

SOLDIER'S APPLICATION FOR PENSION.

I, E. F. Redding, a native of the State of Tenn
 and now a citizen of Tennessee, resident at Tenn Ridge, in the County of Franklin
 in said State of Tennessee, and who was a soldier from the State of Tenn, in the war between the
 United States and the Confederate States, do hereby apply for aid under the Act of the General Assembly of Tennessee, entitled "An
 Act for the benefit of the indigent and disabled soldiers of the late war between the States, and to fix the fees of attorneys or agents
 for procuring such pensions, and fixing a penalty for the violation of the same." And I do solemnly swear that, while in the discharge
 of my duty in the service of the Confederate or United States, as a member of Co. A 11th Tenn Regiment
Satisfactorily

I was wounded in the battle or battles of Franklin, Tenn., Dec. 31st, 1862 on face
at Franklin Tenn., through right temple
 and that from the effects of such wound or wounds I was disabled as follows: Face wound of face
was not able for field service till shortly before the
battle of Franklin, then left the Hospital of my
own command and went to my command,
 and that by reason of such wound and disability I am now entitled to receive the benefits of this Act. I further swear that I do not
 hold any National, State or County office, nor do I receive aid or a pension from any other State, or from the United States, and that
 I am not an inmate of any soldiers' home, and that I am unable to earn a reasonable support for myself and family. I do further
 solemnly swear that the answers given to the following questions are true:

In what County, State and year were you born?
 Answer: Madison, Tenn. Dec 30 State of Tenn 1838
brought to Humphreys Co. in infancy and then moved to

When did you enlist and in what command? Give the names of the regimental and company officers under whom you were
 serving at date of wound or wounds.
 Answer: In the year 1861, Col. H. H. Hinton, Capt. W. J. White
at time of face wound, when I enlisted Col. J. E. Haines
was in command of Reg., Capt. J. W. Pitts command.

In what battle or battles were you wounded, and, if not in battle, state under what circumstances you received the injury or
 injuries?
 Answer:

What was the precise nature of your wound or wounds?
 Answer: Wound of face struck over left eye, part of bridge of nose
into upper jaw bone on right side of face, right of right eye

What limb, if any, did you lose by reason of said wound or wounds, and, if no limb, state fully the disability caused by said
 wound or wounds, and is said disability permanent?
 Answer: Face wound permanent and lasting

Were you incapacitated for service by reason of said wound, wounds or service?

Answer: About one and a half years

Were you discharged from the army by reason of said wound, wounds or service?

Answer:

If discharged from the army, where were you and what did you do until the close of the war?

Answer:

What was the name of the surgeon who attended you?

Answer: Dr. Manny, Surgeon of 11th Regt
while in Hospital, W. P. Reese of Adams Sta,
Dr. Selsford of 77th Ohio dressed my wound first. I was
three prisoners

APPENDIX

How did you get out of the army?

Answer: discharged a regular discharge May 18, 1918

Did you take the oath of allegiance to the United States Government?

Answer: Yes

Are you married, or have you been married?

Answer: Yes

If so, what is the size of your family?

Answer: Wife and 4 children, all grown and left but one

What are the respective ages of your wife and children?

Answer: wife 51, children 31 years, 28, 23, 19

To what sex do your children belong?

Answer: Three girls and one boy

Are not some of your children able to support you?

Answer: No

In what business are you now engaged, if any, and what do you earn?

Answer: Farming in a very small way

What estate have you in your own right, real and personal, and what is its value?

Answer: A few acres of very poor land

What estate has your wife in her own right, real and personal, and what is its value?

Answer: None

How have you derived support for yourself and family for the last five years?

Answer: Farming

Do you use intoxicants to any extent?

Answer: No

How long have you been an actual resident of the State of Tennessee?

Answer: All my life

Have you an attorney to look after this application?

Answer: No

If so, give his name and address?

Answer:

Witness my hand, this 15 day of May 1918

WITNESSES:

G. H. French
J. L. Johnson

Physician

Witness

Witness

E. J. Rice
G. H. French

SOLDIER'S APPLICATION FOR PENSION.

P. J. Ridings

a native of the State of Tennessee

and now a citizen of Tennessee, resident at Tenn. Ridge in the County of Houston in

said State of Tennessee, and who was a soldier from the State of Tennessee in the war between the

United States and the Confederate States, do hereby apply for aid under the Act of General Assembly of Tennessee, entitled "An Act for the benefit of the indigent and disabled soldiers of the late war between the States, and to fix the fees of attorneys or agents for procuring such pensions, and fixing a penalty for the violation of the same." And I do solemnly swear that, while in the dis-

charge of my duty in the service of the Confederate States, as a member of Company A, 11th Tenn. Infantry Reg.

I was wounded in the battle or battles of Murfreesboro or Stones River on the last day of 1862

and that from the effects of such wound or wounds I was disabled as follows: Minie Ball struck over left eye passing through root of nose going just under right eye passing through right cheek bone and lodging in side of face rendering right eye worthless

and thereby reason of such wound and disability, I am now entitled to receive the benefits of this Act. I further swear that I do not hold any national, State or county office, nor do I receive aid or a pension from any other State, or from the United States, and that I am not an inmate of any soldiers' home, and that I am unable to earn a reasonable support for myself and family. I do further solemnly swear that the answers given to the following questions are true:

In what county, State and year were you born?

Ans. Hardeman county Tenn. in 1839 23rd of Feb.

When did you enlist, and in what command? Give the names of regimental and company officers under whom you were serving at date of wound or wounds.

Ans. Oct 1861 Co. A, 11th Inf. Gen. G. W. Cannon commanding Capt. W. J. White 1st Lieut. G. D. Ridings now dead adj. Surg. S. W. Jones

In what battle or battles were you wounded, and if not in battle state under what circumstances you received the injury or injuries?

Ans. Murfreesboro or Stones River

What was the precise nature of your wound or wounds?

Ans. It was a face wound producing blindness 12 months in both eyes for about ten days causing me to stay in Hospital about 7

What limb, if any, did you lose by reason of said wound or wounds, and if no limb, state fully the disability caused by said wound or wounds, and is said disability permanent?

Ans. My right eye is permanently injured, I have never been of any service to me since the wound above described

Were you incapacitated for service by reason of said wound, wounds or service?

Ans. Was out of service 12 months

Were you discharged from the army by reason of said wound, wounds or service?

Ans. Was not discharged.

If discharged from the army, where were you and what did you do until the close of the war?

Ans. I remained with the army until the general surrender 2 months

What was the name of the surgeon that attended you? Dr. Mearns after I was released from prison

Ans. I remained with the army till the general surrender

Are you married, or have you been married?

Ans. I am unmarried

READ THIS ACT BEFORE FILLING OUT APPLICATION

If so, what is the size of your family?

Ans. wife and four children

What are the respective ages of your wife and children?

Ans. wife 43 children from 23 to 10

To what sex do your children belong?

Ans. one son and three daughters

In what business are you now engaged, if any; and what do you earn?

Ans. Farming. I earn a moderate living

What estate have you in your own right, real and personal, and what is its value?

Ans. my farm taxed at \$300.00 the highest rate of assessment ever placed upon it

What estate has your wife in her own right, real and personal, and what is its value?

Ans. she shares with ~~her~~ me

How have you derived support for yourself and family for the last five years?

Ans. By our labor and economy

Do you use intoxicants to any extent?

Ans. I do not

How long have you been an actual resident of the State of Tennessee?

Ans. all my life

Have you an attorney to look after this application?

Ans. None

If so, give his name and address.

Ans. _____

Witness my hand, this 5th day of August 1891

E. J. Ridings

WITNESSES:

J. S. Edwards M.D. Physician

J. A. Bunnell Co. S. 11th St. Ry Witness

R. M. Eckels " " " " Witness

J. J. Adams Co. 6th St. Ry Rept

State of Tennessee, }
Houston County. }

Personally appeared before me J. J. Adams

Clerk of the County Court of said county, the above named E. J. Ridings the applicant, with whom I am personally acquainted, and having the application read and fully explained to him, as well as the statements and answers therein made, made oath that the said statements and answers are true.

Witness my hand at office this 15th day of August 1891

J. J. Adams Clerk

To: J. T. Ridings sent by Mildred French

From J. T. Ridings

Tennessee Ridge Tenn.
October 15th, 1918.

In memory of Elisha Thomas Ridings written by his only son James Thomas Ridings.

In memory of my dear father Eld. E.T. Ridings and his old bible that was painted in his own blood at the battle of mufesborough the last day of December 1862, that shows so plain untill this day, and it went the the whole war through in his inside pocket of the old gray geans, together with a touch of his experince thinking that maby he might drown out sorrow with the drum and the bell and the bum and the shell and the wild grand music of war.

1
While holding my fathers bible in my hand that is now four score old,

~~There is a thought presented to me that is yet untold.~~
Of my Dear Fathers Bible that he carried with him all through the war of crime Better known as the Civil War, where he volinteered thinking his sorrows he would leave behind

2
When the North raised up against the South he was in possession of a sin sick sole
"I will Volinteer in defense of the South I will face the Norths deaths dealing blow
While the tumult is raging, while the war goes on, I will stand wher death and distruction dwells
But there I will forget all my sorrows of late that makes me such and earthly hell.

3
But my dear old bible that has give me so much comfort in the past,
I will carry it along and when not engaged in battle I will read it to the very last.
And from Ft. Sumter to Lees surider in 1865 this dear old bible filled its place in the old coat of gray,
When at Franklin while filling a heros part among all who fell at the blow of the North he a victum lay.

4
With his right thigh struck with a plunging death dealing ball and torn asunder,
And while in the Hospittle he red in this dear old bible that his Master had done and declared this thunder,
"Ah there is nothing coming to pass by chance, predestination is prooved to me witherse ever I rome,
And if ever spared to see the end of this bloody war among those predestnarians I will ask afer a little home.

5
But the gim of our thought yet untold which to me have prooven true,
Is to record an event at old Mufesborough the last day of december 1862
When old earth was trimbling at the awful discharge of the Norths triumphant train,
Among all the heroic boys who so gallently stood until they fell he was found among the slain,

And this dear old bible from the blood of his face which shows
untill this day was painted red,
And dear Father was left on the cold earth untill ten oclock in
the p m and was counted for ded
An ounce ball had plunge through his face and left it deformed
in the sight of the world,
But the grandest of all gims I wish now before all mankind to
hurl

7

All the rest of the wounded had been carried off the field and
treeted with the greatest of skill,
While dear father lay froze to the earth in his own blood there
testing his Makers will,
With a busted skull and broken jaw bone and all nature said that
he would hafto die,
But a greater than all earthly physiciane was there and mans
high spree ded centemeters He ded out ride.

8

He adinistered to his dying form, He pored oil in his wounds so
great
To proove to all this world that mans wisdom is a fake,
It healed dear father and caried him home, give him a darling
wife and a wonderig son,
Before his days was completed, or his race intirly run.

9

Charging me his only born son this dear old bible to keepe,
Then think not that I lie when I say that Dear Father yet
speaks,
While for a season after his death it carelessly lay around I
thought his charge no special duty,
But now it is preserved as a living monument of sacrid and
subline beauty.

10

For when I am sinking benieth inky clouds and wondering what to
do,
The sight of the dear old book tells me Dear Fathers fate the
last day of December 1862
It cheers me over lifes rugged road and before giviing up in
dispare courage sets out a new
When I think of dear fathers bed of snow at old Muffesburouth
the last day of December 1862.

NOTE: The margine is signed in pencil "J T Ridings his only son"