

3-111.

SURGEON'S CERTIFICATE.

Insert character
and number of
claim.

Increase

Pension Claim No. Cert. 63 082

Name of claim-
ant.

Benjamin Malone

Address
of
Board.

Baltimore,

P. O.

Company G.19, Reg't U.S.C. Inf.

Maryland,

State.

Claimant's post-
office address.[Rank.]
Bay View Hospital, Balto. Md.

April 10,

1899

[Date of examination.]

Cause of disa-
bility.Gunshot wound of left wrist and abdomen, senile debility, Gun-
shot wound of testicles and disease of feet.

He receives a pension of Twelve dollars per month.

He makes the following statement upon which he bases his claim for Increase Pension

[Original, increase, restoration, etc.]

Here give the
claimant's
statement (as
briefly and as
compactly as
possible) in re-
gard to the ori-
gin of his disa-
bilities and the
manner in
which they
affect him.

Attention is invited to the outlines of the human skeleton and figure upon the back of this certificate, which should be used to indicate precisely the location of a disease or injury, the entrance and exit of a missile, an amputation, etc.

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We hereby certify that upon examination we find the following objective conditions:

Pulse rate, 90, did not exercise. respiration, 24, sub-normal
[Sitting, standing, after exercise.] estimated [Sitting, standing, after exercise.]

height, feet inches; weight, 80 pounds; age, 74 years.

Here give a full
description of
the disabilities,
in accordance
with Book of
Instructions.

This claimant is in a shockingly bad condition. I found him at his home, which is a little better than a mere shelter, lying on an improvised cot and covered with rags. He is wasted to a mere skeleton. His right thigh measures but 11 inches in circumference. His body and limbs were completely flexed. Knees drawn close to his abdomen and heels to buttocks. Any attempt to straighten his limbs caused acute agony. He lies constantly on his left side and could not be turned over. He can use his right arm to adjust the covering, etc. The calls of nature are performed in bed; such food as he received, which was scant, was placed in his mouth by a young man, who looked after him when he had the opportunity. The claimant has no family or relatives at hand and was compelled to depend upon the ministrations of strangers. His feet were both frozen during the late severe winter, and both are in a condition of mummified gangrene. The flesh is hanging rotting on the bones. The left foot is dead to the ankle joint, and the right member as high as the calf of the leg. He had received no medical or surgical treatment.

The actual or
probable origin
of every exist-
ing disability
must be fully
set forth.Whenever a disa-
bility is shown
or is believed
to be due to or
aggravated by
vicious habits
the opinion of
the board must
be stated. When
not due to such
habits this fact
must be stated.Each disability
must be rated
separately, the
act of Congress
of March 2,
1895, requiring
"that the re-
port of such
examining
surgeons shall
specifically
state the rat-
ing which, in
their judg-
ment, the ap-
plicant is en-
titled to."When rates are
recommended
solely on sub-
jective evi-
dence the
strongest rea-
sons must be
given therefor.

Under the circumstances, I found it impossible to make such an examination as was directed by the Special Instructions sent me. The scars of gunshot wounds of abdomen and testicles were masked by his position in the bed and could not be reached—hence no description. I could obtain no measurements, except right thigh and could not examine his vital organs for the same reason. The scar of the gunshot wound of the left wrist was visible on the ulnar margin of the arm, 2 inches above the wrist joint. Its influence upon the usefulness of the wrist could not be determined. His mental faculties are somewhat impaired, as might be expected in one who had laid in such condition for several weeks. This claimant is "so totally and permanently helpless from gangrene of feet and results, that he requires the regular personal aid and attendance of another person and is entitled to \$72 a month."

In view of the soldier's utterly helpless condition and the impossibility of conveying him to the Nation Soldiers Home, I had the man sent to Bay View Hospital on the same day upon which I examined him and he is now there. He cannot survive a very long time.

Pres.

Sec'y.

Treas.

Geo R. Kalam

N. B.—Do not use backs of certificates for any use other than indicated by printed matter thereon. When additional space is needed to complete report of examination use blank certificate (3-111g) properly numbered, and attach it to the back and upper margin of this sheet. Marginal entries must never be made.