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Ottawa, Kansas, June 4th 1873

F. A. Wilkinson Esq.

Agt Conn. Mut. Life. Ins. Co.

Ottawa, Kansas.

Dr. Sr. Referring to inquiries contained in letter of W. R. Hodges, Gen. Agt. to Messrs. Hopkins & Graham, under date of May, 31", I have to say, -

First, - As to "point of Entrance and Exit of ball", reference is made to statements of your Medical Examiner, Dr. J. Davis herewith forwarded -

Second, - "The immediate and after effects of the wound and full history of convalescence" -

The wound was received at the battle of Chancellorsville, May 2" 1863, while I was on duty in the 154th N. Y. Vols. The immediate effect was a dull stunning sensation and faintness followed in a day-or two by sharp pain, painful breathing, and spitting of bloody phlegm. This wore off gradually, - the wound soon began to heal, expectoration became less, and I grew better without relapse or draw back, until September 17th following. I was reported back from the Chestnut Hill (Phila.) Gen Hospital for duty - On or about Oct. 16". I rejoined the Regiment at Bridgeport, Alabama, and from that day was constantly on duty to the end of the war, serving through Sherman's campaign in the 20th Corps.

The left side and breast, for a long time would perspire before other portions of the body and seemed weaker. I have felt no effect of the wound since leaving the Army, except during the first year after being mustered out, when greatly fatigued that side seemed weaker than the other. I have felt nothing of the wound during the last six or seven years, and have constantly been engaged in my ordinary business.

Third:- "How long since full recovery"

A difficult question, and depends upon what you consider "full recovery", I should say since Oct. 16" 1863, qualifying my answer by the statements contained in the preceding answer- I believe a perfect and permanent cure was effected long since.

Very truly yours,

A. W. Benson.

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