# United States Congress Southern Claims Commission Approved Claims

John A. Miller (01-29-1839 – 05-11-1905) Claim Number: 43037

of

Rockingham County, Virginia

Submitted: 6/27/1875 Processed (Claim Date): 12/4/1876 Approved: 3/14/1877

# The National Archives NARA M209 Roll 0038

Approved case files of claims submitted to the Commissioners of Claims (known as the Southern Claims Commission) from the State of Virginia, 1871-1880.

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Transcription, Annotations, and Analysis by Tyler M. Miller, 2020

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# John A. Miller Claim, Page 1 (Title Page), 6/22/1875

Submitted. June 22d 1875, J.H. Baker

No. <u>17292</u>

### **CLAIM OF**

John A. Miller

OF

Rockingham County, State of, Virginia \$225.75

#### **TESTIMONY OF**

	Page
Claimant	2
Elizabeth F. Miller	8
Silas Sandy	10
Abraham Miller	11
	to
	13

#### TAKEN BY

Isaac P. Baldwin
Special Commissioner

Actual Fees and Costs, \$6=

### **AGENTS OR ATTORNEYS AT WASHINGTON:**

John H. Baker June 25, 1875

Subinitled . June 22 1875. No.17292 CLAIM OF John A. Miller Rockeingham County, State of Virginia \$ 225.75 TESTIMONY OF Elizabeth J. Miller 8
Silas Servara 10
Abraham Miller 11 TAKEN BY Isaluc P. Balanin Special Commissioner Actual Fees and Costs, \$ 6= AGENTS OR ATTORNEYS AT WASHINGTON: John Me. Baker June 25. 1875

# John A. Miller Claim, Page 2 (Directions), 6/22/1875

Directions: This certificate, with accompanying printed questions, goes in front of the depositions. A single sheet, marked "Last Page," accompanies this double sheet, and goes at the end of the depositions, having on its outside a printed form of endorsement to be filled up by the special commissioner.

Act March 3, 1871.

# BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Claim of: *John A. Miller*Of the County of *Rockingham*, and State of *Virginia*Numbered 17292

It is hereby certified that on the 29 day of May, 1875, at Dale Enterprise in the County of Rockingham and State of Virginia came personally before me, for the purpose of a hearing in the above-entitled cause, the following persons, namely:

John A. Miller, Claimant
John H. Baker, Counsel.
Elizabeth F. Miller
Silas Sandy Witnesses
Abraham Miller

Each and every deponent, previous to his or her examination, was properly and duly sworn or affirmed to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth concerning the matters under examination; the claimant's witnesses were examined separately and apart from each other; the testimony of each deponent was written out by me in presence of such deponent, who signed the same in my presences after having the deposition read aloud to such deponent, and the signature of such deponent was by me attested at the time it was affixed to the deposition.

	Witness my hand and	seal this 29 day of <i>May</i>
187 <i>5</i> .		

Isaac P. Baldwin
Special Commissioner.

Directions: This certificate, with accompanying printed questions, goes in front of the depositions. A single sheet, marked "Last Page," accompanies this double sheet, and goes at the end of the depositions, having on its outside a printed form of endorsement to be filled up by the special commissioner.

ACT MARCH 8, 1871.

# BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

of the County of Rackinghounned State of Virginia

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Jeru A. Miller , Claimant.

Jeru Me. Barrer , Counsel.

Elizabeth J. Miller

Viles Variety Witnesses.

Abrervenn Miller

Each and every deponent, previous to his or her examination, was properly and duly sworn or affirmed to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth concerning the matters under examination; the claimant's witnesses were examined separately and apart from each other; the testimony of each deponent was written out by me in presence of such deponent, who signed the same in my presence after having the deposition read aloud to such deponent, and the signature of such deponent was by me attested at the time it was affixed to the deposition.

Witness my hand and acal this 29 day of Neary
1875.

Lower P. Balanni

Special Commissioner.

# John A. Miller Claim, Pages 3-5 (List of Standing Interrogatories), 6/22/1875

#### STANDING INTERROGATORIES

The following questions will be put to every person who gives testimony:

- 1. What is your name, your age, your residence and how long has it been such, and your occupation?
- 2. If you are not the claimant, in what manner, if any, are you related to the claimant or interested in the success of the claim?

The following questions will be put to every claimant, except claimants who were slaves at the beginning of the war: (Note – if the original claimant be dead, these questions are to be answered by each of the heirs or relatives who was not less than sixteen years of age when the war closed.)

- 3. Where were you born? If not born in the United States, when and where were you naturalized? Produce your naturalization papers if you can.
- 4. Where were you residing and what was your business for six months before the outbreak of the rebellion, and where did you reside and what was your business from the beginning to the end of the war? And if you changed your residence or business, state how many times, and why such changes were made.
- 5. On which side were your sympathies during the war, and were they on the same side from beginning to end?
- 6. Did you ever do anything or say anything against the Union cause; and if so, what did you do or say, and why?
- 7. Were you at all times during the war willing and ready to do whatever you could in aid of the Union cause?
- 8. Did you ever do anything for the Union cause, or its advocates or defenders? If so, state what you did, giving times, places, names of persons aided, and particulars. Were the persons aided your relations?
- 9. Had you any near relatives in the Union army or navy? If so, in what company and regiment, or on what vessel, when and where did each one enter service, and when and how did he leave service? If he was a son, produce his discharge paper, in order that its contents may be noted in this deposition, or state why it cannot be produced.
- 10. Were you in the service or employment of the United States Government at any time during the war? If so, in what service, when, where, for how long, under what officers, and when and how did you leave such service or employment?
- 11. Did you ever voluntarily contribute money, property, or services to the Union cause; and if so, when, where, to whom, and what did you contribute.
- 12. Which side did you take while the insurgent States were seceding from the Union in 1860 and 1861, and what did you do to show on which side you stood?
- 13. Did you adhere to the Union cause after the States had passed into rebellion, or did you go with your State?
- 14. What were your feelings concerning the battle of Bull Run or Manassas, the capture of New Orleans, the fall of Vicksburg, and the final surrender of the Confederate forces?
- 15. What favors, privileges, or protections were ever granted you in recognition of your loyalty during the way, and when and by whom granted?
- 16. Have you ever taken the so-called "Iron-clad oath" since the war, and when and on what occasions?
- 17. Who were the leading and best known Unionist of your vicinity during the war? Are any of them called to testify to your loyalty; and if not, why not?
- 18. Were you ever threatened with damage or injury to your person, family, or property on account of your Union sentiments, or were you actually molested or injured on account of your Union sentiments? If so, when, where, by whom, and in what particular way were you injured or threatened with injury?
- 19. Were you ever arrested by any Confederate officer, soldier, sailor, or other person professing to act for the Confederate government or for any State in rebellion? If so, when, where, by whom, for what cause; how long were you kept under arrest; how did you obtain your release; did you take any oath or give any bond to effect your release; and if so, what was the nature of the oath or the bond?
- 20. Was any of your property taken by Confederate officers or soldiers, or any rebel authority? If so, what property, when where, by whom, were you ever paid therefor, and did you ever present an account therefor to the Confederate government, or any rebel officer?

- 21. Was any of your property ever confiscated by rebel authority, on the ground that you were an enemy to the rebel cause? If so, give all the particulars, and state if the property was subsequently released or compensation made therefor.
- 22. Did you ever do anything for the Confederate cause, or render any aid or comfort to the rebellion? If so, give the times, places, persons, and other particulars connected with each transaction.
- 23. What force, compulsion, or influence, was used to make you do anything against the Union cause? If any, give all the particulars demanded in the last questions.
- 24. Were you in any service, business, or employment, for the confederacy, or for any rebel authority? If so, give the same particulars as before required.
- 25. Were you in the civil, military, or naval service of the Confederacy, or any rebel State, in any capacity whatsoever? If so, state fully in respect to each occasion and service.
- 26. Did you ever take any oath to the so-called Confederate States while in any rebel service or employment?
- 27. Did you ever have charge of any stores, or other property, for the confederacy; or did you ever sell or furnish any supplies to the so-called Confederate States, or any State in rebellion; or did you have any share of interest in contracts or manufactures in aid of the rebellion?
- 28. Were you engaged in blockade running, or running through the lines, or interested in the risks or profits of such ventures?
- 29. Were you in any way interested in any vessel navigating the waters of the Confederacy, or entering or leaving any Confederate port? If so, what vessel, when and where employed, in what business, and had any rebel authority any direct or indirect interest in vessel or cargo?
- 30. Did you ever subscribe to any loan of the so-called Confederate States, or of any rebel State; or own Confederate bonds or securities, or the bonds or securities of any rebel State issued between 1861 and 1865? Did you sell, or agree to sell, cotton or produce to the confederate Government, or to any rebel State, or to any rebel officer or agent, and if so, did you receive or agree to receive Confederate or State bonds or securities in payment; and if so, to what amount and for what kind and amount of property?
- 31. Did you contribute to the raising, equipment or support of troops, or the building of gunboats in aid of the rebellion; or to military hospitals or invalids, or to relief funds or subscriptions for the families of persons serving against the United States?
- 32. Did you ever give information to any person in aid of military or naval operations against the United States?
- 33. Were you at any time a member of any society or organization for equipping volunteers or conscripts, or for aiding the rebellion in any other manner?
- 34. Did you ever take an oath of allegiance to the so-called Confederate States? If so, state how often, when, where, for what purpose, and the nature of the oath or affirmation.
- 35. Did you ever receive a pass from rebel authority? If so, state when, where, for what purpose, on what conditions, and how the pass was used.
- 36. Had you any near relatives in the Confederate army, or in any military or naval service hostile to the United States? If so, give names, ages on entering service, present residence, if living, what influence you exerted, if any, against their entering the service, and in what way you contributed to their outfit and support.
- 37. Have you been under the disabilities imposed by the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution? Have your disabilities been removed by congress?
- 38. Have you been specially pardoned by the President for participation in the rebellion?
- 39. Did you take any amnesty oath during the war, or after its close? If so, when, where, and why did you take it?
- 40. Were you ever a prisoner to the United States authorities, or on parole, or under bonds to do nothing against the Union cause? If so, state all the particulars.
- 41. Were you ever arrested by the authorities of the United States during the war? If so, when, where, by whom, on what grounds, and when and how did you obtain your release?
- 42. Were any fines or assessments levied upon you by the authorities of the United States because of your supposed sympathy for the rebellion? If so, state all the facts.
- 43. Was any of your property taken into possession or sold by the United States under the laws relating to confiscation, or to captured and abandoned property?

The following questions will be put to all male claimants or beneficiaries who were not less than sixteen years of age when the war closed:

44. After the Presidential election of 1800 [sic, probably 1860], if of age, did you vote for any candidates, or on any questions, during the war, and how did you vote? Did you vote for or against candidates favoring

secession? Did you vote for or against the ratification of the ordinance of secession, or for or against separation in your State?

- 45. Did you belong to any vigilance committee, or committee of safety, homeguard, or any other form of organization or combination designed to suppress Union sentiment in your vicinity?
- 46. Were you in the Confederate army, state militia, or any military or naval organization hostile to the United States? If so, state when, where, in what organizations, how and why you entered, how long you remained each time, and when and how you left. If you claim that you were conscripted, when and where was it, how did you receive notice, and from whom, and what was the precise manner in which the conscription was enforced against you? If you were never in the rebel army or other hostile organization, explain how you escaped service. If you furnished a substitute, when and why did you furnish one, and what is his name, and his present address, if living?
- 47. Were you in any way connected with or employed in the Confederate quartermaster, commissary, ordinance, engineer, or medical department, or any other department, or employed on any railroad transporting troops or supplies for the Confederacy, or otherwise engaged in transportation of men and supplies for the Confederacy? If so, state how employed when, where, for how long, under whose direction, and why such employment was not giving "aid and comfort" to the rebellion.
- 48. Did you at any time have charges of trains, teams, wagons, vessels, boats, or military supplies or property of any kind for the Confederate government? If so, give all the facts as in previous questions.
- 49. Were you employed in saltpeter works, in tanning or milling for the Confederate government, or making clothing, boots, shoes, saddles, harness, arms, ammunition, accourtements, or any other kind of munitions of war for the Confederacy? If so, give all the particulars of time, place and nature of service or supplies.
- 50. Were you ever engaged in holding in custody, directly, or indirectly, any persons taken by the rebel government as prisoners or war, or any persons imprisoned or confined by the Confederate government, or the authorities of any rebel State, for political causes? If so, when, where, under what circumstances, in what capacity were you engaged, and what was the name and rank of your principal?
- 51. Were you ever in the Union army or navy or in any service connected therewith? If so, when, where, in what capacity, under whose command or authority, for what period of time, and when and how did you leave service? Produce your discharge papers, so that their contents may be noted herein?

The following questions will be put to every person testifying to the loyalty of claimants or beneficiaries:

- 52. In whose favor are you here to testify?
- 53. How long have you known that person altogether, and what part of that time have you intimately known him?
- 54. Did you live near him during the war, and how far away?
- 55. Did you meet him often, and about how often, during the war?
- 56. Did you converse with the claimant about the war, its causes, its progress, and its results? If so, try to remember the more important occasions on which you so conversed, beginning with the first occasion, and state, with respect to each, when it was, where it was, who were present, what caused the conversation, and what the claimant said in substance, if you cannot remember his words.
- 57. Do you know of anything done by the claimant that showed him to be loyal to the Union cause during the war? If you do, state what he did, when, where, and what was the particular cause or occasion of his doing it? Give the same information about each thing he did that showed him to be loyal.
- 58. Do you know of anything said or done by the claimant that was against the Union cause? If so, please state, with respect to each thing said or done, what it was, when it was, and what particular compulsion or influence cause him to say or do it.
- 59. If you have heard of anything said or done by the claimant, either for the Union cause or against it, state from whom you heard it, when you heard it, and what you heard.
- 60. What was the public reputation of the claimant for loyalty or disloyalty to the United States during the war? If you profess to know his public reputation, explain fully how you know it, whom you heard speak of it, and give the names of other persons who were neighbors during the war and could testify to his public reputation.
- 61. Who were the known and prominent Union people of the neighborhood during the war, and do you know that such persons could testify to the claimant's loyalty?
- 62. Were you, yourself, an adherent of the Union cause during the war? If so, did the claimant know you to be such, and how did he know it?
- 63. Do you know of any threats, molestations, or injury inflicted upon the claimant, or his family, or his property, on account of his adherence to the Union cause? If so, give all the particulars.

- 64. Do you know of any act done or language used by the claimant that would have prevented him from establishing his loyalty to the Confederacy? If so, what act or what language?
- 65. Can you state any other facts within your own knowledge in proof of the claimant's loyalty during the war? If so, state all the facts and give all the particulars.

The following questions concerning the ownership of property charged in claims will be put to all claimants, or the representatives of deceased claimants:

- 66. Who was the owner for the property charged in this claim when it was taken, and how did such persons become owner?
- 67. If any of the property was taken, from a farm or plantation, where was such farm or plantation situated, what was its size, how much was cultivated, how much was woodland, and how much was the waste land?
  68. Has the person who owned the property when taken since filed a petition in bankruptcy, or been declared a bankrupt?

The following questions will be put to female claimants:

69. Are you married or single? If married, when were you married? Was your husband loyal to the cause and Government of the United States throughout the war? Where does he now reside, and why is he not joined with you in the petition? How many children have you? Give their names and ages. Were any of them in the Confederate service during the war? If you claim that the property named in your petition is your sole and separate property, state how you came to own it separately from your husband; how your title was derived; when your ownership of it began. Did it ever belong to your husband? If the property for which you ask pay is wood, timber, rails, or the products of a farm, how did you get title to the farm? If by deed, can you file copies of the deeds? If single, have you been married? If a widow, when did your husband die? Was he in the Confederate army? Was he in the civil service of the Confederacy? Was he loyal to the United States Government throughout the war? Did he leave any children? How many? Are any now living? Give their names and ages. Are they not interested in this claim? If they are not joined in this petition, why not? State fully how your title to the property specified in the petition was obtained. Did you ever belong to any sewing society organized to make clothing for Confederate soldiers or their families, or did you assist in making any such clothing, or making any such clothing, or making flags or other military equipment, or preparing or furnishing delicacies or supplies for Confederate hospitals or soldiers?

The following questions will be put to colored claimants:

70. Were you a slave or free at the beginning of the war? If ever a slave when did you become free? What business did you follow after obtaining your freedom? Did you own this property before or after you became free? When did you get it? How did you become owner, and from whom did you obtain it? Where did you get the means to pay for it? What was the name and residence of your master, and is he still living? Is he a witness for you, and if not, why not? Are you in his employ now, or do you live on his land or on land bough from him? Are you in his debt? What other person besides yourself has any interest in this claim?

The following questions will be put to all colored witnesses in behalf of white claimants:

71. Were you formerly the slave of the claimant? Are you now in his service or employment? Do you live on his land? Are you in his debt? Are you in any way to share in this claim allowed?

The following questions will be put to claimants and witnesses who testify to the taking of property, omitting in the case of each claimant or witness any questions that are clearly unnecessary:

- 72. Were you present when any of the property charged in this claim was taken? Did you actually see any taken? If so, specify what you saw taken.
- 73. Was any of the property taken in the night time, or was any taken secretly, so that you did not know of it at the time?
- 74. Was any complaint made to any officer of the taking of any of the property? If so, give the name, rank, and regiment of the officer, and state who made the complaint to him, what he said and did in consequence, and what was the result of the complaint.
- 75. Were any vouchers or receipt asked for or given? If given where are the vouchers or receipts? If lost, state fully how lost. If asked and not given, by whom were they asked, who was asked to give them, and why were they refused or not given? State very fully in regard to the failure to ask or obtain receipts.
- 76. Has any payment ever been made for any property charged in this claim? Has any payment been made for any property taken at the same times as the property charged in this claim? Has any payment been made for

any property taken from the same claimant during the war, and if so, when, by whom, for what property and to what amount? Has this property, or any part of it, been included in any claim heretofore presented to Congress, or any court, department or officer of the United States, or to any board or survey, military commission, State commission or officer, or any other authority? If so, when and to what tribunal or officers was the claim presented; was it larger or smaller in amount than this claim, and how is the difference explained and what was the decision, if any, of the tribunal to which it was presented?

- 77. Was the property charged in this claim taken by troops encamped in the vicinity, or were they on the march, or were they on a raid or expedition, or had there been any recent battle or skirmish?
- 78. You will please listen attentively while the list of items, but not quantities, is read to you, and as each kind of property is called off, say whether you saw any such property taken.
- 79. Begin now with the first item of property you have just said you saw taken, and give the following information about it. 1st, describe its exact condition as, for instance, if corn, whether green or ripe, standing or harvested, in shuck, or husked, or shelled; if lumber, whether new or old, in buildings or plied; if grain, whether growing or cut, &c., &c., 2d, State where it was. 3d. What was the quantity; explain fully how you know the quantity, and if estimated, describe your method of making the estimate. 4th. Describe the quality to your best judgement. 5th. State as nearly as you can the market value of such property at the time in United States money. 6th. Say when the property was taken. 7th. Give the name of the detachment, regiment, bridge, division, corps, or army, taking the property, and the names of any officers belonging to the command. 8th. Describe the precise manner in which the property was taken into possession by the troops, and the manner in which it was removed. 9th. State as closely as you can how many men, animals, wagons, or other means of transport, were engaged in the removal, how long they were occupied, and to what place they removed the property. 10th. State if any officers were present; how you knew them to be officers; what they said or did in relation to the property, and give the names of any, if you can. 11th. Give any reasons that you may have for believing that the taking of the property was authorized by the proper officers or that it was for the necessary use of the army.
- 80. Now take the next item of property you saw taken and give the same information, and so proceed to the end of the list of items.

#### STANDING INTERROGATORIES.

The following questions will be put to every person who gives testimony :

- 1. What is your name, your age, your residence and how long has it been such, and your occupation?
- 2. If you are not the claimant, in what manner, if any, are you related to the claimant or interested in the success of the
  - The following questions will be put to every claimant, except claimants who were slaves at the beginning of the war:
- [Nove-If the original elaimant be deed, these questions are to be answered by each of the heirs or legatees who was not less than statems years of age when the war closed.]
- Where were you horn? If not born in the United States, when and where were you naturalized? Produce your naturalization papers if you can.
- 4. Where were you residing and what was your business for six months before the outbreak of the rebellion, and where did you reside and what was your business from the beginning to the end of the war? And if you changed your residence or business, state how many times, and why such changes were made.
- 5. On which side were your sympathies during the war, and were they on the same side from beginning to end?
- 6. Did you ever do anything or say anything against the Union cause; and if so, what did you do or say, and why?
- 7. Were you at all times during the war willing and ready to do whatever you could in aid of the Union cause?
- 8. Did you ever do anything for the Union cause, or its advocates or defenders? If so, state what you did, giving times, places, names of persons aided, and particulars. Were the persons aided your relations?
- Had you my near relatives in the Union army or navy? If so, in what company and regiment, or on what vessel,
  when and where did each one enter service, and when and how did he leave service? If he was a son, produce his
  discharge paper, in order that its contents may be noted in this deposition, or state why it cannot be produced.
- 10. Were you in the service or employment of the United States Government at any time during the war? If so, in what service, when, where, for how long, under what officers, and when and how did you leave such service or employment?
- Did you ever voluntarily contribute money, property, or services to the Union cause; and if so, when, where, to whom, and what did you contribute?
- 12. Which side did you take while the insurgent States were seceding from the Union in 1890 and 1861, and what did you do to show on which side you stood?
- 13. Did you adhere to the Union cause after the States had passed into rebellion, or did you go with your State?
- What were your feelings concerning the battle of Bull Run or Manassas, the capture of New Orleans, the fall of Vicksburg, and the final surrender of the Confederate forces?
- 15. What favors, privileges, or protections were ever granted you in recognition of your loyalty during the war, and when and by whom granted?
- 16. Have you ever taken the so-called "iron-clad oath" since the war, and when and on what occasions?
- 17. Who were the leading and best known Unionists of your vicinity during the war? Are any of them called to testify to your loyalty; and if not, why not?
- 18. Were you ever threatened with damage or injury to your person, family, or property on account of your Union sentiments, or were you actually molested or injured on account of your Union sentiments? If so, when, where, by whom, and in what particular way were you injured or threatened with injury?
- 19. Were you ever arrested by any Confederate officer, soldier, sullor, or other person professing to act for the Confederate government, or for any State in rebellion? If so, when, where, by whom, for what cause; how long were you kept under arrest; how did you obtain your release; did you take any oath or give any bond to effect your release; and if so, what was the nature of the oath or the bond?
- 20. Was any of your property taken by Confederate efficers or soldiers, or any rebel authority? If so, what property, when, where, by whom, were you ever paid therefor, and did you ever present an account therefor to the Confederate government, or any rebel officer?
- 21. Was any of your property ever confiscated by rebel authority, on the ground that you were an enemy to the rebel cause? If so, give all the particulars, and state if the property was subsequently released or compensation made therefor.
- 22. Did you ever do anything for the Confederate cause, or render any aid or comfort to the rebellion? If so, give the times, places, persons, and other particulars connected with each transaction.
- 23. What force, composion, or influence, was used to make you do anything against the Union cause? If any, give all the particulars demanded in the last question.
- Were you in any service, business, or employment, for the Confederacy, or for any rebel authority? If so, give the same
  particulars as before required.
- 25. Were you in the civil, military, or naval service of the Confederacy, or any rebel State, in any capacity whatsover? If so, state fully in respect to each occasion and service.
- 26. Did you ever take any oath to the so-called Confederate States while in any rebel service or employment?
- 27. Did you ever have charge of any stores, or other property, for the Confederacy; or did you ever sell or furnish any ampliles to the so-called Confederate States, or any State in rebellion; or did you have any share or interest in continuous or manufactures in aid of the rebellion?
- 28. Were you engaged in blockade running, or running through the lines, or interested in the risks or profits of such ventures?
- 20. Were you in any way interested in any vessel navigating the waters of the Confederacy, or entering or leaving any Confederate port? If so, what ressel, when and where employed, in what business, and had any rebel authority any direct or indirect interest in vessel or cargo?
- any direct or indirect interest in vesses or cargor.

  30. Did you ever subscribe to any loan of the so-called Confederate States, or of any rebel State; or own Confederate bonds or securities, or the bonds or securities of any rebel State issued between 1861 and 1863? Did you sell, or agree to sell, cotton or produce to the Confederate Government, or to any rebel State, or to any rebel officer or agent, and if so, did you receive or agree to receive Confederate or State bonds or securities in payment; and if so, to what amount, and for what kind and amount of property?
- 31. Did you contribute to the raising, equipment or support of troops, or the building of gunboats in aid of the rebellion; or to military hospitals or invalids, or to relief funds or subscriptions for the families of persons serving against the United States?

- 32. Did you ever give information to any person in aid of military or naval operations against the United States?
- 33. Were you at any time a member of any society or organization for equipping volunteers or conscripts, or for aking the rebellion in any other manner?
- 34. Did you ever take an oath of allegiance to the so-called Confederate States? If so, state how often, when, where, for what purpose, and the nature of the oath or affirmation.
- 35. Did you ever receive a pass from rebel authority? If so, state when, where, for what purpose, on what conditions, and how the pass was used.
- 36. Had you any near relatives in the Confederate army, or in any military or naval service hostile to the United States? If so, give names, ages on entering service, present residence, if living, what influence you exerted, if any, against their entering the service, and in what way you contributed to their outfit and support.
- 37. Have you been under the disabilities imposed by the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution? Have your disabilities been removed by Congress?
- 38. Have you been specially pardoned by the President for participation in the rebellion?
- 39. Did you take any amnesty oath during the war, or after its close? If so, when, where, and why did you take it?
- Were you ever a prisoner to the United States authorities, or on parole, or under bonds to do nothing against the Union cause? If so, state all the particulars.
- 41. Were you ever arrested by the authorities of the United States during the war? If so, when, where, by whom, on what grounds, and when and how did you obtain your release?
- 42. Were any flues or assessments levied upon you by the authorities of the United States because of your supposed sympathy for the robellion? If so, state all the facts.
- Was any of your property taken into possession or sold by the United States under the laws relating to confiscation, or to captured and abandoned property?
  - The following questions will be put to all male claimants or beneficiaries who were not less than sixteen years of age when the war closed:
- 44. After the Presidential election of 1800, if of age, did you vote for any candidates, or on any questions, during the war, and how did you vote? Did you vote for or against candidates favoring secession? Did you vote for or against the ratification of the ordinance of secession, or for or against separation in your State?
- 45. Did you belong to any vigilance committee, or committee of safety, homeguard, or any other form of organization or combination designed to suppress Union scatiment in your vicinity?
- 46. Were you in the Confederate army, State millita, or any millitary or naval organization hostile to the United States?

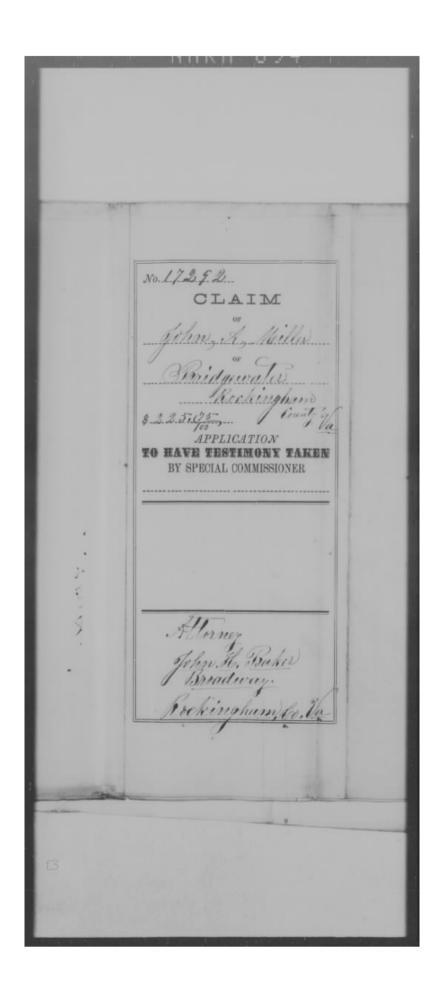
  If so, state when, where, in what organizations, how and why you entered, how long you remained each time, and when and how you left. If you claim that you were conscripted, when and where was it, how did you receive notice, and from whom, and what was the precise manner in which the conscription was enforced against you? If you were never in the rebel army or other hostile organization, explain how you escape service. If you furnished a ambatitute, when and why did you furnish one, and what is his name, and his present address, if living?
- 47. Were you in any way connected with or employed in the Confederate quartermaster, commissary, ordnance, engineer, or medical department, or any other department, or employed on any railroad transporting troops or supplies for the Confederacy, or otherwise engaged in transportation of men and supplies for the Confederacy? If so, state how employed, when, where, for how long, under whose direction, and why such employment was not giving "aid and comfort" to the rebellion.
- 48. Did you at any time have charge of trains, teams, wagons, vessels, boats, or military supplies or property of any kind for the Confederate government? If so, give all the facts as in previous questions.
- Were you employed in saltpetre works, in tanning or milling for the Confederate government, or making clothing, boots, shoes, saddles, harness, arms, ammunition, accourements, or any other kind of munitions of war for the Confederacy? If so, give all the particulars of time, place and nature of service or supplies.
- Were you ever engaged in holding in custody, directly or indirectly, any persons taken by the rebel government as prisoners of war, or any persons imprisoned or confined by the Confederate government, or the authorities of any rebel State, for political causes? If so, when, where, under what circumstances, in what capacity were you engaged, and what was the name and rank of your principal?
- 51. Were you ever in the Union army or navy, or in any service connected therewith? If so, when, where, in what capacity, under whose command or authority, for what period of time, and when and how did you leave service? Produce your discharge papers, so that their contents may be noted herein.
  - The following questions will be put to every person testifying to the loyalty of claimants or beneficiaries:
- 52. In whose favor are you here to testify?
- 53. How long have you known that person altogether, and what part of that time have you intimately known him?
- 54. Did you live near him during the war, and how far away?
- 55. Did you meet him often, and about how often, during the war?
- 56. Did you converse with the claimant about the war, its causes, its progress, and its results? If so, try to remember the more important occasions on which you so conversed, beginning with the first occasion, and state, with respect to each, when it was, where it was, who were present, what caused the conversation, and what the claimant said in substance, if you cannot remember his words.
- 57. Do you know of anything done by the claimant that showed him to be loyal to the Union cause during the war? It you do, state what he did, when, where, and what was the particular cause or occasion of his doing it? Give the same information about each thing he did that showed him to be loyal.
- 58. Do you know of anything said or done by the claimant that was against the Union cause? If so, please state, with respect to each thing said or done, what it was, when it was, where it was, and what particular compulsion or influence caused him to say or do it.
- If you have heard of anything said or done by the claimant, either for the Union cause or against it, state from whom
  you heard it, when you heard it, and what you heard.
- 60. What was the public reputation of the claimant for loyalty or disloyalty to the United States during the war? If you profess to know his public reputation, explain fully how you know it, whom you heard speak of it, and give the names of other persons who were neighbors during the war that could testify to his public reputation.
- 61. Who were the known and prominent Union people of the neighborhood during the war, and do you know that such persons could testify to the claimant's loyalty?
- 62. Were you, yourself, an adherent of the Union cause during the war? If so, did the claimant know you to be such, and how did be know it?
- 63. Do you know of any threats, molestations, or injury inflicted upon the claimant, or his family, or his property, on account of his adherence to the Union cause? If so, give all the particulars.
- 84. Do you know of any act done or language used by the claimant that would have prevented him from establishing his loyalty to the Confederacy? If so, what act or what language?

# Application To Have Testimony Taken by Spc. Comm. (Cover Page), 5/29/1875

No. 17292

CLAIM
of
John, A, Miller
of
Bridgewater
Rockingham
\$225.75/100 County, Va.
APPLICATION
TO HAVE TESTIMONY TAKEN
BY SPECIAL COMMISSIONER

Attorney John H. Baker Broadway. Rockingham County, Va



### Application To Have Testimony Taken by Spc. Comm. (Directions P. 1), 5/29/1875

#### DIRECTIONS.

Note

- 1. -Insert number of the Clerks.
- 2. "Taken" or "Furnished."
- 3. -Describe the military organization by name as fully and particularly as possible.
- 4. -State as well as can be done, the place to which the property was conveyed for the use of the army.
- 5. -State as fully and minutely as is possible, the particular persons or commands using the property, and to what particular use it was applied.
- 6. -The claimant's name should be signed here, either by himself or his attorney.

No. 17292

#### BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS,

Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1871.

In the matter of the Claim of John A. Miller	
Of Bridgewater, in the county of	
And State of	

Comes now the claimant, before Isaac P. Baldwin, Esq., Special Commissioner for the State of Virginia, and represents that he has heretofore filed with the above-named Commissioners a Petition for the allowance of a claim for property taken for the use of the army of the United States, which claim, as stated below, does not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars.

That the said claim, stated by items ,adn excluding therefrom all such items as refer to the DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, and LOSS, and not the USE, of property; to unauthorized or unnecessary DEPREDATIONS of troops and other persons upon the property, or to RENT or compensation for the occupation of buildings, grounds, or other real estate, is as follows:

No. of Items	QUANTITIES AND ARTICLES.	VALUE.	
		DOLLS.	стѕ.
1	1 Horse very good	150	00
2	1 Ton Hay	15	00
3	10 Bushels Corn	10	00
4	20 Tons Oats	12	00
5	200lbs Mutton	20	00
6	125lbs Pork	18	75
	Total	225	75

3 10 Bushalo) Corn 12 00 5 200 Ma Murition 20 00 6 125 4 Posts 18 75

# Application To Have Testimony Taken by Spc. Comm. (Directions P. 2), 5/29/1875

That, as stated in	the Petition referred to	o, the prop	erty in question was taken from or
furnished by	of _		, in the State of
, for the us	e of a portion of the ar	my of the l	Jnited States, known as
and co	ommanded by	and	d that the persons who took or received
the property, or who auth	norized or directed it to	be taken o	or furnished, were the following:
NAME.	RANK.	CO.	Regiment, Corps, or Station.
That the property	was removed to		and used for or by;
			ear 186_, as appears by the petition
presented to the Commis	ssioners.		
That by the follow	ving named persons, th	he claiman	t expects to prove that, from the
beginning of hostilities ag	gainst the United State	es to the en	d thereof, his sympathies were constantly
with the cause of the Un	ited States; that he nev	ver, of his o	own free will and accord, did anything, or
offered, or sought, or atte	empted to do anything	, by word c	or deed, to injure said cause or retard its
success, and that he was	s at all times ready and	d willing, w	hen called upon, or if called upon, to aid
and assist the cause of t	he Union, or its suppor	rters, so fa	r as his means and power, and the
circumstances of the cas	se, permitted.		
			of
John Crousehorn			
Abram Miller			of
John E. Bryon			
			of
The by the follow	ving_named persons th	ne claimant	expects to prove the taking or furnishing
of the property for the us	-		
of the property for the us	e of the affily of the of	ilited State	3.
			of
Elizabeth Miller			of
Abram Miller			of
			of
			of
			of

That, as stated in the Petition referred to, the property in question was taken from or furnished by......of ....., in the State of ....., for the use of a portion of the army of the United States, known as 3) \_\_\_\_\_ and commanded by and that the persons who took or received the property, or who authorized or directed it to be taken or furnished, were the following: NAME. RANK. Regiment, Corps or Station. That the property was removed to (4)\_\_\_\_\_\_ and used for or by (5) on or about the \_\_\_\_\_, in the year 186\_\_\_, as appears by the petition presented to the Commissioners. That by the following named persons, the claimant expects to prove that, from the beginning of hostilities against the United States to the end thereof, his sympathies were constantly with the cause of the United States; that he never, of his own free will and accord, did anything, or offered, or sought, or attempted to do anything, by word or deed, to injure said cause or retard its success, and that he was at all times ready and willing, when called upon, or if called upon, to aid and assist the cause of the Union, or its supporters, so far as his means and power, and the circumstances of the case, permitted. John Crowshorns of Abram Miller of John E. Birrow of That, by the following-named persons, the claimant expects to prove the taking or furnishing of the property for the use of the army of the United States: Elizabeth Miller of Abram Miller of of .....

# Application To Have Testimony Taken by Spc. Comm. (Directions P. 3), 5/29/1875

The claimant now prays that the testimony of the witnesses just designated be take and recorded, at such place and at such time as the Special Commissioner may designate, at the reasonable cost of the said claimant; and that due notice of the time and place of the taking thereof be given to the Claimant, or to his counsel.

Submitted on this 29 day of April, 1875

John A. Miller

Claimant.

John H. Baker Attorney.

P.O. Address of Attorney:

Broadway, Rockingham Co Va.

#### Depositions - Claimant (John A. Miller) by Special Commissioner (P. 2 [no p. 1 exists])

The following questions will be put to every person who gives testimony:

- 1. What is your name, your age, your residence and how long has it been such, and your occupation?
  - a. "My name is John A. Miller. I am 36 years old. I live near Bridgewater, Rockingham Co., V.A.
- 2. If you are not the claimant, in what manner, if any, are you related to the claimant or interested in the success of the claim?
  - a. [Not Answered]

The following questions will be put to every claimant, except claimants who were slaves at the beginning of the war:

(Note – if the original claimant be dead, these questions are to be answered by each of the heirs or relatives who was not less than sixteen years of age when the war closed.)

- 3. Where were you born? If not born in the United States, when and where were you naturalized? Produce your naturalization papers if you can.
  - a. "I was born and raised in the county."
- 4. Where were you residing and what was your business for six months before the outbreak of the rebellion, and where did you reside and what was your business from the beginning to the end of the war? And if you changed your residence or business, state how many times, and why such changes were made.
  - a. "I was living in this county."
- 5. On which side were your sympathies during the war, and were they on the same side from beginning to end?
  - a. "My sympathies were on the side of the Union from the beginning to the end of the war."
- 6. Did you ever do anything or say anything against the Union cause; and if so, what did you do or say, and why?
  - a. "If I did, I don't know it."
- 7. Were you at all times during the war willing and ready to do whatever you could in aid of the Union cause?
  - a. "I was willing to do anything but fight. I am a member of the Dunker Church. Our principles are non-resistant"
- 8. Did you ever do anything for the Union cause, or its advocates or defenders? If so, state what you did, giving times, places, names of persons aided, and particulars. Were the persons aiding your relations?
  - a. "I can't say that I was an active participant, but I know of persons going away as refugees various times. And was glad to have them go. They were either deserters or liable to be [?] deceitful. I know of a great many going off in that way through the mountains. It was [?} known in our church and [?] many of our members would harbor and hid the refugees to get off."
- 9. Had you any near relatives in the Union army or navy? If so, in what company and regiment, or on what vessel, when and where di each one enter service, and when and how did he leave service? If he was a son, produce his discharge paper, in order that its contents may be noted in this deposition, or state why it cannot be produced.
  - a. "I don't know. My brother was in the militia as teamster in the confederate service in 1861 but ran away, and went down the valley with Bank's army, and never came back. [TM Context 4/6/2019: Originally, I had difficulty determining the name of this general as I thought it was the name of a confederate general however, the phrase to, "Go down the valley," actually refers to the direction of the river slope/elevation slope it means to go north. Thus, he left with Bank's army and never came back. Banks was a union general who participated in the valley campaign.]
- 10. Were you in the service or employment of the United States Government at any time during the war? If so, in what service, when, where, for how long, under what officers, and when and how did you leave such service or employment?
  - a. "No Sir."
- 11. Did you ever voluntarily contribute money, property, or services to the Union cause; and if so, when, where, to whom, and what did you contribute.
  - a. [gave single answer above for questions 10 & 11.]
- 12. Which side did you take while the insurgent States were seceding from the Union in 1860 and 1861, and what did you do to show on which side you stood?
  - a. "I was in favor of preserving the Union and of leaving peace if possible."

Deposition of Claimant My norme is Jehre A. Willer. I am 36 years ola. I live news Bridgewater Rockingham Co. V. G. I was been and vaised in their county. I was living in their county. 5 my signification were on the side of the union. Janu the beginning to the error of the avoin 6 If I did, I don't know it 7 I was willing to do anything but fight. I am a member of the Drewker Church. Our principles are non-resistant 8 I can't say that know an active practicipant, but I knew of preson going survey as represent various times, and was glad to have there go. They were either desecters or liable to be con -scripted. I know y a great very going If in theat aver through the mountains. It was goverally knows in our church. and a good many of our members more boarbor and and the refugees to get of. I don't know. My brother was in the Militia as teamster in the confederate server in 1861 - but were away, and went dever the walley with Baciks every and view come fack. 10×11 No Si. 12 I was in Janor of preserving the union and of having peace if possible

#### Depositions - Claimant (John A. Miller) Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 3)

- 13. Did you adhere to the Union cause after the States had passed into rebellion, or did you go with your State?
  - a. "I still adhere to the Union cause."
- 14. What were your feelings concerning the battle of Bull Run or Manassas, the capture of New Orleans, the fall of Vicksburg, and the final surrender of the Confederate forces?
  - a. "I never felt discouraged when the rebels were successful at Union losses or elsewhere. I was always glad when the Union forces were victorious. I regarded the Union forces as friends. I did not try to conceal myself nor my property from them."
- 15. What favors, privileges, or protections were ever granted you in recognition of your loyalty during the way, and when and by whom granted?
  - a. "While the Union forces were encamped here in the fall of 1864, we had a safeguard at our house and I could go anywhere in the [?, County? Carefree?]
- 16. Have you ever taken the so-called "Iron-clad oath" since the war, and when and on what occasions?
  - a. "No sir, I had no reason to take it."
- 17. Who were the leading and best known Unionist of your vicinity during the war? Are any of them called to testify to your lovalty; and if not, why not?
  - a. "Daniel Bowman. [?] and Jacob [?, Lineweaver?]. Abraham Miller [TM Note: Father-in-Law]. Silas [Savory?]. [?, Larken] F. Garber, and [?] were Union men. Some of them will testify to my loyalty."
- 18. Were you ever threatened with damage or injury to your person, family, or property on account of your Union sentiments, or were you actually molested or injured on account of your Union sentiments? If so, when, where, by whom, and in what particular way were you injured or threatened with injury?
  - a. "No Sir"
- 19. Were you ever arrested by any Confederate officer, soldier, sailor, or other person professing to act for the Confederate government or for any State in rebellion? If so, when, where, by whom, for what cause; how long were you kept under arrest; how did you obtain your release; did you take any oath or give any bond to effect your release; and if so, what was the nature of the oath or the bond?
  - a. [Answered 18 & 19 together]
- 20. Was any of your property taken by Confederate officers or soldiers, or any rebel authority? If so, what property, when where, by whom, were you ever paid therefor, and did you ever present an account therefor to the Confederate government, or any rebel officer?
  - a. "Yes. They took wheat, corne, and fodder at different times. They came and took it. Sometimes they paid for it in confederate money and sometimes they paid nothing. I always [?] wheat I had to sell, to other people in preference where I could."
- 21. Was any of your property ever confiscated by rebel authority, on the ground that you were an enemy to the rebel cause? If so, give all the particulars, and state if the property was subsequently released or compensation made therefor.
  - a. "I don't think it was."
- 22. Did you ever do anything for the Confederate cause, or render any aid or comfort to the rebellion? If so, give the times, places, persons, and other particulars connected with each transaction.
  - a. "When the war began I was drafted and sent off to Winchester and made to work on breastworks a few days when my father [TM Note: Samuel Miller] hired a man to work in my place and I came home. I did nothing voluntarily. When I was going, I felt willing for the cars to veer off the track and kill me rather than go into the army. I told them in the camp, that if I had to take my choice, and Abe Lincoln was before me, and I had to shoot him, or be shot, they would have to shoot me."

13 & still achieved to the union cause. 14 I weren felt dis corraged when the rebelo were In cessful at ricuraesas or elsewhere. I was always glad when the reviou fives were Victorious I regarded the arium troops as priends. I did not by to conceal myself nor my property from them. 15 While the arriver forces were encounqued frere in the fall of 1864. We had as safeguara at our house and I could go anywhere in the conses. 16 No Die I wave ner ocasion to take it 17 Daniel Bovernan. Accourse and Jacob Living Aboutour Willer, Vilas Sancy, John & Garber and others were union men. Vorce of there will testify to my Coyalty. 18 + 19 No Vi 20 yes. They trok wheat, come and foreseer at diferent times. They came and took it. sometimes they paid for it in confecuente array and sometimes they paid withing. I always sold what I had to see to other people in preference where I could. 21 I don't thrink it was. When the cover begon I was another and sent of to Winekesker and made to much on break. unike a few days, when my father hined

#### Depositions - Claimant (John A. Miller) Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 4)

- 23. What force, compulsion, or influence, was used to make you do anything against the Union cause? If any, give all the particulars demanded in the last questions.
  - a. "When I was drafted, I was told If I didn't go I would be put into a [?] where I would be worse off, and [?] [?]. I have made up my mind not to go, but found it would be worse for me."
- 24. Were you in any service, business, or employment, for the confederacy, or for any rebel authority? If so, give the same particulars as before required.
  - a. "None but what I have stated."
- **25.** Were you in the civil, military, or naval service of the Confederacy, or any rebel State, in any capacity whatsoever? If so, state fully in respect to each occasion and service.
  - a. [TM Note: Nothing stated for questions 25-34, assumed answers to question 24 applies all]
- 26. Did you ever take any oath to the so-called Confederate States while in any rebel service or employment?
- 27. Did you ever have charge of any stores, or other property, for the confederacy; or did you ever sell or furnish any supplies to the so-called Confederate States, or any State in rebellion; or did you have any share of interest in contracts or manufactures in aid of the rebellion?
- **28.** Were you engaged in blockade running, or running through the lines, or interested in the risks or profits of such ventures?
- **29.** Were you in any way interested in any vessel navigating the waters of the Confederacy, or entering or leaving any Confederate port? If so, what vessel, when and where employed, in what business, and had any rebel authority any direct or indirect interest in vessel or cargo?
- **30.** Did you ever subscribe to any loan of the so-called Confederate States, or of any rebel State; or own Confederate bonds or securities, or the bonds or securities of any rebel State issued between 1861 and 1865? Did you sell, or agree to sell, cotton or produce to the confederate Government, or to any rebel State, or to any rebel officer or agent, and if so, did you receive or agree to receive Confederate or State bonds or securities in payment; and if so, to what amount and for what kind and amount of property?
- **31.** Did you contribute to the raising, equipment or support of troops, or the building of gunboats in aid of the rebellion; or to military hospitals or invalids, or to relief funds or subscriptions for the families of persons serving against the United States?
- 32. Did you ever give information to any person in aid of military or naval operations against the United States?
- **33.** Were you at any time a member of any society or organization for equipping volunteers or conscripts, or for aiding the rebellion in any other manner?
- **34.** Did you ever take an oath of allegiance to the so-called Confederate States? If so, state how often, when, where, for what purpose, and the nature of the oath or affirmation.
- 35. Did you ever receive a pass from rebel authority? If so, state when, where, for what purpose, on what conditions, and how the pass was used.
  - a. "No sir."

# Deposition - Claimant (John A. Miller) Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 4, Continued)

- 36. Had you any near relatives in the Confederate army, or in any military or naval service hostile to the United States? If so, give names, ages on entering service, present residence, if living, what influence you exerted, if any, against their entering the service, and in what way you contributed to their outfit and support.
  - a. "None more than [?] and after I found they were in, I discouraged it."
- 37. Have you been under the disabilities imposed by the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution? Have your disabilities been removed by congress?
  - a. [TM Note: Questions 37 & 38 answered together] "Yes. I took the amnesty oath at Harrisonburg after the war. I had no particular reason for it only to confirm to the duties of all good [?].
- 38. Have you been specially pardoned by the President for participation in the rebellion?
  - a. [See Question 37]
- 39. Did you take any amnesty oath during the war, or after its close? If so, when, where, and why did you take it?
  - a. "No Sir." [TM Note: Answered 39-43 together here]
- **40.** Were you ever a prisoner to the United States authorities, or on parole, or under bonds to do nothing against the Union cause? If so, state all the particulars.
- **41.** Were you ever arrested by the authorities of the United States during the war? If so, when, where, by whom, on what grounds, and when and how did you obtain your release?
- **42.** Were any fines or assessments levied upon you by the authorities of the United States because of your supposed sympathy for the rebellion? If so, state all the facts.
- **43.** Was any of your property taken into possession or sold by the United States under the laws relating to confiscation, or to captured and abandoned property?

The following questions will be put to all male claimants or beneficiaries who were not less than sixteen years of age when the war closed:

- 44. After the Presidential election of 1800 [sic, probably 1860], if of age, did you vote for any candidates, or on any questions, during the war, and how did you vote? Did you vote for or against candidates favoring secession? Did you vote for or against the ratification of the ordinance of secession, or for or against separation in your State?
  - a. "No sir. I did not vote at all. I did not think I would be allowed to vote for the Union and I would not vote for secession. There were a great many threats against the Union men and a great many were intimidated into voting for secession who were as good Union men before and after the election as [?] in the Union army. It was thought to be unsafe for a Union man to vote his [?] or else not to vote at all by many, and people generally voted for secession to preserve peace in our neighborhoods as well as in the hope of preventing a war."

4

Review to more in my place and I came herre. I did enothing admitaily. When I was going I feet willing for the cours to me of the track and kill me vather than go into the army. I told them in the course, thank if I have to take my choice, and abe Sincoln was before one, and abe Sincoln was before one, and a shoot him, who shoot they avoid a frame to shoot faire, or be shoot they

23 There I was arapted. I was told if I didnot go I revised be part into a correspond where I would be aruse off, and among strongers. I have made upo my mind not to go, but Jours it would be muse for one.

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36 Nove Weaver thous consins. and after ofound threy were in, I disconverged it.

37-35 Yes. I took the annusty with at Housisoulous after the war, I have no franticular reason for it-vely to conjum to the duties of all good cetizeres.

396 43 No 800

44 No dis. I die not rote at all. I die ner thrink I muied be alland to rote for the truin and I and not rote for decession. There were a gover meny threats against ruin mess and a great meny were intimudated into

#### Depositions - Claimant (John A. Miller) Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 5–7)

- 45. Did you belong to any vigilance committee, or committee of safety, homeguard, or any other form of organization or combination designed to suppress Union sentiment in your vicinity?
  - a. [TM Note: Answered Questions 45-50 together] "No sir, nothing of the kind. I paid my fine and got my exemption, soon as I could. The answer to questions concerning the property deferment [?]
- **46.** Were you in the Confederate army, state militia, or any military or naval organization hostile to the United States? If so, state when, where, in what organizations, how and why you entered, how long you remained each time, and when and how you left. If you claim that you were conscripted, when and where was it, how did you receive notice, and from whom, and what was the precise manner in which the conscription was enforced against you? If you were never in the rebel army or other hostile organization, explain how you escaped service. If you furnished a substitute, when and why did you furnish one, and what is his name, and his present address, if living?
  - a. [Questions 46–50 not answered except as in question 45]
- **47.** Were you in any way connected with or employed in the Confederate quartermaster, commissary, ordinance, engineer, or medical department, or any other department, or employed on any railroad transporting troops or supplies for the Confederacy, or otherwise engaged in transportation of men and supplies for the Confederacy? If so, state how employed when, where, for how long, under whose direction, and why such employment was not giving "aid and comfort" to the rebellion.
- **48.** Did you at any time have charges of trains, teams, wagons, vessels, boats, or military supplies or property of any kind for the Confederate government? If so, give all the facts as in previous questions.
- **49.** Were you employed in saltpeter works, in tanning or milling for the Confederate government, or making clothing, boots, shoes, saddles, harness, arms, ammunition, accourtements, or any other kind of munitions of war for the Confederacy? If so, give all the particulars of time, place and nature of service or supplies.
- **50.** Were you ever engaged in holding in custody, directly, or indirectly, any persons taken by the rebel government as prisoners or war, or any persons imprisoned or confined by the Confederate government, or the authorities of any rebel State, for political causes? If so, when, where, under what circumstances, in what capacity were you engaged, and what was the name and rank of your principal?
- **51.** Were you ever in the Union army or navy or in any service connected therewith? If so, when, where, in what capacity, under whose command or authority, for what period of time, and when and how did you leave service? Produce your discharge papers, so that their contents may be noted herein?
  - a. [Questions 51-65 were skipped entirely]

#### The following questions will be put to every person testifying to the loyalty of claimants or beneficiaries:

- **52.** In whose favor are you here to testify?
- 53. How long have you known that person altogether, and what part of that time have you intimately known him?
- **54.** Did you live near him during the war, and how far away?
- 55. Did you meet him often, and about how often, during the war?
- **56.** Did you converse with the claimant about the war, its causes, its progress, and its results? If so, try to remember the more important occasions on which you so conversed, beginning with the first occasion, and state, with respect to each, when it was, where it was, who were present, what caused the conversation, and what the claimant said in substance, if you cannot remember his words.
- 57. Do you know of anything done by the claimant that showed him to be loyal to the Union cause during the war? If you do, state what he did, when, where, and what was the particular cause or occasion of his doing it? Give the same information about each thing he did that showed him to be loyal.
- **58.** Do you know of anything said or done by the claimant that was against the Union cause? If so, please state, with respect to each thing said or done, what it was, when it was, and what particular compulsion or influence cause him to say or do it.
- **59.** If you have heard of anything said or done by the claimant, either for the Union cause or against it, state from whom you heard it, when you heard it, and what you heard.

# Deposition - Claimant (John A. Miller) Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 5-7, Cont.)

- **60.** What was the public reputation of the claimant for loyalty or disloyalty to the United States during the war? If you profess to know his public reputation, explain fully how you know it, whom you heard speak of it, and give the names of other persons who were neighbors during the war and could testify to his public reputation.
- **61.** Who were the known and prominent Union people of the neighborhood during the war, and do you know that such persons could testify to the claimant's loyalty?
- **62.** Were you, yourself, an adherent of the Union cause during the war? If so, did the claimant know you to be such, and how did he know it?
- **63.** Do you know of any threats, molestations, or injury inflicted upon the claimant, or his family, or his property, on account of his adherence to the Union cause? If so, give all the particulars.
- **64.** Do you know of any act done or language used by the claimant that would have prevented him from establishing his loyalty to the Confederacy? If so, what act or what language?
- **65.** Can you state any other facts within your own knowledge in proof of the claimant's loyalty during the war? If so, state all the facts and give all the particulars.

The following questions concerning the ownership of property charged in claims will be put to all claimants, or the representatives of deceased claimants:

- 66. Who was the owner of the property charged in this claim when it was taken, and how did such persons become owner?
  - a. "The property was all mine. My father gave me the horse in 1861, and the other property I raised."
- 67. If any of the property was taken, from a farm or plantation, where was such farm or plantation situated, what was its size, how much was cultivated, how much was woodland, and how much was the waste land?
  - a. "The farm from which the horse was taken contains about 200 acres, I think. It was not mine I was farming on share and this was my share of the [?, acres?]"
- 68. Has the person who owned the property when taken since filed a petition in bankruptcy, or been declared a bankrupt?
  - a. "I have not."

#### The following questions will be put to female claimants:

- 69. Are you married or single? If married, when were you married? Was your husband loyal to the cause and Government of the United States throughout the war? Where does he now reside, and why is he not joined with you in the petition? How many children have you? Give their names and ages. Were any of them in the Confederate service during the war? If you claim that the property named in your petition is your sole and separate property, state how you came to own it separately from your husband; how your title was derived; when your ownership of it began. Did it ever belong to your husband? If the property for which you ask pay is wood, timber, rails, or the products of a farm, how did you get title to the farm? If by deed, can you file copies of the deeds? If single, have you been married? If a widow, when did your husband die? Was he in the Confederate army? Was he in the civil service of the Confederacy? Was he loyal to the United States Government throughout the war? Did he leave any children? How many? Are any now living? Give their names and ages. Are they not interested in this claim? If they are not joined in this petition, why not? State fully how your title to the property specified in the petition was obtained. Did you ever belong to any sewing society organized to make clothing for Confederate soldiers or their families, or did you assist in making any such clothing, or making any such clothing, or making flags or other military equipment, or preparing or furnishing delicacies or supplies for Confederate hospitals or soldiers?
  - a. [Skipped Questions 69-71]

### The following questions will be put to colored claimants:

70. Were you a slave or free at the beginning of the war? If ever a slave when did you become free? What business did you follow after obtaining your freedom? Did you own this property before or after you became free? When did you get it? How did you become owner, and from whom did you obtain it? Where did you get the means to pay for it? What was the name and residence of your master, and is he still living? Is he a witness for you, and if not, why not? Are you in his employ now, or do you live on his land or on land bough from him? Are you in his debt? What other person besides yourself has any interest in this claim?

The following questions will be put to all colored witnesses in behalf of white claimants:

# Depositions - Claimant (John A. Miller) Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 5-7, Cont.)

71. Were you formerly the slave of the claimant? Are you now in his service or employment? Do you live on his land? Are you in his debt? Are you in any way to share in this claim allowed?

The following questions will be put to claimants and witnesses who testify to the taking of property, omitting in the case of each claimant or witness any questions that are clearly unnecessary:

# 72. Were you present when any of the property charged in this claim was taken? Did you actually see any taken? If so, specify what you saw taken.

a. "I was present when the property was taken and saw the horse, the hay, the corne, and the vats, and some of the sheep taken. (Item 1) The horse was taken from a field on a farm near Mount Crawford where I was living in 1862 – by some [?, calvaries?] of Gen. Freemont's [TM Note: Likely referring to The army of Maj. Gen. John C. Frémont.] army about the time of the battle of Port Republic. There were two more engaged in the taking. They were on horseback. They brought a halter with them and led the horse away towards their camp. I talked with them about taking him and they told me they were acting under orders and would leave to take him along. I don't know if either of them was an officer.

I put the price at \$150, but that would not have purchased him from me. He was a very fine animal, good age and well broke. I considered him well worth \$150.

All the rest of the property was taken from a farm near Bridgewater where I was living at the time – by the troops of Gen. Custer who were encamped near by in the latter part of Sept. and first of October 1864. It was all taken by the same troops and within a few days."

(Item 2: Hay) The hay was taken from the farm by cavalry men – who string it across their horses in large [?] and carried it off. Some to the picket boats and some to the camps. The quantity charged for was estimated and we were careful not to have the amount too high.

(Item 3: Corn) The corn was taken from a field near our dwelling. We had about 18 or 20 acres of tolerable [?] corn. It was cut up and in shocks. It was carried away with the fodder. I cannot now tell the number of shocks taken, but when the account was made up, my recollection was more clear and my partner in this property (the landlord) who also filed a claim, assisted in making the estimate and calculations, and my claim is for my share. And I am quite certain the amount charged is correct. The Troops took all the corn they wanted, but not all we had."

(Item 4: Oats) The oats were taken from the granary in the farm. The bread wheat we estimated at 40 bushels. And they were all taken by these same troops, who carried them off in sacks to the camps.

(Item 5: Mutton) I saw some of my sheep killed and carried off on horses. I cant tell how many I saw killed. Half of them were mine. I don't remember seeing any of the hogs killed: [?] [?] [?] [?, saith not?].

Attest: Isaac P. Balw---, John A. Miller

coting for Secession rates were as good ceria meri before and after the election as may in the union arry. It was throught to be unpage for a union monto cote his seco -timents or even not to note strall by many, and people generally whea for Succession to presence peace in our neighbulavous as rule as in the laufee of four verting a war. 45 to 51 No Sio rothing of the kind. I paid my fine and git my exemption, some as I could. In sussees to questiones conversing the Progrety deverent 8 cays. 66 the property was all mine. my pather gave rue the Prise in 1861. and the other property I vaised. 67 the Jame pure which the Jovage was taken Contains about 200 ween I think: It was not mire. I was jarming on shreves and this was my show of the crops. 68 I have not. 72 I was present refree the property was taken and saw the Prinse, thee I way, the core, and the vats, and some of the sheep taken. The Prinse was taken from a file on Hern 1 ibuse a fame mear mount crompose refrere I was living in 1862 - by some Jolains of

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#150

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### Depositions - Claimant (John A. Miller) Taken by Special Commissioner (Unanswered)

- 73. Was any of the property taken in the night time, or was any taken secretly, so that you did not know of it at the time?

  a. [Questions 73-80 were not answered except as in question 72.]
- 74. Was any complaint made to any officer of the taking of any of the property? If so, give the name, rank, and regiment of the officer, and state who made the complaint to him, what he said and did in consequence, and what was the result of the complaint.
- 75. Were any vouchers or receipt asked for or given? If given where are the vouchers or receipts? If lost, state fully how lost. If asked and not given, by whom were they asked, who was asked to give them, and why were they refused or not given? State very fully in regard to the failure to ask or obtain receipts.
- 76. Has any payment ever been made for any property charged in this claim? Has any payment been made for any property taken at the same times as the property charged in this claim? Has any payment been made for any property taken from the same claimant during the war, and if so, when, by whom, for what property and to what amount? Has this property, or any part of it, been included in any claim heretofore presented to Congress, or any court, department or officer of the United States, or to any board or survey, military commission, State commission or officer, or any other authority? If so, when and to what tribunal or officers was the claim presented; was it larger or smaller in amount than this claim, and how is the difference explained and what was the decision, if any, of the tribunal to which it was presented?
- 77. Was the property charged in this claim taken by troops encamped in the vicinity, or were they on the march, or were they on a raid or expedition, or had there been any recent battle or skirmish?
- **78.** You will please listen attentively while the list of items, but not quantities, is read to you, and as each kind of property is called off, say whether you saw any such property taken.
- 79. Begin now with the first item of property you have just said you saw taken, and give the following information about it. 1<sup>st</sup>, describe its exact condition as, for instance, if corn, whether green or ripe, standing or harvested, in shuck, or husked, or shelled; if lumber, whether new or old, in buildings or plied; if grain, whether growing or cut, &c., &c., 2d, State where it was. 3d. What was the quantity; explain fully how you know the quantity, and if estimated, describe your method of making the estimate. 4<sup>th</sup>. Describe the quality to your best judgement. 5<sup>th</sup>. State as nearly as you can the market value of such property at the time in United States money. 6<sup>th</sup>. Say when the property was taken. 7<sup>th</sup>. Give the name of the detachment, regiment, bridge, division, corps, or army, taking the property, and the names of any officers belonging to the command. 8<sup>th</sup>. Describe the precise manner in which the property was taken into possession by the troops, and the manner in which it was removed. 9<sup>th</sup>. State as closely as you can how many men, animals, wagons, or other means of transport, were engaged in the removal, how long they were occupied, and to what place they removed the property. 10<sup>th</sup>. State if any officers were present; how you knew them to be officers; what they said or did in relation to the property, and give the names of any, if you can. 11<sup>th</sup>. Give any reasons that you may have for believing that the taking of the property was authorized by the proper officers or that it was for the necessary use of the army.
- 80. Now take the next item of property you saw taken and give the same information, and so proceed to the end of the list of items.

### Depositions - Elizabeth F. Miller Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 8–9)

The following questions will be put to every person who gives testimony:

- 1. What is your name, your age, your residence and how long has it been such, and your occupation?
  - a. I am 34 years old.
- 2. If you are not the claimant, in what manner, if any, are you related to the claimant or interested in the success of the claim?
  - a. I am the wife of the claimant and live with him.

#### Questions 3-71 were not answered.

The following questions will be put to claimants and witnesses who testify to the taking of property, omitting in the case of each claimant or witness any questions that are clearly unnecessary:

- 72. Were you present when any of the property charged in this claim was taken? Did you actually see any taken? If so, specify what you saw taken.
  - a. "I was present and witnessed the taking of nearly all the property.

(Item 1: Horse) The horse was taken a day or two after the Battle of Port Republic in the summer of 1862 by some Union Cavalrymen.

He was in the field near the house where we were living when taken. There was but two men together. They were on horses. I saw them go into the field and halter our horse and lead him off in the direction of the Union camp. We were then living near Mt. Crawford. My husband went and talked with them. I could not hear what was said. He told me the soldiers said they were acting under orders. The horse was a [?, quiet?] bay, and a very good animal. My husband said he would not have sold him for \$150.

All the other property was taken from my father's farm near Bridgewater where we were living in 1864. My husband worked my father's place on shares. And this was some of his share of the [?]. I don't think any division had been made of the property.

(Item 2: Hay) I saw cavalrymen take hay from our barn a number of times. Large parties of them sometimes. It was carried off toward the camp nearby in large bundles strung across their horses. I have no idea as to the quantity of hay taken.

(Item 3: Corn) I saw the same troops carry large bundles of corn from my fathers field across their horses many times. But have no means of knowing the quantity taken.

(Item 4: Oats) I saw the same troops carry off sack on their horses from our farm several times, and when they were gone all the oats we had in the farm were gone. I don't know how many were taken.

(Item 5: mutton) I saw the same men trying to kill our sheep from the field. And I saw several of them shot and carried off on horses towards the camps.

I can't remember seeing any hogs killed or driven away.

All this was taken by Gen. Custer's Brigade who were camped near Bridgewater about a week early in Oct. 1864.

[TM Note: Both John A. Miller and Elizabeth F. Miller's testimony is closed with some sort of saying or attestment that I cannot totally discern. "Our father deferment, saith not? Our Brethren Deferment saith not? Something to that effect?]

#### Questions 73-80 were not answered.

Deposition of Elizabeth F. Willer Conserving I am 84 years ola. I am the ringe of the Property Olivinant and line with him. 72 I was garesent and arithmesed the taking of neverly all the prosperts. The house was taken a day or two after Iteru 1 the battle of Port Republic in the surroung House 1862 by some union cavalymen. How was in a fried near the Pronos where we were living when taken. There was but two ruen together. Way were on Proses. I seew them go into the field and healter our herse and leave thing of in the sine -tion of the union countre. We nove then living near Net brownford. My heesband weret and talked with there, I could not hear what was said. I he told me the soldiers seind they were wring muder orders. The knose river bay, and a very good arismal. My Prustand said he and not have sola him for \$150. all the other property was taken from my father farm wear Bridgervater where we were living in 1864. My husband nutred my fathress place on showers. and this was some of his shave of the cropes. I don't think any dinsin had been made of the protecty.

I saw caralymen take hay from Iteru 2 our barn a minuter y times. large parties Hory of them sometimes. It was carried of trust the camp near by in large burrales string weress their horses. I have no idea as to the quantity of lang taken. I seem the seeme troops carry large Iterre 3 Com bundles of com favou my fathress fried across their horses morning times. but how me means of knowing the quantity taken I saw the same troops carry of such Herry 4 on their herses from our bown several Outs times, and when they were gone all the outs we had in the ben were gone. I don't know here many view taken Iterus I saw the same men trying to wine Mutter our streep from the fieed, and & saw several of them shot and carried of on Truses torvaras the carefu. I aut remember seeing any lays Killed ordiner away all their was taken by Sen breskers Brigade who men compen mas Bridgerster about a week early in bet 1864 and Junther Referrent with not attest Isaac P. Balevin Elizabeth F. Miller Special Cours

### Depositions - Silas Sandy Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 10)

The following questions will be put to every person who gives testimony:

- 1. What is your name, your age, your residence and how long has it been such, and your occupation?
  - a. "I am 56 years old, a farmer. Live near Bridgewater, where I have lived for 16 years past."
- 2. If you are not the claimant, in what manner, if any, are you related to the claimant or interested in the success of the claim?
  - a. "I am not related to the claimant and have no interest in the success of his claim."

[TM Note: Skipped to question 53]

The following questions will be put to every person testifying to the loyalty of claimants or beneficiaries:

- 52. In whose favor are you here to testify?
  - a. [TM Note: Skipped]
- 53. How long have you known that person altogether, and what part of that time have you intimately known him?
  - a. "I have known the claimant since his boyhood."
- 54. Did you live near him during the war, and how far away?
  - a. "I lived about a mile from him."
- 55. Did you meet him often, and about how often, during the war?
  - a. "Met him very often during the war. Fully as often as once a week."
- 56. Did you converse with the claimant about the war, its causes, its progress, and its results? If so, try to remember the more important occasions on which you so conversed, beginning with the first occasion, and state, with respect to each, when it was, where it was, who were present, what caused the conversation, and what the claimant said in substance, if you cannot remember his words.
  - a. "I conversed with him very many times on matters relating to the war, secession, etc. All his expressions were friendly to the Union and against secession and war. I cannot repeat his language, but he spoke decisively against secession. We are members of the same church and spoke freely together. We had no sympathy with the rebellion in any sense."
- 57. Do you know of anything done by the claimant that showed him to be loyal to the Union cause during the war? If you do, state what he did, when, where, and what was the particular cause or occasion of his doing it? Give the same information about each thing he did that showed him to be loyal.
  - a. He declared that he would not go in the service, and soon as the fine law was passed he paid his fine and got his exemption."
- 58. Do you know of anything said or done by the claimant that was against the Union cause? If so, please state, with respect to each thing said or done, what it was, when it was, and what particular compulsion or influence cause him to say or do it.
  - a. "I don't know of anything he did against it."
- 59. If you have heard of anything said or done by the claimant, either for the Union cause or against it, state from whom you heard it, when you heard it, and what you heard.
  - a. [TM Note: Did not answer]
- 60. What was the public reputation of the claimant for loyalty or disloyalty to the United States during the war? If you profess to know his public reputation, explain fully how you know it, whom you heard speak of it, and give the names of other persons who were neighbors during the war and could testify to his public reputation.
  - a. "He was regarded and spoken of as a Union man, by all the Union men around here. I have heard not only Union men, but the south speak of him as a Union Sympathizer. Samuel and Jacob [?, Heatwole?], Solomon and Joseph Garber. John F. Garber and others could testify to his loyalty."

Deposition of Vilas Jandy as to the Loyely Loyalty of John A. Miller. I am 56 years old, a farmen, line near Briagervater where I have lived for 16 years part I am not related to the claimant and have no interest in the success of his claim. 53 I have brunow the chairmant since his loghora. 54 I lived about a mile from frim 55 Met Prim recy often during the war fully as yter as ower a week. 56 I corresed with him very many time on matters retating to the war, succession & c. all his expressions new friends to the Union and against Eversion and war. I count represt his language, but he spoke decidedly against Socersion. We are members of the same church and spoke freely together. He had no sympathy with the rebellion in any sense. 57 the declared What he would not go in the service, and som as the fire law was passed Enepaid his fine and got his exemption. 58 I don't know y anything, against it. He was regarded and spoken of as a Union near, by all the mion onen around here. I have beard not only union men, but the Sucesh speak y him as a writer sympathizer Samuel and Jacob Heserick, Solomon and Joseph Garbir. Jehru J. Garber and others could

### Depositions - Silas Sandy Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 11)

- 61. Who were the known and prominent Union people of the neighborhood during the war, and do you know that such persons could testify to the claimant's loyalty?
  - a. "Those I have named and others."
- 62. Were you, yourself, an adherent of the Union cause during the war? If so, did the claimant know you to be such, and how did he know it?
  - a. "Yes sir. I tried to be a Union Man."
- 63. Do you know of any threats, molestations, or injury inflicted upon the claimant, or his family, or his property, on account of his adherence to the Union cause? If so, give all the particulars.
  - a. "I don't know of any threats against him."
- 64. Do you know of any act done or language used by the claimant that would have prevented him from establishing his loyalty to the Confederacy? If so, what act or what language?
  - a. "Yes his language would prevent it."
- 65. Can you state any other facts within your own knowledge in proof of the claimant's loyalty during the war? If so, state all the facts and give all the particulars.
  - a. "Nothing that I recollect."

Attested by Isaac P. Baldwin, Silas Laudy (Left his mark)

[TM Note: Questions 66-80 were not answered]

testify to Près Coyalty. 61 Hore I have reamed and others. 62 Ges sis. I tried to be a union ruer. 63 I don't know of any threats against him " 64 Ges his Cinquege mula prevent it. 65 Nothing that I now revelet. and further depresent seith net. attest Grace P. Balanin Special Course Del voition of Abraham Willer as to the bojety of Jehre A. Willer. I dru 58 years old, a farmer and Manejar. tures, live near Briegervater where I have resided receives all my life. 2 The claimant vicines my daughter: I have no ruterest in the sources of this clain. I have known the claimant since his boylord How lived in my reverse part of the time duing the war. 5 6 I have talked with fain times without mules. about the over and all such matters. He was a union man from first to last. our Sentiments anne the senne on all these questions. He sproke against season

### Depositions - Abraham Miller Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 11, [Scan above])

The following questions will be put to every person who gives testimony:

- 1. What is your name, your age, your residence and how long has it been such, and your occupation?
- a. "I am 58 years old, a farmer and manufacturer. Live near Bridgewater where I have lived nearly all my life."
- 2. If you are not the claimant, in what manner, if any, are you related to the claimant or interested in the success of the claim?
  - a. "The claimant married my daughter. I have no interest in the success of this claim."

[TM Note: Skipped to question 53]

The following questions will be put to every person testifying to the loyalty of claimants or beneficiaries:

- 52. In whose favor are you here to testify?
  - a. [TM Note: Skipped]
- 53. How long have you known that person altogether, and what part of that time have you intimately known him?
  - a. "I have known the claimant since his boyhood. He lived in my house part of the time during the war."
- 54. Did you live near him during the war, and how far away?
  - a. [TM Note: Answered with question 53]
- 55. Did you meet him often, and about how often, during the war?
  - a. [TM Note: Answered with question 53]
- 56. Did you converse with the claimant about the war, its causes, its progress, and its results? If so, try to remember the more important occasions on which you so conversed, beginning with the first occasion, and state, with respect to each, when it was, where it was, who were present, what caused the conversation, and what the claimant said in substance, if you cannot remember his words.
- a. "I have talked with him times without number, about the war and all such matters. He was a Union man from first to last. Our sentiments were the same on all these questions. He spoke against secession and the war, and had no sympathy with the rebellion in any way.

### Depositions - Abraham Miller Taken by Special Commissioner (P. 12–13)

- 57. Do you know of anything done by the claimant that showed him to be loyal to the Union cause during the war? If you do, state what he did, when, where, and what was the particular cause or occasion of his doing it? Give the same information about each thing he did that showed him to be loyal.
  - a. [TM Note: Question Skipped]
- 58. Do you know of anything said or done by the claimant that was against the Union cause? If so, please state, with respect to each thing said or done, what it was, when it was, and what particular compulsion or influence cause him to say or do it.
  - a. "I am sure he never did anything against the Union cause willingly. When the war began he was drafted, and was sent off to Winchester and was gone some 10 days perhaps, when he returned home: his father [?] sent a man to take his place. He was in the greatest distress of mind when he found he must go and was greatly relieved over his return home."
- 59. If you have heard of anything said or done by the claimant, either for the Union cause or against it, state from whom you heard it, when you heard it, and what you heard.
  - a. [TM Note: Question Skipped]
- 60. What was the public reputation of the claimant for loyalty or disloyalty to the United States during the war? If you profess to know his public reputation, explain fully how you know it, whom you heard speak of it, and give the names of other persons who were neighbors during the war and could testify to his public reputation.
  - a. "He was generally regarded as a loyal man to the Union by Union men and disloyal to the confederacy by the south. He was marked as a union man by the south from not having voted for secession. I have heard many persons speak of him as a Union man. Silas Laudy, Samuel Miller, and others I cannot now name, have so spoken of him."
- 61. Who were the known and prominent Union people of the neighborhood during the war, and do you know that such persons could testify to the claimant's loyalty?
  - a. "Jacob and Andrew [? Lindsey?], Daniel Bowman, Solomon and David Garber, Samuel Long, Jacob Sheickel, and others were Union Men."
- 62. Were you, yourself, an adherent of the Union cause during the war? If so, did the claimant know you to be such, and how did he know it?
  - a. "I was a Union man."
- 63. Do you know of any threats, molestations, or injury inflicted upon the claimant, or his family, or his property, on account of his adherence to the Union cause? If so, give all the particulars.
  - a. "He could not swear his loyalty to the confederacy. He said if the south were successful the Union men could not stay here, and he and I would have to leave. He was in favor of all getting out of the country that could go who were liable to do military duty. Soon as the fine law was passed he paid his fine and was exempted, and was glad when any who were conscripts or deserters or refugees made their escape to the mountains."

#### "The answers to questions concerning the claimants [?]"

"I was present on my place and saw near all the property taken except the horse, which was not on my place."

Claimant lived on my place and worked it for shares. For one half. It was all together when taken. And when this claim was made out we worked out the quantity of property taken and divided the amount between us.

The amount changed in our claims was as near right as we could make it. We were careful not to charge too much.

The hay and the oats were taken from the farm, and the corn from the field in the shuck. It was all taken by troops of Gen. Custer who were camped at Bridgewater just before the [?] in the fall of 1864."

Attest: Issac P. Baldwin, Abraham Miller

12

with the rebellion in any way.

- So Jam same he weres did anothing against the mines can releingly. When the was began, he was drafted, and was sent off to thinkers and was gone some to days perhaps, when he returned herrie: his father having sent a main to take his faluee. How was in the greatest destricts of mines release how was in the greatest destricts of mines related her forma have must go. and was greatly rejoned on his return horries.
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- and Placed barler, Same Dong Jacet Strickel and others remain ruen.
- 62 I was a union man:
- 63 Her could not prove his light to the confessiony.

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attest Isane P. Balania Special commos Abraham Miller

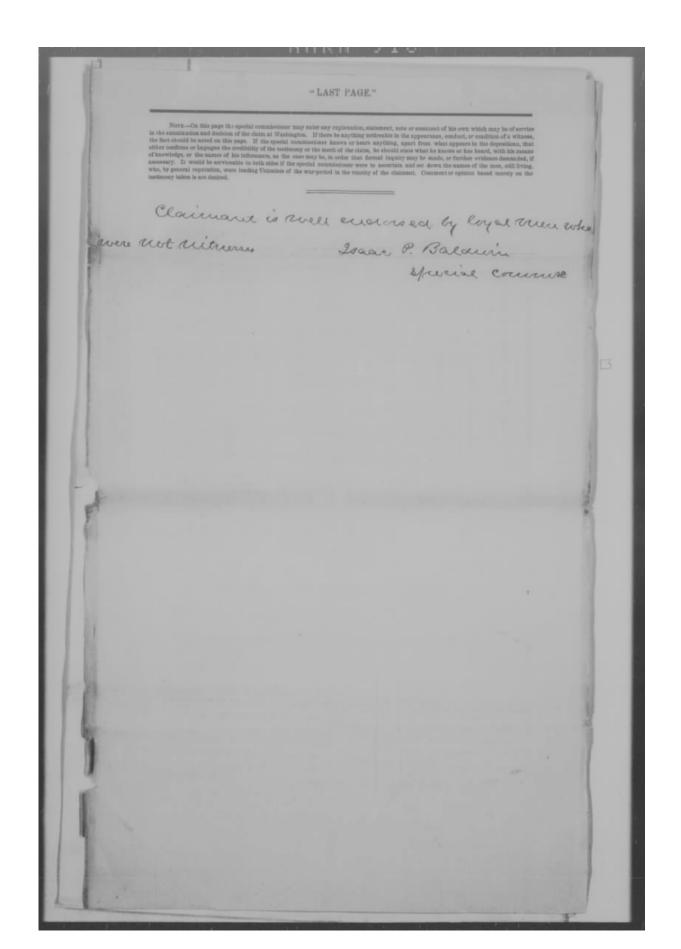
### **Depositions - "Last Page"**

#### "LAST PAGE"

Note - On this page the special commissioner may enter any explanations, statements, note or comment of his own which may be of service in the examination and decision of the claims at Washington. If there is anything notable in the appearance, conduct, or condition of a witness, the fact should be noted on this page. If the special commissioner knows or hears anything, apart from what appears in the depositions, that either confirms or impugns the credibility of the testimony or the merit of the claim, he should state what he knows or has heard, with his means of knowledge, or the names of his informants, as the case may be, in order that formal inquiry may be made, or further evidence demanded, if necessary. It would be serviceable to both sides if the special commissioner were to ascertain and set down the names of the men, still living, who, by general reputation, were leading Unionists of the war-period in the vicinity of the claimant. Comment or opinion based merely on the testimony taken is not desired.

Claimant is well evidenced by loyal men who were not witnesses.

Isaac P. Baldwin Special Counsel



# **Petition Cover Page**

17.292. Nov. 1. 1872. **PETITION.** 

of

John A. Miller Bridgewater Rockingham County, Va.

For

Horse & Farm produce Taken near Bridgewater, Va By the U.S. Army

\$225.75

Geroge K. Gilmer Attorney Rockingham Cty, Virginia

17.292. Nov. 1.1872 PETITION. John A. Miller Britzewelle Rockingham County Dog Horse & Farm produce laken near Bridgewater 02 by the W. S. Anny.

### **Main Petition Form to the Southern Claims Commission**

	PETITION
To the Honorable the commissioners of Claims Under the Act of Congress of Marc	ch 3, 1871:
Voya motition on (1) John A Millon	

On or about the Ninth day of June	One Horse	Very good quality	\$150	00	1
1862			\$5	00	
On or about the 29th Day of Sept.	One ton Hay		\$15	00	2
1864	10 Bushels Corn @ 1.00		\$10	00	3
	20 Bushels Oats @ 60 cts		\$12	00	4
	200# Mutton @ 10 cts		\$20	00	5
	125# Pork @ 15 cts		\$18	.75	6
			\$225	.75	

This property was taken from the farm upon which the petitioner then lived, near Bridgewater, Va.

PETITION.
To the Honorable the Commissioners of Claims
under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1871:
Your petitioner & Holler
he is a citizen and resident of Lockinghum County
State of (2) Virginia, Priguetate 7.0.
that he the original owner of the hereinafter mentioned claim;
(3)
that there was (4). Lakeer from the petitioner for the use of
the army of the United States, for which no payment has been made, or compen-
sation received in any manner or from any source for any part thereof, the fol- lowing described supplies, viz: (5)
Ow or about the
Wentle Day of June Ow Horse Very good Money \$ 15000 2 1
Onor about the Con ton Asay 1500- 2
29th Day of Sept 10 Rushelef Com a low 1000 3
1864 20 Bushelo Cato a God 1200 - 4
29th Day of Sept 10 Rusheld Corn @ 100 1000 3 1864 20 Bushelo Cato @ 604 1200 - 4 200 th Mullon @ 104 2000 5 125 th Pork @ 154 1875-6
822545
official to let it the Hill I will
This property here later from the farm upon which the

#### Main Petition Form to the Southern Claims Commission (P. 2–3)

That the prices charged are the fair market value for the supplies at the time and place last mentioned, as your petition is informed and believes; that said supplies were (6) taken by the U.S. soldiers as follows "to wit," the horse was taken by some of the men belonging to General Fremonts Army. The petitioner does not know the names of any officer or men. He knows the other property was all taken by the Command of General Custer of the Army of the Shenandoah. They were Camped near the petitioners farm and took & used the property while there.

The? of his claim and the? when Attorney the personal appears of the Claimant this [?] before the Hon. Committee at Washington City, of C. [?] entirety [?] this claimant from the [?] of this claim, and if any further evidence be needed the petitioner be respectfully asks that he produce the cause at Harrisonburg, Va. as some have before such person as the commissioners may designate,

That this claim (7) [?] [?] before any Department whatsoever or before any office or apart of the government or before company or any committee thereof for attestment or decision.

Your petitioner further says that he hereby appoints Dr. G. K. Gilmer, of Richmond, Virginia, his true and lawful attorney, to appear before the Claims Commission appointed under the act of Congress of March 3, 1871, or any Court, Department, or Bureau of the Government of the United States, and prosecute this claim to final issue, with full power of substitution, hereby ratifying and confirming all said attorney shall lawfully do in virtue hereof, and hereby annulling and revoking all other powers of attorney in the premises.

Your petitioner further avers that he is a citizen who remained a loyal adherent to the cause and the Government of the United States during the war, and was so loyal before and at the time of the taking or furnishing of the property for which claim is made.

John A. Miller (claimants signature)

Test Wm. P. Grove

(8) John A. Miller being duly sworn and deposed under says that he is the petitioner named in the forgoing petition and who signed the same, that the matter therein stated are [?] of deponents on knowledge except as to those matters which are stated on information and belief and as to those matters he believes these to be true and deponent further says the he did not voluntarily support the Confederate Army or any other as an officer [?] [?] or in any other capacity at any time during the late rebellion, that he never voluntarily furnished any stores, supplies, or other material aid to the said Confederate Army or Navy or to the Confederate Government or to any Office, Department, or Adherent of the same in support there of and that he never voluntarily accepted or exercised the function of any office whatsoever under or yielded voluntary support to the said Confederate Government.

John. A. Miller

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of April, 1871.

Pendleton Bayron, N.P.

18) John D. Willer huma chuly been in chieses underny the same, first he watter therein Clater see then of like orants on that he is the plittense want on the gayang petetur, and who wan Your petitioner further avery that he is Occitizen who remained loyal" Yaur-politioner farther map that he hereby appears? Dr. G. K. GILMER, of Richmond, Virginia, Ac. true and tauful attorney to appear before the Claims Commission appointed under the act of Congress of March 3, 1871, or any Coart, Department, or Bureau of the Conterment of the United States, and proteadherent to the cause and the Government of the United States during the war, and Perry to loyal before and at the time of the taking or furnishing of the propinformation and belief and so to three matters be believed them. I be tree neva velantaily furnished way Wary propolese or ellic Malaid sist to the said Confederate Army I I way or to the Auge daw and confirming all said attorney shall lawfully do in virtue hereof, and hereby ecute this claim to final issue, with full power of substitution, hereby ratifying my then Capacity at any time during the lets bedething, that he Government or to say Office, Stoperstand or Saferant of the same Subscribed and amorn to before me this 199 4 day of Upril , 1871 Confedente Brong of Nauguille so an Officion of Chicis se Shallo o son It begin ten oppen or again of the Foresonne or again led signing fallite says that he did not reconstantly seemed the tree. knowledge except so to those matter which are stated on Remitteton Bayons Jr. P. annulling and revoking all other powers of attorney in the premises. exercised the function of any office who hat this claim (7) House love t erty for which claim is made. decision delan the Chain the Shusankanh they ask that he Produces the lower in Hefer work no the plan lies Mormed and believed; that min has the prior charged are the fair market value for the mapire at the time and men be nust the unjulies were (1) Labie. Cof the 12. S. to letter of the 12. S. to letter of the laber of teneral of the 12. S. the letter of the 12. S. the letter of the Color They been auges Then place last mentioned, as your petitioner. O porter as the Com Ha Clouwant The look y weed this Chamberly Country of Care Legisland

### Petition Cover Page & Testimony as to Loyalty by Neighbors

[T.M. Note - Top fold covered previously on Page 48 in the "John A. Miller Petition Cover Page" Section]

We the undersigned loyal citizens of Rockingham County Virginia hereby certify on oath that we have known The claimant John A. Miller for many years and Know him to have been a loyal adherent to the government of the United States before and at the time the Property mentioned in this claim was taken.

John Croushorn Abraham Miller John E. Bryon

Sworn and Subscribed to before me April 29th 1871 Pendleton Bryon N.P.

We the undersequed loyal Citizens of Joeningham Comby Virginia herely certify on oach char we have known the claimant John a. Mileen for many years and ment of the lented thates before and at the time the foreperty mentioned in this claim was later Alraham Miller John & Bryon Swom and bulgeribed to before melipine 29th 1871
Pendelion Bryan V.P.

# **Summary Report Title Page**

No. 17.292 113.034.

### **CLAIM**

of John A. Miller

of Rockingham Co Virginia

SUMMARY REPORT

Amount Allowed \$ 142.00

### **SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS**

December 4 1876.

By the

## **COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS,**

UNDER

Act March 3D, 1871.

THE THE PERSON NAMED IN		1
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	No. 17. 292 / 3.034	ı
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	CLAIM	ı
	John A. Miller	ı
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1	Virginia	ı
	SUMMARY REPORT.	
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1	Amount Allowed \$ 142,00	
	SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS	
	Meceniu 4 1876.	
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	COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS,	
	ACT MARCH 3D, 1871.	
March 1		
113		

### **Summary Report**

No. 17.292

The Claim of John A. Miller, of Rockingham Co., In the State of Virginia

No. of	NATURE OF CLAIM	AMO! CLAII		AMOU ALLOV		AMOUNT DISALLOWED		
Item		Dollars	Cts.	Dollars	Cts.	Dollars	Cts.	
June '62								
1	1 Horse –	150	00	100	00	50	00	
2	1 Ton of Hay –	15	00	15	00	-	-	
3	10 Bushels of Corn	10	00	6	00	4	00	
4	20 Bushels of Oats	12	00	6	00	6	00	
5	200lbs of Mutton	20	00	10	00	10	00	
6	125lbs of Pork	18	75	5	00	13	75	
		225	75	142	00	83	75	

The claimant is a Dunkard. He was drafted into the militia in the first year of the war & worked on the breatworks at Winchester a few days when his father got a substitute for him & he went home. His own account of his feelings, confirmed by his father in law, shows that the service was forced & wholly agt. his will. Aside from this no disloyal act is shown.

He refused to vote on the ratifying of the Order of Sec. — He says he always rejoiced at Union Victories. His wife, father in law & his neighbor Sandy testify to his loyalty. – We think he was loyal

The horse was taken by two U.S. Cavalrymen soon after (about 2 days after) the Battle of Port Republic, who took the horse off towards the camp. The other [?, items?] taken by Cuter's men.

We allow \$142.00

A.O. Aldis

J.B. Howell. Commissioners of Claims

O. Ferris

63

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There is a drawfactory of the formation	to in the State of Brigarine	2000 AUCK.														
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# **Unknown Cover Page**

John A. Miller
Bridgewater
Rockingham
County, Va.



### Power of Attorney, John H. Baker

Know all Men by these Present,

That I, John A. Miller of Bridgewater

In the county of *Rockingham* and State of Virginia, have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, constitute, and appoint John H. Baker, of Broadway, in the County of Rockingham and State of Virginia, my true and lawful Attorney, irrevocable, for me and in my name, place and stead, to prosecute my claim against the United States, before the Commissioners of Claims, and for the purposes aforesaid, I do hereby grant unto my said Attorney full power and authority to do and perform all and every act whatsoever requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as I might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution and revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said Attorney shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof, hereby annulling and revoking all former powers of Attorney or authorizations whatever in the premises. And I hereby agree to furnish such further evidence as may be necessary to establish my claim.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 20th day of March., in the year on thousand Eight hun-Dred and seventy four. Five

John A. Miller L.S.

Witnessed by L.W. Gamble G.F. [?]

> STATE OF VIRGINIA COUNTY OF Rockingham

Personally appeared before me, the subscriber L.W. Gamble, clerk of the county court In and for said County, the above named *John A. Miller* 

to me well known, and acknowledged the foregoing Letter of Attorney To be his free and voluntary act and deed for the purposes therein set forth Given under my hand this 20th day of March 1875.

at Harrisonburg,

L.W. Gamble, 666 Rte.

Know all Men by these Presents, That I, John A Mollin of Bridge Ster in the County of Rockingham and State of Virginia, have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint JOHN II. BA-KER, of Broadway, in the County of Rockingham and State of Virginia, my true and lawful Attorney, irrevocable, for me and in my name, place and stead, to prosegute my claim against the United States, before the Commissioners of Claims. And for the purposes aforesaid, I do hereby grant unto my said Altorney full power and authority to do and perform all and every act whatsoever requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as I might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution and revocaor cause to be done by virtue hereof, hereby annulling and revoking all former powers of Attorney or authorizations whatever in the premises. And I hereby agree to furnish such further evidence as may be necessary to establish my claim. LY WITNESS WHEREOF, I have beceunto set my hand and seal this day of March ., in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy four. Hise John of Miller 13 Witnessed by 1. Whambell STATE OF COUNTY OF Rockingham Personally appeared before me, the subscriber, Al Wante blackofth bens in and for said County, the above named John A Meller to me well known, and acknowledged the foregoing Letter of Attorney to be his free and voluntary act and deed for the purposes therein set forth. Given under my hand on this 20 day of Mark 1875. at Harrisonha I. Whamber 6666 Robo

### **Summary Award Ticket**

Claim No. <u>43.037</u> Sett. No. <u>2584</u>

John A. Miller Rockingham Co Va. <u>\$142.00</u>

Due him

### OUT OF THE APPROPRIATION FOR

"Claims of Loyal Citizens for Supplies furnished during the Rebellion."

For amount allowed <u>him</u> by the Southern Claims Commission.

Reported <u>Mch 19th</u>, 187<u>4</u> Returned <u>march 20th</u>, 187<u>7</u>

Requisition No. <u>2994</u>, dated <u>March 24</u>, 187<u>7</u>, transmitted for Warrant <u>March 28</u>, 187<u>7</u>

\$142.

\$ 142.00 Due OUT OF THE APPROPRIATION FOR "Claims of Loyal Citizens for Supplies furnished during the rebellion." For amount allowed fune by the Southern Claims Commission.

# **Summary Award Ticket, Detailed Version**

The United States,		
<b>To</b> John A. Miller, Rockingh	am Co., Va.	
For the amount allowed <i>him</i> by Act of Congres	ss, Private no. 70.	
Approved <i>March 3</i> ,, 18'	77, entitled "An A	ct making
Appropriations for the payment of cla	-	•
Commissioners of Claims under the A 1871: "to wit":	Act of Congress of	March 3,
One hundred and fo	orty two dollars   \$	8142.00
	\$.	142.00
Payable in care of George K. Gilmer	atty., Richmond,	
Under cover to G.H. Baker, esq.		
Broadway, Va	Va.	
TREASURY DEPARTMENT,		TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Second Comptroller's Office,		Third Auditor's Office,
March 20th, 1877.		March 14, 1877.
H. Spalding		<u>Coleman</u>
Clerk.		Clerk.