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REAL ARCHIVAL FILE — This report reads the genuine Texas Confederate pension application of J. M. Clendennen (1899), a free public record of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. It is published here as a demonstration of the report itself; the original belongs to the people of Texas.

A CONFEDERATE STATE PENSION REPORT

J. M. Clendennen

Private · Company B · 20th Texas Cavalry

Confederate veteran's pension (Texas Act of May 12, 1899)

Family Keepsake Edition · Researcher-Reviewed

Prepared September 2, 2026

Every fact in this report is traced to the page that states it.

Source: Application for J. M. Clendennen, Confederate pension applications, Confederate pension application records, Texas Comptroller's Office claims records. Archives and Information Services Division, Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

J. M. Clendennen

Private, Company B, 20th Texas Cavalry

Short Biography

J. M. Clendennen was a Confederate veteran of Company B, 20th Texas Cavalry who, in the summer of 1899, at about 62 years of age and worn down by age, a dislocated hip, and a lung hemorrhage, applied in Anderson County, Texas, for a pension for indigent Confederate soldiers under the state Act of May 12, 1899. His claim moved up through the county chain — his own sworn application, witnesses, a physician, the county judge, and the commissioners court — and was approved and forwarded to the state comptroller. Two old comrades from Navarro County, one who had kept the company rolls, swore by commission to his service. Years later, in 1910, the state's Commissioner of Pensions wrote the War Department to verify his record; the surviving captured Confederate rolls confirmed his enlistment on March 22, 1862, but stopped there.

The Story of J. M. Clendennen

In the summer of 1899, an old soldier named **J. M. Clendennen** sat down in **Anderson County, Texas**, at the post office of **Alder Branch**, to swear out an application for a pension. He gave his age as **62** and said he had lived in the county about **a year and a half**, having come, one of his witnesses would say, from **Limestone County** before that. He called himself a **farmer** when he was able, but he was no longer able: he described himself as "**Feeble from age, dislocated hip and hemorrhage from lungs**," and when the county judge asked whether he was in actual want and destitute, and whether he could earn a support by his own labor, he answered simply, "**I am**." (See the notes on the property page — the law he applied under was a poor-relief act, and these were the answers it required.)

He swore he had served in **Company "B," 20th Texas Cavalry, about three years**; that he had never been in the Confederate navy; that he had never before applied for or been rejected for a pension; that he had received no pension or veteran donation land certificate; that he had **never deserted the Confederacy**; and that he had been a bona fide resident of Texas **continuously since January 1, 1880** — each of these one of the sworn questions the 1899 act put to every applicant. He signed the petition and it was **sworn before County Judge G. W. Hudson on the 22nd day of July, 1899**.

What he owned he set down plainly: **30 acres of land on which he had paid fifty dollars and still owed one hundred and fifteen; two pony horses worth twenty dollars each; and one sow and pigs and one barrow, all together worth twelve dollars**. Within the past two years he had sold **one cow for twenty dollars**. Income: **None**.

Two neighbors, **W. L. Noland** and **J. B. Bennett**, swore before the judge on August 8 that they knew him and knew he could not support himself by labor of any sort. A physician, **Dr. R. A. McQueen**, examined him and certified on August 10 that he was suffering "under an attack of **Hemiplegia** and a **dislocation of the Femur**" (the rest of the doctor's words are lost to damage — see the notes). That same day Judge Hudson certified the whole proceeding, swearing also that Clendennen was **not an inmate of the Texas Confederate Home** and not otherwise disqualified under Section 12 of the pension law. On **August 15, 1899**, at **Palestine**, the **Commissioners Court** met in regular term and approved the application.

Because the men who could speak to his soldiering lived away in **Navarro County**, his service was proved by **commission** — a small courtroom conducted by mail. Direct questions were drafted for the applicant and cross-questions by the county judge, and the answers were taken under oath before a notary in Corsicana. **Dan Story** (who signed "D. M. Story") testified that he had known Clendennen **since March 22, 1862**, all through the war, and — the heart of his value as a witness — that **"I kept the records and had to make out his description, age and c. about once a month for about three years."** He described the man as **"near 6 feet tall, light complexion, and blue eyes."** He traced the unit through its changes exactly as the file gives them: enlisted in **Co. B, 20th Texas Cavalry** in 1862; after about a year the company **was dismantled and known as Company B, 20th Texas Dismounted Cavalry**; then it **was consolidated with other companies and was then known as Co. D, 20th T.D.C.** Clendennen, he said, was **detailed to shop duty at Fort Washita, Indian Territory**, and was left there in the shop when the company moved on, about two months before the surrender. Asked in cross-examination how he knew where Clendennen now lived, Story was honest about the limit of his knowledge: **"As to his residence in Anderson County, I only know by his own statement."** A second man, **James D. Hamilton**, who "helped to keep the rolls during the war," swore Story's answers were correct and adopted them as his own. (The commission had been issued to summon *Isaac* Story and Dan Story; the men who actually answered were Dan Story and James D. Hamilton — see the notes.)

The claim was approved and forwarded to the state capital, where the **pension clerk recommended approval on August 21, 1899**, and the **Comptroller approved it in September 1899**. Eleven years later the state took a second look at his soldiering. On **October 12, 1910**, the **Commissioner of Pensions in Austin** wrote to the **Adjutant General of the War Department in Washington** to verify the record of J. M. Clendennen, Company B, 20th Texas Cavalry. The reply came back on **October 18, 1910**: the records showed him a **private** who **enlisted March 22, 1862**, present on the company roll to **May 1, 1862 — the last on file** — and that on **July 22, 1862** he certified he had received a **\$50 bounty** for enlisting; **"but nothing further concerning him has been found."** That silence is not a verdict against his service — it is the state of the surviving captured Confederate rolls, which for this company simply stop in the spring of 1862. His comrades, one of whom had made out his monthly descriptions, carried the rest of the story.

Timeline

- **March 22, 1862** — Enlisted; Company B, 20th Texas Cavalry (AGO record and Dan Story's deposition both give this date).
- **May 1, 1862** — Present on the last company roll surviving in federal custody.
- **July 22, 1862** — Certified before a notary that he had received a \$50 enlistment bounty.
- **~1863\201365** — Per witness testimony: company dismantled (Co. B, 20th Texas Dismounted Cavalry), later consolidated (Co. D, 20th T.D.C.); detailed to shop duty at Fort Washita, Indian Territory, until about two months before the surrender.
- **c. 1837** — Implied year of birth (age 62 in 1899; a calculated/derived figure).
- **July 22, 1899** — Application sworn before County Judge G. W. Hudson, Anderson County.
- **August 8, 1899** — Witnesses W. L. Noland and J. B. Bennett sworn.
- **August 10, 1899** — Physician's affidavit (Dr. R. A. McQueen) and County Judge's certificate.
- **August 15, 1899** — Commissioners Court approval at Palestine.
- **August 21, 1899** — Pension clerk's recommendation to approve.
- **August 24, 1899** — Depositions of Dan Story and James D. Hamilton sworn in Navarro County.
- **September 1899** — Comptroller's approval.

- **October 12, 1910** — Commissioner of Pensions requests War Department verification.
- **October 18, 1910** — Adjutant General's Office replies.

The Claim, Step by Step (County to Capital)

This file is a classic Texas county-to-capital packet under the **Act of May 12, 1899** (26th Legislature), the act "to carry into effect the amendment to the Constitution\u2026 providing that aid may be granted to disabled and dependent Confederate soldiers, sailors, and their widows." The chain, in order:

1. **Applicant's sworn Form No. 1**, before **County Judge G. W. Hudson** (July 22, 1899). 2. **Affidavit of witnesses** — W. L. Noland and J. B. Bennett (August 8, 1899). 3. **Physician's affidavit** — Dr. R. A. McQueen (August 10, 1899). 4. **Certificate of the County Judge**, including the Section 12 certification that the applicant was not an inmate of the Texas Confederate Home (August 10, 1899, Palestine). 5. **Certificate of the County Commissioners**, approving at a regular term (August 15, 1899, Palestine); the four commissioners' signatures are present but individually hard to read. 6. **Comptroller's jacket** at Austin — pension clerk's recommendation to approve (August 21, 1899) and the Comptroller's approval (September 1899), with a Comptroller's File Number. The clerk and comptroller signatures and the file number are damaged/uncertain (see the notes).

A separate **Commissioner of Pensions** office appears on the 1910 correspondence — attribute each action to the office that signed it.

What He Owned — the Indigency Evidence

The 1899 act was means-tested relief for aged and disabled veterans, so the sworn property schedule is central. Reported exactly as he swore it:

- **Real property:** 30 acres of land, on which he had paid \$50 and still owed \$115.
- **Livestock/personal:** two pony horses valued at \$20 each; "1 sow & pigs & 1 barrow" valued all together at \$12. (Read in period farm terms, this is a small hog operation — a breeding sow with her litter and a castrated male hog — not a misread "cow" and "harness.")
- **Sold within two years:** one cow for \$20.
- **Income:** None.
- **To the statutory questions:** he was in actual want and destitute ("I am"); unable to earn a support by his own labor ("I am"); had transferred no property to become a beneficiary ("No"); had never deserted ("No"); and had been a bona fide Texas resident since January 1, 1880 ("Yes").

These answers reflect the terms the statute set and the postwar economy of the region — they are the record's own categories, sworn under a test that rewarded proof of poverty, and the file shows no board dispute over his values.

Service Proof — the Depositions and the War Department Reply

By commission (ex parte, with a light adversarial check). Because the witnesses lived in Navarro County, the county judge issued a **Commission to Take Deposition** (July 22, 1899), with **direct interrogatories** drafted for the applicant and **cross interrogatories** propounded by the judge. The answers were taken before a Navarro County notary.

- **Ans. Int. 2 (Dan Story):** known Clendennen since March 22, 1862, all through the war.

- **Ans. Int. 3 (Dan Story):** formerly lived in Limestone County, now (by his own statement) in Anderson County; "near 6 feet tall, light complexion, and blue eyes"; basis of knowledge — "I kept the records and had to make out his description, age and c. about once a month for about three years."
- **Ans. Int. 4 (Dan Story):** the unit-designation chain in the file's own words — Co. B, 20th Texas Cavalry \u2192 consolidated (Co. D, 20th T.D.C.); detailed to shop duty at Fort Washita, Indian Territory, until about two months before the surrender.
- **Cross Int. answers:** Cross 1 — Yes (served in the same command); Cross 2 — No (not present at discharge); Cross 3 — "I am now looking at him\u2026 as to his residence in Anderson County, I only know by his own statement." This limitation is part of the evidence and is reported with it.
- **James D. Hamilton** adopted Story's answers and swore he too "helped to keep the rolls during the war."

The War Department loop (records loss, not a verdict). In 1910 the Commissioner of Pensions asked the Adjutant General to verify the record. The reply's **positive content:** J. M. Clendennen, private, Company B, 20th Texas Cavalry, CSA, enlisted March 22, 1862; present on the company roll to May 1, 1862 (the last on file); and on July 22, 1862 certified receipt of a \$50 enlistment bounty. Its **silence** — "nothing further concerning him has been found" — reflects the fragmentary survival of the captured Confederate rolls, which stop for this company in mid-1862; it is not evidence against the service the comrades swore to.

Pension History and Payments

The claim was approved through the county chain (Commissioners Court, August 15, 1899) and at the capital (pension clerk August 21, 1899; Comptroller September 1899), carrying a Comptroller's File Number (damaged/uncertain — see the notes; the archival envelope labels the file "CONFEDERATE PENSION --- 1").

This file is an application packet, not a running payment ledger. It contains no warrant amounts or payment dates, so a total paid over the life of the pension **cannot be calculated from this file**. Those figures live in the Comptroller's separate pension-payment records under the same file number.

The People Around Him

- **G. W. Hudson** — County Judge of Anderson County; took the sworn application, the witness and physician affidavits, certified the proceeding, and propounded the cross interrogatories.
- **W. L. Noland** and **J. B. Bennett** — the two credible-citizen witnesses at the county level.
- **Dr. R. A. McQueen, M.D.** — the examining physician.
- **Dan Story ("D. M. Story")** and **James D. Hamilton** — old comrades from Navarro County who swore to his service; both stated they had helped keep the company rolls.
- **H. E. / H. C. Traylor** — the Navarro County notary who took the depositions (name reading uncertain).
- **Anderson County Commissioners** — four signers (individually hard to read), who approved at regular term.
- **E. A. Bolmes (or Holmes)**, Commissioner of Pensions — requested the 1910 War Department check.

No wife, widow, or children are named anywhere in this file.

Research Gaps and Who This File Proves

What this file establishes about the man. It proves what *the J. M. Clendennen of Company B, 20th Texas Cavalry* did: he enlisted March 22, 1862; drew a \$50 bounty in July 1862; served (per his comrades) through the unit's dismounting and consolidation with a detail to Fort Washita; was about 62 in 1899 (implied birth c. 1837); stood near six feet with a light complexion and blue eyes; farmed on 30 encumbered acres near Alder Branch in Anderson County; and had lived earlier in Limestone County. These are the anchors a family would use to tie him to a line — unit and company, enlistment date, implied birth year, residences, and physical description.

The boundary. This file cannot, by itself, prove that this soldier is any particular family's ancestor. Same-named men of the same era — even in the same regiment — are common, and connecting this J. M. Clendennen to a specific family line requires correlation with records **outside** this file: census, county, church, land, and probate records. The report reads the file; the family connection is a correlation task it cannot perform.

Where the death lives. This is a veteran's own application file, and Texas application files of this era were built to hold the approval packet, not the pensioner's later life. The **absence of a death record here is normal structure, not a missing document.** To find his death, look for: (1) a **widow's Confederate pension application** under her name in the Texas index, if he left a widow who applied — that form carries his death date by nature; and (2) the **Comptroller's pension-payment records / mortuary warrants** filed under this same file number.

Open reading questions are collected in the notes below — the Comptroller's file number, several signatures, the notary's initials, and the damaged physician's affidavit.

Regimental History

The 20th Texas Cavalry Regiment served the Confederacy. The Twentieth Texas Cavalry was recruited and organized in Hill County, Texas, during the spring and summer of 1862. It was organized into ten companies of 850 officers and men that were primarily recruited from the counties of Anderson, Navarro, Kaufman, Henderson, Johnson, and Limestone.

Its first commander was Col. Thomas Coke Bass of Sherman, a Mississippi native and outspoken secessionist. The Twentieth Texas Cavalry was assigned to the Trans-Mississippi Department and served almost entirely in the Indian Territory where it was confronted by Union forces. From September to December 1862 the unit was part of Cooper's Brigade, Roane's Division, Army of the West.

Later it served in Cooper's Indian Division, Army of the Trans-Mississippi. The regiment fought in more than thirty engagements in the Indian Territory and Arkansas. In late 1862, it fought at McGuire's Store and Prairie Grove. The regiment fought at Honey Springs and Bayou Fourche in 1863. The unit was in action at Middle Boggy Depot, Prairie D'Ane, Poison Springs, Marks' Mills, and Cabin Creek in 1864.

During this time the unit saw action at Prior Creek, Fort Gibson, Cabin Creek, and Boggy Station. On June 23, 1865, the Twentieth Texas Cavalry Regiment was included in the surrender of Confederate Indian troops at Doaksville in the Indian Territory. As a Confederate unit, surviving records are thinner than for Union regiments, and its muster rolls often end before the war's close.

_Sources: <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/twentieth-texas-cavalry>;
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/20th_Texas_Cavalry_Regiment; <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=CTX0020RC>;
[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/20th_Regiment,_Texas_Cavalry_\(Bass%27\)_\(Confederate\)_](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/20th_Regiment,_Texas_Cavalry_(Bass%27)_(Confederate)_)

(This regimental history was verified by web search. Everything else in this report is drawn only from the soldier's own file.)

Document Inventory

Page	Document Type	Summary
1	Folder cover / archival label	File folder with printed archival label reading "00001 J. M. Clendennen." Housing, not a claim document.
2	Comptroller's jacket (Form No. 1 endorsement)	Confederate Pension Application jacket: applicant J. M. Clendennen, Anderson County, P.O. Alder Branch; Comptroller's File No. (struck/uncertain). Pension clerk recommends approval Aug 21, 1899; Comptroller approves (Sept 1899). Silked/repaid with loss; several signatures damaged.
3	Application, Form No. 1 (Act of May 12, 1899)	Sworn application: name J. M. Clendennen, age 62, Anderson County, resident 1\uo0bd years, P.O. Alder Branch; not previously rejected; occupation farming; feeble from age, dislocated hip, hemorrhage from lungs; Co. B, 20th Texas Cavalry about three years; no navy; no prior pension/donation land; property schedule of land, horses, and hogs.
4	Application (continued) + Affidavit of Witnesses	Sold one cow for \$20 within two years; income None; indigent \ "I am\"; unable to labor \ "I am\"; no transfer; no desertion; resident since Jan 1, 1880 \ "Yes.\" Signed and sworn before County Judge G. W. Hudson July 22, 1899. Witnesses W. L. Noland and J. B. Bennett sworn Aug 8, 1899.
5	Physician's Affidavit + County Judge's Certificate + Commissioners' Certificate	Dr. R. A. McQueen certifies hemiplegia and dislocation of the femur (rest illegible), Aug 10, 1899. County Judge certifies proceeding and Section 12 (not

		a Confederate Home inmate), Aug 10, 1899, Palestine. Commissioners Court approves Aug 15, 1899; four commissioner signatures (hard to read).
6	Commission to Take Deposition (Class 4)	Commission to summon Isaac Story and Dan Story of Navarro County to answer direct and cross interrogatories in the pension application of J. M. Clendennen under the Act of May 12, 1899. Issued at Palestine, July 22, 1899, by G. W. Hudson.
7	Printed deposition-commission cover form (near blank)	Blank printed \"Commission to Take Deposition\" form (E 577*), unfilled. Edge damage/holes. Structural, no content.
8	Deposition answers (direct interrogatories)	Answers of Dan Story (and Hamilton) before notary, Navarro Co.: known applicant since March 22, 1862; description near 6 ft, light complexion, blue eyes; witness kept the records monthly ~3 years; unit chain Co. B 20th Texas Cavalry \u2192 Co. D 20th T.D.C.
9	Deposition answers (continued) + cross answers	Story: not personally at discharge but satisfied honorably discharged; detailed to shop duty at Ft. Washita, I.T., left there ~2 months before surrender. Cross answers 1 Yes, 2 No, 3 residence known only by applicant's own statement. Signed D. M. Story; J. D. Hamilton adopts answers, having helped keep the rolls.
10	Notary jurat (mostly blank leaf)	Jurat: sworn and subscribed before H. E. Traylor, Notary Public, Navarro Co., 24th day of August 1899. Notary seal impression; remainder of leaf blank; edge damage and a hole.
11	Notice of application for commission + direct interrogatories	Notice to County Judge Hudson of intent to take depositions of Isaac Story and Dan Story of Navarro County; direct interrogatories 1\u20133 (residence; acquaintance;

		present residence, age, description).
12	Interrogatories (continued) + cross interrogatories	Direct Int. 4 (enlistment, company/regiment, service, discharge). Signed J. M. Clendennen, applicant. Cross interrogatories 1\20133 propounded by County Judge G. W. Hudson (same command? present at discharge? when/where last seen, how known to reside in Anderson Co.).
13	Commissioner of Pensions letter to Adjutant General	Office of Commissioner of Pensions, Austin (stamped OCT 12 1910), requests military record of J. M. Clendennen, Co. B, 20th Texas Cavalry, CSA, to verify proof of service. Signed E. A. Bolmes (reading uncertain), Commissioner.
14	War Department / Adjutant General's Office reply	AGO reply Oct 18, 1910 (No. 1704571): records show J. M. Clendennen, private, Co. B, 20th Texas Cavalry, enlisted March 22, 1862; present on company roll to May 1, 1862 (last on file); July 22, 1862 certified \$50 bounty received; nothing further found.
15	Archival envelope	Texas State Library, Archives Division, Camp Hubbard, Austin 3, Texas; endorsed J. M. Clendennen, Anderson County, Alder Branch, Texas; \ "CONFEDERATE PENSION -- - 1.\" Housing, not a claim document.

Every Fact and Its Source

Each substantive fact in this report, with the document that states it. Tier 1 = sworn or own-hand documents; Tier 2 = official contemporaneous records; Tier 3 = claim-process paperwork; Tier 4 = administrative material. Notes mark facts a witness learned second-hand, values worked out by calculation, and uncertain readings.

Fact	Source document (page)	Tier	Notes
Applicant's name given as J. M. Clendennen, of Anderson County, Texas, post office Alder Branch.	Application, Form No. 1 (p. 3)	1	—
Age stated as 62	Application, Form No.	1	calculated/derived

years in 1899, implying a birth year of about 1837.	1 (p. 3)		
Described as near 6 feet tall, light complexion, blue eyes.	Deposition of Dan Story (p. 8)	1	—
Swore he enlisted in Company "B," 20th Texas Cavalry and served about three years.	Application, Form No. 1 (p. 3)	1	—
Enlisted March 22, 1862; present on the company roll to May 1, 1862 (last on file); on July 22, 1862 certified receipt of a \$50 enlistment bounty; nothing further found in the captured records.	Adjutant General's Office reply (p. 14)	2	corroborated by second source
Witness dated his acquaintance with the applicant to March 22, 1862 — the same date the AGO gives for enlistment.	Deposition of Dan Story (p. 8)	1	corroborated by second source
Unit-designation chain: Co. B, 20th Texas Cavalry \u2192 (dismounted) Company B, 20th Texas Dismounted Cavalry \u2192 (consolidated) Co. D, 20th T.D.C.	Deposition of Dan Story (p. 8)	1	—
Detailed to shop duty at Fort Washita, Indian Territory, and left there when the company moved on, about two months before the surrender.	Deposition of Dan Story (p. 9)	1	—
Witness's basis of knowledge: he kept the company records and made out the applicant's description, age,	Depositions of Dan Story and J. D. Hamilton (p. 8)	1	corroborated by second source

etc., about once a month for about three years; second witness (Hamilton) also helped keep the rolls.			
Never served in the Confederate navy; never before applied for or been rejected for a pension; received no prior pension or veteran donation land certificate; never deserted the Confederacy.	Application, Form No. 1 (p. 3)	1	—
Occupation given as farming; physical condition "Feeble from age, dislocated hip and hemorrhage from lungs."	Application, Form No. 1 (p. 3)	1	—
Physician Dr. R. A. McQueen certified the applicant suffered an attack of hemiplegia and a dislocation of the femur (remainder illegible).	Affidavit of Physician (p. 5)	2	reading uncertain
Property owned: 30 acres of land on which he had paid \$50 and still owed \$115; two pony horses at \$20 each; one sow and pigs and one barrow worth \$12 all together.	Application, Form No. 1 (p. 3)	1	—
Sold one cow for \$20 within two years of the application; income None.	Application, Form No. 1 (p. 4)	1	—
Swore he was in actual want and destitute ("I am") and unable to earn a support by his own labor ("I am"), and had transferred no	Application, Form No. 1 (p. 4)	1	—

property to become a beneficiary ("No").			
Swore he had been a bona fide resident citizen of Texas continuously since January 1, 1880.	Application, Form No. 1 (p. 4)	1	—
Stated he had resided in Anderson County about 1\uo0bd years; a witness testified he had formerly lived in Limestone County and now lived in Anderson County (known only by the applicant's own statement).	Application (p.3) and Deposition of Dan Story (pp.8\u20139) (p. 8)	1	source conflict
Application sworn before County Judge G. W. Hudson, Anderson County, July 22, 1899.	Application, Form No. 1 (p. 4)	2	—
Witnesses W. L. Noland and J. B. Bennett swore before the county judge (August 8, 1899) that they knew the applicant and that he could not support himself by labor.	Affidavit of Witnesses (p. 4)	1	—
County Judge certified the proceeding and that the applicant was not an inmate of the Texas Confederate Home nor otherwise disqualified under Section 12; done at Palestine, August 10, 1899.	Certificate of County Judge (p. 5)	2	—
Commissioners Court of Anderson County approved the application at a regular term at Palestine, August	Certificate of County Commissioners (p. 5)	2	—

15, 1899.			
Service proved by commission to take depositions of witnesses in Navarro County, with direct interrogatories for the applicant and cross interrogatories by the county judge; commission issued at Palestine, July 22, 1899.	Commission to Take Deposition; Interrogatories (p. 6)	3	—
In cross-examination the witness limited his knowledge of the applicant's Anderson County residence to the applicant's own statement.	Deposition of Dan Story (cross answers) (p. 9)	1	—
Depositions of Dan Story (signed D. M. Story) and James D. Hamilton sworn before a Navarro County notary, August 24, 1899.	Notary jurat (p. 10)	1	—
At the capital: pension clerk recommended approval August 21, 1899; Comptroller approved (September 1899); Comptroller's file number damaged/uncertain.	Comptroller's jacket (p. 2)	3	reading uncertain
On October 12, 1910 the Texas Commissioner of Pensions requested the applicant's military record from the War Department to verify proof of service.	Commissioner of Pensions letter (p. 13)	3	—
File archived by the Texas State Library, Archives Division,	Archival envelope (p. 15)	4	—

Camp Hubbard, Austin; envelope endorsed J. M. Clendennen, Anderson County, Alder Branch, "CONFEDERATE PENSION --- 1."			
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Hard-to-Read Entries

These are original handwritten records, in places faded or damaged with age. Where a word could not be read with confidence, it is flagged here rather than guessed at - nothing in this report is invented. A researcher reviewed each entry below against the original scans; some were made out on a closer look, and the rest remain genuinely unclear.

- **Page 2** - flagged as hard to read (The printed file number is partly struck through and damaged; a superseding "1" appears, matching the archival envelope's "CONFEDERATE PENSION --- 1."). A researcher re-checked it against the original scan; it remains genuinely unclear, which we note honestly.
- **Page 2** - flagged as hard to read (Both signatures on the silked, damaged jacket are only partly legible). A researcher re-checked it against the original scan; it remains genuinely unclear, which we note honestly.
- **Page 5** - flagged as hard to read (Tissue repair and paper loss obscure the remainder of Dr. McQueen's stated diagnosis). A researcher re-checked it against the original scan; it remains genuinely unclear, which we note honestly.
- **Page 5** - flagged as hard to read (Signatures are individually cramped and partly damaged). A researcher re-checked it against the original scan; it remains genuinely unclear, which we note honestly.
- **Page 10** - flagged as hard to read (The heading and jurat give slightly different middle initials for the Navarro County notary). A researcher re-checked it against the original scan; it remains genuinely unclear, which we note honestly.
- **Page 13** - flagged as hard to read (The printed and signed surname is ambiguous between "Bolmes" and "Holmes."). A researcher re-checked it against the original scan; it remains genuinely unclear, which we note honestly.
- **Page 9** - flagged as hard to read (The given name "Dan" and signed initials "D. M." may or may not reflect a formal name (e.g., Daniel M. Story)). A researcher re-checked it against the original scan; it remains genuinely unclear, which we note honestly.

Where the Documents Disagree

Here two or more perfectly legible documents say different things. That is a finding about the record, not a reading problem - both versions are shown, and neither was silently preferred. Where the evidence clearly favored one reading, the story above follows it, and the note here says why - a visible weighing, never a silent one.

- **Page 2** - the documents disagree here (The two capital endorsements carry different months (August and September 1899); the depositions were sworn August 24, 1899). Both readings appear in the report; review confirmed the disagreement is in the record itself. Our read: Read as sequential

steps — clerk recommendation Aug 21, Comptroller approval Sept 1899 — consistent with depositions returned Aug 24; not a true contradiction.

- **Page 8** - the documents disagree here (The witness commissioned (Isaac Story) is not the second witness who actually testified (James D. Hamilton)). Both readings appear in the report; review confirmed the disagreement is in the record itself. Our read: Read as a substitution of witnesses at the taking of testimony; both actual deponents (Dan Story and J. D. Hamilton) claimed to have kept the company rolls, so service proof is unaffected — the record shows Isaac Story did not testify.
- **Page 8** - the documents disagree here (The comrade could not recall the exact age and gave a rough estimate; the applicant swore 62). Both readings appear in the report; review confirmed the disagreement is in the record itself. Our read: Prefer the applicant's sworn age of 62 (implied birth c. 1837); Story's figure is an acknowledged estimate. Difference is minor.

What the File Does Not Establish

The file is silent on these points. No document states them, so the report says so rather than filling them in.

- **Page 3** - the file does not answer this (The captured Confederate rolls for this company survive only to May 1862; the AGO states nothing further was found, which is records loss, not a contradiction of the sworn service). The Research Gaps section points to the records that might.

About this report: it was produced from the file provided, read page by page. It does not search records beyond that file - the Research Gaps section points to the outside records that could carry the story further.