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David W. Sleeth

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H.R. Rep. No. 145, 26th Cong., 1st Sess. (1840)

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DAVID W. SLEETH.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 155.]

MARCH 5, 1840.

Mr. ANDREWS, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to whom the petition of David W. Sleeth, was referred, have adopted the report hereto annexed, made the 6th of April, 1838, 25th Congress 2d session.

APRIL 6, 1838.

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to whom was referred a resolution instructing them to inquire into the expediency of granting a pension to David W. Sleeth, of the State of Virginia, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully report:

That it appears from the statement of the applicant that he is 76 years of age: that he enlisted in the service of the United States in May, 1777, as an Indian spy, under the command of Captain James Booth, and was employed in ranging and spying in the territory which now forms the counties of Harrison, Lewis, and Wood, in the State of Virginia: that in June, 1778, Captain Booth was killed by the Indians; after which time he was commanded by Lieutenant Freeman, until the expiration of the time for which he enlisted, to wit, eighteen months: that soon after, he entered the service a second time, under the command of Captain George Jackson, and continued to serve as a spy until the latter part of the year 1780, when he was discharged. Jacob Bush testifies that he recollects that David W. Sleeth was a soldier in Captain Booth's company, in the year 1777; and that, after the death of Booth, the said Sleeth served a tour under the command of Captain George Jackson.

Elizabeth Butcher, aged eighty-six years, swears that she was acquainted with Captain James Booth, who commanded a company of spies; that her husband was one of said company; and that she has heard him say that John Cutright and Adam Bush served with him in the aforesaid company. She thinks the service was performed about fifty-five or sixty years ago.

John Cutright, being sworn, saith that he recollects that David W. Sleeth enlisted under Captain James Booth for the term of eighteen months, and that he continued in service until the expiration of said term.

Rep. No. 145.

Phebe Cunningham states that she is seventy-six years of age; was acquainted with Captain James Booth; recollects that he enlisted a company to go against the Indians, which company remained in service one summer and winter; that her husband was a soldier in said company, who informed her that David W. Sleeth was also a soldier at the same time.

In addition to the above statement, the committee find that John Cutright, a witness, who has testified above, received pay for thirteen months' service as a spy in Captain Booth's company, by virtue of a special act of the Legislature of Virginia, passed February 9th, 1833.

Upon full consideration of the above facts and circumstances, the committee are satisfied that David W. Sleeth is entitled to a pension, and therefore report a bill for his relief.

REPORT

1833