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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

This is to certify that the subscriber Charles W. McKay is the identical person who enlisted as a private in Co C. of the 154 th Regiment of New York Volunteers in July 1862. at Allegany Cattaraugus County State of New York. That I was born on the 25 th day of January 1847. that at the time of my enlistment I was 15 years and six months old. That I was present with my Company and Regiment, without one days absence or one hours excuse from duty until August 1863. That the 154 th N.Y. Vols. was a part of the Brigade under Col Adolph Bushbeck, who Gen'l Hooker says in his "Chancellorsville revisited." This Brigade held their ground here, and saved the Artillery and trains of the Corps and enabled me to get my reserves into position, and thus check the advance of the enemy and save the Army". Gen'l Abner Doubleday in his book ("Chancellorsville and Gettysburg ") also tells the story of the gallant fight made by the Bushbeck's brigade at Chancellorsville. This is to certify that I was present every moment of that action with my company and after the retreat fell in with the remnant under the personal direction of Gen'l Howard . in front of Fairview, and was there when the advance of Jackson was checked. I marched with my command to Gettysburg, and was present with the Regiment on the First on July 1863. when the Brigade was sent about Four o'clock P.M. to cover the retreat of the troops then engaged, back through the town. When the brigade was almost surrounded I was one of the few who avoided capture. I was slightly wounded on the scalp and was

2

^{doubt}
without one of the two last union soldiers that came back through the village that day . The other one was Albert E.Hall of my Company. That as in some way a recognition of my service on that occasion , and because I had been a faithful soldier up to that time ,

About the first of August 1863. I was detailed to go to the State of New York on recruiting service, where I went in company with Three commissioned officers and Six non -commissioned officers of the Regiment and remained on that service until April 1864.

During the early days of April 1864. I rejoined the Regiment , then in camp in Lookout Valley Tenn. I marched with the command on the opening of the well known Atlanta campaign, I was present with my Company who formed part of the attacking force that attacked the enemy at Dug Gap Ga. on Sunday May 8 th 1864. The particulars of that attack are to be found fully explained by the reports of our Regimental commanders . The Brigade and Division Generals . As well as the reports of the Confederate commanders.

Please see an article in "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War." written by Gen'L Joseph E. Johnston . entitled the defense of Atlanta /." also in same an article by Col W.C.P. Breckenridge entitled "The opening of the Atlanta campaign".

The reports of the Union officers can be found in The official Records of the Rebellion .Series 1. Vol 38. Part 2 nd . Sereial No 73. Report of Col Bushbeck on Page 203. of Lt Col D.B. Allen on Page 246. of Maj L.D. Warner on Page 247. from these reports it will be seen that the 154 th Reg't conducted itself on that day

in a most gallant and courageous manner. According to Lt Col Allen there were but Seven Companies of the Reg't in the Action ,about 135. men all told. of this number we lost Eight men killed outright Foryy Six Wounded and Fourteen taken prisoners Total 68.or 50 Per Centz.As there was no Artillery used owing to the formation of the ground the above loss would indicate that it was a hot place .

I hereby declare that I was one of the " Adventerous advance " who actually helped to plant the colors of the 154th Reg't on the crest of the mountain. after the troops were recalled from the base of the "palisades, while our line was lying near the crest of the false ridge mentioned by Maj Warner, it was discovered that several of our wounded were lying between the lines and under the fire of the enemy. Geo Greek one of my Company, who was a Corp.al and one of the Regimental Color gaurd was discovered to be lying out there wounded and unable to crawl off. Stephen Welch a Seargent of my Company and myself went out at the risk of our lives as it was within point -blank range of the Confederates , and finding that Greek. was wounded in both legs we rolled him on to a piece of tent and carried him to a place of saftey ,where we turned him over to the stretcher carriers, and returned to our places in the ranks, The peice of tent on which he was brought off belonged to me. When Serg't Welch and myself started to go to — our wounded comrade the enemy made us the target for a brisk musketry fire, but as we raised up with our burden so that they could see what we were doing they ceased firing ,and both they and

our own line cheered us heartily.

I served with my Co .until the end of the war as did Serg't ~~Wash~~ Welch ,he was promoted to a Luietenaney and I wasmade a Seargent we were both present at the Grand Review at the close of the war, and were mustered out with our Company.

I beleive that we are entitled to the "Medal of Honor "under the act of congress ,to be given for meritobious service.

It is My belief that Sergeant Welch was the first to propose that we go to the releif of our wounded comrade, and I can truthfully say that his conduct throughout was of the most couragrouand soldier like character, I have seen him under many trying circumstances and he was always brave and true. And if my prayer should be granted an the " Medal " should be awarded to us , I humbly crave that I may be detailed to present to Serg't .er Rather Luiet? Welch the one awarded to him.

I will willingly make the trip to New York State where he still resides to have the honor of putting the insigna upon his deserving breast.

Neither Sergeant Welch or myself have ever applied for a pemsion.

I do not make this application because I claim for myself any extraordinary courage or bravery, I beleive that in the days of my youth I gave my country honest and faithful service ,and when I read of the " Medal " being given to others who performed no greater or more hazadeus service, I beleive that I am entitled to it.

Maj Warner resides at Portville N.Y.

Luiet Welch at Allegany N.Y. he does not know anything of this application and there -fore would make a good witness in my case.

The facts in this case I think are very easy of verification .

I respectfully request that The Honorable The Secretary of War will have the necessary investigation made and if the case warrants as I understand it does the issuing of the "Medals, have the matter attended to at as early a time as possible and oblige

YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT.

Charles W. McKay

PAST COMMANDER OF STANTON POST No. 33 G. A. R .
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA.

*Subscribed and
sworn to before me
this 16th day of May
1893*

*C. C. Warfield,
Notary Public
m*

United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

189

St Paul Minn

May 17. 1893.

Sir:

I have the honor to request favorable con-
sideration of the enclosed papers respecting
the claim of G. W. McKay of Piquette Falls
Minn to a Medal of Honor

Very Respectfully

Ed Davis

To

The Secretary of War

Department of the Interior,

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,

OFFICE OF U. S. SURVEYOR GENERAL,

St. Paul, Minn., May 17, 1893.

Hon. C. K. Davis,

St Paul, Minn

Dr. Sir:

Enclosed please find letter and statement from C. W. McKay formerly of Co. C. 154.th N.Y. Vols. who makes application for a "Medal of Honor."

McKay is in the employ of the N. P. R. R. Co. as station agt. at Fergus Falls, Minn. I have known him for ten years. He is a reliable, worthy man, and I have reason to believe his statement to be true in every respect. Any assistance you can give him will be greatly appreciated.

Very respectfully

James Compton

MAY 20

366075

1893

St Paul, Minn.

NOTATIONS CARRIED 17. 1893

Chas. W. McKay.

Priv. Co. C. 154. N.Y.V.

Stephen Welch.

Serjt. & Lieut. Same Co. & Regt.

2259

Hon. C. K. Davis U.S.A.

encloses statement relative to gallant services of the above and requesting medals of honor.

Senator Davis asks favorable consideration in the case of McKay.

3

2. Encl. Letter of Hon C.K. Davis

copy 24/93 of

384924 (Main)

of Hon. Sec. 24/93

RECORD AND PENSION OFFICE,

War Department,

May 23, 1893.

Respectfully submitted to the Major-General Commanding.

By authority of the

Secretary of War:

Colonel, U.S. Army, Chief of Office.

(3 encl-)

Rec'd Back AUG 24 1893

{ 433076 (Main) (S. Welch) Ret'd by indt., Nov. 9, 95. E. O. }

2^d Indorsement J. A. G. War Department, August 24, 1893.

Respectfully returned to the Chief of the Record and Pension Office to inform Senator Davis that medals of honor are awarded for conspicuous gallantry in action and not for general good service. That the papers in favor of the two men do not set forth with sufficient particularity such gallantry at any particular action, that it may possibly be supplied by affidavits. The affidavits should be from some parties other than the ones interested and who has personal knowledge.

L. A. Grant, Acting Secretary of War.

Record and Pension Office,

War Department,

May 23rd, 1893.

CASE OF

CHARLES W. McKAY and STEPHEN WELCH,

late sergeant and lieutenant, respectively, of Company C, 154th
New York Volunteers.

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Application for medals of honor.

Hon. C. K. Davis, U. S. Senator, forwards, and commends to favorable consideration, an application by Charles W. McKay for medals of honor for himself and Stephen Welch, both late of Company C, 154th New York Volunteers.

This application is embraced in a sworn statement by McKay, in which he testifies that he was present with his company and regiment "without one day's absence or one hour's excuse from duty" until August, 1863; that the 154th New York Volunteers was a part of the brigade under command of Col. Adolph Bushbeck, concerning which, deponent asserts, Gen. Hooker says in his "Chancellorsville Revisited:" "This Brigade held their ground here, and saved the Artillery and trains of the Corps and enabled me to get my reserves into position, and thus check the advance of the enemy and save the Army;" that Gen'l Abner Doubleday in his book, "Chancellorsville

and Gettysburg," also tells the story of the gallant fight made by Bushbeck's brigade at Chancellorsville; that he (deponent) was present with the regiment on July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg, when the brigade was sent, about 4 o'clock, P.M., to cover the retreat of the troops then engaged; that when the brigade was almost surrounded, he was one of the few who avoided capture; that he was slightly wounded in the scalp and was without doubt one of the last two union soldiers who came back through the village that day; that in recognition of his services on that occasion, and because he had been a faithful soldier up to that time, he was detailed as one of the recruiting party, about the 1st of August, 1863, and remained on that service until April, 1864; that he rejoined his regiment in Lookout Valley, Tenn., and was present at the attack of Dug Gap, Ga., on May 8, 1864, the reports of which may be found in the Rebellion Records, and from which it will be seen that the 154th regiment conducted itself on that day in a most gallant and courageous manner; that he was one of the "Adventerous advance" who actually helped to plant the colors of the 154th regiment on the crest of the mountain; that after the troops were recalled from the base of the "palisades," while the Union line was near the crest of the "false ridge," mentioned in the official reports, it was discovered that several of the Union wounded were lying between the lines, and under the fire of the enemy; that Geo. Greek, of deponent's company, who was a corporal and one of the Color Guard, was discovered to be lying out there wounded and "unable to crawl off;" that Stephen Welch, a sergeant of his company, and himself, went out at the risk of their lives - as it was within point blank range of the confederates, - and finding that Greek was wounded in both legs they rolled

him in a piece of tent and carried him to a place of safety, where they turned him over to the stretcher carriers; that when they started to bring in their wounded comrade, the enemy made them the target for a brisk musketry fire; that he believes that Sergt. Welch was the first to propose to go to the relief of the wounded comrade, and that the sergeant's conduct throughout was of the most courageous and soldier-like character; that he has seen him under many trying circumstances and he was always brave and true; and that if his (deponent's) prayer should be granted and the medal should be awarded to them, he humbly craves that he may be "detailed" to present to Welch the one awarded to him. Affiant further states that Welch does not know of this application.

The records show as follows: Charles McKay, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers was enrolled July 26, 1862, for three years and is reported on rolls of the company to June 30, 1863, present; to February 29, 1864, "Absent det. in N.Y.;" April 30, 1864, present; to August 31, 1864, "In hospital since May 25, 1864;" to April 30, 1865, present. He was mustered out of service with the company as sergeant, June 11, 1865.

Stephen Welch, sergeant, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, was enrolled August 11, 1862, and is reported on the rolls of the company to April 30, 1863, as present. He was captured at Chancellorsville, May 2-3 1863; confined at Richmond, Va., May 9, 1863; paroled at City Point, Va., May 15, 1863; reported at Camp Parole, Md., May 18, 1863; was furloughed from July 27, 1863 to August 27, 1863; reported a deserter September 4, 1863; returned to camp October 3, 1863; and was sent to 11th Corps October 6, 1863. He was mustered

in as first lieutenant, 154th New York Volunteers, August 6, 1864, to date June 9, 1864, and was discharged June 13, 1865, per special orders No. 300, Adjutant General's Office.

The records show that George Greek, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, was wounded May 3, 1864, at "Rocky Faced Ridge."

No official reference to the soldier's conduct in battle has been found.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William H. Russell", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Colonel, U. S. Army,
Chief of Office.

SUPPLEMENT.

Under date August 24, 1893, Hon. C. K. Davis, U. S. S., was informed as follows:

"The Acting Secretary of War, to whom the application was submitted, has this day returned it to this office with remarks to the effect that medals of honor are awarded for distinguished gallantry in action and not for general good service; that the papers in favor of these two men do not set forth with sufficient particularity such gallantry at any particular action, but, that it may possibly be supplied by affidavits. The affidavits should be from some parties (other than those interested), having personal knowledge of the particular act of gallantry for which a medal is requested."

Replying to this communication, Charles W. McKay, one of the applicants in this case, submitted March 14, 1894, the following additional testimony:

(1) Affidavit of L. D. Warner, late lieutenant-colonel, 154th New York Volunteers, who testified September 25, 1893, as follows:

"I was mustered as Captain of Co. 'C' of the 154th N. Y. Vol. Infty. at its organization in 1862. I served with the Regiment until its muster out in 1865, as Captain, Major and Lieutenant Colonel, being in command of the Regiment most of the last year of its service. I was well acquainted with Charles W. McKay who enlisted as a private in my Company and served faithfully until the command was mustered out of service at the end of the war. He was promoted to a Corporal and then to be a Sergeant for his soldierlike qualities and faithful performance of duty.

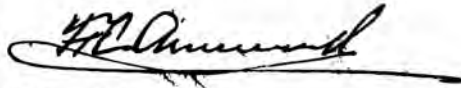
"I was present with the command at the Battle of Dug Gap Ga., on the 8th of May, 1864. Where the 154th N.Y.Vols. made a desperate charge up to the crest of the palisade of rocks planting their colors on the very summit, but owing to the formation of the ground and want of sufficient supports was compelled to fall back to a false ridge to reform, while in this position Sergeant Stephen Welch also of Co. C, and Charles W. McKay went out in front of the line of battle and under a severe fire from the enemy and brought off the field the body of Corporal Geo. Greek also of the same Company who had been acting as color guard and was desperately wounded. In my opinion both these men viz: Sergeants Welch and McKay are entitled to the "Medal of Honor" for conspicuous courage and Bravery in action, in thus going to the rescue of their wounded comrade at the risk of their own lives."

(2) Affidavit of D.M. Wright, late corporal, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, who testified October 25, 1893, as follows:

"I was a corporal of Company "C", of the 154th N.Y.Vols. I went out with the Regiment at its first organization in 1862, and served with it until its discharge in 1865. I was well acquainted with Charles W. McKay. The said Charles W. McKay and myself were together with the extreme advance at the Battle of Dug Gap, Ga., on May 8th, 1864, and it is my belief that we were as far up the mountain as any Union soldiers who were not captured. The Regiment after losing eight men killed outright and forty two wounded was ordered to fall back to the protection of a ridge about thirty rods from the position of the enemy. While laying in this position some of our comrades could be seen lying between the lines under fire and

so badly wounded as to be unable to get away. At this time Sergeant Stephen Welch and Charles W. McKay went out boldly between the lines and subjected to a heavy fire from the enemy and brought off the body of Corporal Geo. Greek who was mortally wounded and unable to walk. According to my understanding of the act of Congress, these men viz: Stephen Welch and Charles W. McKay are entitled to the 'Medal of Honor' for gallant conduct in action' for their brave and courageous deed in going to the rescue of their wounded comrade, at the risk of their own lives."

These affiants are reported on the records for May and June, 1864, as present, and their signatures to the affidavits appear to be genuine.



Colonel, U.S. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

RECORD AND PENSION OFFICE,

War Department,

March 22, 1894.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

PORTVILLE N.Y. SEPT 25th 1893.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

~~This is to certify that~~ I was mustered as Captain of Co " C " ~~of the~~ 154 th N.Y. Vol Infty at its organization in 1862. ~~That~~ I served with the Regiment until its muster out in 1865. as Captain . Major and Lieutenant Colonel being in command of the Regiment most of the last year of its ~~service.~~ I was well acquainted with Charles W . MCKAY who enlisted as a private in my Company and served faithfully until the command was mustered out of service at the end of the war. He was promoted to a Corporal and then to be a Sergeant for his soldierlike qualities and faithful performance of duty. I was present with the command at the Battle of Dug Gap Ga. on the 8 th of May 1864 . Where the 154 th N.Y. Vols made a desperate charge up to the crest of the palisade of rocks planting their colors on the very summit, but owing to the formation of the ground and want of sufficient supports was compelled to fall back to a false ridge to reform , while in this position Sergeant Stephen Welch also of Co C? and Charles W. McKAY went out in front of the line of battle and under a severe fire from the enemy and brought off the field the body of Corporal Geo GREEK also of the same Company who had been acting as color guard and was desperately wounded In my opinion both these men Viz Sergeants Welch and McKay are entitled to the " Medal of Honor" for conspicuous courage

and Bravery in action , in thus going to the rescue of their wounded comrade at the risk of their own lives.)

State of New York
County of Cattaraugus

S. D. Warner

Late Lieut Col Commanding the 154 th N.Y. Vols

I was and subscribed before me this 25th day of September 1893. and I certify that I am well acquainted with the above named Deponent and am satisfied that his statement is entitled to full credit

E. W. Bedford
Notary Public

(This is to certify that I was a Corporal of Company "C" of the 154th N.Y. Vols. that I went out with the Regiment at its first organization in 1832, and served with it until its discharge in 1865. That I was well acquainted with Charles W. McKay. That ~~the~~^{we} said Charles W. McKay and myself were together with the extreme advance at the Battle of Dug Gap Ga. on May 8th 1864, and it is my belief that we were as far up the mountain as any Union soldiers who were not captured. The Regiment after loosing eight men killed outright and forty two wounded was ordered to fall back to the protection of a ridge about thirty rods from the position of the Enemy. While laying in this position some of our comrades could be seen lying between the lines under fire and so badly wounded as to be unable to get away. At this time Sergeant Stephen Welch and Charles W. McKay went out boldly between the lines and subjected to a heavy fire from the enemy and brought off the body of Corporal Geo Creek who was mortally wounded and unable to walk. According to my understanding of the act of Congress, these men Viz Stephen Welch and Charles W. McKay are entitled to the "Medal of Honor" for gallant conduct in action for their brave and courageous ^{and} deed in going to the rescue of their wounded comrade, at the risk of their own lives.)

A. W. Wright
Late Corporal of Co "C" 154th N.Y. Vols. *XX*

*Sumner and I subscribed before me
this October 25th 1893
Chas Bellard
Justice of the Peace*

Co. C, 154th N.Y. Vol.

most distinguished
gallantry in action at
Quincy Mass. May 1, 1862,
in voluntarily risking their
own lives in saving, under
the fire of the enemy, a
wounded comrade lying
near the line.

John A. McKay
Adjutant General of War.

RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WAR

ADJUTANT GENERAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/15/2010 BY 60322
UCBAW/BJS/STP

RECORDS

Department of War
March 22, 1894
Respectfully submitted to the
Secretary of War with additional
information
Colonel, S. Army
Chief of Office
WAR DEPT
RECORDS
Enclo. -
Mar Dept
Apr 5, 1894
Let a medal of honor
be presented to
Lieut. Stephen
McKay, Co. C, 154th N.Y.
Vol., and to Sergeant
Charles W. McKay.

1894

384924

RECEIVED
Sergeant
Falls, Minn.
March 14, 1894.

Charles W. McKay

Steph. Welch
Co. C, 154th N.Y. Vol.

Charles W. McKay request

Medals of honor.

(2 Enclosures)

With 366075

Records to Hon. Ex. Davis Apr 5, 94
Letters to McKay & Welch early of 94
measures forwarded by request of McKay
April 10, 94.

FERGUS FALLS MINN MARCH 14 th 1894.

To The " Chief of the Record and Pension Office .
War Department.

WASHINGTON.
D.C.

DEAR SIR.

Your Letter " k. " No 366.075. Dated August 24 th 1893
Has been received by me through the courtisey of senator G.K
Davis .

I now have the honor of presenting herewith an affidavit from
Corperal Dan'l M. Wright

And an Affidavit from Lt Col Lewis D Warner.

I apprehnd that these Affidavids, fill the requirements as
to the fact that Ser't Stephen Welch and myself ,did on the
8 th day of May 1864.at the Battle of Dug Gap Ga.Perform an
act," in Action," which was considered by our comrades "Distinguished
Gallantry"

I do not see that any further statement is required of from me at
this time as the papers fully explain the matter.

Should these affidavids be deemed sufficient to sustain the claim
as I trust they will. I would respectfully repeat my request that

I may be detailed to present the " Medal " to Comrade Welch.

Will you give this matter your kind attention ,as early as conveni
-ent And beleive my me

YOUR OBEDIENT SERVANT

Charles W. McKay
Late Serg't Co "C" 154 th N.Y. Vols

Record and Pension Office,
War Department.

APRIL 5, 1894.

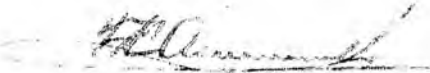
M E M O R A N D U M .

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

The Acting Secretary of War has directed the issue of a medal of honor to 1st Lieut. Stephen Welch, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, the medal to be engraved as follows:

The Congress
to
1st Lt. Stephen Welch,
Co. C, 154th N. Y. Vols.,
for
most distinguished gallantry in action at
Dug Gap, Ga.,
May 8, 1864.

----- : : -----



Colonel, U.S. Army,
Chief, Record and Pension Office.

E.L.
Subject:

Address: "Chief of the Record and Pension Office, War Department, Washington, D. C."

No. 384,924.

Record and Pension Office,
War Department,
Washington City,

APRIL 5, 1894.

M E M O R A N D U M .

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The Acting Secretary of War has directed the issue of a medal of honor to Charles W. McKay, late sergeant, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, the medal to be engraved as follows:

The Congress

to

Sergt. Chas. W. McKay,

Co. C, 154th N.Y. Vols.,

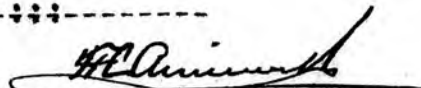
for

most distinguished gallantry in action at

Dug Gap, Ga.,

May 8, 1864.

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Colonel, U.S. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

E.L.

Address "Chief of the Record and Pension Office, War Department, Washington, D. C."

No. 384,924.

Subject:

Record and Pension Office,

War Department,

Washington City.

APRIL 5, 1894.

MEMORANDUM.

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The Acting Secretary of War has directed the issue of a medal of honor to Charles W. McKay, late sergeant, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, the medal to be engraved as follows:

The Congress

to

Sergt. Chas. W. McKay,

Co. C, 154th N. Y. Vols.,

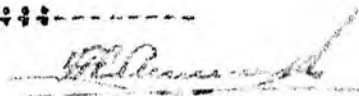
for

most distinguished gallantry in action at

Dug Gap, Ga.,

May 8, 1864.

-----:~::~:-----


Colonel, U. S. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

E. I.

Address: "Chief of the Record and Pension Office, War Department, Washington, D. C."

No. 384,924.

Record and Pension Office,

War Department,

Washington City,

APRIL 5, 1894.

MEMORANDUM .

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

The Acting Secretary of War has directed the issue of a medal of honor to 1st Lieut. Stephen Welch, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, the medal to be engraved as follows:

The Congress

to

1st Lt. Stephen Welch,

Co. C, 154th N. Y. Vols.,

for

most distinguished gallantry in action at

Dug Gap, Ga.,

May 8, 1864.

: : :


Colonel, U. S. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

bjw

Subject: Medal of honor for Sergt. Chas. W. McKay.

384,924

Record and Pension Office,
War Department,
Washington City,

April 5, 1894.

Hon. C. K. Davis,

United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to the application for the award of a medal of honor to Charles W. McKay of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, late sergeant, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that a medal of honor has been awarded to Sergeant McKay for most distinguished gallantry in action at Dug Gap, Georgia, May 8, 1864, in accordance with the act of Congress approved March 3, 1863, providing for the presentation of medals of honor to such officers, non-commissioned officers and privates as have most distinguished themselves in action.

The medal will be forwarded to Sergeant McKay as soon as suitably engraved.

Very respectfully,

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

363,075

Subject: Medal of Honor cases of G. A. Kelly and Stephen Welch

Record and Pension Office

War Department

Washington, D.C.

July 24, 1893.

Mr. G. A. Kelly,

Company, 1st Cavalry,

Sir:

Reference is made to your communication of the 17th inst. in which you enclose and request to the favorable consideration of this Department an application (it was made to you by Mr. James Cooper of St. Paul, Minnesota) of Charles W. Kelly for a decoration, Company 2, 1st Cavalry, for the award of a medal of Honor. Kelly was in the 1st Cavalry, and in Stephen Welch's case a sergeant same company, for services during the late war. I have the honor to inform you that the latter was not of War, as was the application was admitted, has this day returned to the same office with reference to the other two medals of Honor are awarded for distinguished gallantry in action and not for general good service; that the papers in favor of these two men are not filed with sufficient particularity a copy of Kelly's or any particular action, but that it may possibly be supported by affidavits. The affidavits relate to some parties (other than those interested) having personal knowledge of the particular act of gallantry for which a medal is requested.

Very respectfully,

Colonel H. C. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

Medal of Honor.

April 13, 1894.

Mr. Stephen Welch,

Late 1st Lieut., Co. C, 154th N. Y. Vols.,

Allegany, New York.

Sir:

I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that, in accordance with the act of Congress approved March 3, 1863, providing for the presentation of medals of honor to such officers, non-commissioned officers and privates as have most distinguished themselves in action, a medal of honor has been awarded to you for most distinguished gallantry in action at Dug Gap, Georgia, May 9, 1864, in voluntarily risking your life in rescuing, under the fire of the enemy, a wounded comrade lying between the lines.

The medal has been forwarded to you by registered mail. Please acknowledge receipt.

Very respectfully,

Colonel, U. S. Army.

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

---:est:---

Address: Chief of the Record and Pension Office, War Department, Washington, D. C.

-384924-

Subject: Medal of Honor.

Record and Pension Office,

War Department,

Washington City,

April 13, 1894.

Mr. Charles W. McKay,

Late Sergeant, Co. C, 154th N. Y. Vols.,

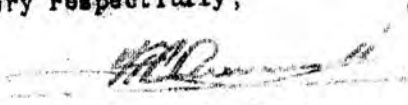
Fergus Falls, Minn.

Sir:

I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that, in accordance with the act of Congress approved March 3, 1863, providing for the presentation of medals of honor to such officers, non-commissioned officers and privates as have most distinguished themselves in action, a medal of honor has been awarded to you for most distinguished gallantry in action at Dug Gap, Georgia, May 8, 1864, in voluntarily risking your life in rescuing, under the fire of the enemy, a wounded comrade lying between the lines.

The medal has been forwarded to you by registered mail. Please acknowledge receipt.

Very respectfully,


Colonel, U. S. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

W. Address: "Chief of the Record and Pension Office, War Department, Washington, D.C."

384,924.

Subject: Medal of honor for Lieut. Stephen Welch.

Record and Pension Office

War Department

Washington City

April 2, 1864.

Hon. C. K. Davis,

United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to the application for the award of a medal of honor to Stephen Welch of Albany, New York, late first lieutenant, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that a medal of honor has been awarded to Lieutenant Welch for most distinguished gallantry in action at Bug Gap, Georgia, May 8, 1864, in accordance with an act of Congress approved March 3, 1863, providing for the presentation of medals of honor to such officers, non-commissioned officers and privates as have most distinguished themselves in action. The medal will be forwarded to Lieutenant Welch as soon as suitably engraved.

Very respectfully,

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office,

---:gab:---

Address: Chief of the Record and Pension Office, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Subject: Medal of Honor for Sergt. Chas. W. McKay.

-384924-

Record and Pension Office,

War Department,

Washington City,

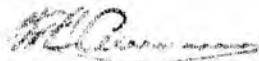
April 13, 1894.

The Adjutant General,
State of New York,
Albany, New York.

Sir:

I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that, in accordance with the act of Congress approved March 3, 1863, providing for the presentation of medals of honor to such officers, non-commissioned officers and privates as have most distinguished themselves in action, a medal of honor has been awarded to Chas. W. McKay, late sergeant, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, for most distinguished gallantry in action at Dug Gap, Georgia, May 8, 1864, in voluntarily risking his life in reaching, under the fire of the enemy, a wounded comrade lying between the lines.

Very respectfully,



Colonel, U. S. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

---sb---

Address: Chief of the Record and Pension Office, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Subject: Medal of honor for Lt. Stephen Welch.

-384924-

Record and Pension Office,

War Department,

Washington City,

April 13, 1894.

The Adjutant General,

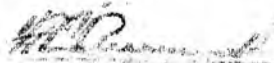
State of New York,

Albany, New York.

Sir:

I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that, in accordance with the act of Congress approved March 3, 1863, providing for the presentation of medals of honor to such officers, non-commissioned officers and privates as have most distinguished themselves in action, a medal of honor has been awarded to Stephen Welch, late first lieutenant, Company C, 154th New York Volunteers, for most distinguished gallantry in action at Dug Gap, Georgia, May 8, 1864, in voluntarily risking his life in rescuing, under the fire of the enemy, a wounded comrade lying between the lines.

Very respectfully,



Colonel, U. S. Army,

Chief, Record and Pension Office.

Department Commander,
SAM. R. VAN SANT, Winona.

Sr. Vice Dep't Commander,
A. H. REED, Glencoe.

Jr. Vice Dep't Commander,
C. W. MCKAY, Fergus Falls.

Ass't Adjutant Gen'l,
J. K. MERTZ, Minneapolis.

Ass't Quartermaster Gen'l,
E. N. LEAVENS, Faribault.

DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA.



Chaplain,
H. G. BILBIE, Cloquet.

Medical Director,
J. M. TUCKER, Hastings.

Judge Advocate,
ELL TORRANCE, Minneapolis.

Department Inspector,
HARRISON WHITE, Beaver Creek.

Chief Mustering Officer,
G. S. IVES, St. Peter.

Fergus Falls, Minn., APRIL 23 rd 1894 *189*

COL W.C. AINSWORTH.

CHIEF RECORD AND PENSION OFFICE.

WASHINGTON

D.C.

DEAR SIR.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 384924. dated April 13 th conveying to me the intelligence that the Honorable Secretary of War had granted me a " Medal of Honor" for "Most Distinguished Gallantry in action" I hereby acknowledge the Receipt of the Medal, which I shall treasure as a memento of the days when men held the love of the "Old flag" above even life

I hereby return my sincere thanks to yourself and the Honorable Secretary for your kindness in the matter. And trust that some day every man who did his duty in the great struggle may be decorated by his country with its Badge of approval

I REMAIN YOUR OBEDIENT SERVANT

Charles W. McKay
Late Serg't Co "C. 154 th N.Y. Vols.

BOARD OF EDUCATION,

CLERK'S OFFICE.

FERGUS FALLS, MINN.

March 19th 1897

Personally appeared before me F.N. Field Register of Deeds in and for the county of Otter Tail State of Minnesota . Mr W.C. Lincoln and Mr Peter Winsor, who declare upon oath that they have been personally acquainted with Charles W. McKay for the past ten (10.) years and know him to be the identical person who served under that name as a soldier in Co " C " of the 154th Regiment of New York State Infantry during the years between 1861 and 1865.

Peter Winsor.
W.C. Lincoln.

~~from the~~ subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of March 1897.

Fred. N. Field
REGISTER OF DEEDS,
OTTER TAIL COUNTY, MINN.

RECORD & PENSION OFFICE

MAR 23

473363

1897

WAR DEPARTMENT

Fergus Falls, Minn.,

Mch. 20, 1897.

C. W. McKay,
Co. 159, N. Y. Inf.

Requests ribbon
and bow knot,

2. Inclosures.

File 366075

Answered by letter (583)
mch 24. 97

Fergus Falls Minn March 20th

To The Honorable Secretary of War.

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

Be the possessor of one of the

"congressional Medals of Honor"

I would respectfully hereby petition that
the "ribbon and knot" prescribed by
act of congress approved May 2^d 1896
be sent me. Please find herewith
a set of identification signed by two
comrades.

Yours Respectfully
C W McKay

Address: "Chief of the Record and Pension Office, War Department, Washington, D. C."

Subject: Ribbon and Knot.

473363

366075
473363

War Department,
Washington City,

March 24, 1897

Mr. W. H. May
Tergus Falls
Minn.

Sir:

I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that a ribbon of the pattern prescribed and established by the President under the provisions of the Joint Resolution of Congress approved May 2, 1896, to replace the ribbon to which the medal of honor heretofore awarded to you is attached, and a knot to be worn in lieu of the medal, have been forwarded to you by registered mail to-day. Upon receipt of the ribbon and the knot please advise this office thereof.

Very respectfully,



Colonel, U. S. Army, Chief of Office.

Per #