

Application of Soldier, Sailor or Marine for Disability by Reason of Disease or the Infirmities of Age.

I, Joseph H. Francis do hereby apply for aid under the act of the General Assembly of Virginia, approved April 2, 1902, and subsequent acts, as amended by an act approved March 10, 1903, entitled an act to aid the citizens of Virginia who were disabled by wounds received during the war between the States while serving as soldiers, sailors, or marines of Virginia, and such as served during the said war as soldiers, sailors, or marines of Virginia, who are now disabled by disease contracted during the war, or by the infirmities of age, and the widows of soldiers, sailors, or marines of Virginia who lost their lives in said service, or whose death resulted from wounds received or disease contracted in said service, and providing penalties for violating the provisions of this act, and I do solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the State of Virginia, resident at Capron in the County of Southampton in the said State, and that I have been an actual resident of the said State for two years, and of the said city (or county) for one year next preceding the date of this application, and that I was a soldier (sailor or marine) of the State of Virginia in the war between the United States and the Confederate States, as a member of (here state specifically the command and branch of the service to which the applicant belonged, and the names of his immediate superior officers) Co. H. 1st Reg. Va. Volunteers and that I am now disabled by disease (here state the nature of the disease and the cause from which it resulted) Blindness from Encephalitis and that from the effects of such disease I am now permanently disabled from following my usual and ordinary occupation or any other occupation for a livelihood (in the case of disability from the infirmities of age, strike out all relating to disability by disease, and then proceed as follows:) and that I am now suffering from the infirmities of age, and permanently incapacitated thereby from following my usual and ordinary occupation, or any other occupation for a livelihood (here state specifically the nature and character of the disability which prevents the applicant from following any occupation for a livelihood) Unable to see to do any thing of work and that during the said war I was loyal and true to my duty, and never, at any time, deserted my command or voluntarily abandoned my post of duty in the said service, and that by reason of such disability I am now entitled to receive, under the said act the sum of dollars annually. And I do further swear that I do not hold any national, State, city or county office, which pays me in salary or fees Two Hundred dollars per annum; nor have I an income from any other employment or any source whatever which amounts to Two Hundred dollars per annum; nor do I receive from any source whatever money or other means of support amounting in value to the sum of Two Hundred dollars per annum; nor do I own in my own right, nor does any one hold in trust for my benefit or use, nor does my wife own, nor does any one hold in trust for my wife, estate or property, either real, personal, or mixed, either in fee or for life, of the assessed value of Seven Hundred and Fifty dollars; (But a soldier, sailor or marine who is entitled to be placed in Class A or B shall have the amount heretofore provided for him, unless he or his wife has an estate of the assessed value of one thousand dollars, but also that a soldier, sailor or marine who has reached the age of eighty years shall have the amount heretofore provided for him, unless he or his wife shall have an estate of the assessed value of fifteen hundred dollars: provided, that the actual amount due or unpaid upon any deed of trust or mortgage to secure the payment of a debt shall be deducted from the assessed value of the property of claimants under this act); nor do I receive any aid or pension from any other State, or from the United States, or from any other source, and that I am am not an inmate of any soldiers' home, and I do further swear that the answers given to the following questions are true:

1. What is your age? Ans. 70 years old
2. Where were you born? Ans. Southampton County, Virginia
3. How long have you resided in Virginia? Ans. all my life
4. How long have you resided in the city or county of your present residence? Ans. all my life
5. What is your usual and ordinary occupation for earning a livelihood? Ans. Working on a farm
6. How long have you followed such occupation or employment? Ans. Ever since I left the Army
7. Have you followed such occupation or employment, or any other occupation or employment, within the last two years? If so, state when and where, and the amount of your annual income from the same? Ans. No, have not followed any other employment but farming
8. State specifically the nature of the disability or disease? Ans. Blindness
9. What were the causes which led to the disease which has resulted in your disability? Ans. Encephalitis in the brain
10. How long have you suffered from such disease, and when did you first become aware that you were afflicted with the same? Ans. Ever since I left the Army 25 years
11. With what disease or sickness did you suffer during the time of your service? Ans. Encephalitis in the brain
12. Are you totally disabled because of such disease, or the infirmities of age, from following your usual and ordinary occupation or employment, or any other occupation, or employment, by which to earn a livelihood? If not totally disabled thereby, but only partially, state the extent of your partial disability. Ans. Unable to see to do any thing
13. When and where did you enter the service of Virginia, or of the Confederate States? Ans. at Mechanicsville in May 1861
14. In what command and service were you engaged during the war between the States? Ans. Co. H. 1st Va. Reg.
15. How long were you in the service? Ans. from May 1861 until April 9th 1865
16. When did you leave the service, and under what circumstances? Ans. at R.E.L. Camp
17. If suffering from disease, state what physician or physicians have attended you for the same? Ans. Dr. John Ward and Dr. H. H. Francis
18. Give the names and addresses of two or more in the service of your command, if any such be living, and if not, so state. Ans. James Whitkin, Newsums Va., Henry Kirk, Newsums Va.
19. Give here any other information you may possess relating to your service, or disability, that will support the justice of your claim for aid. Ans. Removed from the beginning of the war to the end and not able to see to do any thing
20. Is there any camp of Confederate veterans in the city or county of your residence? Ans. Yes
21. Is there any one living, the residence and address of whom is known to you, either comrade or otherwise, who has knowledge of your service, and of the cause of your disability? If so or not, state. Ans. Yes, plenty of my neighbors know all about the case

Witness my hand this 5 day of Aug. 1905

I, J. A. Bishop Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Southampton do certify that Joseph H. Francis whose name is signed to the foregoing application, personally appeared before me in my County aforesaid, having the aforesaid application read to him and fully explained, as well as the statements and answers therein made, the said Joseph H. Francis made oath before me that the said statements and answers are true. (Given under my hand this 5 day of Aug. 1905)

(A) OATH OF RESIDENT WITNESSES. We, D. L. Varnell and J. S. Bryant, James Whitkin do solemnly swear that we are residents of the Southampton County in the said State, and that we have known personally and well for 4 years Joseph H. Francis whose name is signed to the annexed application for aid under the act of the General Assembly of Virginia, approved April 2, 1902, and subsequent acts, as amended by an act approved March 10, 1903, and that the said Joseph H. Francis is a resident of the said county (or city), and is a man of good reputation for truth and honesty, and that we have read the annexed application and the answers to the questions therein propounded made by the said applicant, and verily believe that the said applicant has been truthful in the said statements and answers, and that from our personal knowledge the applicant is disabled (state the character of the disability, and whether it is partial or total) almost totally blind we verily believe the said applicant is justly entitled to aid under the said act, and that we have no personal interest in the allowance of the applicant's claim.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Justice of the Peace, for the County of Southampton State of Virginia, this 5 day of Aug. 1905