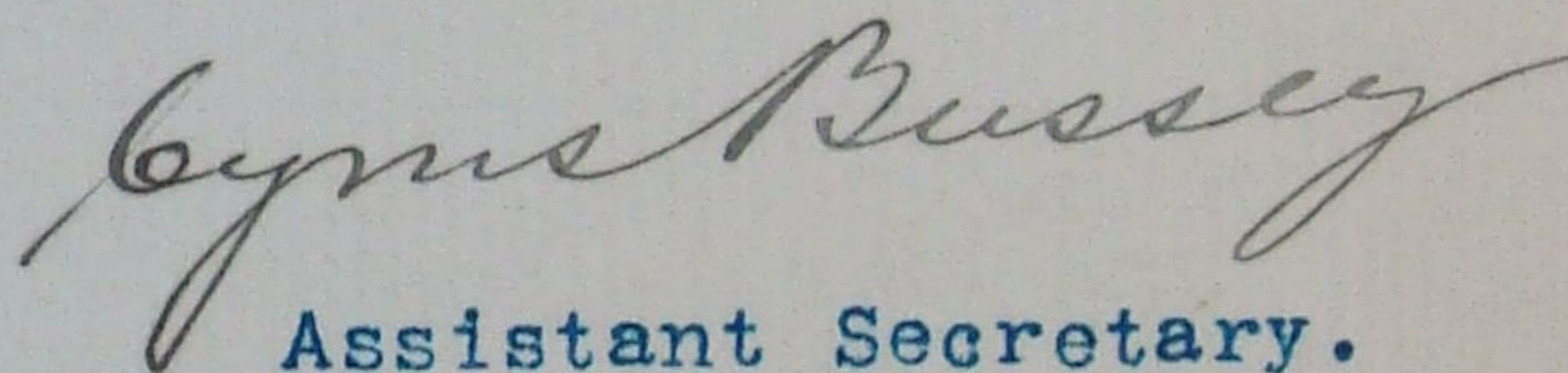


files a certificate, not sworn to but probably authentic and truthful, that he was treated for rheumatism in November and December, 1885. Those who would know his condition best are probably those whose testimony, if ex-parte, would not inspire confidence.

In the opinion of the Department it is a proper case for special examination. The object will be to see whether the rheumatism he had in service troubled him at any time afterward, and especially whether it has disabled him since November 29th, 1886. Of course there should be another medical examination of the applicant. If the claim be not then admitted, let it be returned here for final consideration.

Very Respectfully,


Assistant Secretary.