 21 but I don't know what became of the letters and I don't remember where
 22 she wrote from. Yes, she did look like an Indian woman. She had straight
 23 black hair, but I thought she was a colored woman. She was a brown
 24 woman, more copper color than yellow. She may have been part Indian
 25 and part negro. Bailey Gray brought her here with him from New Orleans.
 26 She was with him in the army, as I understood. When I heard from her
 27 she was somewhere up the river. She wanted me to send her some mustard
 28 seed. I sent the seed to her and she never got it, for my letter came
 29 back to me. I think she was from Massachusetts originally. I never

30 heard either her or Bailey Gray say that she was from Virginia, but she
 31 was with him in the army. If he was married to her, he married her before
 32 he ever came to Louisiana. She had been with him a long time and had
 33 three children by him. I got the idea that she came from Massachusetts.
 34 I never heard her or Gray say that they were married, but I supposed
 35 they were married because she went by his name and he called her his wife
 36 and introduced her as his wife. Her name was Zue - Zoo - or Missouri -
 37 or Missoula. Bailey Gray called her Zoo. His father and his mother and
 38 his brother came here and visited them and they must have recognized her
 39 as his wife. She did not get a divorce from him here nor he from her.
 40 When she left him she was going to join him, as I understood. I never
 41 knew whether she did join him or not nor whether they ever lived together
 42 afterwards. She was a young woman about 30 years old, large and fine
 43 features, a good looking woman. It is my impression and belief that
 44 she was a mixture of Indian and negro blood, but no white blood. I am
 45 not related to the applicant nor interested in this pension claim. I
 46 have understood the questions asked and my answers are correctly re-
 47 corded in this deposition which I have heard read. I am a colored man
 48 and cannot write my name.

49 Attest.

Virginia Bunnell
 M. S. Fitch

his
 Alfred X Francois
 mark
 Deponent.

Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of January 1910.
 190 , and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent
 before signing.

M. S. Fitch
 Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION *R*Case of Marie L. Gray. Orig. Widow, No. 870,584

On this fourth day of January, 1920, at
Mandeville, county of St. Tammany
State of Louisiana, before me, William S. Fitch, a
Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
William G. Davis, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 My age is 59 years; postoffice address, Mandeville, La. I am
 2 a notary public and justice of the peace. I have resided in Mandeville
 3 all my life, having been born here. I knew William Bailey Gray in this
 4 town in 1870 and 1871 or thereabouts. He was elected a school director
 5 of St. Tammany Parish and absconded about 1871 with something like
 6 \$1950 of the school funds. He lived here with a woman whom I supposed
 7 to be a mulattress and had several children by her. When he cleared
 8 out he left his family here. They only remained a short time when they
 9 disappeared and it was not known where they went. Bailey Gray left ow-
 10 ing various debts. He was in the charcoal business, buying and selling
 11 charcoal, and burned some charcoal himself. He swindled a number of
 12 persons, including myself, out of sums that were due then at the time
 13 he absconded with the school funds. He owed me \$12.50 which I lost.

14 If I am any judge of a colored person (and I have lived among
 15 negroes all my life), the woman Gray lived with here was colored or had
 16 colored blood in her. She did not look like an Indian to me. She looked
 17 to be about half negro and I am certain she was a negress. There was a
 18 rumor to the effect that she had taken care of Gray at some time during
 19 the war and that he had married her, but I don't know whether that was
 20 true or not. He had her during the carpet-bag regime when lots of white
 21 men lived with colored women and sought to control the colored vote.
 22 Gray mixed in politics more or less. Gray called the woman his wife
 23 in my presence. He brought her here with him. He did not marry her
 24 here. At that time the legislature was composed of a gang of "niggers"
 25 and the laws were a farce. She left here soon after Gray absconded and
 26 it was supposed that she went to join him, but where he was nobody knew.
 27 The next I heard of him was years afterwards at Morgan City. He was
 28 then running a printing office and newspaper at Morgan City and I re-
 29 ceived notices from him of his having legal blanks for sale. He was

30 elected a justice of the peace. ^{here.} He had a young brother who was here for
 31 a time. Gray introduced the woman to me as his wife and I had some con-
 32 versation with her at different times, but I don't recall that there was
 33 anything said about her marriage to Gray or her being an Indian woman
 34 from Virginia or elsewhere. I am not related to the applicant nor in-
 35 terested in this pension claim. I have understood the questions asked
 36 and my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which I have
 37 heard read. Word "here" inserted in line 30 before signing.

William G. Davis

Deponent.

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Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of January 1910.
 190 , and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent
 before signing.

M. S. Fitch

Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Marie L. Gray. Orig. Widow, No. 870,584

On this twenty-fifth day of January, 1920, at
New Orleans, county of Orleans
State of Louisiana, before me, William S. Fitch, a
Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
William J. Comerford, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 My age is 55 years; postoffice address, #724 Fern Street, New
 2 Orleans, La. I am a contractor. I have lived in New Orleans since
 3 my childhood, except that I was in St. Mary Parish, La., in 1870 and
 4 1871. I was acquainted with Dr. William Howard Gray from 1867 or there-
 5 abouts until I last saw him in this city in 1882. He was the father
 6 of William Bailey Gray, but I never personally knew William Bailey
 7 Gray. His father was in charge of the Marine Hospital in New Orleans
 8 in 1867, 1868 and 1869 and was my tutor off and on for about five years.
 9 I was in almost daily contact with Dr. Gray for approximately five
 10 years, from 1867 to 1872 or thereabouts. During that period of time
 11 I never saw William Bailey Gray but once, but the time and place I
 12 do not remember. I was intimately acquainted with Dr. Gray and his
 13 wife and son Charley during the period mentioned and I at times heard
 14 things about William Bailey Gray my memory of which is now vague and
 15 indefinite. As a matter of rumor I heard that he was living with a
 16 colored woman, but I could not say where and the matter came to me in
 17 a vague and gossippy way which I would now be unable to trace. I do
 18 not remember ever hearing his father mention his name. The impression
 19 I got at the time and the impression I have now was that he was merely
 20 cohabiting with the woman and was not married to her. I never heard
 21 that he was married to her. My impression is that he lost caste and
 22 was not spoken of very often in the society circle in which I moved. I
 23 do not know what became of the colored woman for the reason that I
 24 never knew anything about her. I afterwards heard at one time that
 25 William Bailey Gray was in Morgan City. Aside from that fact I never
 26 knew anything about his subsequent life. I am not related nor inter-
 27 ested in this pension claim. I have understood the questions asked and
 28 my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which I have heard
 29 read.

W. J. Comerford
 Deponent.

DEPOSITION *B*Case of Marie L. Gray. Wid. Orig., No. 870,584

On this twenty-seventh day of January, 1910, at
New Orleans, county of Orleans
 State of Louisiana, before me, William S. Fitch, a
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Wyndham R. Nixon, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 My age is 63 years; postoffice address, #1435 St. Roch Avenue,
 2 New Orleans, La. I am chief clerk in the freight department L.M. & T.
 3 R.R.Co. at the St. Ann depot. I have resided in New Orleans continu-
 4 ously for the past 29 years. Previously I resided at Mandeville, La.,
 5 from 1868 to 1880 off and on. I was there in 1870 and 1871. My wife
 6 kept a grocery store in Mandeville while I ran on the lake steamers
 7 from New Orleans to Covington, La. My wife had the grocery store
 8 for a period of about six months in 1869 and 1870. I knew the soldier
 9 William Bailey Gray, at Mandeville in 1870 and 1871. I knew his wife
 10 and his brother Charley. He lived there with a colored woman, a mulat-
 11 to, and had children, ~~by her~~ There were several young mulatto children
 12 in the house where he lived with the colored woman. I could not say
 13 what her ^{first} name was. Of course I don't know whether Gray was legally
 14 married to the woman or not, but she passed as his wife and was known
 15 by the name of Gray. The children were all young children and were
 16 supposed to be his children by the woman he lived with. Gray's brother
 17 Charley stayed with him for a time in Mandeville. I don't know what
 18 became of the woman after Gray left Mandeville. It is my impression
 19 that Gray and his family left Mandeville at or near the same time.
 20 In 1884 I was at Morgan City, La., and chanced to drop into a
 21 printing office there. I think it was the year of the Ames crevasse.
 22 In the printing office I met William Bailey Gray who was then living
 23 in Morgan City and running a printing office. When I recognized him
 24 and called him by name he talked with me a few minutes and asked me
 25 not to say anything in Morgan City about his having had a colored wife
 26 and children in Mandeville. I cannot state positively that he spoke
 27 of her as his wife at this time, but he indicated the colored woman
 28 with whom he had lived in Mandeville and who had passed as his wife.
 29 I don't know whether Gray and the colored woman lived together after

Page 20

30 they left Mandeville nor whether either ever got a divorce from the
31 other. I know nothing about his marital history subsequently. I am
32 not related to the applicant or soldier nor interested in this pension
33 claim. I have understood the questions asked and my answers are cor-
34 rectly recorded in this deposition which I have heard read. Words "by
35 her" erased in line 11 and word "first" inserted in line 13 before sign-
36 ing. *Hyndham R. Kiffin* Deponent.

Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of January,
1920, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent
before signing.

N. B.—Examiners should be particular to have affiants sign on the line next below the closing words of their depositions, so as to leave little or no space between their signatures and the end of their depositions.

3-290.

DEPOSITION

Case of Marie Louise Gray. Orig. Widow, No. 870,584

On this eleventh day of January, 1920, at
Morgan City Parish St. Mary.
Louisiana, before me, William S. Fitch,
a special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Charles S. Gray, who, being by me first duly sworn to
answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says: I am 54
years of age; my post-office address is Morgan City, La. I am the same

1 Charles S. Gray, the brother of William Bailey Gray, who heretofore,
2 towit, on the 30th day of April 1909 and on the 26th day of October
3 1909 testified in this pension claim of Marie Louise Gray as widow
4 of William Bailey Gray. I have in my possession a quantity of old
5 letters from my father and mother and my said brother some of which
6 were written to me during the war and the years immediately succeed-
7 ing the war. These letters I have examined carefully for information
8 bearing upon the marital status and whereabouts of my brother during
9 the period from 1864 to the date of his alleged marriage to Kate Baum
10 Roberts on August 5, 1873, and the period from the date of their sepa-
11 ration in the spring of 1877 to the date of his marriage to the claim-
12 ant, Oct. 1, 1878. These letters have been submitted by me to the
13 special examiner and together we went thru them on the 27th day of
14 December 1909. It was subsequent to July 2, 1878, that they separated.
15 My father, Dr. William Howard Gray, was assistant surgeon of
16 the 1st U.S.C. Vol. Cav. during the civil war. My brother was trans-
17 ferred to this regiment about June 1864 as a 1st Lieutenant. In May
18 and June 1864 my father and brother were at Bermuda Hundred, Va., as
19 shown by letters from the former dated at that place May 27, 1864,
20 and from the latter dated June 11, 1864. On June 26 and on July 21,
21 1864, they were in camp near Petersburg, Va. On Oct. 4, 1864, at
22 Newport News, Va. I went to Newport News with my mother in the fall
23 of 1864 and Bailey came up from Fortress Monroe to visit us. I don't
24 know anything about his having a wife or woman with him at that time.
25 My mother did not at that time know anything about his having a wife

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Deposition

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26 or woman with him to my knowledge. In June 1865, the 13th Dr. Gray
27 and Bailey Gray went down the river to Fortress Monroe on the "Dudley
28 Buck." They started the 13th for Brazos Santiago, Texas. In August
29 1865 they were at Brazos Santiago. My father was in charge of the
30 Marine Hospital in New Orleans at the close of the war in 1866, 1867
31 and 1868 and my brother was at that time. ~~part of 1867~~
32 part of 1867 my father was a surgeon in the Freedmen's Bureau at York-
33 towny Va., and I was with him there, but he was back in New Orleans
34 in 1867 and 1868. Bailey was not with him at Yorktown, but was with
35 him in New Orleans practically all the time my father was there. He
36 was employed as a photographer by McPherson & Oliver, No. 132 Canal
37 Street, New Orleans, in 1866 and 1867. In 1868 he was on the New
38 Orleans police force and was elected to the state senate from New Or-
39 leans the same year. The election was contested, Gray vs Baker. In
40 July 1870 Bailey was in Mandeville, La. I was not with my father and
41 brother in New Orleans, but I was with him in Mandeville part of the
42 time and taught school at Bayou LaCombe near Mandeville in 1870 or
43 1871. Bailey was elected a school director of St. Tammany Parish, La.,
44 in April 1871 and absconded with some of the school funds in October
45 1871. I left Mandeville prior to October 1871. Chevallon and Poin-
46 dexter were Bailey's bondsmen when he was treasurer of the school board.
47 During all the time my brother was in Mandeville he lived and cohabited
48 with an Indian woman named Missouri or Zue and had several children by
49 her. She was a fine-looking woman, very light complexion, with beau-
50 tiful long black curls. There was no colored blood in her to my know-
51 ledge. Their oldest child was five, six or seven years old and one
52 of the children was an infant. It is probable that this woman was
53 with Bailey in New Orleans during the time he lived there and that he
54 took her from New Orleans to Mandeville. She had nursed Bailey in
55 Virginia, as I understood, during the war, and he had brought her with
56 him when he came south. She was known as his wife in Mandeville and
57 he called her his wife. My mother spoke in her letters of visiting
58 them at Mandeville, but I don't recollect that my father was there.
59 I remember my mother being there when I was there. She regarded Zue
60 as Bailey's wife and treated her as such. Spoke of the children as
61 her grandchildren. In one of her letters she sends her love to Zue
62 and the babies and in another speaks of the children as her grandchild-
63 ren. I don't know whether Bailey was married to the Indian woman or

64 not. Letters from my father from New Orleans to me, then a mere boy,
 65 are silent as to Bailey's relations with this woman. Bailey met this
 66 woman somewhere in Virginia, probably near Harrison's Landing, Newport
 67 News, Bermuda Hundred or Gordonsville, Va. Letters from my father
 68 show that he was at Gordonsville in 1864, but they do not show that
 69 Bailey was there. Zue was from the Chickahominy River in Virginia,
 70 as I believe. It is my recollection that she told me that. I don't
 71 know what became of Bailey's Indian wife after he absconded, but it
 72 is my impression that she went back to her people in Virginia, taking
 73 her children with her. I don't know whether she and Bailey were sub-
 74 sequently divorced or not. They kept house in Mandeville and had a
 75 garden. I stayed with them in Mandeville. I saw nothing in their
 76 conduct and heard nothing while at their house to indicate that they
 77 were not married. Zue was visited by white ladies in the town and
 78 had a certain social status. Bailey had a bath house while there on
 79 the shore of Lake Pontchartrain and he was in the charcoal business.
 80 He was also elected a justice of the peace. He shipped charcoal to
 81 New Orleans across the lake in a schooner. William E. Comerford of
 82 #724 Fern Street, New Orleans, was with my father in New Orleans and
 83 knew Bailey and went to his house. This fact appears in my father's
 84 letters. R. C. Richardson, first division superintendent of education
 85 in 1871, with office at Amite City, La., was at Bailey's house in Man-
 86 deville. Bailey told me that his son Joe by his Indian wife was clerk
 87 of court in Richmond, Va. Colored people in Mandeville burned char-
 88 coal for Bailey. James Daniel, Alec Band, Charles Morgan, a family
 89 named Maspero and a family named Etienne knew Bailey and his Indian
 90 wife in Mandeville. There were three girls in the Etienne family nick-
 91 named "Ba-ba", "Ne-Ne" and "Ya-ya." They had a crazy brother. A
 92 man named Nixon kept a grocery store in Mandeville and Bailey traded
 93 at his store. A Dr. McKay, who was connected with the Marine Hospital
 94 in New Orleans, knew Bailey in Mandeville and probably knew him in New
 95 Orleans.

96 Kate Baum Roberts was from about Warren and Tidique, Pa. He:
 97 brother was Dr. Baum at Warren or Tidicoute. When Bailey absconded
 98 he is believed to have gone to the oil-fields of Pennsylvania. Afte
 99 he married Kate he was at Athens, Ohio, and he was in the lumber bus-
 100 iness in Youngsville, Pa. I have no letters in my possession showin
 101 my brother's whereabouts from the time the dramatic company broke up
 102 in Vicksburg in the summer of 1878 until his marriage to the claimer

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103 I was with him continuously from the time he separated from Kate
 104 until he met the claimant at Bayou Sara in the summer of 1878 and the
 105 claimant was with him continuously from that time until her marriage
 106 to him. Neither she nor I have any knowledge of his obtaining a di-
 107 vorce from Kate during the period mentioned. Claimant did not know
 108 of his marriage to Kate Baum Roberts. Bailey never told me that he
 109 had obtained a divorce from Kate and he never told me that he had ob-
 110 tained a divorce from Zue. He told me that the child Ellis was not
 111 his son, but I don't recall that he ever referred to his marriage
 112 to Kate. I assumed that he was married to Zue, but he never said
 113 to me that he was married to her or that he was not married to her.
 114 My parents accepted both Kate and Marie Louise as Bailey's wife. Kate
 115 had an unsavory way about her and my parents and other persons in
 116 Morgan City questioned the fact of her marriage to my brother. My
 117 mother was greatly relieved when Kate went away and had previously
 118 ordered her out of her house. I have always been suspicious as to
 119 the relation between Bailey and Kate. They were both capable of per-
 120 petrating a fraud. I left Vicksburg August 21, 1878, and left St.
 121 Louis August 28, 1878. I went to Letart Falls, Ohio, to see Vivia
 122 to protect her from Bailey. She boarded there with Daniel Bibbee and
 123 wife, an old couple, and had gone to Marietta, Ohio, to attend a sold-
 124 iers reunion and to visit her mother, who was then teaching elocution
 125 in Marietta. She gave readings in the adjoining towns. I met Kate,
 126 Vivia and Ellis in Marietta and stayed about two weeks with them. Kate
 127 was also doing art work with a Mrs. Thayer. Clarence Maris and wife
 128 roomed at the same place and were in the millinery business. M. D.
 129 Follet, a lawyer, knew Kate and also the mayor of the town, whose
 130 name I do not remember. Kate had several men callers. A Mr. and Mrs.
 131 Morse were acquainted with her. I find references to Mrs. Cook 2d
 132 Street and to Dana's hatstore in letters. The postmaster knew her. He

Charles S. Gray
 Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of January 1910
 190 , and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent
 before signing.

M. S. Fitch
 Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION *a*Case of Marie Louise Gray, Orig. Widow, No. 870,584

On this _____ day of _____, 190____, at _____, county of _____

State of _____, before me, _____, a
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Charles S. Gray continued _____, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 claimed that she buncoed him out of several dollars in connection with
 2 teaching one of his children elocution.

3 The leading lady of the dramatic company which Bailey and I
 4 joined at Morgan City was Helen D'Este who was supposed to be the wife
 5 of George Stutz, manager of the company. She afterwards married a
 6 rich man and went west, to California, I believe. George Stutz was
 7 a friend of Bailey and also Walter Hammet, the latter a witness to
 8 Bailey's marriage to the claimant. Address of George Stutz Ester-
 9 ville, Iowa, care of the Esterville Reporter. He might know what be-
 10 came of Walter Hammet. Bailey may have told them something about his
 11 marriage to Kate or divorce from her. Stutz might also know what
 12 became of Helen D'Este. Helen D'Este knew of Kate. Madam Methua-
 13 Scheller, who died of yellow fever in Vicksburg, was leading woman
 14 of the New Orleans company which joined with the Stutz company at
 15 Bayou Sara and the claimant was a protege of Madam Scheller. If
 16 Bailey's son Joe and his daughter Priscilla could be located in Rich-
 17 mond, Va., or in the Chickahominy settlement, they would doubtless
 18 know what became of their mother and whether there was a divorce. I
 19 am not interested in this pension claim nor related to the claimant
 20 except by marriage. I have understood the questions asked and my
 21 answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which I have heard
 22 read.

23 *Charles S. Gray*
 24 Deponent.

25 Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of January
 26 1910 and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent
 27 before signing.

28 *Wm. S. Fitch*

29 Special Examiner.

3-1876.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

New Orleans, La., Jan. 29, 1910.

Hon. Commissioner of Pensions,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to return the papers and submit this, my second, report in the claim of Marie Louise Gray as widow of William Bailey Gray, 1st Lieut. Co. I 1st U.S.C.Vol.Cav., war of the rebellion, Orig. Widow No. 810,225, which was returned to this district for examination of old letters in the possession of Mr. Charles S. Gray of Morgan City, La., brother of the soldier, and such further action in the premises as might be deemed advisable touching the question at issue - legal widowhood - prior marriage of soldier - divorce from former wife.

I have had considerable correspondence with Charles S. Gray and have seen him three or four times in regard to this case. He is a mine of information relative to the soldier's previous history and yet I have been able to get very little tangible evidence from him. On Dec. 27 last I went to Morgan City and examined all of his old letters bearing on the case. I made copious notes and Mr. Gray gave me a quantity of jottings which he had made. I then went to Covington and Mandeville, La. I searched the records at Covington, the parish seat of St. Tammany Parish, but failed to find a record of soldier's marriage to any woman or of a divorce from any woman. I did find an action brought in the name of the Governor of La., at that time William Pitt Kellogg, special term Sept. 15, 1872, against W. B. Gray and his bondsmen, A. Chevallon and R. Poindexter. I obtained some data from the papers in the case, but all the persons connected with the case I found were dead. The two bondsmen, W. B. Kemp, judge, and I. Fisk, district attorney, and T.C.W. Ellis, attorney, are all dead. I interviewed Harry R. Warren, clerk of court and an old resident of Covington, besides a number of other persons, among them Samuel J. Tolley and L.L. Morgan. I learned absolutely nothing of value in Covington. At Mande-

ville I interviewed any number of people and took two depositions, but they do not show a marriage, divorce or the whereabouts of the woman Missouri or Zue. She was probably colored - a mulattress and not an Indian squaw, but she might have been both. The presumption in all cases of this kind here is not that the parties were married, but that they were not married, exactly the opposite of the presumption which would arise in the case of a white man and white woman holding themselves out as husband and wife, but it is a presumption of fact and not of law. Still in reconstruction days it was not infrequently the case that white men married colored women, but they didn't do it much in Louisiana. I located members of the Maspero family in this city and they have no knowledge. There is a Dr. John D'Aquin in this city and I interviewed him, but he is not the Dr. D'Aquin to whom I was referred. That Dr. D'Aquin is dead. I located a member of the Etienne family after returning from Mandeville and wrote her, Mrs. Felicie Cailliot, but have had no reply from her. I found W.R.Nixon and W.J.Comerford and secured their depositions. I have been unable to locate R.C.Richardson, school superintendent in 1871, altho I have written to several parties at Amite and in this city. I have interviewed all the old timers in New Orleans, especially such as were in politics or on the police force in the reconstruction period, among them P. H. Boyle, P.A.Loobey, Otto Burandt, L. J. Souer, that I thought might afford information and none of them remember William Bailey Gray. James M. Daniel, Alec Band and Charles Morgan mentioned by Mr. C.S.Gray are dead. I interviewed the widow of Alec Band, Mrs. Charlotte Band and her first husband was Charles Morgan. I interviewed Dr. Alonzo Givens and several men named Smith to whom I was referred in Mandeville. The photographers, McPherson & Oliver, by whom soldier was employed in New Orleans in 1867 cannot be located and may be dead. Alfred Francois, whose deposition is appended, was soldier's constable when he was a justice of the peace in Mandeville. Soldier was elected a state senator from a New Orleans district. I have been unable to locate Dr. McKay mentioned by Charles S. Gray.

There is one strong fact which was brought out in the testimony of Charles S. Gray and that is that he was with his brother

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REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

from the time he separated from Kate Baum Roberts until soldier met the claimant and the claimant was with him in a dramatic company from that time until she married him. The necessary inference from this fact is that soldier could not have obtained a divorce from Kate Baum Roberts without the knowledge of one or the other and neither of them knows of a divorce. He would have had to acquire a legal residence somewhere in order to obtain a divorce. The fact that Charles S. Gray and other members of the family and claimant herself doubted that soldier and Kate Baum Roberts were legally married and the fact that Gray did not himself get a divorce are significant as casting suspicion on the validity of the marriage to Kate Baum Roberts. Claimant stated in conversation that when soldier was urging her to marry him he read her a portion of a letter from some woman saying that if he wanted to marry it would be all right so far as she was concerned, but claimant did not see the letter and did not know whether it was genuine and she has no confidence in anything soldier told her. At least that is my belief and I did not regard her statement on this point as good evidence and did not incorporate it in her deposition on that account. I believe that Mrs. Genevieve B. Dennison, Cathcart's report, should be rigidly and exhaustively cross-examined on every possible point in this case. It should be brought out in her testimony who her father was, who Roberts was, who was the father of Ellis, how many times was her mother married, to whom and where, whether divorced, whether Roberts died, whether she got a divorce from soldier and if not why not, why she never questioned soldier's right to marry the claimant, whether she did question it, what places she lived in succession after separating from Gray, whether she married again and then investigate the validity of that church record in Erie, Pa., if found to be desirable. I kept one letter only out of the bunch examined by me and it is a letter from soldier's mother in which she refers to the marriage of soldier and Kate Baum Roberts. Charles S. Gray wants this letter returned to him when it has served its purpose. The deposition of Mr. Gray herewith is full of suggestion and this investigation might continue without end, but I don't regard it as desirable to follow every clue.

Further examination is recommended as above suggested for

a thorough cross-examination of Mrs. Genevieve B. Dennison, #24 N. 8th Street, Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio. The result may indicate a different line of procedure.

Then for the testimony of George Stutz, Estherville, Emmet Co., Ia. (Ask him about Helen D'Este and Walter Hammett and others of the dramatic company likely to afford information.)

Then additional data in the deposition of Charles S. Gray may indicate a course of further investigation along different lines.

Very respectfully

W. S. Fitch
Special Examiner.

H. B. It might be well to get a list of the staff officers of the 1st U.S.C. Cav with the view of finding out whether soldier was married to the colored woman.

W. S. F.
Spec. Ex.

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Hon. Commissioner of Pensions,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to return the papers and submit my report in the pension claim of Marie L. Gray as widow of William B. Gray, 1st Lieut. Co. I 1st U.S.C.Vol.Cav., war of the rebellion, Orig. Widow No. 870584, which was returned to this district for the purpose of reading adverse testimony to the claimant and for her final statement. I read the testimony to claimant, including the marriage record obtained at Erie, Pa., and took an additional statement from her. I also took an additional statement from Charles S. Gray, the brother of soldier. It would seem to be worth while to investigate the question of a possible divorce between soldier and the wife Kate in order to do complete justice to this claimant. Of the persons named by Charles S. Gray as likely to know whether soldier was divorced from his first wife Kate or not I secured the deposition of Philip H. Mentz of this city. His testimony indicates that soldier at least made an effort to secure a divorce in St. Mary Parish, La., before marrying the claimant and he is quoted as saying that he was "all right on the divorce question" and could produce a divorce if necessary. It is impossible to ignore such statements as these. I append as an exhibit in this report a letter from the clerk of court at Franklin, La., showing that there is no decree of divorce between soldier and the wife Kate of record in St. Mary Parish, La., but it is possible that he obtained a divorce elsewhere or that the wife obtained a divorce.

2 Further examination is recommended for examination of divorce records at ~~Fronton~~, Lawrence County, ~~Marietta~~, Washington County, ~~Chillicothe~~, Ross County, and ~~Portsmouth~~, Scioto County, Ohio. (Charles S. Gray stated that he knew of the first wife be-

ing at those places in Ohio after her separation from soldier.) She may also have been at Pomeroy, ~~Meigs~~ County, Ohio, and her daughter does not state at what time she was at ~~Newark~~, Licking County, Ohio.

Also for the testimony on the question of divorce of the following: Judge E. B. Mentz, Houston, Harris County, Texas.

Mrs. Wilson, mother of Henry M. Mayo, confidential clerk to Thornwall Fay of the Southern Pacific Ry Co., Houston, Texas.

Very respectfully,

A. S. Fitch
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION *A*

Case of Marie L. Gray. Orig. Widow, No. 870584

On this twenty-sixth day of October, 1909, at Morgan City, county of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, before me, William S. Fitch, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Marie L. Gray, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 I am the claimant in this pension case and my deposition was
2 taken by Special Examiner Clarke on April 21, 1909. I have heard
3 the evidence taken by other special examiners during the investigation
4 of my pension claim as widow of William B. Gray read in full, includ-
5 ing the copy of a marriage record dated August 5, 1873, between William
6 B. Gray and Mrs. Kate Baum Roberts in St. Paul's Episcopal church,
7 Erie, Pa. I have never heretofore known whether soldier was actually
8 married to that woman or not. His parents told me and his brother
9 told me that he was not married to her and everybody in this town
10 who knew the soldier and this woman who passed as his wife was under
11 the impression that they were not legally married. In fact his own
12 immediate relatives did not think that they were married at all. I
13 do not know how they got this impression, whether it was because sold-
14 ier had a former wife living from whom he was not divorced or whether
15 this Mrs. Roberts had a former husband living from whom she had not
16 been divorced or other reason. I never heard from soldier or from
17 others that soldier was married to a woman in New York City after
18 the war. He was given to jollying people by saying that he had been
19 married half a dozen times and had had six pairs of twins and a grand
20 big wedding in soldier clothes in New York and all that sort of thing,
21 but no attention was paid to such yarns by persons who understood his
22 temperament and disposition to crack jokes. He never acknowledged the
23 child Ellis Roberts or Gray referred to in the testimony. He told me
24 that the child was not his. Nobody here knows anything about the
25 birth of that child and I am satisfied that it was not born here. I
26 do not know his whereabouts from 1873 to 1878 when I made his acquaint-
27 ance except that I have understood that during a portion of that period
28 he lived in Morgan City with the woman Kate Roberts and that she left
29 him here. His parents were here during all of that period and of course

this was his home since his parents lived here.

I have no knowledge as to any divorce between soldier and this wife Kate Baum Roberts. I never heard a divorce mentioned. I never even heard of a marriage. Yes, I actually believed that soldier merely lived with that woman Kate Baum Roberts without being married to her. I was led to believe that by soldier himself and by his relatives and by the whole community. People here did not associate with her here and she was considered a suspicious character in every way. He told me himself that he lived with the daughter Vivian or Genevieve with the mother's knowledge. If soldier had secured a divorce from Kate Roberts in this parish, it is certain that I should have learned of it from his people and others. No, I have no reason to believe that soldier had another wife before he married the woman Kate Roberts and that a former wife was living undivorced from him when he married Kate Roberts. I have understood the questions asked and my answers are correctly recorded in this deposition which I have heard read.

Mrs Marie Louise Gray

Deponent.

Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of October, 1909, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

M. S. Fitch

Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Marie L. Gray. Orig. Widow, No. 870584

On this twenty-ninth day of October, 1909, at
New Orleans, county of Orleans
 State of Louisiana, before me, William S. Eitch, a
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Philip H. Mentz, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 My age is 56 years; postoffice address, #714 Hennen Building,
 2 New Orleans, La. I am an attorney at law. I resided in Morgan City,
 3 La., from the beginning of 1877 until the fall of 1886. I then moved
 4 Franklin, the county seat of St. Mary Parish, the same parish in which
 5 Morgan City is located, and resided at Franklin up to 1899 and then
 6 came here. During the whole of my residence in Morgan City and Frank-
 7 lin I practiced law.

8 I was acquainted with the soldier, William Bailey Gray, from
 9 the beginning of 1877 until he died. I knew his father and mother
 10 intimately. They resided at Morgan City long before I came there
 11 and up to their death after I left and they were people of standing
 12 and substance. Dr. Gray, the father of Bailey Gray, was a prominent
 13 physician in Morgan City. I knew Bailey's first wife and her daughter
 14 Vivian very well. His first wife was much older than he. He brought
 15 her there and represented her as his wife and she was accepted and
 16 recognized as such in the community. She and her daughter left Morgan
 17 City in 1877. Vivian with whom I had become well acquainted and who
 18 sought my advice, became disgusted with the quarrels between her moth-
 19 er and stepfather and I advised her to get away. She went away first
 20 and the mother followed soon afterwards.

21 William Bailey Gray sued his wife, the mother of Vivian Roberts,
 22 but her first name I do not remember, for divorce in the 10th judic-
 23 ial district court at Franklin, La., about the end of 1877 or the be-
 24 ginning of 1878. I was appointed attorney to represent the absent
 25 wife who had left the State. I interposed a defence which was proba-
 26 bly a demurrer based on the want of jurisdiction of the court, ac-
 27 cording to my best recollection, and knocked the plaintiff out. The
 28 suit was dismissed and he did not obtain a decree of divorce in St.
 29 Mary Parish. Bailey joined a dramatic troupe of which his second wife

was a member, as I understood, and left Morgan City in 1878 before the epidemic of yellow fever which broke out in the summer of that year. About the beginning of 1879, according to my recollection, Bailey came back to Morgan City bringing with him this claimant, Marie L. Gray, as his wife. She was received as his wife by his parents and was accepted in the community as such. The first wife had the same status.

When he came back to Morgan City I had some printing done at his printing office and in the course of a conversation with him I asked him how he stood on the divorce question. I said to him: "You know I knocked you out once." He answered that he was all right on the divorce question, that he had a divorce from his first wife and could produce it if there was any question about it. He also stated that his second wife's mother had raised the question and that he had convinced her that he had a divorce and was competent to marry again. He and the claimant lived together continuously in the relation of a married couple and had a number of children up to the time of his death. She was always looked upon as his lawful wife and I never knew nor heard of the first wife raising the question of no divorce. So far as I know she was never heard from after she left Morgan City. Morally I was convinced that Gray had obtained a divorce from his first wife somewhere, but I did not know where and it might have been that she got a divorce from him. Gray's first wife was an impossible woman socially. She imagined herself a highly intellectual person and demanded a great deal of attention. She created an oppressive atmosphere wherever she went. Gray intimated to me that the reason he wanted to get a divorce from his first wife was some question of her chastity. Every circumstance would lead to the belief that Gray was lawfully married to his second wife. He brought her right back to his old home and his people and his efforts to secure a divorce at his home and his subsequent remarks to me on the subject indicate that he was bent on getting a divorce and actually got it some place. I am not related nor interested. Questions understood and answers correctly recorded in this deposition which I have heard read.

Philip H. Butler
Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of October, 1909, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Wm S. Fitch
Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of Marie L. Gray, No. 870584

On this 28 day of AUGUST, 1909, at
Hamilton, county of Butler
 State of Ohio, before me, W. F. Calhoun, a
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
Genevieve B. Demmon, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

1 I am 49 years of age. My post office
 2 is Hamilton Butler Co. Ohio #24 N. E. Street,
 3 a house keeper and the wife of Charles H. Demmon
 4 Superintendent Woven Owens Reischler Co.

5 I am the daughter of Catharine L. Roberts, who
 6 married William B. Gray as shown by this
 7 her marriage certificate dated August 5, 1873
 8 at St Paul's Church at the City of Erie Diocese
 9 of Pittsburg, Pa. signed by John F. Spaulding
 10 Rector of St Paul's Church. I was then 13 years
 11 old. He was a railroad man. Part of the time
 12 after that I lived with them and part of the
 13 time with relatives. They separated at
 14 Morgan City La. Mother and I came north
 15 in 1877. We had gone to his father's in Centennial
 16 year and were there less than a year.

17 We came north in the spring and came
 18 to Ironton O. She then gave readings and
 19 lessons in elocution. I do not recall that
 20 they had any quarrel. It was just a mutual
 21 separation as I recollect. I don't know whether
 22 either applied for a divorce or not. I never
 23 saw any paper in mother's possession purporting
 24 to be a divorce. Mother died Jan. 21 1889 at
 25 Phoenix Oswego, N.Y. She never remarried.
 26 I again was with her part of the time and
 27 part of the time with relatives.

28 Mother was transient during all this time
 29 travelling until within 4 months of her death.

30 The longest time I knew her to be settled
31 down in one place was Richmond Ind.
32 for some two years as head quarters from
33 1883 to 1885. She was at Newark O. some
34 months, I do not know exactly how long.

35 No I never heard him speak of being married
36 before he married my mother. I am satisfied
37 my mother never saw William Bailey Brady
38 again after their separation in 1877. I never
39 saw him again nor heard of him till now.

40 I have heard this read over. I have understood
41 your questions and my answers are correctly reported as
42 read over to me.

43 Genevieve B. Demmeson.

Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28 day of
1909, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent
before signing.

[Signature]
Special Examiner.

TAKE NOTICE.

- * George Shultz, was Bailey's partner in Dramatic Co - in 1878 while claimant was with Company.
B. may have - & probably did say something about his relation to Kate. That would be good evidence -
Address Geo. Shultz, Esterville, Iowa See Esterville Reporter.
- * He could probably give information about Walter Hammet - witness to marriage at Anna Ill. Oct. 1, 1878. He may have explained something to him
- * Supreme Court has decided that a man can have two widows. The deserving one gets recognition in law
(from G.L. Wise. Mayor of Md. City. Atty at Law)
- * In every state (but Louisiana) if a man cohabit with a woman & has children by her the law recognizes a marriage if so. Bailey's union with Lue is legal in Virginia - & consequently in Louisiana when they move to the latter state.
- * See M.E. Commerford 724 Fern St New Orleans was with Dr. W. H. Gray - Marine Hospital. Knew Bailey. went to his house - prob saw Lue.

Congressional
Unanswered

Law Division.
January 31, 1911.

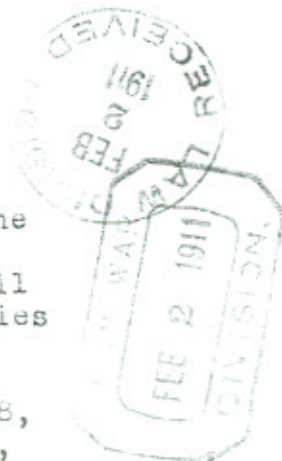
B.E.S.

MEMORANDUM.

Wid. Orig. No. 870,584.)
--- ---

Law Div
OK.
Sanborn.
This claim stands rejected on the ground that the claimant is not the soldier's lawful widow as he had a prior wife who survived the marriage and lived until 1889. No common law marriage arose between the parties as they were domiciled in Louisiana where common law is not recognized as valid.

The claimant married the soldier October 1, 1878, in the State of Illinois. They settled in Louisiana,



2

the soldier's former home, and he died there October 16, 1905. The special examination shows that soldier married one Kate B. Roberts at Erie, Pa., August 5, 1873, at a time he was an absconder with school funds from Louisiana. He returned to Louisiana, however, with Kate where they lived as husband and wife until 1877, when Kate left him and went to Ohio, where she lived for many years and she finally died in the State of New York, January 21, 1889. After soldier's separation from Kate and in the same year, he met the claimant while they were both members of a theatrical troop and they were ceremonially married in Illinois in 1878, as stated. The claimant had no knowledge of Kate at the date of marriage and she afterward learned from soldier and his folks that he was not married to her--he was, however, as there is a church record of it.

3

The special examiners were unable to show any divorce, and as a result, her claim was rejected by the Board.

In the abstract this may be right; but the claimant married the soldier in Illinois in good faith and lived with him for 27 years and until his death, and why not indulge the Illinois presumptions as to divorce?

Again it is definitely shown that the soldier lived with a woman Zue, in Mandaville, La., prior to his marriage to Kate, and that they were known, recognized and reputed as husband and wife, and had several children and lived together until about 1871, when the soldier became an embezzler and absconded with school funds. It has been intimated that Zue was part Indian and again as part negro or part negro and Indian, and

one of the special examiners says that fact kills any presumptions as to marriage between them in Louisiana and the Board evidently adopted his opinion. Well, she might have been black and at the time they lived together such a marriage would be good in Louisiana.

There is no more reason to throw out the claimant's marriage by reason of soldier's marriage to Kate than there is to throw out Kate's marriage by reason of soldier's relation with Zue, for in *Blasina v. Blasina*, (30 La. Ann., 1388), the court held:

Where a man introduces a woman, white or colored, to his friends as his wife, and calls her his wife, and he and she live together publicly as man and wife until her death, and their children, born while they were thus living together, are baptized, reared and educated as their

legal offspring, the law will presume that they were lawfully married until it is shown that no marriage between them ever took place, or that it was void on account of some nullity established by law.

It may be that the soldier was never ceremonially married to Zoe; but it may also be that the soldier was divorced from Kate and that his marriage to claimant was a valid matrimonial bond; in any event the courts of both Illinois and Louisiana would so presume in passing judgment on the facts as they are presented before us.

I believe the legality of the marriage in question should be determined under the presumptions which obtain in the premises, even though it does not seem

possible that a decree was obtained by the soldier or the wife Kate. We do not know to a certainty whether or not the latter procured a decree--only what the daughter by a former husband says, and her statement to, alone, is taken to show Kate, (her mother's) legal competence to marry the soldier. Much has been assumed to destroy claimant's title. Under the law in the case we should only presume to preserve her title.

As the Board's action was probably had on the theory that the soldier never married Zoe because the laws of Louisiana would not tolerate it on account of her color, and that his relation with her formed no impediment to his marriage to Kate, it is believed that the claim should be reopened and admitted on the theory that a valid prior marriage is not clearly established

SPECIAL EXAMINATION
DIVISION.

3-1870.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

New Orleans, La., Nov. 2, 1909.

Hon. Commissioner of Pensions,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to forward a letter from Charles S. Gray of Morgan City, La., whose deposition I took recently in the claim Orig. Widow No. 870584 of Marie L. Gray as widow of William Bailey Gray, reported by me for further examination Oct. 30. This letter opens up further possibilities in the case and indicates that soldier may have been married to the Indian woman (Missouri or Susie or Sue) with whom his brother stated he lived at Mandeville, La. It seems he had five children by her and he might also have been divorced from her. The records of St. Tammany Parish, La., might show divorce from this first wife (if she was soldier's wife), or he might have obtained a divorce from first wife in Pennsylvania. The letter, however, adds nothing to my report in the way of giving the whereabouts of soldier and the wife Kate in 1877 and 1878 after their separation. It is possible that other letters in this man's possession might add missing links. If the Bureau desires me to examine those letters, the papers should be returned to this district.

Very respectfully,


Special Examiner.



Morgan City, La. Nov 2^d 1909

Wm. S. Fitch Esq. Sp. Exm Bu. Pensions
 From B. Gray Morgan City La } Custom Ho. N.O. La.

Dear Sir.-- If you don't remember me, you'll remember
 The pipe. You said it was the finest you had ever seen.
 Well. I have been digging into old letters - diaries - note books
 scraps & what not. in the attempt to unearth something -
 There is much more to over haul if it is desirable
 to arrive at the truth. For my part I would like
 to see the matter thrashed out - till not a grain of fact
 remains hidden. fiat lux, et justitia super omnia.
 I am surprised at the wealth of evidence concealed in
 those old letters - Bundles of letters with year numbers
 on each bundle - from father & mother. and a
Tray of envelopes, numbered 1 to 100, containing
 letters from friends to me - I was away from home
 much of the time after '70, and all these letters are
 history making epistles. I subjoin notes taken
 at random. I divide the history into 3 periods -
 The Time of ⁽¹⁾Missoura (Sue or Susie) The Time of ⁽²⁾Kate, and
 the Time of ⁽³⁾Louise - I am sure that more points could
 be found if the search was more systematic.
 Perhaps it would be the proper thing for you to help
 in the hunt - I would be glad of your assistance & no
 (over)

doubt could make some things clear that might otherwise remain obscure.

I shall endeavor to give the result, or an indication of my findings, in chronological order.

Now we commence -

- Time of (1.) Missouri (Sue. Susie)
- 1868 Oct. 7. C.S.G. Bethel, Maine to Dr. W.H. Gray (father) La. { Is Bailey senator yet? when is he coming home? }
- 1869 Apr. 30. From W.B. Gray to C.S.G. Bethel, Maine } Don't know when I will come North - I am somewhat bound down &c. &c.
1870. W.B. Mandeville July 18th making money. Tried to meet me in N.O. on my arrival from Bethel Me.
- 1871 Mar. 20. W.B. in Mandeville. C.S.G. visiting him. Ex^t letter from Mother. "How are all of the babies & Bailey and Susie. Hasn't Susie got tired of cooking for you yet - ?"
1871. Ex^t letter - Mother to C.S.G. Mandeville La
Apr. 30. "You and Bailey seem anxious to have me visit you"
Ex^t Father to C.S.G. same time "I shall write to Bailey soon"
"With love to all - Kiss babies for Grannie."
- 1871 July 20 W.H.G. to C.S.G. M.ville
"My love to him and the family."
- 1871 July 14. Mother goes North -
- 1871 Apr 3rd W.B.G. Commission Sec & Treas. School Bd. St. Tammany La
Apr 18 Bonds filed \$5000. - Poindexter, & Chevalon of Mandeville. bondsmen -
- Oct - W.B.G. Absconded with \$1200. - School money. Came near getting \$14000 - note - Sch. Rep. '71-'2. 1st Division La.
- 1871 July 25 Ex. Mother to C.S.G. Mandeville. La
"Love to Sue & babies - Mother" Letter in care of Hon. W.B. Gray -
(this item should precede oct.) money - but didn't take at - Election Bonds. (He was senator - rec'd)



2 opasm

Morgan City, La,

Previous to Mandeville life. W.B. Gray was a
Policeman in New Orleans Always mixed in politics.

1872. Never struck anything yet but think he was
 about the oil fields of Pennsylvania.

1873, Aug 23. Time of (2.) Kate.

Ex. letter from Mother to L.S.H.

"Had a letter from Bailey and his wife - she &c.
 "Here follow a section of matter, copied from a printed slip,
 perhaps - relating to Kate. Probably written by Kate
 and what purports to be a notice "at St Pauls Church,
 Erie, at 5 o'clock P.M. today Wm B. Gray Esq. formerly of
 New Orleans, and Mrs. Kate Baum Roberts will be
 united in the holy bonds of Matrimony, Bishop Cox of
Buffalo officiating"

Didn't you say Spaulding after Bishop Spaulding?

What paper did those notices appear in?

That both parties were capable of fraud is
 evident to any one who will take the trouble
 to sift their lives. The most thorough investigation
 should be made, and closest inspection of the license
- certificate &c. Where is the certificate? Where is the
 Church record - Who wrote it?

(over)

In one letter B. informs mother "that Kate doesn't
wish to know anything of his past life - (wonderful)
and that we must be very careful never to mention
a word concerning his former relations to people
& matters in general - (What an agreeable person)

This stuff was smooched out with ink. but by
means of my magnifying glass I made out most
of the writing. The script was reddish while the
other was black. I believe Bailey Gray made up
the whole business. and that he had either been
married to Missouri (Doe, Susie) or the laws of
Virginia or La were such that if a man lived
openly with a woman for a number of years &
raised a family. Called her his wife & the children
his children. then in the eyes of the law they were
married. No. Kate doesn't want to know of B's past: B. says so!!!

The history of this first wife should be sifted.
His war record should show something. Wasn't
he at Harrison's Landing on James River.
I think Sue came from near the Chickahominy
River. of Indian extraction. She was a beautiful
woman. and was the mother of 4 or 5 children
by Bailey. They all lived together in Mandeville
I was there. My mother seems to have been
a willing grandmother.
He told me some years ago that his son (Doe?) was clerk of Court, Richmond, Va.



Morgan City, La.

3. Bailey just about fooled everybody.

1874 May 9th { Printed }
 { Letter Head } Office of W.B. Gray -
 Charcoal, Pine & Hemlock Lumber, Shingles
 & Stave timber. Youngsville Pa.

(I told you so! - you said ohio.)

Has gang of men working. Kate has classes
 & gives readings as of yore. Vivie mentioned in
 fact she's writing the letter.

1874 July 30th Ex-l letter Vivie to C.S.G. Boston

" I am here at last, Grandpa made us short visit
 on his way North. I proposed my returning home
 with him. I joined him in Cincinnati last Monday.
 Arrived Thu. noon (with baby Ellis)
 Mama thinks of coming here in a couple of months
 & papa (W.B.G.) may come soon.

1874 Aug 22 W.B.G. coming South. Erie Pa. Hotel clerk -

" Aug 8 } letters from Vivie, ^{M.C.} to C.S.G. Boston
 " " 23 }
 " Sept 13 }
 " Sept ? } " " "

1874. Wed. before Aug 27. { W.B.G. starts for Cincinnati enroute
 Expected to arrive in } to Morgan City.
 M.C. next Tuesday. { Kate will get through with her classes
 & await cooler weather before coming.

1874. I write to Vivie from Boston (Journal)
 Nov. 9. (Sunday)

Many letters from his father & mother to C.S.G. speak of Vivie

(a.s.f.)



(41)

Morgan City, La.

1877-continued-

June 28. I arrived from Boston. Signed contract to teach Pub. School. to begin July 2.

Meet Kate & Vivian for 1st time.

Something rotten in Denmark

There is enough time from Kate's departure to Louise's marriage
 " Nov 26. Kate in Pomeroy, O. classes in elocution
 " Dec 6 Vivian in Middleport: O. teaching (music not unpacked since left Winton) for a divorce

1878 March - (from Dr. W. H. May's diary) Chas. seeking his fortune with a Dramatic Co. (B & I left M. C. together - he to find Vivian - I to watch him)

" Mar. 18 - I write to Kate from Bayou Sara, La. I first meet Louise at Bayou Sara.

" July 25 - Card from C. Toler Wolf, actor, from Greenville Miss. (Bailey - Louise & all survivors from the fever - are enroute to Helena Ark. & Memphis, Tenn. in Dramatic Co. - 2 companies combined at B. Sara.

" Aug 20th I was still in Vicksburg. finishing painting over altar in chapel Convent of Mercy. Bought "The Gods & other Lectures - "Tingensoll -

After this date I go to St Louis. Indianapolis - Cincinnati -

boat up Ohio to Letart Falls - out to Marietta, Ohio

where I meet Vivian who has come up from the fever to meet her mother - at Soldiers Reunion - I play for

fever sufferers in Town Hall - Violin & Piano. a Miss Matthews accompanies me. Kate is in this entertainment - elocution -

I leave, and on Sept. 28th I am at Kayser, W. Va. - en route for Boston. Stop with Methodist Misses



Morgan City, La.

I go to Boston

1879 - I leave Boston via N.Y. Schooner
to Savannah - 6 Mos. with A.K. Wilson
as expert painter & ornamented - carriages &c
Tue Feb. 4th Expect to be in N.O. Feb 6th from
Cedar Key Fla -

July 13th Cincinnati - in College of Music.

1879. Dr. W.H. Gray cases of Yellow Fever

No	Name	age	Taken Sick	Cor. W.	Treatment	Result
38	Mrs M.A. Gray (mother)	56	Oct 13		L.P.A.	
413	Infant Gray				6 m L.P.A.	
414	Mrs. Louise Gray		" 22		1 1/2 L.P.A.	

This shows that Father Gray believed Louise to be
Bailey's wife - He liked her very much & so
did my mother -

There!

If Missouri was married -

or the law recognized the connection as lawful.

and if she was not dead in Aug 73. Kate's marriage
was null & void - & perhaps there's fraud in K's marriage
any way. - B. told me that Ellis is not his child.

If you wish for more detail or dates - I'm willing
to help dig them out. There's more in that old trunk
than I supposed. Hadn't you better come up?
Yours C. Gray.

(1.)
Morgan City La. Dec 1909

Wm S. Fitch

Special Exam. B.P.

Dear Sir:

In the case of Mrs. M. L. Wray widow of W. B. Wray, soldier
I find this:

On or about Jan. 11, 1878 W. B. Wray & brother joined a
dramatic company which was organized at Morgan
City. Leading Lady, Helen D'Este. afterwards m. rich
man in west - Calif. I think. I could find out her real
name from Geo. Stutz. manager of companies & friend of W. B. Wray.
Helen could give information about Bailey. & Geo. Stutz
who was then the husband? of Helen - was Bailey's friend.
Geo. Stutz's Co met Helen's Co at Bayou Sara, La. where
the two companies reformed into one.

Mamie Chandler - real name Mrs. Will Long

Harry Wray a jolly Irishman - & Ada his wife

Geo. King - Hero - dead -

Miss Lizzie Davis - protégé of Helen D'Este -

Will St. Clair - walking gent.

Jerry Green - dead

Mr. Migner - a former minstrel man.

John Marshall - from Maine - orig. a sailor.

Will Long - advance agt. W. B. Wray Business Manager

Played East Lynne. Lucretia Borgia. Two Orphans &c

(2.1)

Route from M.C. to Franklin via St. René McReady
New Iberia. Carriages to Vermilionville (Lafayette)
There was no railroad at this time. & so on to
Breaux Bridge. Opelousas & Washington La via Steamboat
on the Courtableau Bayou. Rimmsports &c to Bayou Sara on
the Mississippi. B & I were together during this whole
time. He may have talked to some of these people
about Kate.

Another important person, beside Geo. Stutz
is Walter Hammet. I said Negroes, who was
another actor with the Co. after Bayou Sara Combine.
It was Walter Hammet, actor with Co. Witness to
Baileys marriage with Louise. Some of these men
knew of Kate & B. must have explained something
to some one about his divorce from Kate - if
indeed he was married to her.

Kate Baum Roberts! Who was Roberts?
Was Kate married to Roberts? Was Roberts dead?
Was the marriage legal? If not dead was
Kate divorced from Roberts?

Why is the account of Mother Gray as to the
Bishop different from your account. Was there
a license issued to W.B.G. to marry Kate. Who
issued it - was it a bonafide license or a
bogus one - It has been shown it is
7. fraudulently

3.
Where are Kate's friends - Who knew her?
Why didn't B. give the ring & chain of Priscilla his
boy love - to Kate, & why did he give it to Louise.
(Mrs. M.L. Gray)

The Company left Vicksburg to escape yellow fever
in 1878. about Aug 1. or latter part of July. I remained
to finish painting of Calvary in Convent of Mercy Chapel.

Bailey and Louise were together from that time till the
marriage in Anna - Ill.

I left Vicksburg Aug 21, '78. Left St Louis on foot Aug 28
'78 on foot. ——— an. Letart Falls, O. Vivia boarded with
Daniel Bibbee & wife - an old couple - V. had gone to Marietta
Ohio, to attend a Re Union, I arr. Marietta on Saturday.
& meet Kate. Vivia & Ellis ^{K. has clay in elevation.} & Mrs. took 2^d St. Dana's Hat
Store. Clarence Maris ^{& wife} rooms same place as Kate. (We talk
Cook's Boston Monday lectures - protoplasm &c -) W.D. Follet -
att'y at Law. These people knew Kate. also the Moores
(I remember a R.R. promoter who was suffering from over strain)
Mrs. Thayer artist. Kate did art-work(?) with her.
I remain with Kate & Vivia a couple of weeks at Marietta
then via Parkersburg - on to Washington D.C. I find I am
at Kayser Sat 28, '78 (Sept?) 1 month from St. Louis. Anchor
in Hampton Roads, Va. 3 masted Schooner "D.S. Williams" Oct 4th '78
& on to New Bedford & Boston -

Don't forget to see Alex Band of Mandeville.

& Chevalon (Chév. à long). The old man is dead but I
remember the son who was 21 in '72 & the Morgan boys, too.

Hunt up the Indian Tribe on the Chickahominy
 or near Harrison's Landing, James River, Va. for news of
 "Missoura" or Missoula. who followed the Yankee soldiers
 in the war time. Hunt for "Grays" in Richmond, Va.
 to trace "Joseph & his brethren" (or in other likely places in Va.
 Find in Mandeville if possible what become of
 Missoura. How did she leave - & when? Where to?
 The Girls - Bébé - Ya Ya - & Ni Ni - Etienne (ay, chen)
 I think their name was Etienne - often came to Missoura's
 house & played with the children. They may know what
 went with "Loo" or have heard her talk about her marriage.

If you keep a raking I'm sure you'll find something.
 Hunt "Clipper" & "Mirror" for Geo Stultz & Walter
 Hammet. Wish I could go to Mandeville
 with you. Perhaps you could find Bailey's old
 Constable - a colored man. I think - or some of
 the people who burned Charcoal for him - Lizzie, a colored
 girl worked for Missoura at Mandeville.

What a fascinating business, this, of hunting
 for facts. Like a chess problem, sometimes the
 solution is to be found in an obscure move - one
 so insignificant as to attract hardly any attention.

Am sorry you had to leave so soon. Tell the little girl
 to practice & when I come to N.O. I'll play a piece with her.

Wishing you a happy New Year

Perhaps L. E. Bentley, Custom Hs.
 could give you some
 information. He knew Bailey.

I am

C. J. Gray

for so long

say! Find out - La. or Va. Law about living with woman - calling her
 wife & raising family. When if ever does it legalize marriage? This is an idea

SPECIAL EXAMINATION
DIVISION.

13-1870.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

New Orleans, La., Jan. 24, 1910.

Mr. W. R. Nixon,
#1435 St. Roch St.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Are you the W.R.Nixon who kept a grocery store in Mandeville, La., in 1870-1? I am endeavoring to find out something in regard to a man named William Bailey Gray who lived with an Indian or colored woman at Mandeville during those years, was elected a director of the St. Tammany school board and absconded with school funds. I wish to ascertain what became of the woman who lived with him and whether he was married to her. If you know anything about the case, especially what became of the woman, please so state on this letter and inform me where you can be conveniently seen. If you are not the W.R.Nixon referred to, and if you do not know anything about the case, please so state and return under cover of the enclosed official envelope which does not require postage. A prompt reply is requested.

Very respectfully,


Special Examiner.

3-1876.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

~~WASHINGTON D.C.~~

Cincinnati, Ohio, April 6, 1910.

Hon. Commissioner of Pensions,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

With the return of all papers I have the honor to submit my report in claim #870,584, Marie L. Gray, alleged widow of William B. Gray, Co. I 1st U.S.C.Cav., &c/ whose postoffice address is Morgan City, St. Marys Parish, La.

The claim was referred for special examination to determine legal widowhood, date of birth of minor and dependence, and came to me with notice waive for another statement from Mrs. Genevieve Dennison, a daughter of the soldier's former wife.

This witness is a woman of refinement and stands high, socially and otherwise. She refused to testify unless her husband was present. When I suggested to her that there were some things in the case which might make it embarrassing to her if her husband should hear, she declared that she had never done anything that she was ashamed for her husband to know, and insisted that we wait until she could get him from the factory where he is Superintendent.

I am convinced that all the "muck" which Charles S. Gray has thrown at this woman and her dead mother and his dead brother is absolutely unjustifiable. Probably his brother was a scoundrel, but not of the same shade and calibre as the surviving member of the family. After repeatedly maintaining his belief that there was no ceremonial marriage between the soldier and Kate Baum Roberts, and exclaiming "Fiat lux, et justitia super omnia", he had to be seen the fourth time before he would produce the letter which his mother had written him announcing the marriage and quoting the press notice thereof.

2

870584---Gray)

(2)

The marriage certificate in the possession of this witness is undoubtedly genuine, showing the marriage of William B. Gray to Kate Baur Roberts at St. Paul's Church, Erie, Pa., August 5, 1873, by J. F. Spaulding. Special Examiner Dean referring to the church record says, "I never saw anything that looked more genuine". There is not even a slight probability that either soldier or Kate secured a divorce prior to Oct. 1, 1878, or at any other time for that matter. However, a divorce after soldier's marriage to Marie would have no more effect than the death of Kate which occurred January 21, 1889. This witness exhibited newspaper clippings referring to her mother's death which corroborated her as to the fact and date thereof. So much as to the marriage, non-divorce, and death of Kate Baur Roberts.

The only "snag" remaining is the mulatto, Missouri or Sue. Charles S. Gray in his first deposition endeavored to stamp the relations of the soldier with Sue as simply a case of illicit miscegenation. Since the marriage with Kate has been proven, he endeavors to establish the relations with Sue as legal, and endeavors to use it as a bar to Kate's marriage. Would it not be as potential when applied to Marie's marriage, unless the death of Sue be shown?

The probabilities are that there never was a ceremonial marriage with Sue, and as the relations were not continuous, a common law marriage would not arise anywhere. Even if there were a ceremonial marriage with Sue, since it has been shown that she was a negress, what effect would it have in Virginia, Texas, or Louisiana?

It is alleged that a son of soldier by the mulatto became Clerk of the Court at Richmond, Va. This sounds very improbable. By the time soldier's son was old enough to hold office, the people

870584---Gray:

(3)

of Henrico County, Virginia, were not electing to office persons whose blood and parentage were questionable.

To my mind, this case is ready for action now, but, in order to exhaust the only clue that has been suggested in regard to the woman Sue, I suggest that further examination be had at Richmond, Henrico Co., Va., to ascertain if a Joseph Gray held a county office or was known there, and if found, to ascertain what became of his mother.

Very respectfully,

Special Examiner.