

Baltimore, Md. Feb. 25, 1878.
 Sir: I have the honor to return
 herewith the papers in the claims
 of Matthews and Olga Ross, containing
 witness, claiming priority on
 account of the service of Joseph Ross,
 No. 11, D. C. Regt., No. 604, 937, and 659, 012.
 The claims were referred
 for special examination to determine
 which was the legal holder, and the
 date of birth of the minor children, and
 came to me for initial examination.
 The certificates were properly no-
 tified and advised as to their rights.
 First was Bohannon, and as will appear
 by his statement herewith, she acknowledges
 her claim to priority, and claims her
 application with them. She is fully aware
 that she is not entitled, and I have no
 further attention to her claim during the
 examination.
 The testimony herewith was all read
 to Olga before her final statement
 was taken. The same notice of priority
 examination.
 It appears from the testimony herewith
 the claims to be true and valid.