

2.

The Commissioner of Pensions.

Sir:

Edward Dorham, formerly a private in Company A, 7th U. S. Colored Volunteer Infantry, and a pensioner under the Act of June 27, 1890, at \$8 per month, by reason of injury to left ankle and bronchitis, filed his declaration under the general law on March 24, 1890, alleging injury to left ankle. Claim was rejected on May 11, 1898, on the ground that service origin was not shown, and an appeal filed on June 18, 1898, contends that rejection is contrary to the evidence.

Claimant alleges that while assisting in unloading a vessel at Powder House, Texas, in 1865, he sustained a severe sprain of the left ankle. He has no record of existence of or treatment for same, but a number of comrades testified that he incurred the injury as alleged. Upon being questioned, later on, by a special examiner, none of these affiants could remember much about it, and it was only upon being told regarding the contents of their former affidavits, that they could give any intelligent information regarding the alleged accident. Even then they failed to substantiate their original statements, and clearly showed that the affidavits prepared for them by the attorney were not based upon actual personal knowledge of the facts therein sworn to.

There appears to be no merit in the claim, and your rejection is sustained.

The action appealed from is affirmed.

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