

E.T. Ridings' Pension Application

Cover Page of Application

[stamp: ACCEPTED]

READ ACT ON BACK.

[handwritten word: illegible]

Soldier's Application for Pension.

The Board reserves the Right to Call for Additional testimony if they Deem it Necessary.

E.T. Tidings

Filed June 21, 1899

Allowed [blank]

Quarterly allowance, \$[blank]

Pension allowed from [blank]

Rejected [blank]

[blank] President,

[blank] Secretary,

Board of Pension Examiners.

[handwritten: No Report]

Act to provide aid to Soldiers

HOUSE BILL NO. 808.

AN ACT to be entitled "An Act to amend '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 for preparing such pensions, and fixing a penalty for the violation of the same,' and being Chapter 64, Acts of 1891."

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That two hundred thousand dollars (or one hundred thousand dollars per year), or as much thereof as may be necessary, be, and is hereby, appropriated for pensions for old soldiers coming under the disabilities and requirements of Chapter 64, Acts of 1891.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That \$25 be stricken out of the fifth line of sub-section 1 of section 3, and \$15 be inserted in lieu thereof.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That \$10 be stricken out of the fourth line of section 7, and \$1 be inserted in lieu thereof.

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the Board of Pension Examiners be, and he is hereby, directed, where there exists a doubt as to the worthiness of a pensioner, or where charges have been preferred by reputable persons, to visit the pensioner and to fully investigate his condition both physical and financial, and to submit a report of his said investigation to the board.

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the Secretary shall receive no additional compensation for the investigations provided for in section 4, but his actual expenses shall be paid by a warrant of the Comptroller, drawn against the pension appropriation, on his sworn statement of his expenses.

SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That hereafter said Board of Pension Examiners shall have power, with the consent of the trustees of the Confederate Soldiers' Home, in case of applicants having no families, to allow them a support in the Confederate Soldiers' Home in lieu of a pension. Provided, however, that all such applicants for pensions who are, with the exception of the disabilities for which they are entitled to a pension, able-bodied men, in reasonably fair health for men of their ages, shall, if they so elect, have a pension instead of a support in said Confederate Soldiers' Home.

SEC. 7. Be it further enacted, That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed April 22, 1899.

JOSEPH W. BYRNS,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SEID WADDELL,

Speaker of the Senate.

Approved April 22, 1899.

BENTON McMILLIN, Governor.

SOLDIER'S APPLICATION FOR PENSION August 1891

I E. T. 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 less 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 [or United States is crossed out] 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 ever since 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 offices, nor do I receive aid or 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 where you born?

Ans: Harderman 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. Gordon Commanding, Captn [sic] W. I. White, 1st [illegible]. G. D. Ridings was second orderly sargent [sic] G. 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 Stone's [sic] River

What was the precise nature of your wound or wounds?

Ans: It was a face wound, producing blindness in both eyes for about two days, causing me to stay in Hospital about 12 months

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, it has never been of any service to me since the wound above described.

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

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: [blank]

What was the name of the surgeon that attended you?

Ans: Dr. Maney after I was released from prison 2 months. I remained with the army till its general surrender

Are you married, or have you been married?

Ans: I am married

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 to 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 with [crossed out]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: [blank]

Witness my hand, this 5th day of August 1891

E. T. Ridings

WITNESSES:

J. S. Edwards M. D. Physician.

T. A. Bunnell Co I 11 Tenn [sic] Regt Witness.

R. M. Eckls Co. I 11 Tenn [sic] Regt Witness.

J. I. J. Adams Co. C 1th Tenn [sic] Regt.

G. H. French

State of Tennessee, Houston County

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

Witness my hand at office this 5th day of August 1891.

J I J Adams Clerk.

Physician's Affidavit

State of Tennessee, Houston County

Personally appeared before me. J I J Adams Clerk of the County Court of said county, the above named Dr J S Edwards one of the assembling witnesses to the foregoing application, and who is a physician of good standing, and being duly sworn, says that he has carefully and thoroughly examined E. T. Ridings the applicant, and finds him laboring under the following disabilities;

Loss of sight of right eye with scars indicating Gunshot of face. Ball entering over left eye penetrating root of nose going under right eye, through cheek bone Bones of face not in a healthy condition.

Witness my hand at office, this 5th day of August 1891.

J I J Adams Clerk.

Character Witness Form

(If possible the two witnesses as to character should have served with the Applicant in the Army, and if so let them, or either, state it in their oath.)

State of Tennessee, Houston County

Personally appeared before me. J I J Adams Clerk of the County Court of said county, the above named L. A. Bunnell R M Eckes and J I J Adams G H French two [crossed out] Four of the subscribing witnesses to the foregoing application, and with whom I am personally acquainted, and known to me to be citizens of veracity and standing in this community, and who make oath that they are personally acquainted with the foregoing

applicant, and that the facts set forth and statements made in his application are correct and true, to the best of their knowledge and belief, and that they have no interest in this claim, and that said applicant's habits are good and free from dishonor. And [blank] further make oath to the following facts touching the applicant's service in the Confederate Army.

Witness my hand at office, this 5th day of August 1891.

J I J Adams, Clerk.