

PHYSICIAN'S AFFIDAVIT

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TAKE NOTICE.—This affidavit should, if possible, be in the handwriting of the affiant; the marginal instructions should be carefully observed before writing out the statement. All the facts in possession of affiant as to the origin and contracting of the disability should be fully set forth, and the dates of treatment should be specifically given. If the affidavit is prepared from memoranda in possession of the physician, that fact should be stated.

State of Michigan, County of Manistee

In the Pension Claim No. 253678 of Melia Johnson Widow of Henry Johnson late of Co. H, 19 Regt. U. S. Colored Troops Vol. Inf.

NOTES. THE PHYSICIAN'S AFFIDAVIT MUST SHOW THE FOLLOWING FACTS: 1st. Whether or not he knew the soldier prior to the date of time he has known him; how intimately and what opportunities he has had of observing his physical condition whether as his family physician or as a neighbor; and how near he has lived to him. If he knew that the soldier was a sound man at enlistment he should so state, adding, if true, that if he had been unsound he would have known it. 2d. If he treated claimant while in the service either as his regimental surgeon or while claimant was home on furlough, that fact should be stated. The claimant's physical condition at such time should be clearly shown, as well as the NATURE of his DISABILITY and dates of treatment. 3d. If he has TREATED SOLDIER SINCE DISCHARGE he should so state, giving the date of his first treatment; what his physical condition was at the time, with complete diagnosis of the disability; the period during which he treated him should be stated, with dates, as near as possible, of the prescriptions. 4th. The extent or degree to which claimant has been unable to perform manual labor during each year, from discharge to the present time.

Personally came before me a Clerk of the Court in and for the aforesaid county and State John B. McPherson a citizen of Manistee Mich. in the county of Manistee and State of Michigan

well known to me to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who being duly sworn, declares in relation to the aforesaid case as follows:

That he is a regular practicing physician of 36 years standing, and has given medical advice and treatment to Henry Johnson as follows:

During the month of February and portions of March 1864 while General Birney was organizing a Division of Colored Troops at Camp Stanton in this being no winter for the enlisted men and no teams to draw material he erect such they were ordered to go to the woods to cut and carry logs to build these. This was work fit only for horses and the result that in one week nearly half of every Company were sick from either Pneumonia Congestion, Rheumatism, etc.

During the Ranking Exercise I ordered it stopped and had a sharp general with the commanding General among the number injured was the above Henry Johnson. I recall his case clearly. He was a strong and energetic man. I also recall that I ordered him to the hospital but after a few days sent him again to quarters as measles had broken out by the two husbands sent as usual but had again to send him to hospital he was attacked by measles and was one of the very few who recovered.

Also remember his eyes were quite sore on Baltimore but have no recollection of sending him to McHenry Hospital but have no doubt of his being sick there as we had to send many there as it was the only hospital open to us in the vicinity. I remember at the sick call and also of his spitting blood which he attributed to injury of his chest from carrying the logs to build the fortifications. I think it to the measles as every one attacked during the epidemic had more or less acute meningitis as before said. I have no recollection of sending him to McHenry but have no recollection of seeing him during the Campaign of 1864 and have not the least doubt of the truthfulness of his own statement in the case. No doubt the slightest wonder at the subsequent results to his lungs.

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