

Claim—No. 536, 135.

Claimant—Horace Gibson.

Service—Corporal O/ "B," 7th U. S. C. T.

P. O. address—Turner's Mills, Talbot Co., Md.

Basis of claim—Rupture of right groin.

Boston, Mass., Oct. 20/88.

Sir:—

I have the honor to return the papers in the claim above noted, which had been referred to me to obtain the testimony of Lieut. Robert M. Spinney, as to the incurrence or existence of the alleged rupture in the service.

Lieut. Spinney did not join the 7th U. S. C. T. until March 1/64, and was not assigned to Co. "B" until May, 1865. He did not know claimant prior to the latter date. Lieut. Spinney speaks in the highest terms of the claimant, but is very positive that he exhibited no evidence of having been ruptured while under his command.

Opinion—I regard claimant's statement that his rupture was "about the size of a goose egg" at the time he was discharged as highly improbable. Had he been suffering from pains in the back, with a rupture of that extent in his right groin, it is reasonable to suppose that he would have been placed on light duty or discharged. The claim seems to me to possess little merit.

Recommendation—In view of Lieut. Spinney's opinion regarding Orderly Sergt. John C. Kinney, I suggest

Kinney