

DEPOSITION A

Case of John B. Anderson Inv. Chf., No. 13,828

On this 19 day of January 1912, at  
Annapolis, county of Anne Arundel  
 State of Md. before me, L. S. Perkins  
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared  
John B. Anderson, 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 about 76 years of age, p.o. address No.  
 2 149 St. John street, Annapolis, Md.; am a carpenter  
 3 and laborer.

4 I am pensioned at \$12 per month, as of the  
 5 United States, and am an applicant for increase on  
 6 account of age.

7 I was born on the farm of Stephen Lee, near  
 8 this city, on December 22, 1835. My father (I  
 9 am told) was Benjamin Anderson, and my mother  
 10 was Nancy (Boyd) Anderson. There were  
 11 fourteen "head" of children, of my parents, and  
 12 I am the only one living.

13 I was raised in this neighborhood, and was  
 14 free born. My mother was a free woman, but  
 15 my father was a slave and belonged to Alfred  
 16 Sellman.

17 My first service was in the army. The 30th  
 18 U.S.C. Infantry, which was encamped at College Green,  
 19 Annapolis, was ordered to Alexandria, Va. in March,  
 20 1863. I wanted to enlist in that regiment, but  
 21 my mother would not let me, although I had two  
 22 brothers-in-law, Isaiah Snowden and William Con-  
 23 nett, in the regiment; I think Snowden was in  
 24 Co. C and Connor in Co. D. I ran away from  
 25 home and went to Washington, D.C. thinking to enlist  
 26 there, but the 30th had gone to Alexandria, Va.  
 27 and from there to the Bath of the Wilderness.  
 28 At Alexandria I fell in with the 75th Mass.  
 29 (colored) Infantry, with whose colonel, - Putnam,

ANDERSON, JOHN B.

MD

Invalid Application Number: 20845

Certificate Number: 13828

Widow Application Number: 1133734

Landsman: U.S.S. Santee and Constitution

Record Group 24, Bureau of Naval Personnel:

Muster Rolls of the U.S.S. Constitution

1 October, 1868, marked page "20"

"Complete Descriptive Muster Roll of the Crew of the U.S....."

Anderson, J.B. rate: landsman  
 enlisted 13 feb, 1865 for 2 years in Newport RI,  
 from the U.S.S. Santee  
 aboard 1 July, 1866  
 born in West River, MD  
 31 years old  
 carpenter  
 negro, 5'4 3/4"

DEPOSITION

Case of John B. Anderson No. 13,838

On this 19 day of January 1912 at Annapolis, Md. before me, L. S. Perkins, Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Claimant, 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:

with him till he died. His home was across the river from Philadelphia and on the way to Cape May. I now remember that he died at Camden, N. J. Col. Putnam's wife gave me a discharge from the army, and I went on home to Annapolis arriving here on January 2, 1864.

I stayed around here till February, 1864, when I went to work at the Navy Yard, and worked there for a year, loading cars of provisions and ammunition. A man named Blodgett was quartermaster. Then I went to Newport, R. I., and on February 12, 1865, I enlisted in the U.S. Navy, first going the U.S.S. "Saranac" was enlisted by a landsman for the term of 12 years. I served on that and the "Santee" for a little while I was on the "Dale" and the "Winnipeg." Was discharged from the "Santee" at the Annapolis Naval Academy on February 12, 1867, at noon. These are the only services I ever had, military or naval.

Q. Under what name did you enlist in Co. A, 75th U.S. C. Inf.?

A. I am not able to state whether I gave my name as John B. or as simply John Anderson.

Q. What became of the other Anderson who was in your company?

A. I don't know. I lost sight of him when we had a skirmish at Tenallytown near Washington.

I had become acquainted at Annapolis. Col. Putnam asked me what I was doing there. I told him I wanted to join the 30th colored regiment. He told me they had left there a day or two before and that I could join his regiment (the 75th). I enlisted there in Co. A, 75th colored infantry. I cannot recall the names of any of the officers of that company, nor any member of it, except that there was another Anderson (I think his first name was William) who marched to my right hand, in ranks. We went over to Alexandria and down on the peninsula, and lay in camp, but I don't remember the name of the place. After I had been in ranks for about a week, Col. Putnam made me his quartermaster.

A ball struck me in the lower part of the spine while on the way to Harper's Ferry, one dark night, after I had been in the 75th regiment about 6 months. The wound healed up and gave me but little trouble, then. Since then, it has pained me a good deal in cloudy weather. I was put into the ambulance and taken to Harper's Ferry, where I went on duty again.

From Harper's Ferry we went to Fairfax county, Va. where there was an explosion where the Confederates blew up the railroad and hurt and killed a trainload of their own men. We remained in camp near Fairfax till December, 1863, when Col. Putnam went home on sick leave and died near Philadelphia of yellow jaundice. I went to his home with him, and stayed

John B. Anderson Depoent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19 day of January 1912, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to the deponent before signing.

L. S. Perkins Special Examiner.

D.C. in September, 1863.

My height is 5 feet, 5 1/2 inches, complexion light brown, hair and eyes black (now growing grey). I gave my age as 30 years at enlistment in the Army, altho I believe I was then about 29. I have lived around Annapolis ever since my discharge.

My birth record was written into my mother's family Bible by Mrs. James O'Hara of the South River section when I was a baby. I was taught to read by Col. Putnam while in the Army, and after my discharge from the Army I could read the family Bible, and saw the record of my birth. That book was destroyed by a fire which burnt up my house in 1869, and my Army and Navy discharges were burnt up at the same time.

I have heard you read the various statements as to my age which occur in my applications, and in my statements to examining surgeons. I cannot account for these discrepancies, except to say that in some cases the persons who did the writing failed to correctly record what I said. Commissioner Brewer made one of these mistakes in making out my application. I called his attention to a mistake he had made in my age, he said it would not be noticed. I wanted him to write an explanation, but he declared it would make no difference. In making my statements as to age, I did not say how old I was, but stated the year I was born in, and

John B. Anderson  
Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1911, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing.

Special Examiner.

DEPOSITION

Case of John B. Anderson Inv. No. 13,828

On this 19 day of January 1912 at Annapolis, county of Anne Arundel State of Md. before me, L. S. Patten, Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Gladman, confirmed, 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 Let them figure it out themselves. I am  
2 not very good at figures.  
3 Two old colored men, Nelson Wells and  
4 Philip Boston, knew me when I was a boy.  
5 Wells was a fellow-slave with my father, owned  
6 by sellman, as was also Boston. They live  
7 4 miles south of Earth near in this county.  
8 I know of no one else who can testify  
9 to my age. These men are 6 or 7 years  
10 older than I.

11 I do not care to be present or represented  
12 at any further examination of my claim.

13 Q. If you were in the military service,  
14 why did you state in your various applications  
15 for pension that you had no service prior to  
16 February, 1865?

17 A. I did not know that such statement  
18 was on the applications. Later on, Commissioner  
19 Julian Brewer told me that the Government  
20 had found that the name John B. Anderson  
21 was not on the Army rolls; so he said the  
22 Army service might as well be left out, as it  
23 would add anything to my case.

24 I have had two different wives. My first one,  
25 Lavinia Smother, I married in Annapolis on March  
26 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1859. She died in December 10, 1873. In  
27 December, 1889, I married Mary Satterfield, in  
28 this city. The ceremony was performed by Father  
29 Miller. Mary had not been previously married.

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80 She ran away from me on September 10,  
81 1896. She took up with black man  
82 named Manuel Stewart; they were  
83 sporting around Annapolis last week.  
84 I filed application for divorce from Mary  
85 in the spring of 1910, but my attorney,  
86 Harrington Thompson, misappropriated  
87 the money I paid him to have the suit  
88 filed, but I am going to get a divorce  
89 from her as soon as possible.

90 My first wife, Lavinia, died here in  
91 Annapolis. Her death could be proved by  
92 Catherine Tilden of Camp Parole. But I  
93 fear - intend for Mary to have a red coat  
94 of my pension.

95 I have heard you read the foregoing;  
96 have understood your questions and my  
97 answers are correctly recorded.  
98 John B. Andersen

Deponent.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19 day of January  
1912, and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent  
before signing.

L. S. Perkins  
Special Examiner.

ELIHU S. RILEY  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
ARUNDEL BUILDING, WEST STREET

Navy--13,828.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., July 28, 1917.

To the Honorable  
the Commissioner of the Pension Bureau:-  
Dear Sir:-

I trust I will not offend by  
"stirring up your pure mind" in regard to  
the Claim of John B. Andersen, colored, of  
Annapolis, Md., whose present pension No.  
is--"Navy. 13,828."

The new claim of John B. Andersen is  
that, under the Act of 1912, he is entitled  
to an increase of pension on account of his  
age. His age and his service will appear in  
his Pension Papers in your office, under  
the above number, to which I respectfully  
refer you.

I am sure that your Department is  
crowded with business matters, yet I cannot  
well refuse the old veteran the help of  
another letter from me to the Bureau. He  
comes in the office with almost periodic re-  
gularity to know what I have heard in his  
behalf, and his observations are both queer  
and pathetic when he finds that his plea  
for the advance in his pension is still  
marking time in the work of the Department.

If you can advance the aged soldier's  
case, kindly favor both the petitioner and  
the writers by giving this aid to him, appa-  
rently just request.

Very Respectfully Yours,

Elihu S. Riley