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Report : Petition of E. Ogden

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 23, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

MR. BRAGG submitted the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Eliza E. Ogden, have had the same under consideration, and submit the following report:

The petitioner states that she is the widow of the late Major Edmund A. Ogden, assistant quartermaster in the United States army, and she asks that a per centage may be allowed her upon public money disbursed by her said husband.

From a statement furnished by the Third Auditor of the Treasury, it appears that the sum of \$116,040 were disbursed by Major Ogden, out of appropriations for the suppression of Indian hostilities, and \$279,333 10 during the Mexican war; making an aggregate of \$395,278 10; and that these disbursements were made between the 1st October, 1840, and the 30th September, 1849.

The third section of an act entitled "An act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the government for the year 1839," and approved March 3, 1839, is as follows:

"And be it further enacted, That no officer in any branch of the public service, or any other person, whose salaries, or whose pay or emoluments is or are fixed by law or regulations, shall receive any extra allowance or compensation, in any form whatever, for the disbursement of public money or the performance of any other service, unless the said extra allowance or compensation be authorized by law."

The compensation claimed is for disbursements of public money since the passage of that act; and the committee are unable to see any reason why the provisions of the act should be disregarded in this case. They recommend the adoption of the resolution herewith reported.

Resolved, That the claim of Eliza E. Ogden be rejected.