

DEPOSITION *C*Case of Margaret Chambers W.O. No. 0987,042

On this 23 day of September, 1900, at  
Baltimore, county of \_\_\_\_\_  
 State of Md., before me, L.S. Perkins, a  
 Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared  
Millie Hall, who, being by me first duly sworn to  
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special  
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am in my 56<sup>th</sup> year; p.o. address No. 1343 Division st., Balti-  
 more, Md.; am the wife of William H. Hall, fireman at the Custom  
 House, Baltimore.

I knew Margaret Chambers from my sixteenth year; she and I  
 both came from Somerset Co., Md., but I did not know her person-  
 ally till we both came to Baltimore. She was married in this city  
 to a colored waiter named George Chambers. I did not see the cere-  
 mony, but saw them living together for years afterward. So far as  
 I ever knew, neither one of them was married till they married  
 each other. So far as Margaret is concerned, I can swear posi-  
 tively that she was never previously married. I remember perfectly  
 well when Chambers began calling on her. She introduced me to him,  
 and told me she was going to marry him. They lived near me, and  
 I saw a great deal of them during their married life. Chambers  
 beat her scandalously; I have seen the blood gush from her ears  
 where he struck her on the side of the head. She lost three child-  
 ren within a week or two, and that, combined with her husband's bra-  
 tal treatment, caused her to go insane. Chambers threw her out of  
 the house, and tried to get a divorce from her. He told me he  
 was going to get rid of Margaret so he could marry Alice Rivers.  
 This woman was a colored school teacher who had been teaching school  
 at Newmarket, Md. He brought her to my house to board. I soon  
 found out that the two were intimate, and I reproached her for it.  
 This was before Margaret had been declared insane; he had driven  
 her away from home, and she (Margaret) was then staying with her  
 sister, Christina Clark, and was not yet crazy. Her treatment by  
 Chambers, her grief, and the carrying-on of Chambers and Alice  
 was what "sent her off." Her father took her home and kept her  
 for awhile, but she would wander away from home and be found cry-  
 ing on the banks of creeks. She was said to be hysterical. Fi-

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