

Samuel E. Powers Papers

Handwritten Officer's Certificate of Disability

Officers Certificate of Disability for Samuel Powers by Edward Dutcher

I Edward F. Dutcher late Major of the 74th Regiment of Illinois Inf'y [sic] Vols certify on Honor that Samuel E. Powers now of Chicago, Ill, was a member of Co. B in my Regiment, and is as I am informed an applicant for an Invalid Pension. That he was discharged on account of disability on or about the 9th day of March 1863 that I was well acquainted with said Powers at the time of his enlistment and all the time the Regiment was in Camp at Rockford Ill, from about the 1st to September 27th 1862 that being the day said Regiment left for the Front, and was well acquainted with him until the time of his discharge for disability as aforesaid. That said Powers appeared well and able to perform his full duty until after the Battle of "Stones River" in Tennessee. That he had been employed for sometime at Head quarters as a clerk. That said [sentence was cutoff].

most [sic] of the [illegible] days preceding the Battle lasted for five days, the weather cold and stormy, on short rations and the last two days without any and not permitted to have any fires the 74th Regt, had by order stacked their Blankets during the Battle at Perryville Kentucky which they [illegible] and at this time were without, and not any Tents our Trains having burned by Rebel Cavalry at La Verne half way to Nashville - on Thursday if I remember correctly - on the night of January 2nd Davis Division the 74th Regt included was moved across "Stones River" fording the stream waist deep to many of the men in support of the extreme left then very heavily engaged, and on the night of the 3rd January reforded [sic] "Stones River" to their former position on the extreme right of the Army - the water was very cold with ice in the River in addition; a cold rain was falling and the men without fires and little to eat suffered very badly. the said Samuel E. Powers with the others - and I further certify that immidiately [sic] after the said Battle of "Stones River" said Samuel E. Powers complained to me personally, of a Pain in his Eyes, that it was so bad he could not perform any duty, more particularly clerical work, that his eyes soon became so bad and disordered that he was relieved from his duties as clerk at Headquarters, and was finally discharged from the service solely on account of the aforesaid disability and disease of his eyes, that this affiant was in command of said 74th Regiment soon after the Battle of Stone [sic] River the Col. being Home on Furlough and the Lt Col. a paroled prisoner at Camp Chase Ohio - that I was among the men of the Regt. every day, and personally looked up their condition, and personally saw that their wants and [illegible] were attended to and personally knew the condition of the eyes of said Samuel E. Powers and I further certify that in my Judgement from personal knowledge of any difficulty of any kind before that time and I had seen him and been with him daily and personally know that he was not afflicted with any difficulty of the kind previous to that time the first days of January AD 1863, and that

the said Samuel E. Powers, was to all appearance a well, robust and able bodied [illegible] man when he entered the service in the summer of 1862 and while in camp at Rockford Ill and from seeing him in his clerical work particularly free from any injury or defect of the Eyes and so continued up to the time above stated herein

Edward F. Dutcher

Late Major 74th Regiment Ill Infry [sic] Vols

State of Illinois

County of Ogle

On this twentieth day of October 1887 personally appeared before me a County Clerk in and for the county and state aforesaid the above named Edward F. Dutcher to me well and whom I know to be respectable and entitled to credit and subscribed and made oath to the foregoing statement and that he has no interest in the application of the said soldier for a Pension and I further certify that I have interest in said application that said affidavit was written by said Dutcher and his hand writing [rest of letter is cut off].

Melissa Powers Affidavit for Pension

State of Illinois

County of Kane SS,

On this 16th day of July A.D. 1888, before me a Notary Public within and for the County and State aforesaid, personally came and appeared Melissa Powers aged 71 years, a resident of the City of St. Charles in the State of Illinois who, being by me duly sworn according to law, on oath declares that her Post Office address is St. Charles County of Kane State of Illinois and that she has no [illegible] interest in this claim No. 618278 of Samuel E. Powers late a private of Co. "B", 74 Regiment of Illinois Inftry [sic] Vol., in the late war of the rebellion. That affiant is the mother of the claimant herein, and from a personal knowledge, and long and intimate acquaintance with the claimant as a parent makes the following statement of facts: That when her son went [illegible] war in the summer of 1862 he was a strong, well and hearty young man in Every way, and, was particularly free from any injury or defect in his Eyes. That when he came home in the spring of 1863 he was suffering from some trouble in one of his Eyes, the left Eye. That he never recovered from the same, but became totally blind in said Eye, and has been blind ever since and totally disabled for manual labor. That she has no [illegible] interest in this claim and makes this affidavit because of the inability of her son to find people who has any knowledge or personal recollections of his Eye trouble at the time he came home from the war.

Melissa Powers

Declaration for Invalid Pension
DECLARATION FOR INVALID PENSION.

Act of June 27, 1890.

This May be Executed Before Any Person Authorized by Law to Administer Oaths for General Purposes.

State of Illinois, County of Cook, SS: On this 5th day of January , A.D. one thousand eight hundred and ninety one personally appeared before me, a (Title of magistrate.) Notary Public within and for the County and State aforesaid Samuel E. Powers aged 52 years, a resident of the City of Chicago County of Cook, State of Illinois, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical Samuel E. Powers who was ENROLLED on the 9th day of August, 1862, in (Here state rank, company and regiment, in Military service, or Vessel if in the Navy.) Co. B 74th Regt Ill Vol [illegible text] the rebellion, and served at least ninety days, and was HONORABLY DISCHARGED at or near [illegible text] on the 9th day of March, 1863. That he is wholly unable to earn a support by manual labor, by reason of (Here name the disease or injuries from which disabled.) Heart disease, catarch [sic] and impediment of speech - Dyspepsia and Stomach disease - Weakness of Spine and back total loss of sight of left Eye and blindness of right Eye and general disability That said disabilities are not due to his vicious habits, and are to the best of his knowledge and belief permanent. That he has [blank] applied for a pension under application No. [blank]. That he is a pensioner under Certificate No. 476.997 on account of (If a pensioner, the Certificate number only need be given. If not, give the number on the former application, if one was made. If an increase of rate is claimed on account of pensioned disabilities, so state, giving the reason therefor.) Loss of sight of left Eye. That he made this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United States under the provisions of the Act of June 27, 1890. He hereby appoints, with full power of substitution, MILO B. STEVENS and CO. of CHICAGO, ILLS, their successors or legal representatives, his true and lawful attorneys

(FROM OTHER SIDE.)

Also personally appeared L. Gustafson, residing at Chicago, Ill and J. P. Weber, residing at Chicago, Ill, persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who being by me duly sworn, say they were present and saw Samuel E. Powers, the claimant, sign his name (or make his mark) to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe from the appearance of said claimant and their

acquaintance with him [crossed out: for [blank] years and [blank] years, respectively;]
that he is the identical person he represents himself to be; and that they have no
interest in the prosecution of this claim.

J. P. Weber

L. Gustafson

Signature of Witnesses.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of January, A.D. 1891 and I hereby
certify that the contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully made known and
explained to the applicant and witnesses before swearing, including the words [blank]
erased, and the words [blank] added; and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the
prosecution of this claim.

Geo. W. Black

(Official Signature.)

Notary Public CERTIFICATE ON FILE.

(Official Character.)

The Act of June 27, 1890, REQUIRES, in case of a soldier:

1. An honorable discharge (but the certificate need not be file unless called for).
2. A minimum, service of ninety days.
3. A permanent physical disability not due to vicious habits. (It need not have originated in the service).
4. The rates under the act are graded from \$6 to \$12, proportioned to the degree of inability to earn a support, and are not affected by the rank held.
5. A pensioner under prior laws may apply under this one, or a pensioner under this one may apply under other laws, but he cannot draw more than ONE pension for the same period.

[illegible stamp at bottom of page]

Samuel E. Powers Affidavit for a Pension
STATE of Illinois

COUNTY of Cook SS,

On this 21st day of July A.D. 1888, before me Clarence F. Gooding a Notary Public within and for the County and State aforesaid, personally came and appeared Samuel E. Powers aged 50 years, a resident of the City of Chicago in the State of Illinois who, being by me duly sworn according to law, on oath, declares that his Post Office address is Massasoit House Chicago County of Cook State of Illinois and that he has no [crossed out] an interest in this claim No. 618278 of Samuel E. Powers late a private of Co. B, 74th Regiment of Illinois Inftry [sic] Vol., in the late war of the rebellion. That affiant is a [crossed out] himself of the claimant herein, and from a personal knowledge, [crossed out: and long and intimate acquaintance with the claimant]] as a Claimant makes the following statement of facts: That he is unable to furnish the testimony of Doctor Ellwood the Regimental surgeon other than that already furnished in the letter of Doctor Ellwood filed in the case in December 1887, that he is unable to furnish any other medical testimony of treatment since service than that of Dr. [illegible] herewith file for the reason that two of them are now dead -Dr Newhouse St Louis Mo – the other a German Dr in Chicago whose name I have forgotten who died after leaving Chicago while on a tour. That he has already furnished the testimony of Major Deutcher the only commissioned officer he can now find who [illegible] any knowledge of his trouble in [illegible] claimant being on detached service at the time at Regimental Headquarters. Can get no comardes [sic] of his company to corroborate the Major of the Regiment. That claimant furnishes herewith the best obtainable evidence of disability since service that [rest of page is cut off]

Pension Reissue February 6, 1907

Reissue UNDER ACT OF FEBRUARY 6, 1907

No. 476.997

United States of America Department of the Interior Bureau of Pensions

[image of a woman holding a flag with a pension paper below her is found in between the words of the heading of the paper.]

It is hereby certified That in conformity with the laws of the United States, Samuel E. Powers who was a Private Co. B 74th Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry is entitled to a pension at the rate of Fifteen dollars per month to commence on the Third day of August one thousand nine hundred and eight..

Given at the Department of the Interior this Twenty-Eighth day of August, one thousand nine hundred, and, eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and thirty third.

Jessy E. Wilson

Acting Secretary of the Interior

Countersigned

[illegible signature]

Commissioner of Pensions

[Written on the left margin of the paper]

Former payments conveying any portion of the same time to be deducted

Transfer of Pension Rolls Form

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH, NATIONAL HOME FOR D.V.S.

National Home, Wisconsin Nov 2 1905, 190[blank]

THE COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

SIR:

I have the honor to report that Samuel E. Powers late B Co., 74 Regiment Ill Inf Pensioner, Certificate No 476.997 was admitted this Branch on the [blank] day of NOV 2 1905, 190[blank], and to request that his name be transferred from the rolls of the CHICAGO, ILL. Agency to the rolls of the MILWAUKEE, WIS. Agency at MILWAUKEE, WIS ACT OF JUNE, 90,

Respectfully yours,

J. E. [illegible]

TREASURER.

Statement of Clarence F. Gooding

State of Illinois

COUNTY of Cook SS.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 21st day of July in the year 1888, and I hereby certify that the affiant is a respectable and credible person, and resides as stated, that I believe his statements are correct and worthy of full faith and credit; that I have no interest in this matter. I further certify that the foregoing affidavit was read over, fully

explained to, and understood by the affiant before the signing and execution thereof, and also that the affiant is the identical party represented as making the affidavit.

Official Signature.

Clarence F. Gooding

Notary Public

If witness signs by mark, the signature must be attested by two persons who write their names.

Pensioner Dropped Form
3-1081

ACT FEB. 6TH, 1907

PENSIONER DROPPED.

United States Pension Agency,

Milwaukee, Wis.

May 2 1910, 190[blank]

Certificate No 476.997

Class INVALID

Pensioner Samuel E. Powers

Soldier [blank]

Service Pri [sic] B 74 Ills

The Commissioner of Pensions.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the above named pensioner who was last paid at \$15.00, to Apr 4, 1910 has been dropped because of death Apr 17 1910

Very respectfully,

F. H. Magdeburg

United States Pension Agent.

NOTE. – Every name dropped to be thus reported at once and when cause of dropping is death, state date of death when known.

Information on Service from the War Department October 1887
618.278

War Department, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington Oct 29, 1887.

Respectfully returned to the Commissioner of Pensions.

Samuel E Powers, a Private of Company B, 74 Regiment Illinois Volunteers, was enrolled on the 9th day of Aug, 1862, at Pecatonica for 3 years and is reported: on muster in roll dated Sept 4 62 present. Roll from Sept 4 to Oct 31, 62 present same to Feb. 28, 63. Certificate of Disability shows him discharged Mch [sic] 6, 63 at Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Records of this office furnish no further evidence of disability.

Bureau of Pensions Request Form
Department of the Interior.

BUREAU OF PENSIONS, October 13, 1887

[stamp in upper right corner: RECEIVED OCT 15 1887 ENLISTED writing around perimeter of stamp is illegible.]

No. 618278

Samuel E. Powers

Pvt Co. B '74' Ill. Vol.

SIR:

I have the honor to request that you will furnish from the records of the War Department a full Report as to the service, disability, and hospital treatment of Samuel E. Powers, who, it is claimed, enlisted August 9, 1862 and served as Private in Co. B, 74 Reg't [sic] Ill. Vols.; [crossed out: also in Co.] and was discharged at Stone [sic] River, March 9, 1863. While serving in Co. B, 74 Reg't [sic] Ill. Vols. he was disabled by loss of sight of left eye, and full loss of sight of right eye also [crossed out] and was treated in hospitals of which the names, location, and dates of treatment are as follows: regimental surgeon.

Very respectfully,

John C. Black

Commissioner 433 8

The Adjutant General, U.S. Army.

Certificate of Disability for Samuel E. Powers
ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

[image of an eagle with a banner and shield is found under the above words]

CERTIFICATE OF DISABILITY FOR DISCHARGE.

(To be used, in duplicate, in all cases of discharge on account of disability.)

Samuel E. Powers of Captain David O. Buttolph Company, (B) of the Seventy Fourth Regiment of United States Infantry was enlisted by Augustus W. Thompson of the Seventy fourth Regiment Illinois Volunteers at Pecatonica Illinois on the fifteenth day of [illegible] August 1862, to serve three years; he was born in Kane County in the State of Illinois, is Twenty four years of age, five feet Eight inches high, Light complexion, Light eyes, Light hair, and by occupation when enlisted a Clerk. During the last two months said soldier has been unfit for duty Sixty days. (Here consult directions on Form 13, p. 325, Medical Dept. Gen. Reg.) Having an impediment in his speech and a growing blindness in one of his eyes

STATION: Near Murfreesboro Tenn [sic]

Date: February 16, 1863

D. O. Buttolph Commanding Company.

I CERTIFY, that I have carefully examined the said Saml [sic] E Powers of Captain D. Buttolph's Company, and find him incapable of performing the duties of a soldier because of (Here consult par. 1260, p. 284 and directions on Form 13, p. 325, Med. Dept. Gen. Reg.) A great impediment in his speech, rendering it impossible at times for him to utter a word or sentence, and further disabled by a Cataract forming in one eye. He is present with the Rg't. [sic] Fair disabilities are not dependant [sic] for [illegible] upon his service in the army.

C. Ellinwood

Surgeon. 74 Regt III Vol,

DISCHARGED, this Sixth day of March 1863, at Murfreesboro Tenn [sic]

Pursuant to an order of Maj Genl [sic] Rosecrans

Jason Marsh Col Commanding the Post [crossed out] 74th Ill. Vols

Note 1. – When a probable case for pension, special care must be taken to state the degree of disability.

Note 2. – The place where the soldier desires to be addressed may be here added.

Town – St. Charles County – Kane State – Illinois

[Written on the side] Approved J. [illegible]

(Duplicates)

Pension Payment Voucher for Samuel E. Powers
RETURN TO J. MERRIAM,

U.S. Pension Agent.

CHICAGO, ILL.

Department of the Interior,

Bureau of Pensions.

Washington, D.C., January 15, 1898.

Certificate No. 476997

Name Samuel E. Powers

SIR: In forwarding to the pension agent the executed voucher for your next quarterly payment please favor me by returning this circular to him with replies to the questions enumerated below.

Very Respectfully,

H Clay Grant

Commissioner of Pensions

First. Are you married? If so, please state your wife's full name and her maiden name.

Answer. No

Second. When, where, and by whom were you married?

Answer. December 19th 1865 by Rev Wm Lloyd at St. Charles Ill

Third. What record of marriage exists?

Answer. Recorded in Family Bible

Fourth. Were you previously married? If so, please state the name of your former wife and the date and place of her death or divorce.

Answer. Yes Emma I Lynde divorced Sept 25, 1870 at Geneva Ill

Fifth. Have you any children living? If so, please state their names and the dates of their birth.

Answer. Franklin E. Born April 27 / 65 Hattie E Born Feby 13 / 68 Franklin is now married lives at St. Charles Ill.

Samuel E. Powers

(Signature.)

Date of reply July 5, 1898

Declaration for Pension July 1908

ACT OF FEBRUARY 6, 1907.

DECLARATION FOR PENSION.

THE PENSION CERTIFICATE SHOULD NOT BE FORWARDED WITH THE APPLICATION.

State of Wisconsin

County Milwaukee SS.

On this 31 day of July A.D. one thousand nine hundred and eight, personally appeared before me, a Notary Public within and for the county and State aforesaid, Samuel E. Powers, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is 70 years of age, and a resident of National Military Home county of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin; and that he is the identical person who was ENROLLED at Rockford, Illinois under the name of Samuel E. Powers, on the 9th day of August, 1862 as a Private, in (Here state rank, and company and regiment in the Army, or vessels if in the Navy.) Company B 74th Ill Inf in the service of the United States, in the (State name of war, Civil or Mexican.) Civil war, and was HONORABLY DISCHARGED at Murfreesboro, Tenn, [sic] on the 9 day of March, 1863. That he also served (Here give a complete statement of all other services, if any.) "No other service" That he was not employed in the military or naval service of the United States otherwise than as stated above. That his personal description at enlistment was as follows: Height, 5 feet 8 inches; complexion, Fair; color of eyes Grey;

color of hair Lt. Brown; that his occupation was Dry Goods Clerk; that he was born July 31st, 1838, at Geneva Kane Co. Ills

That his several places of residence since leaving the service have been as follows:
(State date of each change, as nearly as possible.)

Chicago, Ills – Natl Mil House Wis

That he is [blank] a pensioner. That he has [blank] heretofore applied for pension (If a pensioner, the certificate number only need be given. If not, give the number of the former application, if one was made.) Pension [sic] Certf [sic] # 476992

That he makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United States under the provisions of the act of February 6, 1907.

That his post office-address is Natl Mil House, county of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin

Samuel E. Powers

(Claimant's signature in full.)

Attest:

(1) [blank]

(2) [blank]

Also personally appeared Benjamin F. Burton residing in Natl Mil House and Herman Klein, residing in Natl Mil House, persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say that they were present and saw Samuel E. Powers, the claimant, sign his name (or make his mark) to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of the claimant and their acquaintance with him of 1 years and 2 years, respectively, that he is the identical person he represents himself to be, and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

Benjamin F. Burton

[Rest of page cut off]

Declaration for Original Invalid Pension
DECLARATION FOR ORIGINAL INVALID PENSION.

To be executed before a Court of Record, or some officer thereof [sic] having custody of its seal.

State of Illinois

County of Cook SS.

On this 2d day of August, A.D. one thousand eight hundred and Eighty seven personally appeared before me Clerk, of the Superior Court, a court of record within and for the county and State aforesaid, Samuel E. Powers, aged 49 years, a resident of the City of Chicago, county of Cook State of Illinois, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical Samuel E. Powers, who was ENROLLED on the 9th day of August, 1862 in Company "B" of the 74th regiment of Illinois commanded by Capt David O Buttolph, and was honorably DISCHARGED at Stone [sic] River on the 9th day of March, 1863; that his personal description is as follows: Age 49 years; height, 5 feet 8 inches; complexion, light; hair, light; eyes, blue. That while a member of the organization aforesaid, in the service, and in the line of his duty at Stone [sic] River, in the State of Tennessee on or about the 31st day of December, 1862, he (Here state name or [illegible] disease, or the location of wound or injury. If disabled by disease, state [illegible] its causes; if by wound or injury, the precise manner in which received.) contracted blindness of the left Eye which has become total and permanent of said left Eye, and also effecting [sic] and impairing the sight of the right Eye to a considerable extent. That he was discharged on Surgeons [sic] Certificate of disability on account of said blindness.

That he was treated in hospitals as follows: (Here state the times or [illegible], and the locations of all hospitals in which treated, and the date of treatments.) In Regimental Hospital by Surgeon Chas. N. Ellinwood (deceased)

That he has not been employed in the military or naval service otherwise than as stated above. (Here state what the service was, whether prior or subsequent to that stated above, and the dates of which it began and ended.) [blank]

That since leaving the service this applicant has resided in the City of Chicago in the State of Illinois, and his occupation has been that of a fancy wood dealer. That prior to his entry into the service above named, he was a man of good, sound, physical health, being when enrolled a Clerk. That he is now totally 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, with full powers of substitution and revocation Jno. Lu. Taylor. [rest of page is cutoff].

Affidavit for a Pension

Also, personally appeared Conrad [illegible], residing at Chicago, Illinois and O.W. [illegible], residing at Chicago, Illinois, persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say that they were present and saw Samuel E. Powers, the claimant, sign his name (or make his mark) to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of said claimant and their acquaintance with him, that he is the identical person he represents himself to be, and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

Conrad [illegible]

O. W. [illegible]

(Signature of Witnesses.)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd day of August A.D. 1887, and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully made known and explained to the applicant and witnesses before swearing, including the words [blank], erased, and the words [blank] added; and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

Patrick McGrath

(Signature.)

Clerk of the Superior Court of Cook County State of Illinois

INVALID.

CLAIM FOR PENSION

ORIGINAL.

Samuel E. Powers Applicant.

Priv Co, "B" 74th Regt.,

Illinois Infy [sic] Vols.

Enlisted August 9, 1862.

Discharged Mch [sic] 9, 1863.

[Stamp: BUREAU OF PENSIONS US AUG 4 1887]

FILED BY

JNO. LU. TAYLOR,
Attorney and Solicitor in Chancery,
Room 67 and 68, 97 S. Clark Street,
CHICAGO ILLINOIS.

[WRITTEN ON SIDE OF THE PAGE]

The claimant's identity and loyalty must be proven by two witnesses, certified by the judicial officer to be respectable and credible, who are present and witness the signature of the declarant, and certify to his identity and loyalty under oath or affirmation.

Sworn Statement Form
State of Illinois

COUNTY of Kane SS.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 16th day of July in the year 1888, and I hereby certify that the affiant is a respectable and credible person, and resides as stated, that I believe his statements are correct and worthy of full faith and credit; that I have interest in this matter. I further certify that the foregoing affidavit was read over, fully explained to, and understood by the affiant before the signing and execution thereof, and also, that the affiant is the identical party represented as making the affidavit.

Henry [illegible signature]

Notary Public.

Official Signature.

If Witness signs by mark, the signature must be attested by two persons who write their names.

[Stamp US PENSION OFFICE. July 24 1888]