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FORM B.

**WIDOW'S APPLICATION
FOR A PENSION**

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

Name of Applicant.

Mrs Martha Alice Godley,

Anderson County.

R. F. D. or Street No. 6

Postoffice Palestine, Texas.

Filed May 20th, 1931.

Approved _____

Pension allowed from _____

Rejected May 26th, 1932.

W. T. ...
Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Failure to prove service.

Widow's Application for Confederate Pension

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Anderson

I, Mrs. Martha Alice Godley, do hereby make application for a pension pursuant to the provisions of Articles 6204 to 6227, inclusive, of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1925 as amended by S. B. No. 27, passed by the Forty-first Legislature at its Fifth Called Session and all other laws of this State relating thereto.

I am a widow of John Laurence Godley deceased, who departed this life on the 7 day of February, A. D. 1900, in the county of Anderson, in the State of Texas

I have not remarried since the death of my said husband; (or in case of remarriage that I am now a widow); 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 25th day of July A. D. 1869, in the county of Anderson, in the State of Texas

My husband, the said John L. Godley, served as a Confederate soldier (or sailor) in the war between the States of the United States; or (that he was a soldier who, under special laws of the State of Texas during said war, served in organizations for the protection of the frontier against Indian raiders or Mexican marauders); or (that he was a soldier of the militia of the State of Texas who was in active service during said war.) That my said husband served honorably from the date of his enlistment until the close of the war, (or until he was discharged or paroled in some military organization regularly mustered into the army or navy of the Confederate States until the surrender). He was honorably discharged or paroled He served from the date of his enlistment till the close of the war.

(Give date and cause.)

That I have been a bona fide resident of this State continuously since the 10th day of February A. D. 1864

1. What is your age, and date of birth? 78 yrs. Born the 27th of Aug 1853
2. How long have you resided in the county of your present residence? Since 1864
3. What is your postoffice address? Palestine - Rt 6
4. Have you applied for a pension under the Confederate pension law and been rejected? No
5. If rejected, state when and where. ---
6. Did your husband draw a pension? No If so, give his file number ---
7. Give, if possible, the postoffice address of your deceased husband at the time of his enlistment Spring Hill La.
8. What was your husband's full name? John Laurence Godley

9. In what State was your husband's command originally organized? Louisiana or Arkansas
10. How long did your husband serve? Something over one year
11. If known to you, give date of enlistment and discharge Not known

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.) Hicks Brigade (John Godley, ^{set} deceased of Cassin ^{set} was his First Lieutenant)

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



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) Martha Alice Godley

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23rd day of April A. D. 1931

B. J. Kennedy
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 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, B. J. Kennedy, County Judge of Anderson County,
State of Texas, on this day personally appeared J. V. Kelley and

H. J. Sutton, who are personally known to me to be credible citizens, who, being by me duly sworn, on oath state that they personally know that Mrs. Martha Alice Godley, applicant for a pension as the widow of John Lawrence Godley deceased, is in truth and fact the widow of John Lawrence Godley 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. V. Kelley

(Signature of Witness) H. J. Sutton

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 23rd day of April, A. D. 1931

B. J. Kennedy

[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

Must be 2 witnesses

Before me, B. J. Kennedy, County Judge of Anderson County,
State of Texas, on this day personally appeared A. E. Sutton & J. W. Seat

who are personally known to me to be creditable citizens, who, being by me duly sworn, on oath state that they personally know the above named applicant for pension, and that they personally know that the said Martha Alice Godley has been a bona fide resident citizen of the State of Texas since 1897 and that they have no interest in this claim.

(Signature of Witness) A. E. Sutton

(Signature of Witness) J. W. Seat

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 23rd day of April, A. D. 1931

B. J. Kennedy

[Seal.] County Judge Anderson County, Texas.

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

(If possible the one witness should have served with the applicant's husband in the army, and if so, let him state it in his oath, also any other information regarding the army service of applicant's husband.)

Arkansas
THE STATE OF ~~TEXAS~~ }
County of Nevada

Before me, R. W. Wortham, County Judge of Nevada County,
State of Texas, on this day personally appeared W. O. Godley

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

I was personally acquainted with applicants husband since my life time and until his death. I knew him when he served as a confederate soldier he was in actual service while in the army.

(Signature of Witness) *W. O. Godley*

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 18th day of May, A. D. 19 31

R. W. Wortham

[Seal.]

County Judge Nevada County, Texas, Ark.



STATE OF ARKANSAS:

A F F I D A V I T.

COUNTY OF NEVADA :

I, W. O. Godley, of the County and State aforesaid, do hereby state on oath that I am a brother to John L. Godley, who is now deceased, and I state further on oath that the said John L. Godley, was a confederate soldier and that he served as such a period of one year to my own personal knowledge. I being under the age limit for the army did not serve with him. But I well remember when he was drafted as a confederate and well remember when he was discharged from such service and I further state on oath that I can well remember of his coming home twice while in service on a furlough. Again I state these facts are true and come from personal knowledge.

Witness my hand this 29th day of May 1931.

W. O. Godley
W. O. Godley

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 29th day of May 1931.



George E. Pittman
County Clerk.

MAY 29 1931
George E. Pittman
COUNTY CLERK

May 21, 1931.

Mr. A. G. Godley,
Tax Assessor,
Palestine, Texas.

Dear Mr. Godley:

I am in receipt of yours of recent date enclosing application for pension of Mrs. Martha Alice Godley.

I note the testimony of W. O. Godley of Nevada County, Arkansas, dated May 18, 1930, given in support of the service record of John L. Godley as a Confederate soldier, is not such testimony as shows he has personal knowledge of the service of John L. Godley. His statement is as follows:

"I knew him when he served as a Confederate soldier he was in actual service while in the army."

Instead of making a mere statement that the party was a soldier, the witness should be required to give the source of his knowledge. His testimony should state what he saw Mr. John L. Godley do or what act of his connecting him with any military company of the Confederate States Army caused the witness to conclude he was performing the service required of a Confederate soldier.

If this service can be proven as required by the law of this State, the rights of Mrs. Godley will have further consideration.

Yours very truly,

JHT:E

State Comptroller of Public
Accounts.

TX

May 9, 1931.

Mr. A. G. Godley,
Tax Assessor,
Palestine, Texas.

Dear Mr. Godley:

Complying with your request of May 7th, I am returning to you the application for pension of Mrs. Martha Alice Godley.

The testimony of any one not directly interested in the pension would be given consideration in passing upon the rights of an applicant. However, parties testifying to the service record of a Confederate soldier are always required to give the source of their knowledge.

Yours very truly,

State Comptroller of Public
Accounts.

JHT:E.
encl.



A. G. GODLEY
TAX ASSESSOR ANDERSON COUNTY
PALESTINE, TEXAS

May 7 1931

Hon. Geo. N. Sheppard -
State Comptroller
Austin, Tex.

MAY 8 - 1931

Geo H Sheppard
COMPTROLLER

Dear Mr. Sheppard:

Yours of May 6th at hand - sorry
to have to bother you so much. If you
will return the application again,
I will send it to a relative of ours
in Arkansas where my father lived
at the time of his enlistment in
the Army. Possible there might be
some one there who could furnish
the need proof of his services.

Would it be permissible ~~to~~
for my father's Brother to sign
the application, or to make an
affidavit to the fact, that ~~to~~
my father served in the Army
as claimed in the application?

Yours Very Truly
A. G. Godley



May 6, 1951.

Mr. A. G. Godley,
Tax Assessor,
Palestine, Texas.

Dear Mr. Godley:

Replying to your letter of May 5th, returning to this office an application for Confederate Pension of Mrs. Martha Alice Godley.

You are advised as was Mrs. Godley in my letter of April 26th that before this application may be approved it will be necessary that the applicant make proof of the military service of her deceased husband, John L. Godley as a Confederate soldier as is required by the law of this state.

The requirement of the law is that proof of service may be made by the testimony of one creditable witnesses who personally knows the party belonged to the army and rendered the service claimed, or she will be permitted to prove his service by documents or any other evidence that she may be able to furnish.

Yours very truly,

TX

JHT:E

State Comptroller of Public
Accounts.

A. G. GODLEY
TAX ASSESSOR ANDERSON COUNTY
PALESTINE, TEXAS

RECEIVED
MAY 6 - 1931

May 5 - 1931

Hon. Geo. W. Sheppard.
State Comptroller -
Austin Texas.

Dear Mr. Sheppard,

Please find herein my mother's application for pension with one other witness signed to affidavit on bottom of Page 2 as per your request in letter dated April 28th.

We are unable to find anyone that served in the Army with my father to sign the affidavit on Page 3.

The last known person who was in the Army with him, was Mr. John Godley of Corsicana, Texas. and he died some time last year -

Hoping this is sufficient evidence to entitle her to a pension.

I beg to remain -
yours very truly -
A. G. Godley

TX

April 28, 1931.

Mrs. Martha Alice Godley,
Route 6,
Palestine, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Godley:

Enclosed I am returning to you your application for pension in order that the affidavit at the bottom of page 2 may be properly executed. The requirement of the law is that this affidavit must be made by at least two witnesses.

You are further advised that before your application may be approved, it will be necessary that you make proof of the service record of your deceased husband John L. Godley as a Confederate soldier as is required by the pension law of this State.

If the above requests are complied with and your application is returned to this office, your right as a pensioner will have further consideration.

Yours very truly,

JHT:E.
encl.

State Comptroller of Public
Accounts.



A. G. GODLEY
TAX ASSESSOR ANDERSON COUNTY
PALESTINE, TEXAS

June 17 1931
7:42

Geo. W. Sheppard
State Comptroller

Hon. Geo. W. Sheppard.
State Comptroller -
Austin, Tex.

Dear Sir & Friend;

I am enclosing herewith, as further
Proof of my father's service as a Confederate
Soldier, an affidavit signed by W. O.
Godley of Cole ark.

It appears to me that this
should be sufficient evidence to
justify the allowance of the Pension

Yours Very Truly
A. G. Godley

For Mrs. Martha Alice Godley



June 4, 1981.

Mr. A. G. Godley,
Tax Assessor,
Palestine, Texas.

Dear Mr. Godley:

Replying to your letter of June 1st, enclosing affidavit by W. O. Godley in support of the service record of John L. Godley as a Confederate soldier on whose record Mrs. Martha Alice Godley is asking for pension.

You are advised the testimony of this witness does not show that he has personal knowledge of Mr. Godley's service. The witness should be required to state facts or the source of his knowledge, telling what he saw the soldier do in connection with some of the organizations of the Confederate Army that caused the witness to determine he was rendering military service. The fact that he remembered when John L. Godley came home as a discharged soldier or that he was home on a furlough is not such testimony that proves his military service.

If proof of service of Mr. Godley as a Confederate soldier can be proven as required by the law of this State the application of Mrs. Martha A. Godley will have further consideration.

Yours very truly,

J.H.E.

State Comptroller of Public
Accounts.

TX

A. G. GODLEY
TAX ASSESSOR ANDERSON COUNTY
PALESTINE, TEXAS

June 5-1931

Hon. Geo. W. Sheppard.
State Comptroller -
Austin, Texas.
Dear Mr. Sheppard.

Yours of June 4th received and contents
duly noted.

I am now arguing the case with you
as to the proof we have submitted in
attempting to prove, beyond a doubt, that my
father, John L. Godley, served as a soldier in
the Confederate Army.

I am sure that the testimony of some
one who served with him would be more
acceptable. but since we cannot locate such
an one - it appears to me, from the note about
the oath on 3d page of application, that
we have furnished ample proof of his
actual service. when W. O. Godley states
under oath, that he remembers when his
brother John L. Godley enlisted in the
service, and that he remembers his being
home on a furlough during the time he
was in the army. seems to me is as.

A. G. GODLEY
TAX ASSESSOR ANDERSON COUNTY
PALESTINE, TEXAS

much proof as would be needed in absence of the statement of one who actually served with him.

And, since the application states that "If possible" some one who served with the Soldier should sign the oath on 3d Page. (I believe it is the 3d Page) does not make it absolutely necessary that the one signing that oath should have served with him.

I have full confidence in you as a man who will, in all cases, do the right thing both for the State and by the citizens thereof.

I am yours very truly -

A. G. Godley



June 8, 1931.

Hon. A. G. Godley,
Tax Assessor,
Palestine, Texas.

Dear Mr. Godley:

Replying to your letter of June 5th, in regard to the testimony given by W. O. Godley in support of the military service record of John L. Godley on whose record Mrs. Martha A. Godley is asking for pension.

It is true that W. O. Godley testifies as follows:

"I well remember when he was drafted as a Confederate and well remember when he was discharged from such service, and I further state on oath that I can well remember of his coming home twice while in service on a furlough."

I submit that this is not such testimony as shows the witness has personal knowledge of the man's service. It simply states his opinion as to what happened. The witness should be required to give the source of his knowledge, state what he saw John L. Godley do in connection with some military organization that caused him, the witness, to conclude that John L. Godley was performing the service of a Confederate soldier.

If proof of military service of Mr. Godley can be furnished as required by the law of this State, the right of Mrs. Godley as a pensioner will have further consideration.

Yours very truly,

JFF:E.

State Comptroller of Public
Accounts.

