

Widow's Application for Confederate Pension

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Anderson

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

I am a widow of Walter Pierce McMeans, deceased, who departed this life on the 20th day of March, A. D. 1903, in the county of Anderson in the State of Texas

I have not remarried since the death of my said husband,* and I do solemnly swear that I was never divorced from my said husband, and that I never voluntarily abandoned him during his life, but remained his true, faithful and lawful wife up to the date of his death. I was married to him on the 4th day of May, A. D. 1879, in the county of Anderson in the State of Texas.

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

1. What is your age, and date of birth? 68 years. Dec. 5th, 1861
2. Where were you born? Palestine, Anderson Co., Texas
3. How long have you resided in the State of Texas? 68 years.
4. How long have you resided in the county of your present residence? 68 years.
5. What is your postoffice address? 220 E. Angelina St. Palestine, Texas.
6. Have you applied for a pension under the Confederate pension law and been rejected? No

If rejected, state when and where

7. Did your husband draw a pension? No If so, give his file number
8. Give, if possible, the postoffice address of your deceased husband at the time of his enlistment Palestine, Anderson Co., Texas.
9. What is your husband's full name? Walter Pierce McMeans.

10. In what State was your husband's command originally organized? Texas

11. How long did your husband serve? About 2 yrs. If known to you, give date of enlistment and discharge Enlisted in fall or winter of 1863 + served through remainder of war.

12. What was the name or letter of the company, or number of the regiment in which your husband served? If he was transferred from one branch of service to another, give time of transfer, description of command and time of service. (If applicant's husband was a pensioner give his file number, which is evidence sufficient for proof of service.) Captain Wm. (Bill) Frazier's Company; Colonel Jemison's Regiment

13. Name branch of service in which your husband served, whether infantry, cavalry, artillery, or the navy, or if commissioned as an officer by the President, his rank and line of duty, or if detailed for special service, under the law of conscription, the nature of such service, and time of service. Infantry. His company was stationed at Tyler, Texas to guard "Yankee" prisoners captured in Texas. He served as acting sergeant-major

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

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

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

(Signature of Applicant) Mrs. W.P. McMeans

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of July, A. D. 1929.

[Seal]

County Judge Anderson County, Texas.

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

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

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

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
County of Anderson

Before me, E. H. Shelton, County Judge of Anderson County,
State of Texas, on this day personally appeared J. D. Adams

and B. J. Kennedy, who are personally known to me to be credible citi-

zens, who, being by me duly sworn, on oath state that they personally know that Mrs. Walter Pierce
McMeans, applicant for a pension as the widow of Walter Pierce McMeans

deceased, is in truth and fact the widow of Walter Pierce McMeans deceased; that they personally
know that she has not remarried since the death of her husband, for whose services in the army she claims

a pension, and that they have no interest in this claim.*

(Signature of Witness) J. D. Adams

(Signature of Witness) B. J. Kennedy

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 18th day of July, A. D. 1939.

County Judge Anderson County, Texas.

[Seal.]

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

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

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

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
County of Anderson

Before me, E. H. Shelton County Judge of Anderson County,
State of Texas, on this day personally appeared J. D. Adams and

B. J. Kennedy, who are personally known to me to be creditable citi-

zens, who, being by me duly sworn, on oath state that they personally know the above named applicant for
pension, and that they personally know that the said Mrs. Walter Pierce McMeans

has been a bona fide resident citizen of the State of Texas since prior to January 1, A. D. 1920, and that they
have no interest in this claim.

(Signature of Witness) J. D. Adams

(Signature of Witness) B. J. Kennedy

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 18th day of July, A. D. 1939.

County Judge Anderson County, Texas.

[Seal.]

(XT)

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

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

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of _____

Before me, _____, County Judge of _____ County,

State of Texas, on this day personally appeared _____

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

(Signature of Witness) _____

(Signature of Witness) _____

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this _____ day of _____, A. D. 19 _____

[Seal.]

County Judge _____ County, Texas.

CERTIFICATE OF STATE AND COUNTY ASSESSOR

I, Al Godley, State and County Assessor in the County of Anderson State of Texas, do certify that Mrs. Walter Price Williams

whose name is signed to the foregoing application for a pension is charged on the tax rolls of said county with a homestead of the value of Two Thousand Dollars, and, in addition to homestead, of other property, real or personal, or both, of the value of There is a lien of \$1,000.00 against the homestead property. \$30.00

Thirty Dollars.

Given under my hand, this 18 day of July, A. D. 1929.

Al Godley
State and County Assessor.



prisoners at Tyler and raised a company of boys around Palestine and reported there for duty. Walter McMeans was a member of this company and several others whom we do not now remember.

After the surrender these prisoners were all liberated and were furnished transportation to their homes in the far north, many coming through Palestine on their return.

The last time we saw this old relic of the Civil War was in 1867, after it had been put out of commission by those two venerable gentlemen the Herald had reference to.

Many of the old cannon balls and shells have been carried away by relic seekers and we suppose the town has spread out and the old spot has been taken into its corporate limits. TK

Capt. Van Hamilton and Capt.

Jim Douglass were two of Tyler's most worthy citizens that were useful and in Tyler where their closing years were spent among friends who knew their worth.

Capt. Douglass fame as a Confederate soldier is twined in laurels of glory all over the crimson fields of old battle grounds where his battery was often called as a relief to some one about to withdraw or silence a battery of the enemy which was often done"



They drew an immense crowd of "we kids" who had never seen a "Yank" before.

We remember well how a group of them had gathered at the north side of the courthouse steps and conversed with the older ones who were asking all kinds of questions, even to how Uncle Abe was treating them - and if they did not want to stay in Texas.


Their uniforms were in shreds and they were in a terrible plight but all in a good humor and enjoyed the jokes they listened to. Major B. F. Durham, father of E. E. Durham of Hodges Dry Goods Co., was then sheriff of the county and he and Dave Deviel, one of the old land marks of the county, enjoyed their short stay and had a kind word for each of them.

There was an old citizen living in the town by the name of Capt. Bill Frasier, who was commissioned by the government to raise a company of young men to guard these

Copied from the Palestine Daily Herald, dated Feb. 15th, 1928, from an article written by W. W. Small of Montalba, Texas, entitled "Montalba Notes."

"We saw an article, ^{a few days ago} in the Daily Herald in regard to the old prison barracks that were erected a short distance north of Tyler during the Civil War which ~~were~~ used to hold Federal soldiers captured in Texas.

It contained at one time a regiment that was captured in West Texas, and when the Confederate commander passed through Palestine, they stopped in old town for a short rest and a snack to eat.

Well do we remember how many of them gathered around the old Court house square where the tall sycamore trees afforded them a ^{delightful} lightful shelter from the noon day sun. 

The following conversation is copied from an interview appearing in this month's (August) "Texas Outlook", a magazine for school teachers, published at Ft. Worth, Texas, the article being entitled "A Long Line of School Teacher", written by Frances Brown about Mrs. Florence Rosser Henderson, age 90 years, now living in El Paso who taught school at Hosterville, Anderson County from Sept. 1863 to Aug. 1864, to prove that soldiers were stationed at Tyler, Texas to guard Federal prisoners, my husband being a member of Company G, Texas Reserves, Col. E. B. Jemison's Regiment, Capt William Frasier's Company.

"I boarded with the Foster family," Mrs. Henderson continued. "I took Angelina, a negro girl, I inherited from my mother with me and she served as my maid and worked for Mrs. Foster in return for board for myself and my young daughter."

This brought me back to the realization of just how long Mrs. Henderson taught. "Were you near any battles during the War?" I asked. "No. There was no fighting nearer than Arkansas and Mississippi but when Federal soldier prisoners from Arkansas or Shreveport were brought to Tyler, Texas, cannons were fired and I heard them."

MISS GEORGIE MCMEANS
LIBRARIANCARNEGIE LIBRARY
PALESTINE, TEXASBOARD
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MRS. E. W. LINK, TREASURER
MISS FRANCES FULLINWIDER
MRS. S. E. REED

Page 358 - "Yeary's Reminiscences of Boys in Gray
1861-1865"

J. W. Howeth, Fairfield, Texas... Born Dec. 1845
at Henderson, Rusk Co., Tex. Enlisted in Confed-
erate Army in the spring of 1864 at Athens,
Texas, in Company W, Jamerson's Regiment,
Walker's Division, Trans-Mississippi
Department, Josh McManus, first Captain,
Jamerson, first Colonel. I was in de-
tail service most of the time guarding
prisoners at Tyler, Texas. My company
was there when the war closed. As we
were on detached service, we were in
no battles.

Page 389 - "Yeary's Reminiscences of Boys in Gray 1861-65"
J. M. Jones. Born in Henderson Co., Tenn. En-
listed in Confederate service in Harrison Co., Texas,
as private in Company C, Jamerson's Regi-
ment. Was in the Texas Reserves. I volun-
teered under Lt. Hardeman as a body guard
for General Wharton at Shreveport, La., and got
a furlough for 40 days. Came home & went to
Arkansas after my sister. While there for
safety went into Gano's Command and went into
a hot engagement and whipped General Banks.
He went down the Red River & tackled him again
where he licked him again.
I came back to Texas from Arkansas and was
ordered to the stockade in Smith County
to guard the boys in blue. Was there when
the end came.

COMPTROLLERS OFFICE
RECEIVED
OCT 2 1929
Received by.....
No.....

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
STATE OF TEXAS

THIS IS TO CERTIFY
THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE
AND CORRECT COPY OF THE
ORIGINAL AS KEPT IN THE
OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
STATE OF TEXAS

MISS GEORGIE McMEANS
LIBRARIANCARNEGIE LIBRARY
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MRS. H. F. BRUNOW, SECRETARY
MRS. E. W. LINK, TREASURER
MISS FRANCES FULLINWIDER
MRS. S. E. REED

From Mamie Yeary's "Reminiscences of the Boys in Gray 1861-1865," I have copied the following to prove that Colonel Jemison's Regiment to which my husband, Walter Pierce McMeans, belonged, was stationed at Tyler, Smith Co., Tex.

Colonel Jemison's name, ^{however} is misspelled, one spelling it Jamerson & the other Jemerson.

Colonel Jemison had several nieces living in Palestine whom he educated, so I know, he spelled his name "Jemison". He was after the war associated in the cotton business with the late Colonel W. L. Moody of Galveston the firm being known as Moody & Jemison, Colonel Jemison of Galveston being admitted to firm in 1871 under name of Moody & Jemison. A branch house was established in New York City.

Over

in 1874 with Col. E. S. Jemison in charge. After dissolution of firm of Moody & Jemison in 1877, Col. Jemison remained in New York conducting that business with other associates under the name of E. S. Jemison & Co.

Two of Col. Jemison's nieces, Amanda and Betty Jemison, were school mates of mine at the Palestine Female Academy and we all boarded in the home of Mr. A. H. Bailey who was head of the Palestine Female Academy.

Mrs. W. P. McMeans
Col. Jemison was originally from Alabama.

Copied from the "Roster"
in the "Minute Book" of
the John H. Reagan Camp,
No. 44, U. C. V. Page 23.

W. P. McMeans. Private - Co. G. Texas Reserves.

The above book is in the
custody of City Secretary O. C.
Cutter, in the City Hall Build-
ing, Palestine, Texas, placed
there for safe-keeping.



This is to certify that I, ~~James~~
 T. J. Starr, know it to be a
 fact that W. P. Mc Means was
 in the Confederate service about
 two years, stationed at Tyler,
 Texas, Capt. Frasier's Company,
 Col. E. S. Jemison's regiment,
 Company G, Texas Reserves, as
 I had a brother, James Newton
 Starr, who was a member of
 the same company.

Company G was organized here
 in Palestine and James S. Bouthit,
 Levi Bennett, and I camped
 two nights with the company on
 its way to Tyler, being sent by our
 parents to bring the horses back.
 I was in my fourteenth year, too
 young to be in service.

W. P. Mc Means

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 17th
 August A. D. 1929.

E. H. Shelton

County Judge, Anderson Co, Texas

T. J. Starr,
Route 1 - Box 35
Palestine, Texas.

Resolutions of Respect.

Passed by John H. Reagan
Camp, No. 44 U. C. V.

Whereas death has removed from our camp and association our beloved Comrade, W. P. McMeans, whose memory we cherish and desire to perpetuate on the record of our camp.

Therefore be it

Resolved by the John H. Reagan Camp,
No 44 U.C.V.:

1st- That in the death of Comrade W. P. McMeans, our association and especially our local camp has lost an active and devoted member whose life was characterized by truthfulness, honesty and strict fidelity to duty and whose heart was full of brotherly love and charity.

2nd- That our community has lost a good citizen and christian gentle man, progressive and energetic in all business, social and moral enterprises and movements for the advancement of the prosperity and best interests of the community and who willingly labored for the public good.

(over)



3rd His family has lost a kind husband and father, whose great love and affection for them they best know from daily & hourly contact and association in the domestic privacy of home life and consecrated circle of family hearthstone.

4th. That we tender the bereaved wife and children and sorrowing relatives, our sincere condolence and sympathy and bid them look to the brighter here after and divine promises of our Heavenly Father for comfort for we feel assured all is well with our departed comrade.

5th That these ~~resolutions~~^{resolutions} be spread on the minutes of our camp and a copy be furnished to the family of the deceased and that the city papers be requested to publish same.

John J. Word
 J. C. Spencer
 A. E. Fullinwider
 Committee.

The State of Texas

County of Anderson

Know all men by these presents that J. W. De
 Small of the state and county aforesaid, was
 personally Capt. Bill Frayer who raised a
 Company in Palestine, Texas and H. F. McMeans
 was a member of his company and served
 about two years.

J. W. Small

July 15/27

The State of Texas }
 County of Anderson }

Before me a notary Public in
 Anderson Co. appeared W. H. Small
 and acknowledge the above to
 be true and correct to the best
 of his knowledge and belief.

W. W. Smith

Notary Public
 Anderson Co.



11
 To the state of Texas Palestine Aug 1-1929

This is to certify Walter Pierce -
 McMeow, was conscripted at the age
 of 16 years and stationed at Tyler
 Texas, 1863, and served two years.
 He was stationed there by the Governor
 and was in Company G. Texas Rangers.
 I am a Brother and know of my
 personal knowledge that the above
 is correct and true.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, *J. M. Mansfield*
 E. H. Shelton, County Judge of
 Anderson County, Texas, this the 1 day of October A. D. 1929

E. H. Shelton
 County Judge, Anderson Co., Texas.

Capt. Frazier's Company com-
 posed of boys from Palestine and
 Anderson County was known
 as the "Home Guards". This
 company was sent to Tyler, Smith
 County, to guard Federal prisoners.



July 23, 1929

Mrs. W. P. McMeans,
220 E. Angelina,
Palestine, Texas.

Dear Mrs. McMeans:

I have yours of recent date enclosing application for Confederate Pension.

You are advised that before your application can be approved, it will be necessary that you make proof of the military service of your deceased husband Walter Pierce McMeans as a Confederate soldier.

The requirement of the Pension Law is that this proof must be made by the testimony of at least two credible witnesses who personally know the soldier being to the Army and rendered the service claimed. In testifying regarding the service the witnesses must state the source of their knowledge. You will also be permitted to prove this service by documents or by any other proof that you may be able to furnish.

If the service of Mr. McMeans can be in any way proven as required by the statute, your application will have further consideration.

JHT/E

Yours very truly,

Comptroller of Public
Accounts.



Palestine, Texas, March 4, 1946

Miss Georgie McWeane
for funeral of Mrs. W.P. McWeane.

IN ACCOUNT WITH
BAILEY FUNERAL HOME

TOM BAILEY, OWNER
ABOVE ALL — SERVICE
107 W. CRAWFORD STREET
PHONE 15

RECEIVED
State Comptroller
MAR 5 1946

1946

PALESTINE PRINTING & STATIONERY CO.			
Feb 24	Casket	# 190	00
	Embalming	25	00
	Dress	12	00
	Gleace	10	00
	Opening Home	10	00
	Lining Home	2	50
	Hearty Car	3	00
	Follower Lunch	1	00
		# 256	50

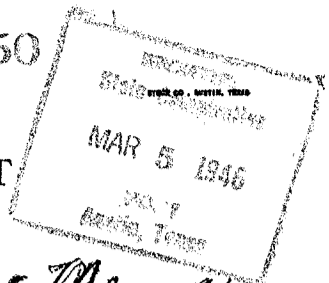
This bill is just,
due, and unpaid.
Bailey Funeral Home
T. B. Bailey Jr. (owner)

Sworn to before me this 4th. day of March, 1946
Marguerite Scott
Notary Public in and for Anderson County,
State of Texas.

MARGUERITE SCOTT, Notary Public in
and for Anderson County, Texas.



274002



APPLICATION FOR MORTUARY WARRANT

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Anderson } I, Georgie McMeans

do hereby certify that I am the person to whom is entrusted the paying of the accounts and indebtedness of the late Mrs. W. P. McMeans, who was a pensioner of the State of Texas, and whose file number was 46067 and whose original county was Anderson

The said pensioner Mrs. W. P. McMeans, died on the 24th day of February, 1946 in the town of Palestine, Tex. County of Anderson Texas.

The pensioner died in the ~~home of~~ her own home who was related to the pensioner as _____

That the warrant, which application is hereby made for, shall be applied to paying ~~all~~ part of the funeral expenses incurred by the said pensioner Mrs. W. P. McMeans

I further certify that the warrant for the current month has not been cashed by the pensioner, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I am related to the pensioner as as daughter that my postoffice address is 220 E. Angelina Street Palestine Texas City State

Signed (Miss) Georgie McMeans

Sworn to before me this 2nd day of March, 1946

W. L. Adams W. L. ADAMS

Notary Public in and for Anderson County State of Texas.

Must return before 40 days expires from date of Pensioners' death

CERTIFICATE OF UNDERTAKER

I, J. B. Bailey Jr., do certify that I am undertaker in the town of Palestine, County of Anderson, State of Texas that I had charge of the body of Mrs. W. P. McMeans, who died in the town of Palestine, County of Anderson, State of Texas on the 24 day of February 1946. That said body was prepared for burial by me on the 25 day of February 1946, and that I am of the opinion that warrant herein applied for should be issued to the said Mrs. Georgie McMeans who makes the foregoing application.

Signed J. B. Bailey Jr. Undertaker.

CERTIFICATE OF PHYSICIAN



I, _____, do certify that I am a practicing physician, and that I attended _____ in his last illness, and am of the opinion that his ailments were _____

I further certify that I am of the opinion that the Mortuary Warrant above requested should be issued in the name of the aforementioned applicant, in accordance with Act passed by the Thirty-eighth Legislature and approved March 2, 1923.

Signed _____

Physician's Address _____

Feb. 1946
warrant # 57266 for \$50 Canceled