

DEPOSITION *M*Case of *Susan Johnson*, No. *682072*

On this *22* day of *March*, 189*9*, at
Upper Fairmount, county of *Somerset*
 State of *Ms.*, before me, *N. N. Hill*, a
 special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared
William E. Waters, who, being by me first duly sworn to
 answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special
 examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am *about 58* years of age; my post-office address is *as above*.
 I am distantly related to the claimant. Her father
 was my mother's half brother. I knew Susan from
 girlhood. She was never married but once and
 that was to Samuel Johnson. I was present and
 witnessed the marriage. They were married at
 her father's house, by a Methodist minister. I really
 forget whether she was married by Rev. Mr. Freed
 or Rev. Mr. Brundel - it was one or the other to the
 best of my knowledge. *Freed* married me after
 that. I remember the night ^{Susan was married} well because I
 had a fuss that same night with another Colored
 man and snapped my pistol on him twice and
 it did not go off - if it had it would have killed
 him sure. I was her groomsmen and the girl
 who was with me and was her bridesmaid was
 Lizzy Sudder - now James. She did live here
 but has gone away somewhere. They were married
 sometime prior to the war, but I cannot remember
 the date. It was during the time of slavery and
 no license was needed; the preacher gave them
 a certificate of marriage and married them by
 a regular ceremony.

I never knew Samuel Johnson until
 he came down here to shoot oysters for Mr.
 Hamilton, and after a time he married Susan,
 and remained here for some years after that.
 I cannot tell whether he was ever before married.
 I do not know what his age was when he married.