

1
Can a man dodge a bullet?
V. P.

Can a man dodge a cannon ball?
Again Can a Man See a Cannon Ball?
Editor Tribune!

I See in National Tribune
the above, Can a man dodge a Bullet,
I believe he can. I firmly believe I dodge
Both Bullet & Cannon ball.

It was while we were in the rear and
after we had invested Vicksburg Miss.
it was on the line just in front of where
the 41st Illinois Inf were stationed, and
on the first-entrenchments or rifle
pits thrown up - and if I am not
mistaken Co. B. was on duty, Perhaps the
whole Regt; at least I remember we
had thrown our trenches wide enough
to admit two men to pass. The dirt &
logs we placed in front - or between us
and the enemy, with now & then a
post-hole as we would say. where
we would take a rest for our guns.
Some times raising the Sides and

as we would say we were shelling the
 city. It was not long though until
 the enemy got range of us and forth
 with their came a cannon Ball
 which missed our heads & the log just
 above our heads, the next shot came
 between the log & the earth in the im-
 mediate line and place where my face
 a moment before was located. To say
 I dodged it; is not putting it too strong
 for we old soldiers had got up to
 most all disadvantages. As the Johnnies
 repeated their firing for some minutes
 in order to get a more accurate fire
 on us, we also timed their shots
 and when we would see the puff from
 the cannon we would at that moment
 duck down & over would go the ball
 and far to our rear

Yes a man can see a cannon
 Ball coming if he is in the immediate
 front & line of same.

At Vicksburg the enemy had one particular gun which was throwing as I thought shelled shot - it was called by our boys whistling disk whether correct in name I can not say. She made a peculiar noise & we were so amused at the frightful screech that we began to look in the direction from whence the noise emanated. (Now you can believe all or part of this assertion or none, it's all the same to me) we began to get pretty used to her and by keeping a sharp look out one night plainly saw a dark object coming all through the shot went far above our heads we were sure to drop down below the dirt & logs in time to hear that miserable screeching hissing round pass over.

P.S. If there is an old soldier yet living who ever dodged a Ball or Bullet or saw a Cannon Ball coming towards him let him speak out at once

4

Come Boys lets have More of your Experience
Concerning Vicksburg, or for that Matter of any
portion of your war reminiscences, time is
swiftly passing, and soon we will answer
the last roll call. who? be the next. I'm not
Much of a Methodist yet. I believe somewhat
in telling our army experiences. Keep the
Ball rolling & if it hits some one, let him
get used to dodging, of course we
Old Vets dont aim to run against any
of the Boys, pre conceived notions, if any
one says something I think is rather fishy
I pass it over. for you know we didnt all
see the same things just in the same
light. I am allway willing to meet all or
any of the boys who don their duty, in that
fraternal feeling, which should ever be
uppermost in our hearts.

The Little Mexican

(John Benye)

Assumption Illinois

Oct-13th 1845

An Incident which took place at the Keel Hotel Shelbyville Ills. while seated at the table in the Dining room. The following conversation came up between Jacob Henshie John McKaig of Blue Mound Ills. and John J. Benez of Assumption. Comrade McKaig wish to know of me if I was married to which I answered yes but that I had lost my wife by Death twenty years since leaving me a Daughter an Infant-bab. I then asked Comrade McKaig or I rather said I suppose you too I suppose are married to which he said yes, but said he I like you lost my wife 20 years ago and left me a bab who now is a woman grown I then put the same question to Comrade Henshie and he said like each of you I lost my wife

No. 1 Lead yellow Com From Earl Row - Mt. 92 - Gans 3460 - Jan 1090

About 20 years ago leaving me a babe
Comrade Mc. Kaig remarked that is quite
a coincidence - But the strange part of it
seems to be in the fact that three men
out of the Regt - should meet 30 years
after the war whose married life should
be so near alike. But said 'Mc. Kaig
the most wonderful part of it all is that
3 good looking, perhaps reasonably well
ballanced men should live so long
Widdowers. Oh said I it may be quite
strange on yours and Comrade Nevish's
part - but as for my self it hasent ^{been} no fault
of mine that I am a widower

Magistrate and pensioner before executing this voucher should read carefully the special instructions on face and back of same.

A 3800

INVALID.

A

Be it known, That I John J. Bense, do solemnly swear that I am the identical person named in pension certificate in my possession, No. 275553, dated 2 day of Apr, 1891, and whose name is inscribed on the rolls of the **CHICAGO** Agency at the rate of \$4 per month,

That I have not been employed or paid in the Army, Navy, or Marine service of the United States from 1 4th day of October, 1891, to the present time, and that my present

P. O. address is _____
County of _____, State of _____

(If pensioner signs by mark, two witnesses who can write.)

(Pensioner's signature:)

(Signature must be written letter for letter, as it is in pension certificate.)

THE PENSION CERTIFICATE MUST BE EXHIBITED TO THE MAGISTRATE WHEN THIS VOUCHER IS EXECUTED.
STATE OF _____, COUNTY OF _____, ss:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 1892; and I certify that the pensioner above named has this day exhibited to me his pension certificate, above described, and was fully identified as the pensioner named therein, and that he signed the following duplicate receipts in my presence.

(Magistrate must certify to any erasures or alterations.)

(Magistrate's signature:)



Officer's Seal here.

Official character: _____

1. If the first payment, insert the date of the commencement of the pension. If not first payment, the date from which the payment is claimed.
* When there is a change in the rate, either by an increase, re-issue, etc., note the former rate at which paid.

THE PENSIONER WILL SIGN THESE RECEIPTS IN THE PRESENCE OF THE MAGISTRATE.

\$ 12 January, 1892.

Received of ISAAC CLEMENTS, U. S. Pension Agent at CHICAGO, ILLS.,

Twelve dollars by check No. _____

dated January, 1892, being for 3 months' and _____ days' pension due me on pension certificate No. 275553, from the 4th day of October, 1891, to the 4th day of January, 1892, for which I have signed duplicate receipts.

(Witness who can write:)

John J. Bense
Sign name as above.

\$ 12 (A.) January, 1892.

Received of ISAAC CLEMENTS, U. S. Pension Agent at CHICAGO, ILLS.,

Twelve dollars by check No. _____

dated January, 1892, being for 3 months' and _____ days' pension due me on pension certificate No. 275553, from the 4th day of October, 1891, to the 4th day of January, 1892, for which I have signed duplicate receipts.

(Witness who can write:)

John J. Bense
Sign name as above.

FILL IN ADDRESS ON FRONT AND BACK OF VOUCHER.

WRITE NAME AND P. O. ADDRESS PLAINLY HERE.

Name: John J. Benz

Street: _____

Town: Assumption

County: Christian

State: Illinois

INSTRUCTIONS TO MAGISTRATES.

Magistrate should compare this voucher with pension certificate, exercising the utmost care in its execution. Vouchers may be executed before any official qualified to administer oaths. If he has a seal it should be affixed; if not, a certificate of the proper officer, showing the commencement and termination of his term of office, must be filed in this Agency.

INSTRUCTIONS TO PENSIONERS.

Give the magistrate the exact Post-office address (street and number) to which you wish the check to be sent, and see that it is written in its place in the voucher.

Delay is occasioned by errors in giving Post-office address.

STATE OF _____, COUNTY OF _____, ss: _____, Clerk of the _____ Court of the _____ County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that _____ is _____, duly commissioned and qualified; that his commission was dated on the _____ day of _____, 18____, and will expire on the _____ day of _____, 18____, and that his signature within written is genuine.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of said Court this _____ day of _____, 18____.

ROLL No. 2885

(A)

ARMY VOUCHER No. _____

ANY ALID.

John J. Benz

JAN 12 1892

\$ 12

Returns this voucher for payment to

ISAAC CLEMENTS,

U. S. Pension Agent,

Chicago,

Illinois.

OFFICE OF

Records of Members of the Grand Army of the Republic.
RECORD BLANK.

Every question in this Blank should be answered fully and forwarded at once to WM. H. WARD, 513 N. Sixth Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Civil Record.

- 1. Born January 30th 1841 Place New Philadelphia Ohio
- Educated at Locust & Owanes State of Ills Christian Co
- 2. Occupation prior to War Farmer

Military Record.

- 3. Enlisted July 26th 1861 At Laylorville
- in { Company } B Co 41st Illinois Infantry Regiment.
- { Battery }
- 4. Term of Service Three years of no. Honor discharged
- 5. Re-enlisted 186 At _____
- in { Company } _____ Regiment.
- { Battery }
- 6. Term of Service of Re-enlistment _____
- 7. If in the Navy, state the Ships and Fleet in which you served.

- 8. What positions have you occupied in Army or Navy?
4 Corp - and 4 Seryt
- 9. 1 BRIGADE. 4 DIVISION. 17 ARMY CORPS. Miss Tenn La WHEN AND WHERE.
- Served first, _____
- " second, _____
- " third, _____
- 10. Other Service _____
- 11. Give Dates of Commissions, if any _____
- 12. Dates of Brevets, if any _____

13. List of Campaigns, Expeditions, Battles and Skirmishes in which you participated, in the order as they occurred, stating wounds, if any, and where received:—

1st Exp in Kentucky, 2nd Ft. Henry & The Battle 3rd Battle & Seryt
4th Battle 5th Battle 6th Battle
7th Battle 8th Battle 9th Battle
10th Battle 11th Battle 12th Battle
13th Battle 14th Battle 15th Battle
16th Battle 17th Battle 18th Battle
19th Battle 20th Battle 21th Battle
22th Battle 23th Battle 24th Battle
25th Battle 26th Battle 27th Battle
28th Battle 29th Battle 30th Battle
31st Battle 32nd Battle 33rd Battle
34th Battle 35th Battle 36th Battle
37th Battle 38th Battle 39th Battle
40th Battle 41st Battle 42nd Battle
43rd Battle 44th Battle 45th Battle
46th Battle 47th Battle 48th Battle
49th Battle 50th Battle 51st Battle
52nd Battle 53rd Battle 54th Battle
55th Battle 56th Battle 57th Battle
58th Battle 59th Battle 60th Battle
61st Battle 62nd Battle 63rd Battle
64th Battle 65th Battle 66th Battle
67th Battle 68th Battle 69th Battle
70th Battle 71st Battle 72nd Battle
73rd Battle 74th Battle 75th Battle
76th Battle 77th Battle 78th Battle
79th Battle 80th Battle 81st Battle
82nd Battle 83rd Battle 84th Battle
85th Battle 86th Battle 87th Battle
88th Battle 89th Battle 90th Battle
91st Battle 92nd Battle 93rd Battle
94th Battle 95th Battle 96th Battle
97th Battle 98th Battle 99th Battle
100th Battle

14. If captured, state when and where; the prisons in which confined, and how released:—

15. Date and place of final discharge from service *Aug 24 Springfield Ill*
16. Occupation since the War *Farmer*
17. Give Name, Number and Department of Grand Army Post to which you belong:—
Andy Simpson, Dept of Ill, No. 540 G. A. R.
18. Positions held in the Grand Army of the Republic *Chaplain*

RECORD BLANK

Remarks. Every question in this blank should be answered fully and forwarded at once to WM. H. WARD, 513 N. Sixth Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Here give any important details not provided for in foregoing list of questions.

On the same I was known to the late John J. Benep, the Speckled Mercurian, I sent to his Collier,

Name in full *John J. Benep*

Post Office *Assumption*

Street

County *Christian*

State *Illinois*

NOTE.—Names must be written plainly. In order to avoid all mistakes, the Agent will, in the presence of the Subscriber, copy the name, taking special care that it is correctly spelled.

Name copied

Agent.

day of 188

NOTE.—Inasmuch as subscribers' records must be compiled and book published to fill all orders as received, it has been deemed advisable to require each subscriber to make an advance payment on his order of \$1.00.

This is to protect ourselves against loss, and must be forwarded to WM. H. WARD, 513 North Sixth Street, St. Louis, Mo., when notified from this office, as a guarantee of good faith; such payment to be deducted from price of book on delivery.

Agents who cannot exhibit proper authority are not allowed to collect this advance payment, and we will not be held responsible for moneys paid to any other than those duly authorized to collect it.

WM. H. WARD.

SUBSCRIPTION.

I hereby subscribe for and agree to take Cop of "Records of Members of the Grand Army of the Republic," for which I promise to pay William H. Ward, \$ on delivery of said book.

Signature *John J. Benep*

Address *Assumption*

Street, No.

John J. Benep Agent. day of 1888

ASSUMPTION POST, G. A. R.



NO. 685.

Assumption, Illinois

Nov 11th 1895

Resolution of Respect

Whereas

The Angel of death has once more entered the ranks of the Grand Army, and removed from its ever decreasing numbers Our Esteemed and beloved Comrade and Adjutant John Jacob Benepu

Resolved
That we the members of Assumption Post number 686. G.A.R. deeply regret our almost irreparable loss, as our Comrade was not only a kind and faithful adjutant and friend, but ever foremost in every good and charitable work

Resolved.

That in his death Our Country has lost a patriot of unblemished record. Our Village one of its most

ASSUMPTION POST, G. A. R.

NO. 685.



Assumption, Illinois, 18.....

Respected Citizens his aged Mother a
 Carrying loving Son his daughter a
 a faithfull indulgent Father his
 Brothers a true Brother his Church a
 devoted and Loyal member

Resolved

That a copy of these resolutions
 be sent to the sorrowing family. In hope
 that with these feeble expressions of
 ours. and the grand and Noble
 Record. that Comrade John made for
 himself may bring Strught and
 consolation in their Grief

Resolved.

That a copy of these resolutions
 be printed in the National Tribune &
 the Assumption News and spread
 on the Records of the Post

J. F. Pasch }
 Hugh Hara }
 J. H. Pratt } Committee

Officers and private disability

State of Missouri in County of Cass. S. S.
On the 23rd day of November 1883 before me personally
appeared Daniel K Hall to me well known, being
respectable and entitled to credit who being duly
sworn, said: that he was Captain of Co. B. 41st Regt
Ill Vol and was well acquainted with John J
Bempe who was a Corporal of Co. B. 41st Regt
Vol that at the time of his enlistment said John J
Bempe was with his company in the line of
his duty at Ft Donaldson Tenn and had
been sound & well so far as I know from
date of enlistment to time before Battle at
Ft Donaldson that on or about the day
of February 1862 at or near Ft Donaldson
State of Tenn said John J. Bempe was disab-
led in the line of his duty by chronic Diarrhea
or Dysentery that became after wards become
chronic ~~and was~~

This occurred under the following circumstances
& causes to wit Exposure before and after the
Battle, & being compelled to use improper
food taken from the enemy at Ft Donaldson
Our own supplies not being at hand - and
Exposure to the cold and rain not having
tents to shield them from the inclement
weather I know these facts from being there
in Person & I have no interest what ever in
the prosecution of this claim for Pension My
Post Office address is ~~St Louis~~

County of Cass State of Missouri

Daniel K Hall
Officer's signature

Late a Captain Co. G. 41st Regt - Ill Vols

Sworn and subscribed to before me the date
first above written I have no interest whatever
in the Prosecution of this claim

Witness my hand notarial seal

Charles W. Sloan
Notary Public Cass
County - Mo

I certify that Charles W. Sloan before whom
the above affidavit was made is a Notary Public
duly authorized to administer oaths, and that
the above is his signature witness my
Hand and official seal this 23 day of Nov
1863

J. W. Dockworth
Signature

County Clerk
Official Character

Petition of Seth Beneppe In the matter of the
Last Will and Testament of Sarah H. Beneppe Deceased,
for Probate of Will and Letters Testamentary.
To the Hon. James Torresten Judge of the County Court
of Christian County, in the State of Illinois:

The petition of the undersigned, Sarah H. Beneppe who was at
respectfully represents that Sarah H. Beneppe who was at
the time of ^{her} death a resident of the County of Christian State of
Illinois departed this life at Assumption
in Christian County, State of Illinois on or about the
22nd day of October A. D. 1903, leaving a last Will and
Testament duly signed, published, and attested, as believed by your petitioner, and which by your petitioner
is hereby presented to your Honor for Probate. That said Will is subscribed by Sarah H. Beneppe
Horace Cushing and Josephus C. Shaffer as witnesses to the execution thereof

The said Testatrix in her said last Will nominated and appointed Seth Beneppe and
Frank L. Beneppe Executors of which is your Petition to Execute thereof, and that your
petitioner are willing and ready to accept and undertake the office and trust confided to them
And this petition further shows that the said Sarah H. Beneppe
died seized and possessed of Real Estate, valued at about Eight Thousand
Four Thousand Dollars, and of Personal Property estimated to be worth about
Dollars.

That said deceased left surviving her no husband residing at
being divorced his widow, and the following persons
as his only heirs at law legatees; and their respective places of residence so far as known are as follows:

NAMES.	RESIDENCE, (If unknown, so state.)
<u>Seth Beneppe</u>	<u>Assumption Illinois</u>
<u>Frank L. Beneppe</u>	<u>Bozeman Montana</u>
<u>Orville G. McDaniel</u>	<u>Polinsville Ky</u>
<u>Anna Lynn</u>	<u>Mt. Culaspi Illinois</u>
<u>Mamie Maracy</u>	<u>Kansas City Mo</u>
<u>Rosco Tobias</u>	<u>Chicago Illinois</u>
<u>Fazad Stevens</u>	
<u>Seth H. Beneppe</u>	<u>Achilles Kans</u>

In consideration whereof, and to the end that said Will may be proved, established, and performed, your petition-
er pray that the subscribing witnesses aforesaid may be summoned to be and appear before this court at the December
Term thereof, then and there to testify in the matter of said Will, as it may please your Honor
to direct; and that probate of said Will may be thereupon granted, and the same ordered for record.
And your petitioner further pray that it may please your Honor to grant them Letters Testamenta-
ry of said last Will and Testament, upon them taking the oath prescribed by the Statute
and entering into bond in such sum and with such securities as may be approved by your Honor.
Dated Nov 24th 1903 Seth Beneppe

STATE OF ILLINOIS, } ss. Seth Beneppe
CHRISTIAN COUNTY, }
being duly sworn, deposes and says that the facts averred in the above petition are true, according to the best of h
knowledge, information and belief.
Subscribed and sworn to before me }
this 24th day }
of Nov A. D. 1903 }
H. J. Burk County Clerk, }

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }
CHRISTIAN COUNTY. } ss.

I hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true copy of a Petition for Probate of Will of Sarah H. Benepe deceased, filed in my office on the 24th day of Nov. A.D. 1903 and that the County Court has fixed upon the 4th day of January A.D. 1904, at the hour of 10³⁰ o'clock A. M., at the Court House in Taylorville, Illinois, as the day for hearing on said Petition, at which time and place you can be present in person or by attorney.

Given under my hand and the seal of the County Court the 2nd day of December A.D. 1903.

H. J. Burke
Co. Clerk



Cut this off and give to Parties married.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Christian COUNTY

ss Assumption May 23^d 1872

I Washington Maynard a Minister of the Gospel hereby
certify that on this day I joined in Marriage Mr. John J. Benoit
with Miss Mollie P. Fitzer agreeably to law.

W. Maynard

Cut this off and give to parties Married.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.

STATE OF ILLINOIS,



COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN.

THIS CERTIFIES, That Mr *Herbert F. Lyman*
of *Assumption* in the State of *Illinois* and
Miss Lura M. Benepe of *Assumption* in the
State of *Illinois*, were, at *Taylorville* in said County,
by me joined together in Holy Matrimony, on the *10th* day of
September A. D. *1896*.

IN PRESENCE OF

Willie Benepe

W W Weedon M. G

Daisy Benepe

Taylorville Ill