

JAMES W. LONG.

APRIL 19, 1892.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. BELKNAP, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 2810.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 2810) to place James W. Long, late a captain, U. S. Army, upon the retired list, having considered the same, respectfully report that they have carefully examined this measure, and recommend the passage of the bill.

The records of the War Department and the statement of the claimant are herewith appended and made a part of this report.

Statement of the military service of James W. Long, late of the U. S. Army, compiled from the records of this office.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 27, 1890.

Appointed second lieutenant, Second Infantry, August 5, 1861. Promoted first lieutenant, August 10, 1861. Promoted captain, February 9, 1863. Became unassigned, April 20, 1869. Honorably discharged at his own request December 31, 1870. He was brevetted captain June 27, 1862, "for gallant and meritorious services at the battle of Gaines' Mill, Va.," and major, May 5, 1864, "for gallant and meritorious services at the battle of the Wilderness, Va."

SERVICE.

With his company in Missouri from September 6, 1861, to October, 1861; absent sick to November, 1861; with regiment in the Army of the Potomac until wounded in the battle of Gaines' Mill, Va., June 27, 1862, while first lieutenant commanding his company; absent on account of wounds to August, 1862; on recruiting service to April, 1863; under medical treatment at Washington, D. C., to May, 1863; assistant commissary of musters, Department of Washington, to July, 1863; with regiment in the Army of the Potomac to August 14, 1863; in New York City to September 11, 1863; and in the Army of the Potomac to May 8, 1864; under medical treatment at Annapolis, Md., to June, 1864; on recruiting service to October 19, 1865; with regiment in Kentucky and Indiana to April 20, 1869, when, on account of physical disability, he was left out in the consolidation of the Second and Sixteenth Regiments of Infantry and placed on the list of unassigned officers; awaiting orders to June, 1869, when assigned to duty as Indian Agent at Detroit, Mich., and continued on this duty until honorably discharged, being meantime examined by a retiring board in New York City, in September, 1870, and reported by the board to be not incapacitated for active service. By a War Department order of December 15, 1870, he was assigned to the Twenty-fifth Infantry. This assignment he declined by letter December 28, 1870, and he was honorably discharged December 31, 1870, at his own request under section 3, act of July 15, 1870.

C. MCKEEVER,
Acting Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 30, 1864.

I hereby certify that Capt. James W. Long, Second United States Infantry, has been under my treatment for severe neuralgia of the face and for inflammation of the appendages of the right eye in May, July, and November, 1863, and was again ordered to report to me for treatment May 17.

This officer is, in my opinion, unfit for active service in the field, not being able to endure vicissitudes of temperature in the open air or exposure to wet and cold without severe suffering from attacks of neuralgia of nerves, involved by injury received from gunshot wound.

BASIL NORRIS,
Surgeon, U. S. Army.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 30, 1864.

Capt. J. W. Long, Second United States Infantry, is, by direction of the medical director, required to report to the surgeon in charge at Annapolis, Md.

On application to provost-marshal transportation will be furnished.

BASIL NORRIS,
Surgeon, U. S. Army.

TAYLOR BARRACKS,
Louisville, Ky., November 25, 1867.

Bvt. Maj. James W. Long, captain Second United States Infantry, having applied to me for a certificate on which to ground an application for leave of absence, I do certify that I have carefully examined said officer and find that he is suffering from severe facial neuralgia, following gunshot wound of the face received in battle in line of duty; also from general prostration of his system induced by sleeplessness, the effect of protracted neuralgia. I am also of the opinion that there are probably small fragments of bone still in the track of the wound which will ultimately require removal. I further state that, in my opinion, permanent disability may follow this officer's remaining in discharge of his military duties at this post, and that he will be unfit for such duty for ninety days.

S. A. STORROW,
Brevet Major and Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army, Post Surgeon.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF LOUISVILLE, KY.,
Taylor Barracks, November 27, 1867.

Respectfully forwarded. From the fact set forth in the certificate of the medical officer, the length of time asked for, and the probability that the condition of the officer will be unchanged upon the expiration of the leave, I would respectfully recommend that Bvt. Maj. Long be ordered before a retiring board.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Major-General, Commanding Post.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND U. S. INFANTRY,
McPherson Barracks, April 17, 1869.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. T. S. HAINES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: In compliance with instructions contained in your letter of the 12th of April, I have the honor to inform you that the following-named officers of the Second United States Infantry appear to be unfit for active service, viz: Capt. and Bvt. Maj. J. W. Long and Lieut. M. Dolan. The former has lost an eye that seems to require him to wear a handkerchief around his head constantly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. CONRAD,
Captain Second Infantry, Brevet Colonel U. S. Army, Commanding Regiment.

[Indorsement of above.]

HEADQUARTERS POST OF ATLANTA, McPHERSON BARRACKS,
Atlanta, Ga., April 7, 1869.

Respectfully forwarded to department headquarters. There is, in addition to the loss of the eye, in the case of Major Long, Second Infantry, a gunshot wound of the same side of the face, below the eye.

* * * * *

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Colonel Sixteenth Infantry, Brevet Major-General.

NEW YORK, September 13, 1870.

We certify that we have carefully examined Capt. J. W. Long, U. S. Army, unassigned, and find that he has a gunshot wound of the face, the ball entering at the base of the right ala of the nose and passing backward and outward. The ball, the major informs us, was extracted at the angle of the jaw, where there is at present the scar of an incision.

He has a wound in the left wrist from a small ball, which is still lodged in or adjoining the styloid process of the ulna.

CHARLES PAGE,
Surgeon, U. S. A.
JNO. MOORE,
Surgeon, U. S. A.

In addition to what I have stated I would state that my wound at present is affected by the changes of weather, and in damp weather it feels as if swollen and affecting mastication at times; in dry, to adhere to the bone and shrink, and although it may appear from the outside to be healed, still it is not.

In regard to my appeal to the Adjutant-General for reinstatement in the Second Infantry, I would state that it was an honest effort on my part to stay in a regiment the different garrisons of which I had played in when a boy and which I looked upon as my possible future home, that not withstanding my efforts I was adjudged unfit for active service. The way in which I got before the board, and the reason why I was ordered there, I have stated, and I still respectfully adhere to my statement that I do not think my eye incapacitated me from active service, but that my wound does.

JAMES W. LONG,
Captain U. S. Army, unassigned.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, D. C., May 28, 1864.

I certify that Capt. James W. Long, Second United States Infantry, was severely wounded at the battle of Gaines Mills, Va., June 27, 1862, by a minie ball which entered the face one-fourth of an inch above the right ala of the nose, passed backward, downward, and outward, fractured the superior maxillary bone of the jaw, from which I extracted it.

W. C. SPENCER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS, POST OF ATLANTA, GA., April 15, 1869.

GENERAL: Upon consultation with the regimental commander and the medical officer, I have the honor to report the following officers of the Second and Sixteenth Infantry as unfitted for "active service," under the provisions of Par. III, General Orders 17, W. D., current series, 1869.

Bvt. Maj. James W. Long, captain Second Infantry.

* * * * *

Bvt. Maj. Long, Second Infantry, appears to be unfitted for active service from loss of the right eye, and also gunshot wound of face upon same side.

First Lieut. Michael Dolan, Second Infantry, appears to be unfitted for active service from gunshot wound of shoulder involving the joint.

The certificate of Asst. Surg. Charles R. Greenleaf, attending surgeon at Louisville, Ky., has been solicited in the last two cases. The statement of the medical officer in the case of Lieut. Dolan is inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,

Colonel Sixteenth Infantry, Brevet Major-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Department of the South.

[Indorsements on above.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Atlanta, Ga., April 15, 1869.

Respectfully referred to the medical director of the department for remark as to whether additional evidence (and if so, what) is required to show that the officers herein referred to are unfit for active service.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. Ruger.

T. J. HAINES,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Atlanta, Ga., April 16, 1869.

Respectfully returned to the acting assistant adjutant-general, headquarters Department of the South, with recommendation that these officers be ordered before a board of medical officers for a careful examination of their present condition, and I would respectfully suggest the propriety of placing Bvt. Lieut. Col. A. K. Smith, U. S. Army, and myself on the board.

JOHN J. MILHAU,

Brevet Brigadier-General, Surgeon, U. S. Army, Medical Director.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Atlanta, Ga., April 16, 1869.

Respectfully referred to Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. J. Milhan, Surgeon, U. S. Army, president of board of officers instituted by paragraph 5, Special Order 90, current series, from these headquarters, for the information of the board. These papers to be returned.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. Ruger.

T. J. HAINES,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Extract.]

Proceedings of a board which convened pursuant to the following order, viz:

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 90. }

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Atlanta, Ga., April 16, 1869.

[Extract.]

* * *
V. A board of officers, to consist of Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. J. Milhan, Surgeon, U. S. Army, Bvt. Lieut. Col. A. K. Smith, Surgeon, U. S. Army, and Bvt. Col. P. T. Swaine, Major Twenty-fifth Infantry, will assemble at the office of the medical director Department of the South, at 10 o'clock a. m. on the 17th instant, for the purpose of examining such officers as may be brought before it by orders from these headquarters, as to their fitness for active service. Bvt. Maj. R. P. Strong, first lieutenant Seventh Infantry, is appointed recorder of the board. The board will report whether or not the officers who may be brought before it are fit for active service, and, if not, the reasons rendering them unfit. A separate record will be made out in the case of each officer.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. Ruger.

T. J. HAINES,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Official.

T. J. HAINES,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ATLANTA, GA., April 17, 1869.

The board met pursuant to the foregoing order at 10 o'clock, a. m., April 17, 1869. Present, Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. J. Milhau, surgeon, U. S. Army; Bvt. Lieut. Col. A. K. Smith, surgeon, U. S. Army, and Bvt. Col. P. T. Swaine, major Twenty-fifth Infantry.

The board proceeded to the case of Bvt. Maj. James W. Long, captain Second Infantry.

On a careful physical examination the board find that he is unfit for active service on account of loss of right eye and chronic inflammation of contents of the socket. (See papers C, and C' herewith attached.

JOHN J. MILHAU,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Surgeon, U. S. Army.
A. K. SMITH,
Surgeon, U. S. Army.
P. T. SWAINE,
Major Twenty-fifth Infantry, Brevet Colonel, U. S. Army.
RICH'D. P. STRONG,
First Lieutenant Seventh Infantry, Brevet Major U. S. Army, Recorder.

C.

POST OF ATLANTA,
McPherson Barracks, Atlanta, Ga., April 14, 1869.

[Extract.]

Lieut. JAMES ULIO,
Post Adjutant:

SIR: * * * I would further suggest that the cases of Bvt. Maj. James W. Long * * * should be examined into to ascertain if their several disabilities incapacitate these officers for active service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A true extract.

J. W. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major and Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

R. P. STRONG,
Brevet Major, U. S. A.

C.'

ATLANTA, GA., April 17, 1869.

We, the undersigned, certify that we have carefully examined Bvt. Maj. J. W. Long, captain Second Infantry, and find him physically qualified to perform active service.

J. W. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major and Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.
S. S. BEACH,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Atlanta, Ga., April 16, 1869.

Bvt. Maj. JAMES W. LONG,
Captain Second Infantry,
Through Commanding Officer, Post of Atlanta.

SIR. The brevet major-general commanding the department directs that you appear before the board instituted by par. 5, Special Orders No. 90, current series, from these headquarters (copy herewith inclosed), for examination as to your fitness for active service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. HAINES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

An official copy respectfully furnished Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. J. Milhan, surgeon, U. S. Army, for the information of the board convened per Special Orders 90, current series, from these headquarters.

T. J. HAINES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF ATLANTA, GA.,
McPherson Barracks, April 16, 1869.

Bvt. Maj. CHARLES R. GREENLEAF,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army:

DOCTOR: Under the provisions of par. 3, General Orders No. 17, War Department, Washington, D. C., current series, 1869, Bvt. Maj. James W. Long, captain, Second Infantry, U. S. Army, has been reported "unfit for active service."

As you have been associated with Maj. Long professionally and personally for a period of over two years, I have the honor to ask for your professional opinion of his case.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Colonel Sixteenth Infantry,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. Army, Commanding Post.

A true copy.

JAMES W. LONG,
Captain and Brevet Major, U. S. Army.

LOUISVILLE, KY., *April 20, 1869.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, stating that Bvt. Maj. James W. Long, captain, Second Infantry, has been reported unfit for active service under the provisions of General Orders No. 17, War Department, current series, 1869, and asking for my professional opinion in his case and in reply would state, that while I am in ignorance of the degree of disability which would constitute an officer "unfit for active service" under the provisions of that order, I should give it as my opinion, if Maj. Long was before a retiring board or a candidate for appointment into the Army, that he was unfit for service by reason of the loss of an eye.

My opinion is thus qualified because I have been informed that certain officers who have lost limbs in the war have been assured from the War Department of their retention in active service after the consolidation, notwithstanding their mutilation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. R. GREENLEAF,
Brevet Major and Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army.

A true copy.

JAMES W. LONG,
Captain and Brevet Major, U. S. Army.

Gen. S. W. CRAWFORD,
Colonel Sixteenth Infantry.

MCPHERSON BARRACKS,
Atlanta, Ga., April 20, 1869.

SIR: In compliance with your request to examine you and certify my opinions of your physical qualifications to perform active service, I do hereby testify that I have carefully examined your person and find no disqualifying defects which, in my judgment, would prevent you performing such service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major and Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army.

Bvt. Maj. JAMES W. LONG, U. S. A.,
McPherson Barracks, Atlanta, Ga.

WARSAW, KY., April 26, 1869.

GENERAL: I would respectfully request a decision from the War Department on the following:

Is an officer who has served through the war with the loss of an eye, but never having had such loss interfere with his duty, and who otherwise is able-bodied and active, who with such mutilation has served through several general engagements and campaigns, to be considered as unfit for active service so as to be thrown out by the provisions of paragraph 3, General Orders No. 17, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, March 15, 1869.

I would respectfully request an early answer to this as possible, to be addressed to me at Warsaw, Ky., where until my case is decided, so that I can select a home, all communications will reach me.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES W. LONG,
Captain and Brevet Major, U. S. A.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General, U. S. A.

Refer to the commander of the department in which the consolidation took effect to know if the reason alleged was the only reason. We should not attempt to answer abstract questions.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 4, 1869.

Respectfully referred to the commanding general, Department of the South, for report as to whether or not the reason alleged by Capt. Long was the only cause of his being left out in the consolidation.

By command of Gen. Sherman.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Atlanta, Ga., May 10, 1869.

Respectfully returned to Adjutant-General of the Army. Capt. Long was reported unfit for active service by a board of officers instituted by orders from these headquarters (copy herewith inclosed).

The report of the commanding officer of his regiment, and all the papers in his case, as well as in the cases of others of the Second and Sixteenth Regiments of Infantry who were reported by the board as unfit for active service, have been this day forwarded by me.

THOS. H. RUGER,
Brevet Major-General Commanding.

No further action necessary.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 8, 1869.

GENERAL: I would respectfully protest against the provisions of General Orders No. 24, Headquarters Department of the South, dated Atlanta, Ga., April 17, 1869, by which I was placed on waiting orders when my rank would have entitled me to stay in the new Second Infantry, and would respectfully submit the following statement for the consideration of the Department:

The only reason assigned for this action is the loss of an eye, and, as the board has stated, "chronic inflammation of the contents of the socket." As regards the chronic inflammation I would state that when before the board I told them the cause of the inflammation then existing was owing to the fact of my wearing an artificial eye which did not fit the socket. I am afflicted by no such thing as chronic inflammation.

With my eye in very nearly the same condition I have performed active service for nearly eight years. I have been through many campaigns, several actions, been wounded twice, returned to duty afterwards, and served through the battles of the Wilderness and the campaigns preceding, with the same affliction, and whatever inconvenience it may have been to me, it has never seriously interfered with my doing my duty.

Never dreaming that after going through the war, I was to be displaced in peace for an ailment that never interfered with my duty, I was surprised beyond measure to see in a draft of the order referred to that I was left out on waiting orders. I went to see Gen. Ruger, who informed me that there was a medical certificate in my case on which he had acted. I told him that it was next to impossible for such to be the case and the certificate to be a good one, as I was not and had not been on the sick report for over a year, and that no surgeon had examined me so as to knowingly give a certificate. Gen. Ruger then told me that it was not a certificate from examination, but more of a general character. I then asked for a board, whose opinion I inclose.

When before the board, I had witnesses at hand to prove my service in the field, and also that I had served straight along in garrison, doing the same duty that other officers had done, but I was told that they would not call any witnesses but would take my statement.

That evening General Orders No. 24 was issued, and I was left out on waiting orders. I then applied for a copy of the proceedings of the board, which was not furnished me until several days afterwards, and then an incomplete copy, as I hereby state that the board did not carefully examine me physically, but only examined me as to my eye; they did not strip me or examine me in any other manner besides my eye. Upon my stating to the board that I had been informed that there was a certificate in my case, which had been procured by an officer in order to have me thrown out, they asked me if I could get the same medical officer who gave such certificate to give a certificate that I was fit for active service. I told them that I could, and at their desire was physically examined by Drs. Williams and Beach, who gave a certificate to the effect that they had carefully examined me and found me physically qualified for active service. This certificate I presented to the board in person.

One of the members of the board told me that in the examination, they held me in the same light that they would a recruit; they rejected me on account of the loss of an eye, nothing more; that otherwise I was as capable of duty as any officer in the Army, or in other words that the disqualification was merely a technical one.

Now, I will submit what I consider is an explanation of the whole thing.

Previous to leaving Louisville, Ky., I am informed that Gen. Crawford approached Gen. Burbank, then colonel Second Infantry, with the intention of gaining something from him that would have the effect of getting me out of the regiment. Gen. Burbank told him that he knew of nothing to that effect; that I had been in the regiment for nearly eight years, had served under him in the field, and if I could do duty under those circumstances I surely could do it now. He then (Gen. C.) told Mrs. Burbank, that he wanted me out of the regiment, that he did not like me, etc.; he received very little comfort from that source.

On his arrival at Atlanta he sent for Assistant Surgeon and Bvt. Maj. John W. Williams, U. S. Army, and told him he did not think I was fit for active service on account of "an undue lachrymation of the right eye," and intimated to the said Williams that he wanted his opinion on it. Dr. Williams informed him that he had served with officers in the field who had lost an eye, and could not discover that any disqualification resulted therefrom, whereupon Gen. Crawford said that he thought I ought to go before a board, and that he wished an opinion from him to that effect, which Dr. Williams gave. The above is what Dr. Williams told me. Col. Maurice Maloney I believe was present at the conversation.

About this time Gen. Crawford sent for me, and told me that he was surprised when the order came for me to go before a board; that he supposed of course I was to stay in the regiment; that he was going to send for me to give orders about the consolidation of my company when the order burst upon him like a thunderbolt. I replied that of course I did not suspect him as he had always been ostensibly such a friend to me. He replied he always had been and still was my friend; that I ought not to have gone to Gen. Ruger with my grievance, but have come to him; that it made Gen. Ruger very angry—that he was very sorry that I was not in.

Comment on this would be as superfluous as manifestly improper from an officer so much inferior in rank.

A few days after this Gen. Crawford wrote to Bvt. Maj. C. R. Greenleaf, assistant surgeon U. S. Army (a copy of which is inclosed and marked B, and Dr. G.'s reply marked C, which was furnished me by Dr. Greenleaf with the understanding that I was to use it).

Dr. Greenleaf examined me at my request, and told me he could give me a certificate of ability, provided my eye was decided not to be a disqualification, and furthermore that he had never treated me for disease of the eye, and still further that I had been on the sick report but very little, and that only from climatic or ordinary ailments incident to the ordinary run of humanity.

The paper marked D was given to me at my request by Dr. Williams after he had stripped me and examined me.

The paper marked E is the copy of proceedings furnished me.

When I presented the communication marked A to Gen. T. J. Haines, he advised me to withdraw it as it might be the means of having charges preferred against some officers.

To sum up the matter, as I understand it, I can only see, that after eight years of service in which I have tried to do my duty both to my superiors and country, after having received wounds, and going through hard campaigns and battles, it seems hard to me that when I could do this and stand it, that in the pleasant times of peace with easy duty I should be told that I am not fit for active service.

Since 1829 my family have one or more belonged to the old, honored Second Infantry. My father joined it upon his graduation in 1829. Since that time one of us has always been in it and tried to do it honor. When the war began, with a choice of regiments or line corps, I selected it. I have learned to look on it as my home; its traditions I have learned, its history I know. I feel that I have been displaced by the enmity of one man, and he who always professed himself a friend to me, and I confidently make my appeal to a tribunal where I feel that I will receive a careful hearing and final justice.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES W. LONG,

Captain and Brevet Major, U. S. Army, awaiting orders.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,

Adjutant-General, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 13, 1869.

SIR: Referring to your communication of the 8th instant, protesting against the order of April 20, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the South, placing you on "waiting orders," I am directed by the General of the Army to inform you that your previous communication to the same effect was referred on the 4th instant to the commanding general, Department of the South, for report, and has not yet been received back.

You have been detailed for Indian duty by General Orders, No. 49, May 7, 1869 (copy inclosed).

Very respectfully,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

Bvt. Maj. J. W. LONG,

Captain, U. S. Army, No. 358 C street, Washington, D. C.

NEW YORK CITY, September 14, 1870.

GENERAL: I would respectfully state my army record to be as follows: I entered the service in August, 1861, as second lieutenant of the Second Regiment of Infantry. Joined my company (B) at Rolla, in Missouri. While there commanded a battalion of the Second Infantry, and was also acting adjutant of Gen. Steele's forces until ordered to St. Louis, from which place I joined them again, and was finally in the winter ordered with my company to Washington, and during the winter was on provost duty there. Went into the field with the Army of the Potomac in the spring of 1862, and participated in McClellan's campaigns before Yorktown to the seven days' fight. Was in reserve on the first day commanding my company (and here I would say that this, from this time, is the smallest command I ever held, being most of the time acting field officer of the regiment by orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, and after that in command of the regiment). On the second days' fight was actively engaged in what is commonly called the battle of Gaines Mill where I was struck three times and wounded severely twice.

The first wound I received was a pistol shot in the left wrist while in command of two detached companies making a charge with Warren's Zouaves. The ball is still in my wrist, but does not now trouble me except in damp weather.

The second time I was struck was from a piece of shell (which, bursting, killed Capt. Dodd of the Seventeenth Infantry) striking me on the left side of my left foot and tearing my shoe.

The third time I was struck was by an Austrian rifle ball, conical in shape, bullet explosive, caliber .69, weighing 1½ ounces. The base of this ball spread after leaving the muzzle, struck me at the right angle of the nose, passed upward, downward, and outward, lodging near the lower angle of the jaw, fracturing the upper jaw bone, tearing my cheek open, and severing and cutting the arteries, muscles,

and nerves of the right side of my face. From this wound I have never recovered and never expect to. The ball was extracted on the field by Asst. Surg. W. C. Spencer, U. S. Army, from whose hands I have a certificate to the above effect.

The effects of this last blow stunned me and knocked me down, and I was carried from the field.

I repaired to my home in Buffalo, N. Y., and while there received an order that as soon as I was able I should relieve Lieut. Sheldon Sturgeon, First Infantry, of his duties as recruiting officer, which I did, and remained in Buffalo about nine months, when I received an order to join my regiment. At this time I was just recovering from a severe attack caused by my wound in the face. The teeth loosened from the gums, the gums of the right jaw became swollen, and for weeks I could eat nothing solid. This affliction has returned with more or less severity several times since.

On my arrival at Washington en route to my regiment I was again prostrated and under the charge of Surg. Basil Norris, U. S. Army, who at that time (1863) pronounced me unfit for field service. I was accordingly ordered to report to Gen. Heintzelman for duty on his staff, and he in turn ordered me to report to Gen. G. A. De Russey, commanding defenses south of the Potomac, for duty as mustering officer for his command. From here I was ordered to the field and joined my regiment at Beverly Ford, Va., and participated in the campaigns up to Spottsylvania Court House, with the exception of the time we were in this city during the riots. During this time, however, I was once or twice under Dr. Norris's treatment for severe facial neuralgia, and he again told me that I was unfit for field service. During these marches and countermarches between Culpeper and Centerville I laid out two or three nights in the rain and contracted a rheumatism which, however, is more severely felt in the left leg than the right. Whether the piece of shell which grazed my foot at Gaines's Mill has anything to do with this I can not say.

After this, in the fall of 1863, I took command of my regiment at Catletts Station, Va., succeeding to it by the appointment of Capt. Conrad as assistant adjutant-general of the division.

For several days and nights before we entered the battle of the Wilderness we were moving both day and night, and my wound became again feverish and swollen, accompanied by extreme dizziness and pain across my eyes. On the first day of the battle I had the regiment out as skirmishers, and although we had only about 101 muskets we took and brought in 31 prisoners.

That night, after the action for the day was over, I went to the doctor and, suffering intensely from my face, he gave me an anodyne of some description and I returned to the regiment.

During the two succeeding days my condition became worse, but I managed to stand it until the ammunition having been taken from the regiment, to be sent to troops actively engaged, and I, having been notified from division headquarters that the regiment would not be sent into action, I went to the field hospital for medical help. Assistant Surg. Bell, U. S. Army, on duty with the Seventeenth Infantry, informed me that I was suffering from typhoid fever and a threatened suppuration and inflammation of the wound. I was sent by him to Fredericksburg and from there to Washington, or Georgetown rather, and after a tedious illness there was again ordered to report to Surg. Norris for treatment.

After being under his charge for some time the doctor told me that I was unfit for active service, and that he had made a certificate to that effect, and he would have me ordered to Annapolis preparatory to being ordered before a retiring board.

While at Annapolis I was placed in military command of the officers' hospital, having under my charge the discipline of the hospital, and from there I was ordered to Louisville, Ky., for mustering duty, and while there only a week I was ordered to Trenton, N. J., as recruiting officer, at which place I remained over a year, and was then ordered to Newport Barracks to join my regiment, which I did, and after remaining there a short time we were ordered to Louisville, Ky., where I was placed in command of the post of Jeffersonville, Ind., and afterwards of Warsaw, Ky.

While at Trenton my wound broke out, covering my neck and face with sores, from which I suffered extreme pain.

While at Louisville I was under the treatment of Assistant Surg. S. A. Storrow, U. S. Army, for severe facial neuralgia, incapacitating me for a time from service.

From Louisville we were ordered to Atlanta, Ga., for consolidation with the Sixteenth Infantry, where I was ordered before a board, examined, and placed on waiting orders on account of physical disqualification or disability. From there I proceeded to my home, and in a short time was placed on duty as Indian agent for the Michigan Indians, which is my present position.

The command I held at the time I was wounded was that of a captain; at the time that the disability from my wound made itself patent, and really disabled me, I was in command of my regiment.

I would respectfully state to the board, that after I was wounded I tried to do what I was ordered to do by my superiors; my wish was to stay in the service. But

every surgeon that I have been treated by, either civil or military, all tell me I am unfit for any future violent exertion or exposure, and after suffering from my wounds for eight years, and still no improvement in it, I at last find out that I can not stand active service as well as I have thought I could. In damp or wet weather, even when well housed, my cheek swells and hurts; in dry weather it seems to stick close to the bone. Exposure brings on severe neuralgic pains in my face and neck, besides rheumatism in my limbs.

I have received two brevets, both for gallant and meritorious services in action—one as captain for Gaines Mill and one as major for the Wilderness.

I would also state that I have in my possession the official report of the action in which I was wounded, the certificate of Dr. Spencer, who extracted the ball, as to the nature of the wound, the certificate of Dr. Norris as to my physical disability, and the certificate of Dr. Storrow to the same effect.

These papers, with others, I have left at Sault Ste. Marie, where my duties have called me this summer, and although I have made every effort to get them in time to bring them with me, still I did not receive them in time.

I was in Detroit at the time the order to appear before the board reached me, and it takes from ten to fourteen days to write and receive an answer from the Sault.

As soon, however, as they are received they will be promptly forwarded to the recorder of the board as vouchers to my statements.

With this I respectfully submit my case, asking the recommendation of the board for my retirement among the class whose disability exists the result of wounds or injuries contracted in the service.

JAMES W. LONG,
Captain, U. S. Army, Unassigned.

Brig. Gen. IRWIN McDOWELL,
U. S. Army, President of the Retiring Board.

DETROIT, MICH., December 17, 1870.

Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: Under the provisions of section 3, act of Congress approved July 15, 1870, being an act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June 30, 1871, and for other purposes, I would respectfully apply to be honorably discharged the service of the United States as captain, U. S. Army, unassigned, to date from December 31, 1870.

I am, general, very respectfully,

JAMES W. LONG,
Captain, U. S. Army, Unassigned.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War. This officer was assigned to the Twenty-fifth Infantry in the recent order of assignments.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

Accepted.

WM. W. BELKNAP,
Secretary of War.

DECEMBER 29, 1870.