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KNOW YOUR RECORDS
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May 14, 2015



KNOW YOUR RECORDS
National Archives and Records Administration

***Genealogy:
Using Records of Artificial Limbs
for Union Civil War Veterans, 1861–1927***

Claire Kluskens

Claire Kluskens discusses records in the National Archives that may give information about a veteran's medical condition and whether he received money or an artificial limb from the U.S. Government.

Genealogy: Using Records of Artificial Limbs for Union Civil War Veterans, 1861–1927



Claire Kluskens

Archivist

National Archives
Washington, DC

Claire Kluskens is a projects archivist specializing in immigration, census, military, and other records of high genealogical value. She spearheaded the completion of more than 310 National Archives microfilm publications, and now works on digital projects. She lectures frequently and has published extensively in national, state, and local genealogical publications. Claire has been a National Archives staff member since 1992 and has done genealogical research since 1976.

Artificial Limbs for Union Civil War Veterans



Claire Kluskens

Civil War Soldiers, Armory Square Hospital



Left to right:

A. J. Hutchins, Co. K, 25th Ohio Infantry

Thomas Shields, Co. G, 62nd New York
Infantry

William H. McFarland, Co. B, 5th Wisconsin
Infantry

S. M. Dyer, Co. I, 5th Wisconsin Infantry

V. N. Higgins, Co. H, 2nd Maine Infantry

Group of Civil War soldiers with lower extremity amputations, Armory Square Hospital, Washington, DC.
Courtesy of National Library of Medicine. NLM Unique ID 101395563.

Online at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/lifeandlimb/images/OB1197.png>.

Statistics

60,000 amputations (north and south)
40% loss of fingers or toes only

Limb removal – 5 minutes by a skilled physician

Overall survival rate, 75%

Loss of part of foot, 96% survived

Amputation at hip joint, 17% survived

Compiled Military Service Record (CMSR)

Separate index for each state
alphabetical by name
gives unit and rank
available on *Ancestry.com* or *Fold3.com*

CMSR – one for each *man for each regiment in which he served*
some available on *Ancestry.com* or *Fold3.com*
copies can be requested from NARA for those that are not online

99 or DeWitt Clinton
Ayres DeWitt Clinton
Co. I, 102 Pennsylvania
Infantry.

Private Private

CARD NUMBERS.

1	21153999	26	21155128
2	21154048	27	21155173
3	21154110	28	21155263
4	21154171	29	
5	21154234	30	
6	21154328	31	
7	21154350	32	
8	21154407	33	
9	21154467	34	
10	21154526	35	
11	21154578	36	
12	21154622	37	
13	21154669	38	
14	21154711	39	
15	21154751	40	
16	21154792	41	
17	21137231	42	
18	21136640	43	
19	21154831	44	
20	21154858	45	
21	21154870	46	
22	21154915	47	
23	21154982	48	
24	21155031	49	
25	21155069	50	

Number of personal papers herein.....7

Book Mark:

See also

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Jacket

A

102

Pa.

DeWitt Clinton Ayres

Post

, Capt. Loomis' Co., 13 Reg't Pa. Inf.†

Age 19 years.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll*

for dated Aug 31, 1861.

Joined for duty and enrolled:

When Aug 16, 1861

Where Pittsburgh

Period 3 years.

Mustered in

When Aug 16, 1861

Where Pittsburgh Pa

Present or absent Not stated

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't \$ 100 for

Remarks:

†This organization subsequently became Co. I, 102 Reg't Pa. Inf.
*First current roll. No muster-in roll of this company on file.
This roll shows enrollment of all men of this company as of same date. See enrollment on subsequent card or cards.

Book mark:

A Fairley

Copyist.

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Company Muster Roll

Ayres, De Witt C.	
P., Co. I,	102 Reg't Pa. Inf.
7 Enclosures.	
Bed Cards	Final Statements
Burial Records	Furloughs or L. of A.
Certs. of Dis. for Discharge. /	Med. Certificates
C. M. Charges	Med. Des. Lists /
Descriptive Lists	Orders
Discharge Certificates	Pris. of War Record /
Enlistment Papers 2	Resignations
Other papers relating to—	
Admission to Hosp'l	Furlough or L. of A.
Casualty Sheet /	Med. Examination
Confinement	Misc. Information
Contracts	Pay or Clothing /
Death or Effects	Personal Reports
Desertion	Rank
Discharge from Hosp'l	Transfer to Hosp'l
Discharge from Service	Transfer to V. R. C.
Duty	Transportation

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Personal Papers Jacket

VOLUNTEER ENLISTMENT.

STATE OF

Pennsylvania



TOWN OF

Pittsburgh

I, *De Witt C. Ayres* born in *Boston*
in the State of *Pennsylvania* aged *20* years,
and by occupation a *Journalist* Do HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE to have
volunteered this *December* day of *1863*
to serve as a **Soldier** in the **Army of the United States of America**, for the
period of **THREE YEARS**, unless sooner discharged by proper authority: Do also
agree to accept such bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be, estab-
lished by law for volunteers. And I, *De Witt C. Ayres* do
solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the **United States**
of America, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all
their enemies or opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the
orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers
appointed over me, according to the Rules and Articles of War.

Sworn and subscribed to, at *Grand Station Pa*
this *20* day of *Dec* 186*3* *De Witt C. Ayres*
BEFORE me *James J. Jones*
Justice of the Peace

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have carefully examined the above-named Volunteer, agreeably
to the General Regulations of the Army, and that in my opinion he is free from all bodily defects and
mental infirmity, which would, in any way disqualify him from performing the duties of a soldier.

W. H. Roberts
1st Ass't Surg 112nd Pa Vol
EXAMINING SURGEON.

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have minutely inspected the Volunteer, *De Witt C. Ayres*
previously to his enlistment, and that he was entirely sober when enlisted; that, to the best of my
judgment and belief, he is of lawful age; and that, in accepting him as duly qualified to perform the duties
of an able-bodied soldier, I have strictly observed the Regulations which govern the recruiting service.
This soldier has *Blue* eyes, *Light* hair, *Light* complexion, is *5* feet *7* inches
high.

Thos. W. Lamb
1st Lieut Comd Co
103rd Regiment of Penna Volunteers,
RECRUITING OFFICER.

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Personal Papers Jacket

Reenlistment Paper
Front Side

Mustered with the 112th Regt of Pa. Vol. in the 20 day of Dec 1863 at Grand Station Pa. as a Reenlistman, Volunteered in Camp.

Capt. J. A. C. M.
103rd Regt Pa. Vol.

DECLARATION OF RECRUIT.

I, *De Witt C. Ayres* desiring
to VOLUNTEER as a Soldier in the Army of the United States, for the term of THREE YEARS.
Do Declare, That I am *25* years and *10* months
of age; that I have never been discharged from the United States service on account of disability or
by sentence of a court-martial, or by order before the expiration of a term of enlistment; and I know of
no impediment to my serving honestly and faithfully as a soldier for three years.

GIVEN at *Oranau Station Virginia*
The *Twentieth* day of *December* 1863
Witness: *AB Fisher* *De Witt C Ayres*

(To be made out in duplicate.)

De Witt C Ayres
Volunteered at *Camp at Grand Mt*
Dec 25 1863
By *David H. C. M. Hancock*
112nd Regiment of *Penn. Inf.*
and
enlistment; last served in Company *B*,
112th Regt of *Penn. Inf.* Sept 1865
Discharged *Dec 19th* 1865

No. *1*

DA 17

CONSENT IN CASE OF MINORS

I, _____ Do certify, That I am the
of _____; that the
said _____ is _____ years of age; and I
do hereby freely give my CONSENT to his volunteering as a SOLDIER in the ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES
for the period of THREE YEARS.

GIVEN at *Oranau Station Virginia*
The *Twentieth* day of *December* 1863
Witness: _____

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Personal Papers Jacket

Reenlistment Paper
Reverse Side

CASUALTY SHEET.

Name, *D. C. Ayres,*
Rank, *Priv.*, Company *D*, Regiment, *10th*
Arm, _____, State, *Pa.*
Place of casualty, _____

Nature of casualty, *Wounded.*

Date of casualty, *May 5, 1864*

FROM WHAT SOURCE THIS INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED.

Report of Killed, Wounded, and Missing of the _____ Regiment,
Brigade, *A* Division, *C* Corps, dated *May 5, 1864*
not sent. Records of the Div. and Corps at that
Eng. Genl. Geo. M. Gettysburg in command July 10, 1864, 26.3;
(Index 46, No. 2, P. 79.)

J. M. K.
Clerk.

12, 13, 79

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Personal Papers Jacket

Casualty Sheet

CASUALTY SHEET
OF WOUNDED.

D. C. Ayres,
Priv. Company *I*

10th Regiment of *Pa.*

Volunteers at the battle of
May 3, 1864.

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Personal Papers Jacket

Casualty Sheet

Reverse Side: Endorsement

Name of Hospital, *Officers mil Dep't.*
 Name of Patient, *De Witt Clinton Ayres.*
 Disease or Injury, *Amputation of Right*
 Result, *Unsuccessful.*
 Date of Transmission,

REMARKS AS TO CONDITION OF
PATIENT, &c.

*This man was not
an officer - see Reg
No 359. Heavy land baggage 46*

*Duplicate 7.1.232
7.17.*

DIET.

White Peas

TREATMENT.

St. L, 102 Pa

24



DATE.

*Amputation Right leg
tract Perian
amp High*

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Personal Papers Jacket

Medical Descriptive List

(reverse side)

MEDICAL DESCRIPTIVE LIST.

Ward *C. Sec. 1* Bed *1*
 Name *C. J. Ayres*, Age *22*, Rank *1st Lt.*, Co. *D*, Regiment *102 Pa.*
 Disease or Injury, *Amput. L. 3rd right thigh*
 Result, *Amputation*
 [Name of attending Medical Officer.] *W. H. Gunguis*
 General Hospital at *St. Louis*
 Admission, *Dec. 20th 1864*
 Return to duty, cured, *Dec 30*
 Furlough, *Dec 30*
 Discharge from service, *Dec 30*
 Transfer to another Hospital, *Dec 30*
 Death, *Dec 30*

NOTE.—When a patient is first received into a General Hospital, the entries on this Descriptive List will be commenced. All important changes in his condition will be noted on it, (in ink,) from time to time, by the Surgeon in charge of the Ward. When the patient has been wounded, the date and character of the wound will be stated, the nature of the operation, (if any,) and, above all, the result. In case of transfer, this list will be sent, through the Officer in charge of the transportation, or failing one, by mail, to the Surgeon in charge of the Hospital receiving the patient. When this Medical History shall have been completed, by the cure, discharge, furlough, or death of the patient, it will, with the treatment and result carefully noted, be transmitted directly to the Surgeon General.

DATE.	TREATMENT.	DIET.	REMARKS AS TO CONDITION OF PATIENT, &c.
<i>Dec 21.</i>	<i>None</i>		<i>This officer was admitted from leave. Has Amputation lower 3rd ^{right} thigh, necessitated by wounds recd in action May 6th at Bel. Wilderness. Missile entered knee joint, passed transversely thro. from before backward producing comp. comminuted fracture of external condyle of femur opening cavity of knee joint. Amp. was performed soon after by flops. The stump healed without any unfavorable complication, needs no treatment.</i>
<i>Dec 30</i>	<i>transferred to Div II</i>		<i>W. H. Gunguis</i> <i>a a s u s u</i>

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Personal Papers Jacket

Medical Descriptive
List

DeWitt Clinton

Ayres

CMSR

Personal

Papers Jacket

Discharge

(reverse side)

NOTE 1.

The company commander will here add a statement of all the facts known to him concerning the disease or wound, or cause of disability of the soldier; the time, place, manner, and all the circumstances under which the injury occurred, or disease originated or appeared; the duty, or service, or situation of the soldier at the time the injury was received or disease contracted, stating particularly whether the injury was received or the disease contracted in the line of his duty; and whatever other facts may aid a judgment as to the cause, immediate or remote, of the disability, and the circumstances attending it.

When the facts are not known to the company commander, the certificate of any officer, or affidavit of other person having such knowledge, will be appended—as the surgeon in charge of a hospital, the officer commanding a detachment of recruits, &c., &c.

NOTE 2.

When a probable cause for pension, special care must be taken to state the degree of disability—as $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, &c., &c.; to describe particularly the disability, wound, or disease; the extent to which it deprives him of the use of any limb or faculty, or affects his health, strength, activity, constitution, or capacity to labor or earn his subsistence. The surgeon will add, from his knowledge of the facts and circumstances, and from the evidence in the case, his professional opinion of the cause or origin of the disability. In the case of discharges by Medical Inspectors, the last paragraph will state that the "discharge was given by consent of the soldier, after a personal examination, and for disability, the nature, degree, and origin of which are correctly described in the within certificate."

Par. 1230 Regulations, Edit. 1831.

Medical officers, in giving certificates of disability, are to take particular care in all cases that have not been under their charge; and especially in epilepsy, convulsions, chronic rheumatism, derangement of the urinary organs, ophthalmia, ulcers, or any obscure disease liable to be feigned or purposely produced; and in no case shall such certificate be given until after sufficient time and examination to detect any attempt at deception.

DIRECTIONS.

This certificate will be made out in duplicate by the soldier's company commander, or other officer commanding the separate detachment to which he belongs, and sent by him to the surgeon who has charge of the hospital where the soldier is sick. The surgeon will then fill out and sign the surgeon's certificate, and forward those papers to the regimental, detachment, or post commander, who will forward them, with his action endorsed thereon, through the proper channel, to his division commander; or, if the troops are not attached to a division, to his corps, department, or other commander or officer to whom the authority to discharge enlisted men may be specially delegated.

These certificates, after having received the action of the highest authority to which they are required to be sent, will be returned through the same channel to the regimental, post, or detachment commander, who will, if the discharge is authorized by the endorsement of the proper authority, sign the soldier's discharge, and the last certificate on this paper; see that the soldier is furnished with the proper final statements in duplicate, and forward BOTH of these certificates direct to the Adjutant General United States Army, at Washington, D. C.; they will not, under any circumstances, be given into the hands of the soldier.

CERTIFICATE OF DISABILITY FOR DISCHARGE

IN THE CASE OF

DeWitt C. Ayres
a *Private* Co. *I*
103rd Reg't of Pa. Inf. Vol.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,

MIDDLE DEPT., 8th ARMY CORPS,

Baltimore, Md. March 9, 1865.

APPROVED.

Wm. Simpson
SURGEON U. S. A.,
Medical Director.

Head Quarters Middle Dept.
Balto. Md. Mch 10th 1865.

To be discharged,
By Command of
Brig. Gen. W. H. Morris
of
Chas. A. Crocker

aag
Adjutant General's Office

Mar 16 1865.

Duplicate sent the Pension Office

Received (A. G. Office) _____, 186 .

Cont'd on CR
RM

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

CERTIFICATE

OF DISABILITY FOR DISCHARGE.



Private DeWitt C. Ayres of Captain Wm. H. L.
Hobbs Company, (102nd) of the 102nd Regiment of United States
Pa. Vol. was enlisted by Sgt. McLaughlin of
the 102nd Regiment of Pa. at Brandy Station Va.
on the 19th day of December, 1863, to serve 3 years; he was born
in Butler in the State of Pennsylvania, is 20
years of age, 5 feet 7 inches high, light complexion, blue eyes
light hair, and by occupation when enlisted a farmer. During the last two
months said soldier has been unfit for duty 61 days.*

Admitted to Hospital Dec. 31st 1864

STATION: U.S. Genl Hospital Div No 1

DATE: Annapolis Md. March 4/65

R. F. Mendenhall
Surgeon U.S. Vol.
Commanding Company.
In charge.

I CERTIFY, that I have carefully examined the said DeWitt C. Ayres
Captain Wm. H. L. Hobbs Company, and find him incapable of performing the duties of a soldier
because of Amputation of left thigh of bone then in
consequence of compound gunshot fracture in action
at Wilderness Va. May 15th 1864
to history of case previous to admission
to general hospital for return to service
Summary: total

DISCHARGED, this Thirtieth (30th) day of March, 1865, at West Point
Hospital Division No 1 Annapolis Md.
R. F. Mendenhall
Surgeon U.S. Vol.
Commanding the Reg't
In charge.

The Soldier desires to be addressed at

Town Pittsburg County Alleghany State Pennsylvania

* See Note 1 on the back of this.

† See Note 2 on the back of this.

DeWitt Clinton Ayres
CMSR

Personal Papers Jacket

Discharge

U.S. General Hospital No. 1 – was on the grounds of the U.S. Naval Academy.

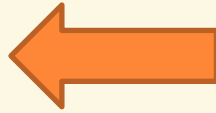
Long rows of low one-story structures were erected as hospital buildings for the reception of Northern troops wounded on the firing line and for sick men lately paroled or exchanged from the prisons of the Confederacy. The location ... was within easy rail communication from Washington and the Virginia battlefields and within convenient distance by sea from Fortress Monroe and other points where sick and wounded men could be assembled. This hospital was known as U. S. A, General Hospital, Division No.1, while in the rear of St. John's College stood a smaller hospital known as U. S. A. General Hospital, Division No.2.

Louis H. Bolander, "Civil War Annapolis," U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings, Vol. 63, No. 11, p. 417

Carded Medical Records



Carded Medical Records



A. 102 Pa.

D. C. Ayres

Rank, Capt.; Co. I., 102 Reg't Penn.

Admitted, List of wounded, 18

To, in 2d Div. 6 A.C. Hosp.

A. of P.

From

Diagnosis, Fract. l. thigh

Missile,

W'd at Wilderness Va. May 5-7, 1864.

Treatm't, Amputation

Ret'd to duty, 18

Transf'd to I. C., 18

Transf'd to, 18

Furloughed, 18

Deserted, 18

Disch'd from service, 18

Died, 18

Re-adm'd from furlo' or des'n, 18

Remarks:

A. C. Reg. No. 237; Hos. No.; 96 Page 3

Govell

(203) (o 3-074) Copyist.

He's in the 2nd Division Hospital, 6th Army Corps, immediately following the Battle of the Wilderness. Several cards like this; he's listed on different pages, but the information is the same



A 102 Pa

D. C. Ayres

Rank, 2^d Lt., Co. I., 102 Reg't Pa

Complaint, Ampt of leg

Admitted, May 25, 1864

To, U. S. A. Hosp. Steamer, Connecticut.

Ret'd to duty, 18

Deserted, 18

Disch'd from service, 18

Sent to G. H., 18

On furlough, 18

Died, 18

Remarks: From Port Royal Va

H. A. Reg. No. 141; Hos. No. 2113; Page 62

J. Hubner

(204-175) Copyist.

Put aboard the U.S. Army Hospital Steamer (ship), Connecticut at Port Royal, Virginia, May 25, 1864

Carded Medical Records



The next day,
May 26, 1864,
he's admitted to
Lincoln General
Hospital,
Washington, DC

A | 102 | Pa

D. C. Ayers

2^d Lieut, Co. I., 102^d Reg't Pa. Vols

Age 26 years.

Admitted May 26th, 1864.

To Lincoln Gen'l Hosp'tt
Washington, D.C.

Injury Gun shot wound left knee
joint, comminating the
lower end of femur.

W'd at Wilderness, May 5th, 1864.

Date of operation On field May 5th, 1864.

Operation Amputation of thigh
by Circular, four
ligatures applied.

Result June 30th 1864 Still
under treatment & doing
well.

Surg'l Operations, 2 Quarter 1864; Sheet No 24

Norris

(345) Copyist.



A | 102 | Pa

D. C. Ayers

Rank 2^d Lieut, Co. I., 102^d Reg't Pa V

Admitted May 26th, 1864.

To Lincoln U. S. A. Gen'l Hosp.,
Washington, D. C.

From

D.agnosis Gunshot wound left thigh

Missile Critical

W'd at May 5th, 1864.

Treatm't Amputated on field

Ret'd to duty , 18 .

Transf'd to I. C. , 18 .

Transf'd to , 18 .

Furloughed July 26th, 1864 .

Deserted , 18 .

Disch'd from service , 18 .

Died , 18 .

Re-adm'd from furlo' or des'n , 18 .

Remarks:

aggr.

D. C. Reg. No 202; Hos. No. 10706; Page 37

ac Blain

(203-115) Copyist.

On July 26, 1864,
he's "furloughed" ?

Not clear whether
he's being
transferred to
another hospital,
or what?

Carded Medical Records



Admitted to Division No. 1,
USA General Hospital,
Annapolis, Dec. 21, 1864

Discharged from service,
March 14, 1865

A. 1 102 Pa.

D. B. Ayres

Rank, *Private* Co. *D 102* Reg't *Pa. Vols.*

Admitted *Dec. 21*, 1864,

To Division No. 1, U. S. A. Gen'l Hosp.,
Annapolis, Md.

From *Leave of a.*

Diagnosis, *W. S. Knee joint (left.)*

Missile, *Minnie.*

W'd at *Winchester, Va.*, *May 5*, 1864.

Treatm't, *Amput of L. thigh lower third.*

Ret'd to duty _____, 18 .

Transf'd to I. C. _____, 18 .

Transf'd to _____, 18 .

Furloughed _____, 18 .

Deserted _____, 18 .

Disch'd from service *Mar. 14*, 1865.

Died _____, 18 .

Re-adm'd from furlo' or des'n _____, 18 .

Remarks: *Surg Certificate of Disability.*

Md. Reg. No. *261*; Hos. No. *3000*, Page _____

Pagan
Copyist.

(203-28) (o 3-074)

Pension Files

About 2 million



DeWitt C. Ayres Pension File

Examining Surgeons' report dated
9 June 1886 – front side

(8-111.)

Attention is invited to the outlines of the human skeleton and figure upon the back of this certificate, and they should be used whenever it is possible to indicate precisely the location of a disease or injury, the entrance and exit of a missile, an amputation, etc.

The absence of a member from a session of a board and the reason therefor, if known, and the name of the absentee, must be indorsed upon each certificate.

Incarceration
Name and rank of claimant.
Cause of disability.
If a pensioner, fill in the amount of pension, unless the whole line.
Here give the character and number of claim.
Stamps of the physical signs, but continue the ground conditions of the claimant.
It must be borne in mind that the Surgeon is given authority as to the degree of disability, but not as to the grade, without any regard to details and make such a full particular description as will afford to this Office the ground for its intelligent opinion and action in rating.
Rate for each cause of disability.
If pronounced by visiting boards, the warrant should be enclosed here for the reasons for the estimate given.

Pension Claim No. 410116
Rank, Private
Company A, 102d Regt Pa Vol
Allegany Co, Pa State,
Lockhart, Penna (date of examination), 1886
(Date of examination)

We hereby certify that in compliance with the requirements of the law we have carefully examined this applicant who states that he is suffering from the following disability, incurred in the service, viz:
Loss of left leg and rosato; and wound of right knee,
resulting in varicose veins;

and that he receives a pension of Thirty dollars per month.
Pulse rate per minute, 88; respiration, 18; temperature, normal; height, 5 feet, 8 inches; weight, 137 pounds; age, 43 years.

He makes the following statement upon which he bases his claim for Incarceration:
That his stump is numb and painful; and
that right knee is painful and marks; and that he
suffers continually from pain in his head.
States that his leg breaks out in warm sores

Upon examination we find the following objective conditions: Left thigh has
been amputated at the junction of the lower third
middle third. The stump is very concave. The
resulting cicatrix is large, indurated, ab-
normal and tender. Disability specific owing
to loss of leg above knee.
Ball entered inner side of right thigh
just along internal condyle of femur, tend-
passing backward, rupturing the bone in
its passage, emerged from popliteal
space three inches from round of tubercles.
The resulting cicatrices were adherent and
tender, and motions of knee joint are im-
paired, and leg misshapen. There are no var-
icose veins, though there is slight enlarge-
ment of superficial veins of calf. Sensibility
lost.
There is a small superficial scar on right
side of forehead near scalp which he claims
results from blow on head - was tender and
menstruation probable that the disability was incurred in the service as he claims, and that it has
not been prolonged or aggravated by vicious habits. He is, in our opinion, entitled to a gratuity

rating for the disability caused by loss of leg above knee, total for time caused
by loss of knee, and nothing caused by wound of head.

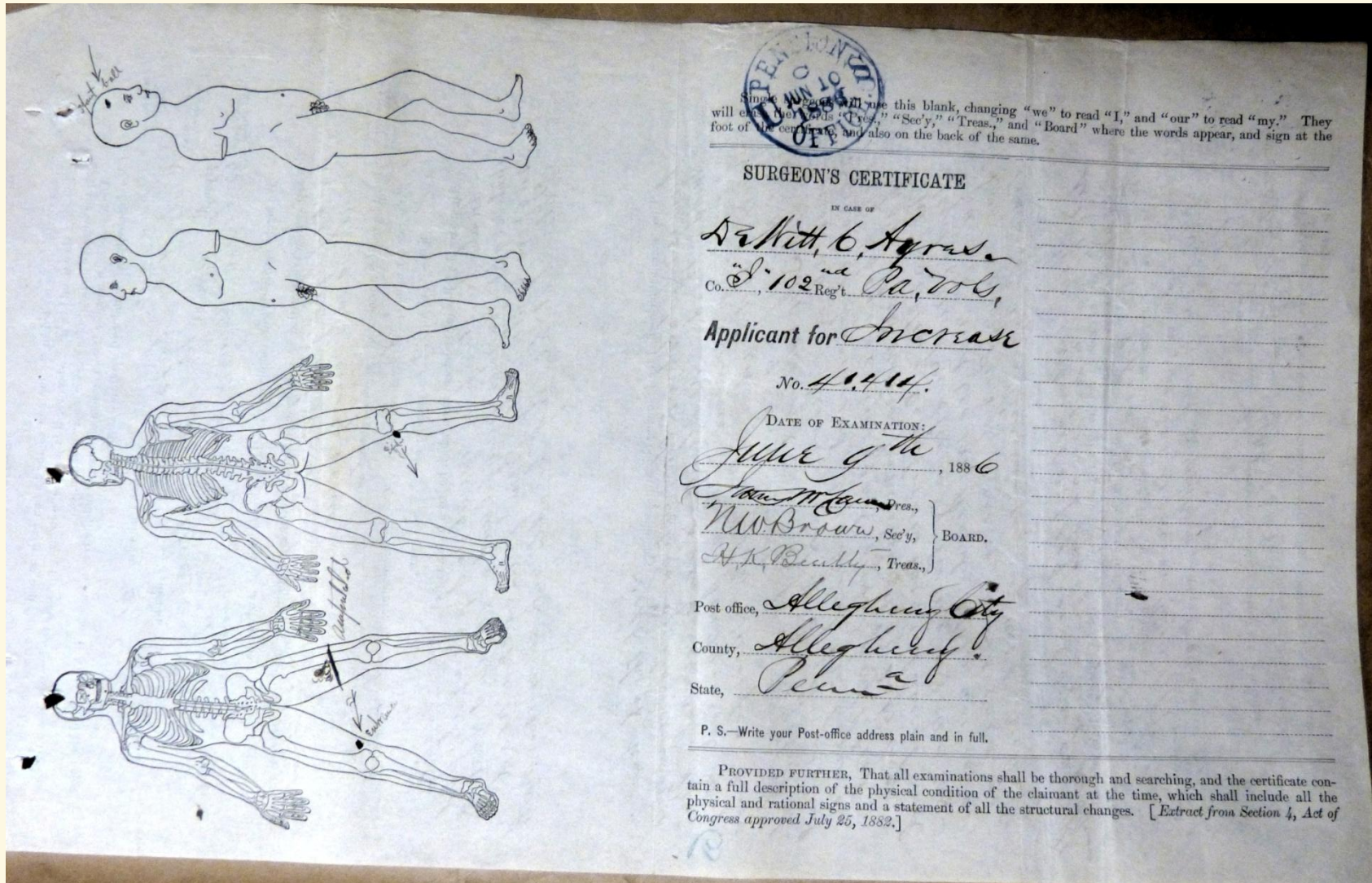
* See the back.
Here state whether for original, increase, restoration, or renewal, or for a re-rating.
J. M. Brown, Pres., Sec'y H. B. Bailey, Treas.

N. B.—Always forward a certificate of examination whether a disability is found to exist or not.

DeWitt C. Ayres

Pension File

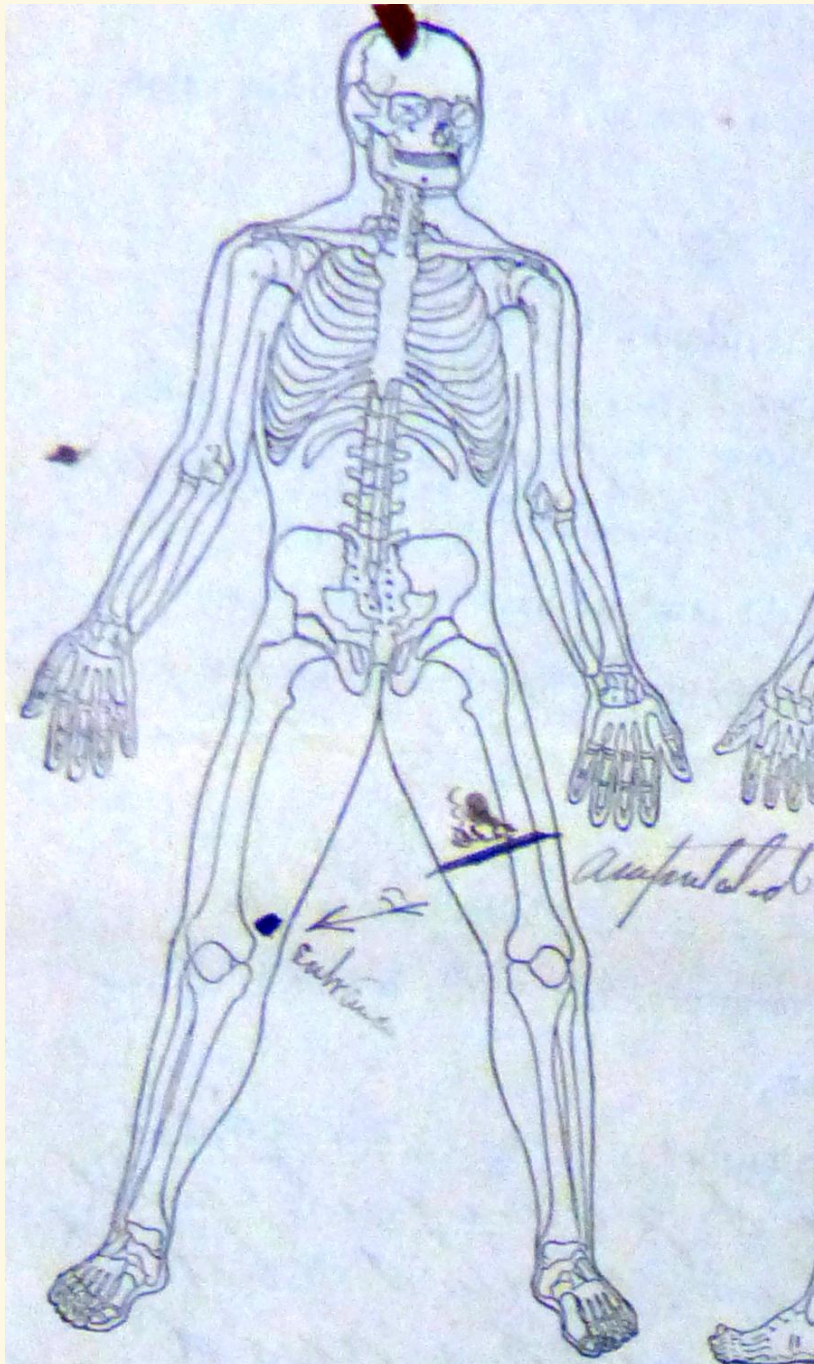
Examining Surgeons' report dated 9 June 1886 – reverse side



DeWitt C. Ayres Pension File

Detail from Examining Surgeons' report dated 9 June 1886, showing the location of amputation of left leg and gunshot wound in right leg.

DeWitt C. Ayres' pension file.



DeWitt C. Ayres Pension File 1871

First application for commutation submitted by DeWitt C. Ayres, 9 January 1871, found in his pension file.

We learn:

"I received from the United States an artificial Leg made by Jewett, Washington, DC"

"And I now make application for commutation...."

Form of Application for an Artificial Limb, or for Commutation for the same; to be forwarded to the Surgeon General, Washington, D. C.

I, *De Witt C. Ayres*, being duly sworn, do declare that I am the identical *De Witt C. Ayres* who was a *Private* in Co. *I 102* Reg't *Penn Vol's* and that I lost my *left Leg* by reason of a *Gun Shot* received at *the Battle of the Wilderness* on or about the *fifth* day of *May*, 1864, that I received from the United States an artificial *Leg* made by *Jewett Washington DC*, and that I am in receipt of a pension on Certificate, No. *41414*, which is paid to me by the Pension Agent at *Pittsburg Pa*.

And I now make application for *Commutation* under the provisions of the Act, approved June 17, 1870; and I desire to have the *Money*

De Witt C. Ayres
Claimant's Signature

Post Office Address, Town, *Rochester* County, *Beaver* State, *Pennsylvania*

Sworn to and subscribed before me, in the *City of Pittsburg Pa* this *9th* day of *January*, 1871.

J. L. West Notary Public.

SEAL

Specialized Records in Record Group 15, Department of Veterans Affairs



Shelf 1



Shelf 2



List of Persons Furnished Artificial Limbs and Commutation, 1885 [sic]

Avery Andrew J.	K 9 Maine	64	10.31.70	/	/	/	/	/	/
Avery Charles E.	A 20	"	11.18.72	/	/	/	/	/	/
Avery Charles R.	A 12	63	8.13.70	/	/			Dead	
Avery James	S 6 Wisconsin	64	11.17.80					Rejected	
Avery Lucius	K 6 Pennsylvania Cav	62	3.29.84					/	/
Avery Robert	Lieut Col 100 New York Vols	63	1.17.71	/	/	/	/	/	/
Ary William H.	K 51 Pennsylvania	65	7.31.70	/	/	/	/	/	/
Chorman Peter	K 211	"	11.14.70	/	/	/	/	/	Dead
Acu William	K 59 Indiana	63	10.24.71	/	/	/	/	/	/
Ayers Peter D.	Lieut E 99 Pennsylvania Vols	65	11.9.85					/	/
Aydt Joseph	A 18 New York	63	9.28.70	/	/	/	/	/	/
Ayer John W.	S 2 Rhode Island	"	8.27.70	/	/	/	/	/	/
Ayers Albert D.	E 24 New York Cav	64	1.11.71	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ayers Benjamin J.	A 48 Indiana Vols	63	3.22.84					/	Dead
Ayers James M.	A 76 Pennsylvania	"	10.3.70	/	/	/	/	/	/
Ayers John E.	E 8 New York Cav	"	8.24.70	/	/	/	/	/	/
Ayers John W.	K 8 Illinois Vols	"	7.2.70	/	/	/	/	/	/
Aylsworth Frank J.	E 5 Vermont	62	8.16.70	/	/	/	/	/	/
Ayres Allen M.	K 132 Pennsylvania Vols	"	8.12.75	/	/	2	2	2	2
Ayres Dr Mitt C.	S 102	64	1.15.73	/	/	/	/	/	/
Aydell James	K 100 Ohio	"	8.20.70	/	/	/	/	/	/
			1.12.71	/	/	/	/	/	/
			10.1.70	/	/	/	/	/	/

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 17, NARA

Ca. 1870,
ca. 1875,
ca. 1880,
ca. 1885,
ca. 1890,
ca. 1895

DeWitt C. Ayres
and other men



Vol. 2 - 1871

Registers of
Persons
Furnished
Artificial Limbs
and
Commutation,
1870-1927
**Vol. 2 (4 on
spine)**, part of
index for "A"
surnames

Austin, Alonzo	300.
Austin, William	282.
Avery, Andrew J.	88.
Avery, Lucius	304.
Avery, Robert	40.
Avery, William A.	205.
Auman, Peter	34.
Ayers, De Witt C.	278.
Ayresworth, Frank O.	

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 18, NARA

DeWitt C. Ayres
and other men
ordering
artificial legs,
January 1871.



Vol. 2 - 1871

34					
1871					
February	4	Ayres, De Witt, C. — Rochester, Pa. — Pvt. I. 102 nd Pa. Vols.			
		A. Mar 5 th 1864. — — — Com ^d — art.		75 00	
		a. 1.12/70			
"	"	Haskin, Joseph, O. — Oswego, N.Y. — Lieut. A. 1 st U.S. Artillery.			
		L.o. September 13 th 1864. — — — Com ^d — art.		50 00	
		a. 12.14/70			
"	"	Raugh, James, J. — Altoona, Pa. — Pvt. C. 53 rd Pa. Vols.			
		L.o. July 2 nd 1863. — — — A. B. X. 164. — Com ^d — art.		50 00	
		a. 9.21/70			
"	"	Skepton, William. — Crawfordville, Iowa. — Pvt. D. 92 nd Ohio Vols.			
		L.o. August 4 th 1864. — — — Com ^d — art.		50 00	
		a. 10.1/70			
"	"	Smith, Benjamin, R. — Montoursville, Co. — Pvt. G. 56 th Pa. Vols.			
		L.o. April 29 th 1863. — — — Com ^d — art.		50 00	
		a. 11.1/70			

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Commutation,
1870-1927
**Vol. 2 (4 on
spine), p. 34**

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 18, NARA

DeWitt C. Ayres
and other men
ordering
artificial legs,
January 1871.

manufacturing plant in
Pittsburgh, maybe 30
miles away



Vol. 3 - 1877

Aust, Henry A.	264
Austin, Alonzo	395
Austin, Gustavus A.	351
Austin, William F.	395
Averill, Charles W.	149
Averill, James W.	197
Averif, Robert	304
Averif, William A.	190
Aubman, Peter	395
Ayers, Peter B.	136
Aydt, Joseph	561
Ayers, James M.	129
Ayers, John E.	6
Ayres, De Witt C.	395
Azdell, James	385

A. 191

Registers of
Persons
Furnished
Artificial Limbs
and
Commutation,
1870-1927
**Vol. 3 (5 on
spine)**, part of
index for "A"
surnames

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 18, NARA

DeWitt C. Ayres
and other men
ordering
artificial legs,
March 1877.



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395

1877 March	15	Aubrey, Henry C. — Waterford, Pa. — Sgt. 1st U.S. Penna. Vols. R. June 3 rd 1863 — — — — — 839. 50 00
"	"	Augustine, Bernhard — Augusta, Me. — Pvt. C. 54 th New York Vols. R. August 29 th 1862 — — — — — 840. 75 00 26.77
"	"	Auld, James R. — Booth Bay, Me. — Pvt. A. 5 th Maine Vols. R. November 7 th 1863 — — — — — 841. 50 00
"	"	Ault, Jesse — Sharpsville, Ind. — Pvt. C. 101 st Indiana Vols. L. November 25 th 1863 — — — — — 842. 50 00
"	"	Austin, Alonzo — Chesaning, Mich. — Pvt. D. 104 th New York Vols. R. August 30 th 1862 — — — — — 843. 50 00
"	"	Austin, William F. — Fountain Run, Ky. — Capt. N. 9 th Kentucky Vols. R. April 7 th 1862 — — — — — 844. 75 00
"	"	Aurman, Peter — Somerset, Pa. — Pvt. H. 21 st Penna. Vols. L. April 2 nd 1865 — — — — — 845. 75 00
"	"	Ayres, De Witt C. — Rochester, Pa. — Pvt. E. 102 nd Penna. Vols. L. May 5 th 1864 — — — — — 846. 75 00

Registers of
Persons
Furnished
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and
Commutation,
1870-1927
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spine), p. 395**

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 18, NARA

DeWitt C. Ayres
and other men
ordering
artificial legs,
March 1877.



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Artificial Limbs
and
Commutation,
1870-1927
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spine)**, index
page

Cheers, John C.	7.
Cheers, John W.	173.
Cheers, Dr. W. H. C.	431.

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 18, NARA



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Persons
Furnished
Artificial Limbs
and
Commutation,
1870-1927
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spine), p. 431**

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 18, NARA

DeWitt C. Ayres
and other men
ordering
artificial legs,
April 1881.

George R. Fuller was
based in Rochester, NY

		431
1881 April	4 Keller, Frank - Santa Barbara, Cal. - Pvt. E. 18th Ohio Vols A. L. December 15 th 1864 - L. Ord. Charles M. Evans. 569 Total via return requested this day. <i>Said Nov 29, 1881.</i>	75 00
	5 Elliott, Thomas - Medina, N.Y. - Pvt. J. 105 th New York Vols L. L. December 13 th 1864 - L. Ord. George W. Hall. 570 April 20, 1881. Auct.	75 00
"	Messers, Jacob - Piedmont, N.Y. - Pvt. E. 5 th New Jersey Vols L. L. July 3 rd 1863 - L. Ord. W. Frank Palmer. 571 April 23, 1881. Auct.	75 00
"	Johnson, Ansel K. - Gaylord, Ks. - Pvt. J. 3 rd Michigan Vols R. L. September 26 th 1861 - L. Ord. A. W. Marks. 572 Total W. L. City & return requested this day. May 7, 1881. Auct.	75 00
7	Ayres, De Witt C. - Rochester, Pa. - Pvt. J. 102 nd Penna Vols L. L. May 5 th 1864 - L. Ord. George R. Fuller. 573 No order, Auct.	75 00



Vol. 8 - 1886

Registers of
Persons
Furnished
Artificial Limbs
and
Commutation,
1870-1927
**Vol. 8 (Vol. 10
on spine), p.
345 (no name
index to this
volume)**

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 18, NARA

DeWitt C. Ayres
March 1886.

345	<p>January 26 511. Hack, Miles. Art. B. 135th Pennsylvania Vols. Both legs. Ord on J. W. Thompson, May 6, 1886. Auct.</p>	15 00
	<p>30 512 Youells, George M. Art. B. 149th Pennsylvania Vols. L. L. Ord on George R. Fuller, October 29, 1886. Auct. In requested this day.</p>	75 00
	<p>March 27 513. Ayres, D. Witt C. Art. I. 102nd Pennsylvania Vols. L. L. Ord on George R. Fuller. In requested this day.</p>	75 00
	<p>514. Barber, Seth M. Capt. A. 42nd Ohio Vols.</p>	

George R. Fuller was
based Rochester, NY



Vol. 9 - 1891

Registers of
Persons
Furnished
Artificial Limbs
and
Commutation,
1870-1927

Vol. 9
(originally 11),
p. 274

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 18, NARA

DeWitt C. Ayres
and other men
ordering
artificial legs,
January 1891.

J. E. Hanger has a
manufacturing plant in
Pittsburgh, maybe 30
miles away from Ayres.

	377 Gilkeson, John	G. 140 Pa.	
	R.L. Order on Geo. R. Fuller	March 16/91. Account	75
	Transp. requested this day		
	375 Watson, William	E. 7" Mich. D.	
	R.L. Order on Wm P. Simpson	April 18/90. Account	75
	Transp. requested this day.		
6	376 Beeman, George D.	K. 2" Conn N.A.	
	R.L. Order on A. A. Marks	Jan'y. 20/91. Account	75
	Transp. requested this day		
	377. Severy, Wallace P.	D, 3" W. Inf	
	L.L. Order on Geo. R. Fuller	Jan'y. 30/91. Account	75
	Transp. requested this day.		
8	378. Dudley, Elmer W.	K. 16" Ut.	
	L.L. Order on A. A. Marks	Jan'y. 31/91. Account	75
	Transp. requested this day		
12	379 Ayres, DeWitt C.	D. 102 Pa.	
	L.L. Order on J. E. Hanger	Feby. 4/91. Account	75
	Transp. requested this day		

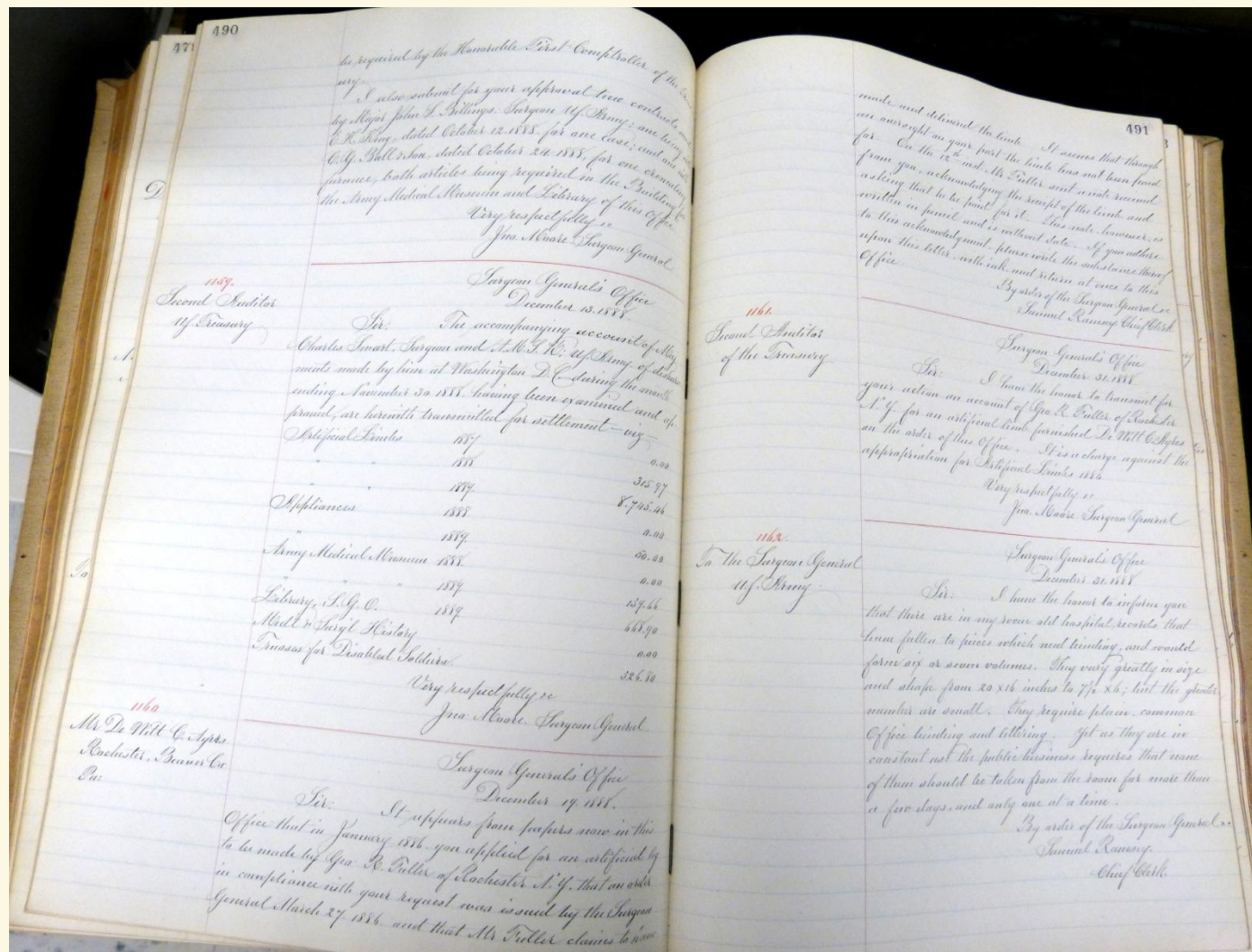


Letters Sent, 1885-1892

Letters Sent
Relating to
Prosthetic
Appliances,
Commutation, and
Transportation
Reimbursement,
1885-1892
(1 volume)

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 2, NARA

Name index in
front





Letters Sent, 1885-1892

Mr De Witt C. Ayres.
Rochester, Brewster Co
Pa.

Surgeon General's Office
December 19, 1888.

Sir: It appears from papers now in this Office that in January 1886, you applied for an artificial leg to be made by Geo. R. Fuller of Rochester N. Y. that an order in compliance with your request was issued by the Surgeon General March 27, 1886, and that Mr Fuller claims to have

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made and delivered the limb. It seems that through an oversight on your part the limb has not been paid for. On the 12th inst. Mr Fuller sent a note received from you, acknowledging the receipt of the limb and asking that he be paid for it. This note, however, is written in pencil and is without date. If you adhere to this acknowledgment, please write the substance thereof upon this letter, with ink, and return at once to this Office.

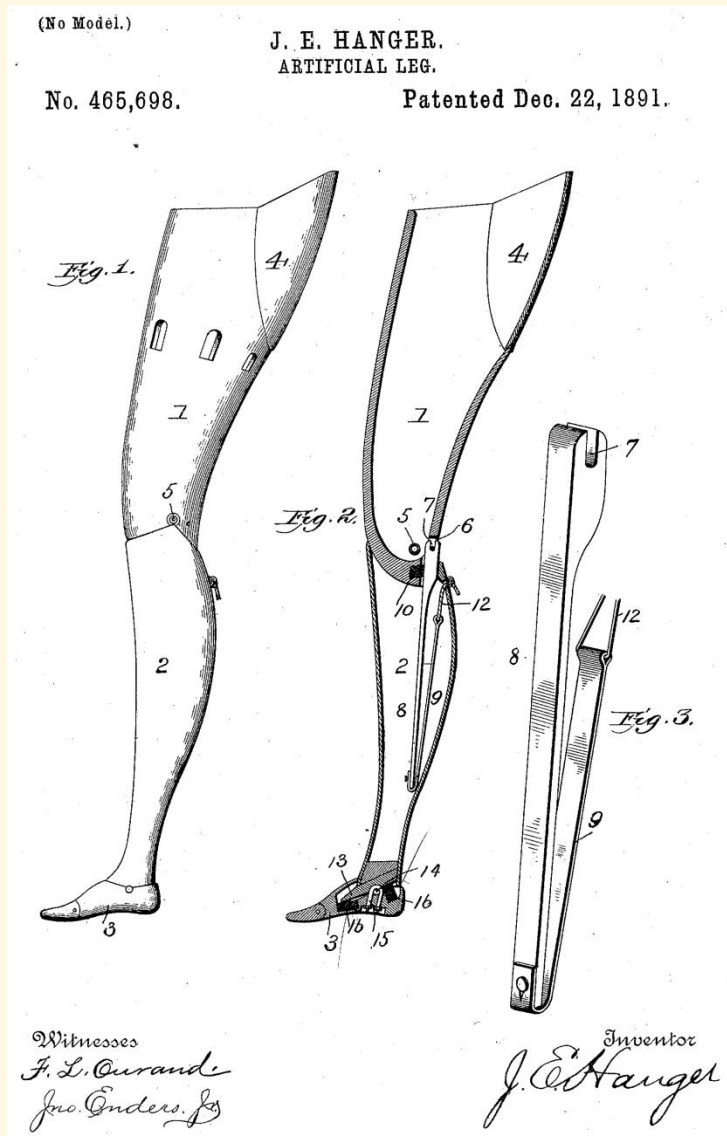
By order of the Surgeon General &c
Samuel Ramsey, Chief Clerk.

Letters Sent
Relating to
Prosthetic
Appliances,
Commutation, and
Transportation
Reimbursement,
1885-1892
(1 volume)

RG 15, NM-23,
Entry 2, page 490-
491, Letter No.
1160

Name index in
front

DeWitt C. Ayres - 1891



Drawing of artificial leg patented by James Edward Hanger, 22 December 1891, U.S. Patent No. 465,698.

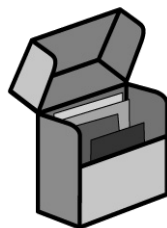
May be similar to the legs ordered by DeWitt C. Ayres from Hanger in 1891 and 1897.

Courtesy U.S. Patent Office, www.uspto.gov.



Thank you for attending!

Today's video recording and materials
will remain available at
www.archives.gov/calendar/know-your-records



KNOW YOUR RECORDS
National Archives and Records Administration