

**An Act**  
**To give aid to the citizens of Virginia wounded and maimed during the late war, while**  
**serving as Soldiers or Marines.**  
**Approved February 25, 1884**

1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of Virginia, That the sum of sixty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated out of the public treasury, to pay the claims properly allowed upon applications heretofore made under the act of assembly approved February fourteenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, entitled an act to provide commutation to such maimed soldiers, sailors, and marines in lieu of artificial limbs or eyes, or otherwise disabled, as may not heretofore have received the same under the provisions of former acts, and also, the claims which may hereafter be allowed under the provisions of this act. And the auditor of public accounts is hereby authorized to issue his warrants on the treasury, to pay the same to the parties entitled hereto, in the order of time in which they have been and may hereafter be received and filed in this office, provided that the auditor of public accounts shall audit all such claims in two classes, as follows: Class one – Claims of soldiers or marines who have never received any aid from the State, which shall be a preferred class. Class two – claims of soldiers or marines who have received aid from the State, upon which nothing shall be paid until the claims of the first class shall have been paid, nor until the first day of June, eighteen hundred and eighty-four, when he shall proceed to pay the claims of the second class.
2. Any citizen of this State who shall hereafter furnish a certificate from the court of this county or corporation, showing that he is now a citizen of this State, and that during the late war, and while he was a citizen of this State, he was engaged in military service as a soldier, sailor or marine, and while in such service lost a limb, or eye, or was so seriously and permanently disabled by wounds or surgical operations rendered necessary thereby, as to prevent him at the date of such certificate from performing manual labor, or that while so engaged in such military service he lost a limb or eye, or was so permanently disabled by wounds or surgical operations, and has since losing his limb or eye, or being so permanently disabled, remained continuously in this State, and is now a citizen thereof; that he has not at any time received an artificial limb or eye, or commutation money, or pension from any other State or from the United States; and that he has not before the date of his application, received under the provisions of any former act of assembly of this State, an artificial limb, or eye, or commutation money, shall be entitled to the sum of sixty dollars, to be paid as provided in this act; provided that any such applicant who has heretofore received an artificial limb or commutation therefore, from this State, shall still be entitled to the relief given in this act, if the artificial limb received or purchased with the commutation money received has been worn out or lost, or having lost only one leg has not been able to use an artificial leg, shall be entitled to the sum of sixty dollars; and provided further that when such applicant has lost both legs or both arms or both eyes, he shall be entitled to the sum of sixty dollars for each limb or eye lost. Before the court shall give such certificate, it shall require the applicant to state in his written application, verified by oath, in what command he was serving when wounded; when, where and how wounded; the nature of the wound and the extent of his disability at

- that time, and whether or not he has at any time previous received any limb, eye, or commutation money from this State; and if so, the date, nature and amount of the aid so received; and the court shall further require a competent physician to certify in writing, and under oath, the full nature of the wound and the extent of the disability of the applicant at that date, and this certificate of the physician, together with the other evidence in support of the application given before the court, shall be reduced to writing, and certified, and returned by the clerk, with the application, to the auditor of public accounts.
3. The auditor shall examine carefully each application, and the certificate and evidence therewith, heretofore returned under the act of February fourteenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, and former acts, and which may be returned under this act; and when a proper case for relief under this act is, in his judgment, made out, he shall issue his warrant on the treasurer to the applicant for the sum of sixty dollars in each case; provided that in any case where the application filed before the passage of this act, and the evidence accompanying it, do not enable the auditor to decide upon the merit of the claim, he shall return the same to the applicant, with instructions to renew the same in accordance with the provisions of this act, and the renewed application, when filed within ninety days from the date of the return of the former application, shall have the same relative position on the list of applications as the one returned for renewal.
  4. The auditor is directed to enter of record alphabetically, in a suitable book, the names of the parties receiving aid under this act, together with the date, nature and amount of any aid heretofore received.
  5. This act shall be in force from its passage.

#### DIRECTIONS

The application must be in writing, verified by oath, and must state in what command the applicant served when wounded, when, where and how wounded, and the extent of his disability at the time of application, and whether or not he has at any time received any limb, eye or commutation money from any State, or the United States, and if so the nature and amount of aid received. There must be a certificate of a competent physician in writing under oath, to the full nature of the wound and extent of the disability of the applicant at the date of application. The clerk must copy the application and certificate of physician, and reduce all the evidence heard in this case to writing and certify the same.

### **OFFICIAL FORM APPLICATION FOR AID TO CITIZENS OF VIRGINIA WOUNDED DURING THE LATE WAR**

Virginia:

In the County Court of Prince William County, June 8<sup>th</sup> 1887. Upon the application of James L. Cole for aid under an act of the General Assembly, approved February 25, 1884,

entitled "An act to give aid to the citizens of Virginia wounded and maimed during the late war, while serving as Soldiers or Marines."

The Court having carefully considered the written application of the said James L. Cole verified by his oath, and the evidence adduced in support of said application, is of opinion that the said Cole is entitled to aid under the said act, and directs the said application and all the evidence in the case to be certified to the Auditor of Public Accounts.

**Evidence**

*I belonged to Co. "A" – 49<sup>th</sup> Va. Infantry, and was serving in that command when wounded. I was wounded at Cold Harbor on the 30<sup>th</sup> May 1864, by ball passing through right thigh at hip joint. I had a surgical operation performed immediately after the Second Battle of Manassas on account of bruises received at that battle, which I have never recovered from. On account of which wounds I am certainly disabled from performing manual labor. I have never received any aid or commutation money from the State of Virginia or United States.*

*James L. Cole*

Sworn to before me, June 7<sup>th</sup> 1887

Edwin Nelson, Clerk

Brentsville, Va., June 7<sup>th</sup> 1887

*This is to certify that I have this day examined J. L. Cole and pronounce him unfit for regular manual labor, on account of imperfect use of his right hip joint resulting from a severe wound received during the war, a gunshot wound commencing in front of hip joint, passing through this joint, and out near the spine in lumbar region, also the left knee joint shows signs of a severe injury there, which must incapacitate the left leg for much use. I have known Mr. Cole for a long time, and can safely say, he is unfit for regular manual labor.*

*P. B. Bowen M.D.*

Sworn before me, June 7<sup>th</sup> 1887, Edwin Nelson, Clerk

Full name of applicant, James L. Cole

Residence, Prince William County Va.

Post Office, Belle Fair Mills, Stafford County, Va.

Edwin Nelson, Clerk