

was sworn, although he has no recollection of the presence of any white man with Rice. I think this emphasizes the statement that neither was sworn.

Mr. S. W. Pattison testifies that he was always careful in swearing claimants and witnesses, but I have yet to find a man who will swear that Mr. Pattison ever administered an oath to him. (For Pattison's statement see my general report already referred to).

Frank Rice is dead. I attach no significance to the fact that O. W. Beale's name attests Aaron Scott's signature. Mr. Lloyd's clerks appear to be utterly regardless of consequences in their desire to make all papers filed have a formal appearance.

This pensioner is a worthy colored man and is guilty of no wrong. Yet his declaration is invalid, and I am therefore under the necessity of recommending that his name be