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. Neck, Dorchester County, Maryland, in the summer of 1861, by Rev. Mr. Turner, and that they thereafter cohabited until the soldier's enlistment, when the relation was suspended. She then alleged that it was resumed immediately after his return from the army, though they lived together for only a few months. The statements in her declaration as to the marriage were not supported by any church or other record, and rested chiefly upon the claimant's averment, supported by that of Jane Shelby, sister of the soldier and an alleged eyewitness to the celebration, together with general evidence as to a report of the performance of the ceremony in the community in which the parties lived, and marital cohabitation and repute thereafter.

Upon special examination it was discovered that the soldier and claimant were slaves, and were probably regularly married by ceremony as alleged. They had not been previously married, and lived together continuously until the enlistment of the soldier. Before his enlistment, however, it would appear that the soldier, while living matrimonially with the claimant, had sustained illicit relations with Harriet Pritchard, and after his discharge instead of returning to the claimant it is shown he went with the Pritchard woman, marrying her on December 19, 1868 (S.E.Rep., p. 25). After her death he lived with Lizzie Rich, though apparently not in a matrimonial relation, and on

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