

ORIGINAL

Questions for Applicant

STATE OF KENTUCKY,

Mullitt County.

Mrs Laura Bell of said State and County, desiring to avail herself of the pension allowed to Indigent Widows of Soldiers, General Assembly, approved March 11, 1912, hereby submits her proofs, and after being duly sworn true answers to make to the following questions, deposes and answers as follows:

1. What is your full name and where do you reside? (Give State, County and Postoffice.) Mrs Laura Bell Mullitt Co. Tenn. SHEPHERDSVILLE, KY.
2. How long and since when have you been a resident of this State? all of my life
3. When and where were you born and what was your maiden name? Dec 7, 1846, Mullitt Co. Laura Williams
4. When and where was your husband born? State his full name, and where were you and he married, and who performed the marriage ceremony? (If possible, attach certified copy marriage license in every case.) Jefferson Co. Tenn. Sept 9, 1864, Geo. Street, married in Mullitt Co. Dec 17, 1869, by G. W. McConnel
5. When and where and in what Company and Regiment did your husband enlist or serve during the war between the States? Sept, 1862, Louisville, company D. 1st Tenn. Cavalry
6. How long did your husband serve in said Company and Regiment? 1862 to May 1865
7. When and where did your husband's Company and Regiment surrender? washington, Ga. 1865 in Tenn
8. Was your husband present at the time and place when his Company Regiment surrendered? yes
9. If not with his command at surrender, state clearly and specifically where he was, when he left command, for what cause and by what authority? was with command
10. When and where did your husband die? Mullitt Co. Tenn. Feb 19, 1914
11. At the time of your husband's death, were you living with him as his lawful wife? yes
12. Have you married since the death of your soldier husband? no
13. What property, real or personal, or income do you have or possess, and its gross value? no income real estate to amt \$1000, & personal amt \$26.00
14. Have you a family? If so, who compose such family? yes, two married sons, and one married daughter
15. Name some friend, giving his name and postoffice address, who will be willing to have us write to him about your case if necessary. G. W. B. SHEPHERDSVILLE, KY.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this, the 11 day of APR 7 1915.
G. W. B. (W.B.)
of Mullitt County.

Mrs Laura Bell

Questions for Witnesses

STATE OF KENTUCKY,

Mullin County.

Wm. Smith & S.A. Hambeck, of said State and County, having been presented as a witness in support of the application of Mrs. Laura Bell for a pension under Confederate Pension Law, approved March 11, 1912, after being duly sworn, true answers to make to the following questions, deposes and answers as follows:

1. What is your name and what is your postoffice address? Wm. Smith & S.A. Hambeck
SHEPHERDSVILLE, KY.
2. Are you acquainted with the applicant, Mrs. Laura Bell
If so, how long have you known her? all her life
3. Where does she reside, and how long and since when has she been a resident of this State?
Has lived in this county and State all her life
4. Were you ever acquainted with her husband? yes, all his life
5. Were either or both of you present at the marriage? no
6. How long did you know him? all his life
7. When and where did Geo. Spruell enlist in the war between the States, and in what Company and Regiment did he enlist, and how do you know this? Sept. 1862, Company D, 1st Cavalry, We were in same company
8. Were you a member of the same Company and Regiment at the close of the war? yes
9. How long did he perform regular military duty? 1862 - 1865
10. When and where was his Company and Regiment surrendered? May 1865, Washington, Ga.
11. Were you with the command when it surrendered? yes
12. Was Geo. S. Bell, the husband of applicant, present?
yes
13. If not present, where was he? _____
14. When and where did he leave his command? Washington, Ga.
For what cause? Company surrendered
By whose authority did he leave? _____
How do you know all this? (State fully and clearly.) We were present when the company surrendered
15. When and where did Geo. Spruell die?
Shepherdsville, Tenn. (Feb. 10/1915)
16. Where did he reside at his death, and how long had he been a resident of Kentucky at his death?
Mullin Co., SHEPHERDSVILLE, KY. all of his life
17. Do you know of your own knowledge that applicant is the lawful widow of Geo. Spruell?
yes

18. Has she remained unmarried since her soldier husband's death, and is she now his widow?

Yes

19. What property, effects or income has the applicant, if any, and how do you know this of your own knowledge?

Small farm and no income, we are her neighbors

Has applicant conveyed any property, in the last two years or given any away, if so, what was it, and to whom?

no

NOTE.—Let the witness who can answer the greatest number of questions do so; then let the other witness state in the space below how much of the testimony of the first witness he concurs in, and whether or not he can answer any of the questions not answered by the first witness.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

day of APR 2 - 1915 191

[Signature] Notary Public, Bullitt County, Ky.
My commission expires Feb. 29 1916

W. H. Smith
S. A. Hambeck
Witnesses.

THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE MUST BE FILLED OUT WHETHER THE APPLICANT OWNS ANY TAXABLE PROPERTY OR NOT.

I, A. E. Hunt Judge of Bullitt County, Kentucky, hereby certify that the property assessed on the tax books of this county to Mrs. Laura Bell the widow of John G. Bell amounts to \$ 1600.00 real estate and \$ 260.00 personal. For Bullitt County, Ky.

Certificate of Clerk of Court or Notary Public

STATE OF KENTUCKY,

Bullitt County.

I, [Signature] Clerk or Notary Public, in and for said county, hereby certify that the applicant, Mrs. Laura Bell resides in said county, and has been a bona fide resident of this State since the birth day of [Signature], 19 [Signature], and that the witnesses, Mr. W. H. Smith & S. A. Hambeck are of trustworthy character, and that their statements are entitled to full faith and credit.

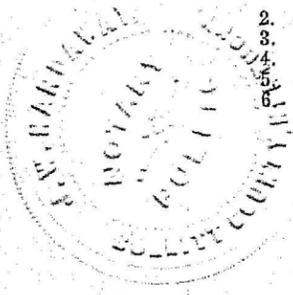
I do further certify that before answering the foregoing questions, the applicant and said witness took the oath herein prescribed, and the full text of the affidavits was read to the applicant and witnesses before the same was signed and subscribed.

Witness my hand and official seal this [Signature] day of [Signature], 1915

(SEAL)

[Signature] Notary Public, Bullitt County, Ky.
My commission expires Feb. 29 1916

- Note—1. Before any questions are answered the Clerk or Notary shall swear applicant and the witnesses in the following words: "You do solemnly swear that you will true answers make to each of the questions asked of you, and the evidence you shall give will be the whole truth; so help you God."
2. Additional affidavits may be attached, if blank spaces are insufficient.
3. All affidavits must be made before an officer using a seal.
4. Only widows who were the wives of soldiers need apply—and are now widows. Those married since Jan. 1st, 1890, not entitled.
5. Two witnesses are necessary to make out claims.
6. Attach certified copy marriage license in every case, or certificate of County Court Clerk, under seal, that license is filed in his office duly certified by officiating minister, or the affidavit of the officiating minister, or the affidavit of a witness of the ceremony, or the affidavit of two witnesses who knew them as man and wife, prior to January 1, 1890, and knew that they were living together on the date of his death.



NOTICE TO APPLICANTS.

The Widows' Pension Law, passed by the Kentucky Legislature, provides for the widows of *soldiers only*, and they must have been residents of the State of Kentucky since January 1, 1907.

Widow must have married prior to 1890.

To be eligible the applicant must have remained a widow after the death of her soldier husband, and must be indigent.

Read the questions in the application carefully and answer them fully.

Read the law, and unless you come clearly under the laws it will be useless to file application.

No. 3306

Widow's
Indigent Pension

Name Mrs Laura Bee

MAY 27 1915

Filed

Widow of John S. Bell

Allowed July 18th 1913
W. J. Stone
Commissioner

All blanks on this filing to be filled by the Pension Board

1915 April 15th Given
open court and law
are worth for application
Attest
Henry P. Jones
clerk

1915 May 10th Evidence
taken rendered this pension
granted.
Attest
Henry P. Jones
clerk



Indorsement.

PENSION EXAMINER'S OFFICE,
FRANKFORT, KY.

LAURA BELL
WIDOW OF
JOHN S. BELL,

Who enlisted Sept. 2d, 1862, in Co. D, Butler's 1st Kentucky Cavalry, and was surrendered May 9, 1865, at Washington, Ga. and released May 22, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn. upon taking the oath of allegiance. Proven by the record.

Property: \$1800.00.

Approved:

W J Stone.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

15100

1965598

1512

WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT,
1965598
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, October 22, 1912.

Respectfully returned to the

Examiner,
Confederate Pension Department,
Frankfort, Kentucky.

The records show that John S. Bell, private, Company D, 1st (Butler's) Kentucky Cavalry, Confederate States Army, enlisted September 2, 1862; that he voluntarily surrendered at Washington, Georgia, May 9, 1865, and that he took the oath of allegiance to the United States May 22, 1865, at Nashville, Tennessee.



The Adjutant General.

(A.G.O.74)

Received A.G.O. OCT 20 1912

No. _____ S. _____

HEADQUARTERS

Confederate Pension Department

W. J. STONE, EXAMINER

FRANKFORT, KY.

OCT 18 1912 191 _____

GEN. W. P. HALL,
Adjutant General, U. S. A.,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Sir:

John S. Bell

who is an applicant for Pension under the Kentucky Pension law, claims
to have been a member of Company *D. 1st Butters'*
Regiment *Ky. Cav.* C. S. A., and to have been

Please give me the record of this soldier.

Respectfully,

W. J. Stone
Examiner.



Commonwealth of Kentucky

No. _____

License

To any person legally authorized to Solemnize Matrimony:

You are hereby permitted to solemnize the **rites of MATRIMONY**

Between — John S. Bell —

and — Laura Williams, —

the requirements of the law having been complied with.

Witness my signature as Clerk of Bullitt County Court, this

— 13th, day of December — 1869., ~~1872~~

— R. J. Meyler. —
CLERK BULLITT COUNTY COURT

By _____
DEPUTY CLERK

THIS MARRIAGE TO BE SOLEMNIZED IN KENTUCKY ONLY.

DO NOT DETACH CERTIFICATE FROM LICENSE.

DO NOT DETACH CERTIFICATE FROM LICENSE.



Certificate

This is to Certify, That on the — 15th, day of December — 1869., ~~1872~~

the **rites of MARRIAGE** *were legally solemnized by me between*

— John S. Bell — *and*

— Laura Williams —

at residence
at — N. V. Williams in the County of — Bullitt —

in the presence of — W. D. Strother — M. L. Cooper —

NOTE.—The Statute requires the names of at least TWO witnesses to be inserted in the foregoing Certificate, and return of this license and certificate within 90 days.

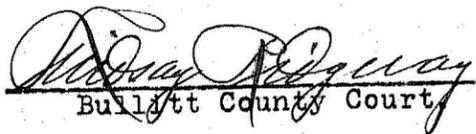
Signed, J. B. McDonnell



Regular Term Bullitt County Court,
Held on the 10th, day of May 1915.,
Present Hon. A.E. Funk Judge.

The Pension claim of Mrs Layra Bell, having been previously filed at a regular term of the Bullitt County Court and laid over one month- This day came said claimant by attorney and the County Attorney being present in behalf of the Commonwealth and the Court after hearing the testimony and being sufficiently advised recommends the allowance of the pension to the said Layra Bell and orders the original application with the testimony forwarded to the Commissioner of Pensions at Frankfort Ky., and the duplicate filed in the office of the Clerk of Bullitt County Court.

A Copy
attest,

 Clerk
Bullitt County Court

BULLITT COUNTY COURT.

May Term, 1915.

IN THE MATTER OF

APPLICATION FOR PENSION MADE BY

Mrs. Laura Bell, widow of John S. Bell.

In support of application for pension made by Mrs. Laura Bell, widow of John S. Bell, the following oral testimony was given before Judge A. E. Funk, Judge of the Bullitt County Court, on the 9th day of May, 1915.

W. H. Smith, being first duly sworn and examined by Mr. J. R. Zimmerman, counsel for applicant, testified as follows:

Q. Mr. Smith, where do you live ?

A. I live at Zoneton.

Q. How close do you live to the applicant, Mrs. Laura Bell ?

A. Why, about three quarters of a mile, I suppose.

Q. How long have you lived that close to Mrs. Bell ?

A. Well, she has moved out there since her husband's death.

I F

I lived about two miles from her for a long time, and then about a mile and a half from her.

Q. How long has she lived in Bullitt County, Mr. Smith ?

A. All her life.

Q. She has been an actual resident of this county all her life ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. She was born in this county ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Mr. Smith, what real estate does Mrs. Laura Bell own, if you know ?

A. I don't know of any except a house and six acres of land down on the pike there by Mr. George Bailey's.

Q. What is a fair, reasonable value of that real estate, in your opinion ?

A. I don't know that I can say. It isn't anything extra, as far as that is concerned.

Q. You have lived in that part of the county all your life ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you know what land is worth in that section of the county ?

A. Well, I am not so well posted about the value of land on the pike. Being on the pike makes a whole lot of difference in the sale of land.

Q. Well, about what would you say was its fair, reasonable value ?

A. I don't know. I suppose about \$1000.00, somewhere in the neighborhood of that.

Q. Is that in your opinion a reasonable price for it ?

A. \$1000.00, yes, sir. That is more than I would give for it.

Q. You know what personal property she has, if any ?

A. I don't think she has any, that is, any more than some household goods. Maybe she has a horse; I wouldn't say.

Q. You have no idea as to the value of her personal property ?

A. No, sir, I have not.

CROSS EXAMINED by Mr. C. P. Bradbury, County Attorney:

Q. Has the applicant, Mrs. Bell, any income, Mr. Smith ?

A. None that I know of.

Q. About what is her age ?

A. She is sixty-six years old.

Q. She is the widow of John S. Bell ?

A. She is the widow of John S. Bell, yes, sir.

Q. John S. Bell has been a pensioner ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long has Mr. Bell been dead ?

A. Oh, I don't remember the date. He died this year.

Q. The 10th of February, 1915 ?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, Mr. Smith, she has no visible means of support at all to you, has she ?

A. None that I know of.

Q. Her support is not provided for in any way ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Her physical condition is such that she is not able to do manual labor ?

A. Oh, no, sir, she can't do that.

Q. She doesn't receive any pension from the United States government ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Would you say that all the property she has, Mr. Smith, including the personal property and real estate, would

be less than \$1500.00 ?

A. Yes, sir, I think so.

And further the witness saith not.

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W. L. Bishop, being first duly sworn and examined by
Mr. J. R. Zimmerman, counsel for applicant, testified as fol-
- lows:

Q. Mr. Bishop, where do you live ?

A. I live in this county -- Bullitt County.

Q. In what section of Bullitt County do you live ?

A. Up on the Fork, in the Zoneton precinct.

Q. How far do you live from the residence of Mrs. Laura

Bell, the applicant ?

A. About three miles, from where she did live.

Q. How far from where she lives now ?

A. Well, about two miles, I think, - - about a mile and
a half, I reckon.

Q. She is the widow of the late John S. Bell ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long has Mr. Bell been dead ?

A. Oh, I know he has died lately, but I couldn't state the date. It has been since Christmas.

Q. He has died since Christmas ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you known Mrs. Laura Bell, the applicant ?

A. Well, I have known her for years. I don't know how long.

Q. Are you acquainted with her real estate ?

A. Well, I know the place where she lives. I don't know whether I know all of it. I don't know whether she owns the farm or not.

Q. That includes a house and six acres of land over there ?

A. If that is all. I know where that is.

Q. You are pretty well acquainted with prices of real estate in that section, are you ?

A. Tolerable.

Q. Well, from your knowledge of prices of real estate in that section, what in your opinion is that house and six acres of land reasonably worth ; its fair value ?

A. I think \$400.00 would be a fair value for it.

Q. How much ?

A. \$400.00; it might be worth \$500.00.

Q. You know what personal property she owns, if any ?

A. No sir, I don't know.

Q. Have you any idea as to what personal property she owns ?

A. No, I have no idea.

Q. Well, you know of any income she has, or has she any income ?

A. If she has, I don't know it; if that land is all she owns, I don't know of any.

Q. About how old is Mrs. Bell, the applicant ?

A. Well, I don't know. She is as much as sixty, I reckon. That is guesswork; I don't know just how old she is.

Q. What is her earning capacity ?

A. Well, she is not able to earn anything, as far as that is concerned.

Q. She isn't able to earn anything ?

A. No, sir.

Q. She is in a weak condition physically ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You know of any income she has from any other source ?

A. No, sir.

CROSS EXAMINED by Mr. C. P. Bradbury, County Attorney:

Q. You know whether she has any other income or not ?

A. No, I don't know.

Q. You know whether she has any other property besides that ?

A. No, I don't know. She lives with her son. I don't know who owns that land up there.

Q. With her son, Vernon ?

A. Vernon, yes. I always thought that land belonged to her, but I don't know only from hearsay. I am satisfied it is a fact.

Q. Does Vernon own that property ?

A. Now, I don't know that. I thought that land belonged to her up there, but I don't know it. If she owns that, that is worth \$1500.00, I suppose. I don't know about that. Mr. Williams knows that, but I don't; but I supposed she did own it; I don't know.

Q. That is a matter of supposition; you can't state that as a fact ?

A. Yes, sir. No, I can't state that as a fact.

Q. What would be the reasonable income from the rent of that place if she did own the place Vernon lives on ?

A. Well, that would be guesswork. About \$75.00. That is just guesswork.

Q. If she owns both places would her income be equal to \$300.00 a year ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Or half of it ?

A. No, I don't know that it would be. It might amount to half.

Q. Would both places be worth as much as \$2500.00 ?

A. No, I don't think they would.

Q. You mean where Vernon lives and the six acre lot wouldn't be worth that much ?

A. I think that would be too much for them. They might bring more than that, but I don't think they are worth that much.

Q. In your judgment would they sell for that much cash ?

A. I don't think they would. They might possibly, but I don't believe they would.

RE-EXAMINED by Mr. J. R. Zimmerman:

Q. I learn from Mr. S. B. Williams that Mrs. Bell does own that 100 acre tract in addition to this property on the pike ?

A. I thought that, but I didn't know it.

Q. What in your opinion is that hundred acres worth ?

A. What is its valuation ?

Q. Yes, sir.

A. About \$1500.00 or \$1600.00 would be a fair valuation, I think, as I stated before; \$1600.00 I think would be a fair valuation.

And further the witness saith not.

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S. B. Williams, being first duly sworn and examined by Mr. J. R. Zimmerman, counsel for applicant, testified as follows:

Q. Mr. Williams, I believe you live out in the northern part of Bullitt County ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. The part of the county in which the applicant, Mrs. Laura Bell, lives ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You are well acquainted with her ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you known her ?

A. About sixty-five years.

Q. Is she related to you ?

A. Yes, sir. Sister.

Q. You are acquainted with her real estate holdings, are you, Mr. Williams ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Please state what real estate she owns.

A. Well, she has there adjoining me about a hundred acres more or less ~~it never has been surveyed--~~ supposed to be in the neighborhood of one hundred acres. Then she has a lot with a house on it out where the sawmill was of four acres acres more or less, probably not as much as four acres, something like that.

Q. Mr. Williams, what would you say that hundred acres

there is worth ?

A. Well, I suppose between \$1200.00 and \$1400.00, something like that.

Q. What would you say the house and lot on the pike would bring ?

A. Well, about \$500.00 would be a good estimate of the value.

Q. Are you acquainted with the personal property which she owns ?

A. She has the household goods, is all-- some household goods. She has no other personal property except a little household goods.

Q. What in your opinion would that be worth, all of it ?

A. I know very little about its value. Of course she has used it a long time-- I suppose \$50.00, something like that.

Q. Has she any income from any source, Mr. Williams ?

A. None, except the rent of her place over there. Her income, I suppose, would be in the neighborhood of \$75.00 a year, and that 's about all.

Q. That is, her net income ?

A. Yes.

Q. After paying the taxes and insurance ?

A. The taxes and insurance will have to come out of that.

Q. Out of the \$75.00 ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then her net income is considerably less than \$75.00 a year ?

A. Yes, sir. Of course her farm might rent for a little more than she gets for it; the expense of the farm is kept up by Vernon. She lives with him since the death of her husband.

Q. Well, in your opinion could the house and the farm be so managed as to make an income of \$250.00 a year ?

A. No, it couldn't be.

Q. You are certain of that ?

A. Yes. It couldn't be done.

Q. What is the state of her health now, Mr. Williams ?

A. She is in a very bad state of health. She has been helpless now for about eighteen months.

Q. Is she able to do anything ?

A. No, sir. She is in bed half the time, has been for eighteen months.

Q. She was born, I believe, and reared and has lived all her life in Bullitt County ?

A. Yes, sir; right there.

Q. And is now a resident, and citizen of Bullitt County ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. She is the widow of John S. Bell ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who was a Confederate soldier ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. He died, I believe, the 10th of February, 1915 ?

A. Yes, sir, that is my recollection of the date, the 10th of February, 1915.

CROSS EXAMINED by Mr. C. P. Bradbury:

Q. Is there any indebtedness against this estate, Mr. Williams ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much indebtedness ?

A. Well, it is principally the doctor's bill.

Q. What will the whole thing amount to ?

A. Between \$500.00 and \$600.00, is my recollection. I saw the account.

Q. Is Mrs. Laura Bell liable for this sum ?

A. Oh, her property is -- her doctor's bill; it is principally her bill.

Q. It is for services rendered to her individually ?

A. Yes, sir. She got hurt about eighteen months ago, and she has been helpless almost every since; and then Mr. Bell had a bill, too, during his last illness.

Q. Are there any other debts against this estate that you know of ?

A. None that I know of.

This was all the evidence introduced and heard by the Court.

LINDSAY RIDGWAY
CLERK BULLITT COUNTY COURT
SHEPHERDSVILLE, KY.

January 14th, 1927.,

Mr, J.T.George,
Frankfort, Ky.

Dear sir,-

I am enclosing you certified copy of the order appointing
J.V.Bell administrator of the estate of Laura Bell, deceased, that
he may collect the accrued pension due the above named deceased.

Yours truly ,

Lindsay Ridgway