

## HEIRS OF SOPHIA L. RAGAN.

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LETTER FROM THE ASSISTANT CLERK OF THE COURT OF CLAIMS  
TRANSMITTING A COPY OF THE FINDINGS FILED BY THE  
COURT IN THE CASE OF MARY L. CROPPER, SALLY Z. McCULL-  
LOH, DORA SCHMITT, AND BELLE WILSON, HEIRS OF SOPHIA  
L. RAGAN, AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

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JANUARY 4, 1909.—Referred to the Committee on War Claims and ordered to be  
printed.

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COURT OF CLAIMS, CLERK'S OFFICE,  
*Washington, December 21, 1908.*

SIR: Pursuant to the order of the court I transmit herewith a cer-  
tified copy of the findings filed by the court in the aforesaid cause,  
which case was referred to this court by the Committee on War  
Claims, House of Representatives, under the act of March 3, 1883,  
known as the "Bowman Act."

I am, very respectfully, yours,

JOHN RANDOLPH,  
*Assistant Clerk Court of Claims.*

HON. JOSEPH G. CANNON,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

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[Court of Claims. Congressional, No. 12148. Heirs of Tillard Ragan, deceased, v. The United States.]

This case, being a claim for stores alleged to have been taken by or furnished to  
the military forces of the United States for their use during the late war for the sup-  
pression of the rebellion, the court, on a preliminary inquiry, finds that Tillard Ragan  
and Sophia L. Ragan, the persons alleged to have furnished such supplies and stores,  
or from whom the same are alleged to have been taken, were loyal to the Govern-  
ment of the United States throughout said war.

BY THE COURT.

Filed January 13, 1908.

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[Court of Claims. Congressional, No. 12148. Mary L. Cropper, Sallie Z. McCulloh, Dora Schmitt, and  
Belle Wilson, sole heirs of Tillard and Sophia L. Ragan, deceased, v. The United States.]

### STATEMENT OF CASE.

The claim in the above-entitled case, for supplies or stores alleged to have been  
taken by or furnished to the military forces of the United States for their use during  
the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, was transmitted to the court by the  
Committee on War Claims of the House of Representatives on the 28th day of Febru-  
ary, 1906.

On a preliminary inquiry the court, on the 13th day of January, 1908, found that the persons alleged to have furnished the supplies or stores, or from whom they were alleged to have been taken, were loyal to the Government of the United States throughout said war.

The case was brought to a hearing on its merits on the 23d day of November, 1908. G. W. Hott, esq., appeared for claimants, and the Attorney-General, by Clark McKercher, esq., his assistant, and under his direction, appeared for the defense and protection of the interests of the United States.

The claimants in their petition make the following allegations:

That they are the only children and sole heirs of Tillard Ragan and his wife, Sophia L. Ragan, both late of Cass County, Mo., deceased.

That during the late civil war there was taken from the said Tillard Ragan and Sophia L. Ragan, in said county and State, by the military forces of the United States, by proper authority, and appropriated to the use of the United States Army, property of the kind and value, as follows:

39,180 rails, at \$5 per 1,000.....	\$1,959.00
40 acres of timber, 3,600 trees, at \$1.....	3,600.00
1 house, removed for breastworks.....	800.00
25 head of hogs, 5,000 pounds, at 3 cents.....	150.00
1 horse, 1 carriage, and harness.....	650.00
2,025 rations.....	607.50
1 horse, wagon, and harness.....	400.00
4½ tons of hay.....	54.00
680 bushels of corn, at 50 cents.....	340.00

Total..... 8,560.50

(Taken from January, 1862, to the fall of 1865, by Colonel Nugent, Colonel Thompson, Colonel Anthony, Colonel Catherwood, and Gen. A. J. Smith.)

The court, upon the evidence adduced, and after considering the argument and briefs of counsel on both sides, makes the following

#### FINDING OF FACT.

During the late civil war the military forces of the United States, by proper authority, for the use of the army, took from claimants' decedents in Cass County, State of Missouri, property of the kind and character described in the petition, which at the time and place of taking was reasonably worth the sum of two thousand nine hundred and seventy dollars (\$2,970), no part of which appears to have been paid.

BY THE COURT.

Filed December 7, 1908.

A true copy.

Test this 18th day of December, 1908.

[SEAL.]

JOHN RANDOLPH,  
Assistant Clerk Court of Claims.