

CONFEDERATE PENSION APPLICATIONS ACT OF 1902

At the end of Reconstruction in January 1870 the Virginia General Assembly began to financially assist Virginia Confederate veterans and their families. Virginia provided for her Confederate veterans and their widows and dependents with three pension acts: 1888, 1900, and 1902. These acts varied in the persons that they covered, and the amount paid.

The act passed on 2 April 1902 to provided pensions for soldiers, sailors, and marines of Virginia who were wounded or disabled in the war between the States, and for the widows of same who lost their lives in said service or by reason of wounds or disease contracted therein. The applicant must have been a Virginia resident for 2 years and a resident for 1 year of the locality from whloh the certified application was made. Public office-holders with salaries above \$150 were restricted from applying and proof from fellow soldiers was required. In cases of disability or death, the evidence of a doctor was required to state the nature of the disability or cause of death. In addition to the service information required, the applications included information about age and birthplace and in the case of widows, marriage date and place. Current residence of the applicant, occupation, and property owned (must be less than \$500) or income (must be less than \$150 per annum) were also to be listed. Individuals receiving pensions from other sources or who resided in public institutions were also prohibited from applying. An annual affidavit confirming the above facts was required of all applicants.

An extension of this act was passed allowing applications after the previous 1902 deadline.

The Library of Virginia has these pension applications on microfilm arranged alphabetically by locality and thereunder alphabetically the surname of the applicant. This collection is a subset to the LVA images limited to those applications from Southampton County.