

Absalom White territorial loss claim

Report of H.L. Strickler, Commissioner to Audit Claims of Citizens of the Territory of Kansas, contained in the U.S. Congressional Serial Set of congressional and executive documents. Absalom White filed claim #246 for the loss of an arm as a result of being struck by a bullet at a battle with southerners near the H. T. Titus [probably Henry C.] home in Douglas County. The arm was subsequently amputated. The claim was not allowed on the grounds that White was "engaged in rebellion and making unwarranted attack on the person and property of a private citizen." Each claimant had to submit an itemized list and have two witnesses attest to the losses claimed. Even though many of these claims were approved for payment, no funds were ever appropriated or distributed.

Creator: Strickler, Hiram Jackson

Date: 1859

Callnumber: 328.7304/Un3/Serial No. 1017

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 1733

Item Identifier: 1733

www.kansasmemory.org/item/1733

KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Absalom White territorial loss claim

454

CLAIMS OF CITIZENS OF KANSAS.

No. 246.

Account for loss of an arm.

TERRITORY OF KANSAS, }
County of Douglas. }

To the commissioner appointed to audit and certify claims in consequence of, or growing out of, the difficulties in Kansas Territory, by act of legislative assembly, approved February 23, 1857.

Absalom White, complainant, says : That owing to the difficulties in Kansas Territory, in the month of August, A. D. 1856, this complainant, in company with several others of his companions, met in hostile array a company of southerners, there camped and fortified at the house of H. T. Titus, in Douglas county, at which time and place a battle ensued ; and this complainant states that a ball from a rifle or musket in the hands of one of the party of said southerners struck the left arm of your complainant, and so shattered the same that amputation became necessary, and that said arm was amputated, as may be seen by inspection ; your complainant says that he is damaged and injured to the amount of two thousand dollars ; he states that his loss was occasioned by, and in consequence of, the difficulties in Kansas Territory, in the year A. D. 1856, and that he is a resident of Kansas. He states that the matters and things set forth in the above are true.

ABSALOM WHITE.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 17th day of November, A. D. 1857.

E. D. LADD,
Notary Public.

Witness in support of the claim of Absalom White, for loss of an arm, in consequence of, or growing out of, the difficulties in Kansas Territory.

TERRITORY OF KANSAS, }
County of Douglas. }

Thomas Bickerton, of lawful age, being duly sworn, deposes and says : That I am well acquainted with Absalom White, who has made and signed the above complaint ; I am acquainted with the contents, and I believe the matters thus set forth are strictly true ; he is a resident of Douglas county, Kansas Territory ; I was present at the house of H. T. Titus, in the month of August, A. D. 1856, and saw said White there ; when I first saw him, that day, he had two arms ; I saw him at the time the ball struck and shattered his left arm ; this was during the difficulties in Kansas, in the year A. D. 1856 ; said arm was reasonably worth, to any man, two thousand dollars.

THOMAS BICKERTON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 17th day of November, A. D. 1857.

E. D. LADD,
Notary Public.



Absalom White territorial loss claim

CLAIMS OF CITIZENS OF KANSAS.

455

Witness in support of claim of Absalom White for loss of arm.

TERRITORY OF KANSAS, }
County of Douglas. }

S. B. Prentice, of lawful age, being duly sworn, deposees and says: That I am a practicing physician in the county of Douglas. I am acquainted with Absalom White, who has made and subscribed the above complaint; he is a resident of Douglas county, Kansas Territory. Deponent further says, that some time about the 17th day of August, A. D. 1856, I was called to the said White, and found him in Lawrence, his left arm badly fractured by a ball from a rifle or musket. On examination, I found that amputation would be absolutely necessary to save his life, and I amputated the arm accordingly.

S. B. PRENTICE.

Sworn to and subscribed, this 17th day of November, 1857, before me.

E. D. LADD, *Notary Public.*

This account is, by agreement with the commissioner, to be sent up with the other papers, although he refuses to allow the same, as, in his opinion, it is not covered by the act of February 23, A. D. 1857. To this opinion the counsel for complainant demurs, and says that said account is within the provisions of the act of February 23, A. D. 1857, of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Kansas. See 6th clause of section 1 of said act: "All persons who may have sustained any loss or damage in 'consequence' of, or growing out of, the difficulties in this Territory" at any time since the passage of the act to organize this Territory.

JAMES CHRISTIAN,
Attorney for claimant.

The foregoing claim of Absalom White was not allowed, upon the ground that he was engaged in rebellion and making unwarranted attack upon the person and property of a private citizen, not in obedience to the laws of the country, or commands of any legal authority.

H. J. STRICKLER, *Commissioner.*

No. 247.

Claim for loss and damages.

27

TERRITORY OF KANSAS, }
County of Douglas. }

To the commissioner appointed to audit and certify claims in consequence of, and growing out of, the difficulties in this Kansas Territory.

John Stroup, complainant, states that on the 14th day of September, A. D. 1856, and for some time previous, he was the legal