

A. DECLARATION FOR ORIGINAL INVALID PENSION. A.

To be executed before a court of record or some officer thereof having custody of its seal.

State of Massachusetts }
County of Suffolk } ss:

On this 11th day of February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and eighty-7
personally appeared before me, clerk of the Municipal Court of the South, a court of record
within and for the county and State aforesaid, John M. Edson, aged 62 years,
a resident of the Town of Stow county of Middlesex

State of Massachusetts, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the
identical John M. Edson, who was ENROLLED on the 15th day
of August, 1864, in company K of the 4th regiment of Mass Heavy Artillery Volle
commanded by Capt Albert E. Proctor, and was honorably DISCHARGED at
Fort Richardson Va on the 17th day of June, 1865; that his
personal description, in discharge is as follows: Age, 41 years; height, 5 feet 5 inches; complexion, dark;
hair, dark now grey; eyes, grey

That while a member of the organization aforesaid, in the service
and in the line of his duty at Fort Runyon, Albany, in the State of Virginia
on or about the 13th day of October, 1864, he contracted Malaria

from the large miasmatic marshes that immediately surrounded the quarters
of wound or injury. If disabled by disease, state fully its causes; if by wound or injury, the precise manner in which received.)
at Fort Runyon that he was taken sick with malarial fever with ague on the 13th day of Oct-1864 and
was removed to the Post Hospital at Fort Albany Oct 18th thence to Brigade Hospital Oct 29th
thence to Mount Pleasant Hospital, Washington, Nov 4th being returned to his Co Nov 10th
and to duty Nov 21st that he was at various times sick and unable to
attend to duty being particularly so Dec 3rd and again May the 6th 1866.

That he was treated in hospitals as follows: being removed to Fort Williams Hospital
near Fairfax Seminary May 10th and returned to his Company
May 24th 1865

That he has previously been employed in the military or naval service otherwise than as stated above having been enrolled
as a Private in Co B 13th Massachusetts Infantry Vols on the 16th day of July 1861 for three
years & discharged August 1st 1864 by reason of expiration of term of enlistment

That since leaving the service this applicant has resided in the Town of Stow county of Middlesex
in the State of Massachusetts, and his occupation has been that of an Iron Moulder
That prior to his entry into the service above named he was a man of good, sound physical health, being when enrolled
an Iron Moulder That he is now partially disabled from obtaining his subsistence by
manual labor by reason of his injuries, above described, received in the service of the United States; and he therefore
makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the invalid pension-roll of the United States.

He hereby appoints
of
State of
his true and lawful attorney
to prosecute his claim. That he has never received or applied for a pension. That his Post
OFFICE ADDRESS is Rock Bottom, county of Middlesex
State of Massachusetts

Claimant's signature: John M. Edson
Attest: Chas D. Parker
Jos. E. Gayson.

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State of Massachusetts }
County of Suffolk } ss:

On this 11th day of February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and eighty-... personally appeared before me, Clerk of the Municipal Court of the Town of Stow, a court of record within and for the county and State aforesaid, John M. Edson, aged 62 years, a resident of the Town of Stow county of Middlesex State of Massachusetts, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical John M. Edson, who was ENROLLED on the 15th day of August, 1864, in company K of the 4th regiment of Mass Heavy Artillery 20th commanded by Capt Albert E. Proctor, and was honorably DISCHARGED at Fort Richardson Va on the 17th day of June, 1865; that his personal description is as follows: Age, 41 years; height, 5 feet 5 inches; complexion, dark; hair, dark now grey; eyes, grey. That while a member of the organization aforesaid, in the service and in the line of his duty at Fort Runyon, Albany, in the State of Virginia on or about the 13th day of October, 1864, he contracted Malaria from the large malarious swamps that immediately surrounded the quarters at Fort Runyon that he was taken sick with malarial fever with ague on the 13th day of Oct-1864 and was removed to the Post-Hospital at Fort Albany Oct-18th thence to Brigade Hospital Oct-29th thence to Mount Pleasant Hospital, Washington, Nov-4th being returned to his Co Dec 10th and to duty Nov 21st that he was at various times sick and unable to attend to duty being particularly so Dec 3rd and again May 1st 6th 1866.

That he was treated in hospitals as follows: being removed to Fort Williams Hospital near Fairfax Seminary May 10th and returned to his Company May 24th 1865

That he has previously been employed in the military service otherwise than as stated above having been enrolled as a Private in Co B 13th Massachusetts Infantry Volts on the 16th day of July, 1861 for three years & discharged August-1st 1864 by reason of expiration of term of enlistment

That since leaving the service this applicant has resided in the Town of Stow county of Middlesex in the State of Massachusetts, and his occupation has been that of an Iron Moulder

That prior to his entry into the service above named he was a man of good, sound physical health, being when enrolled an Iron Moulder. That he is now partially disabled from obtaining his subsistence by manual labor by reason of his injuries, above described, received in the service of the United States; and he therefore makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the invalid pension-roll of the United States.

He hereby appoints ... of ... State of ... his true and lawful attorney to prosecute his claim. That he has never received or applied for a pension. That his Post OFFICE ADDRESS is Rock Bottom, county of Middlesex State of Massachusetts

Claimant's signature: John M. Edson

Attest: Chas D. Parker Jos. E. Gaynor

I George W. Edson of the Town of Stone County of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts certify as follows.

I am the son of John M. Edson who served in Co B 13th Mass Inf and Co K, 4th Mass H.A. and whose claim for a pension was filed in Feb 1885 and is entitled Invalid No 532226. I served with him in Co K, 4th H.A. and remember well the many cases of sickness and malaria that he suffered and by reference to my Army diary I find the dates to be as follows.

That we both enlisted Aug 15th 1864, that we were both in the detail to garrison Fort Runyan Va Sept 30th for ten days where the water of a swamp stood stagnant and covered with green scum within a few rods of the building we slept in, that we were relieved Oct 10th and he was soon after taken sick and reported to the Surgeon Oct 14th and was removed to the Post Hospital Fort Albany Oct 18th, that Oct 23^d a new Surgeon took charge of said Hospital and Oct 28th another new Surgeon took charge of the same, that Oct 29th he was carried to the Brigade Hospital and Nov 4th was from there taken to Mount Pleasant Hospital, Washington, and was returned to the Co Nov 10th and went on duty Nov 21st.

I also find that he suffered much with malarial headaches through Dec, with occasional chills through the winter and Spring and that May 6th he was removed from our quarters at Fort Barnard to the Fort Williams Hospital and on the 11th of May was reported as dead. He was returned to the Co May 24th. After our return home the last of June 1865, he had bad attacks of chills and fever and has

been troubled badly with what he terms dumb ague and other malarial afflictions ever since. After receiving notice that his pension had not been allowed he grew despondent and nervous growing rapidly worse until Dec 2nd 1885 when during the night he cut his throat with his jack knife, cutting on both sides, back and front of his throat, laying bare the jaw bone and also the carotid artery which a hairs breadth more would have severed. He also drove the knife into his temple.

The cut required 19 stitches and was pronounced by the Surgeon the worst he ever saw. He afterwards gave as a reason "that he did it because he was sick and weak and could not work and should come to want and so had better be out of the way!"

He soon was raving badly and Jan 19th 1886 he was taken to the Worcester Insane Asylum where he remained until March 8th when I had him brought home and since then he has not earned a dollar. He has no property and is wholly dependent on me for support and as I am an Invalid Pensioner myself and my own health and strength failing I do not feel able to continue to do as I have in the past but think the Government ought to relieve me in a measure by granting him a pension which he so truly deserves. He is now 67 years old served nearly four years in the army, so shattered in mind health and body, he having a bad double hernia, his nervous system completely broken up and he is incapable of attending to any business whatever.

State of Massachusetts }
 County of Middlesex } SS

George W. Edson.

On this 13th day of June 1890
 before me came George W. Edson, to me well known,
 and made oath to the above statement. I have no
 interest in the same.

(Certificate on file)

Fred C. Webb
 Justice of the Peace