

Vous Baron D. Empire Inspecteur
Général du Service de Santé, Chirurgien en
Chef de la Grande Armée et de la Garde Impériale
Sousigné, Certifie que le Nomme François Vastier
Appartient au 1^{er} Bataillon, Et perdu par les Effets de
la Congelation. Dont il a été frappé pendant la
Retraite de Moscou, la totalité des os de
du pied gauche.

Cette infirmité grave en diminuant la base
de sustentation, rend la station et surtout la
progression très pénible et très difficile et le met
hors d'état de faire aucun service Militaire.
Nous Estimons en conséquence que le Dénommé
Cy-Dessus est dans le cas de l'invalidité absolue.

Frankfurt le 13 février 1813.

[Signature]

Par le Général D. =
Brigade Command. de la place
de Frankfurt.

[Signature]
Bertram

Vu par M. le Inspecteur aux
revues, M. le Inspecteur aux
pour la signature
de M. le Baron Larrey Chirurgien
en chef. Frankfurt le 17 février 1813.

[Signature]
Lacroix

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT

We, Baron of the Empire, General Inspector of the Department of Health, Chief Surgeon of the Great Army and of the Imperial Guard, do hereby certify that Francois Antoine, sapper with the 1st Battalion, has lost all the toes of the left foot due to the effect of freezing during the retreat from Moscow. This serious infirmity, in decreasing the base of support, makes it very painful and very difficult for him to stand up and walk, and renders him unable to perform any military duty.

We estimate, in consequence, that the above named is totally disabled.

Frankfort (Oder) February 13, 1813

(signed) BARON LARREY.

Noted by the Brigadier General
Commanding the Place of Frankfort

(signed) BARON BERTRAND

Noted by the Inspector of the
Armies acting as Inspector
with the General Headquarter,
for legalization of the
signature of the Baron Larrey,
Chief Surgeon

Frankfort, February 13, 1813

(signed) LACROIX

COMPLIMENTS OF
VICHY-CÉLESTINS

Larrey as Surgeon in Chief of the Grand Army in Napoleon's ill-fated expedition into Russia, covered himself with glory; never had he been as indefatigable as in the battles of that campaign and the misery of the tragic retreat.

* * *

Larrey was convinced that when an amputation was inevitable, the sooner it was done, the better were the chances for the patient. At Borodino he performed two hundred amputations in twenty-four hours. Larrey was one of the first to amputate at the hip joint, having performed the operation twice successfully.

* * *

In one of the campaigns in Poland Larrey described accurately for the first time, plica polonica. His article on plica is so modern that it could grace a recent number of the ARCHIVES OF DERMATOLOGY AND SYPHILOLOGY, and be of credit to that journal.

* * *

In a personal communication, Dr. John J. Moorhead, who did considerable military surgery in France during the World War, told me that the debridement procedure which they thought was new in 1914 had been used

and devised by Larrey in 1814. It is a well-known fact that Labarraque's solution (Liquor sodæ chlorinatæ), used by Larrey a century ago, became the Dakin's solution of 1914.

* * *

Larrey's most important medical contributions were articles on yellow fever, cholera morbus, syphilis, epilepsy, chorea, Egyptian ophthalmia, and plica polonica.

* * *

The greatest memorial of the man exists in the hearts of those of us who, knowing his deeds, appreciate his surgical skill, his humanity, his honesty, his devotion to duty. Never, in a single moment of his life, did these qualities fail to manifest themselves, and they have brought and will continue to bring him everlasting glory. Larrey will never be forgotten.

We gratefully acknowledge the cooperation and consent of DR. PAUL E. BECHET in making it possible for us to reproduce the Larrey Document, which is in his collection, and to publish these excerpts from an article written by him on Dr. Larrey.

This article appeared in ANNALS OF MEDICAL HISTORY, New Series, Vol. 9, No. 5, Pages 428-436 Published by PAUL B. HOEBER, INC., New York.