

has no merit.

I recommend further examination at vicinity of Freshwater, Middlesex Co. Va. for testimony as to fact and date of death of the first wife of Henry Bates and should it be shown that she died prior to fall of 1881. (the time Bates left claimant) for record or the next best evidence of her marriage to Henry Bates. The witnesses are named in the deposition of Henry Bates herewith: Lyman Am Tynus. George Tynus. Moses Roane. Fred. Blayden and other Blaydens. Mr Gambill and it being a rural neighborhood. no doubt others can be found to settle the question at issue conclusively.

W. W. Tunis and Joseph Tunis of Norfolk Va. can probably give information of value.

Very respectfully
Subscribed

Special Examiner

As little publicity as possible should be given to matter on account of Henry Bates who may be technically at least guilty of bigamy. S. M. S.