

4-19-1866

Report : Petition of C. Crowley

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

APRIL 19, 1866.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. EDMUNDS made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany bill S. No. 275.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Cornelius Crowley, having had the same under consideration, ask leave to submit the following report:

Cornelius Crowley, the applicant, served in the Indian wars in Florida, under General Jesup. In the war with Mexico he was a private in company F, 3d infantry, and fought in the battles of Monterey, Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Concheros, Cherubusco, and Chepultepec, in which last named battle he was wounded in the forehead, over the left eye. Subsequently, and ending on February 20, 1863, he served three years in the ordnance department as corporal, under Captain S. Eckerson, when (February 20, 1863) he was discharged for "*old age, being worn out in the service,*" as stated in the surgeon's certificate. On the 20th of September, 1864, he was allowed a pension of *four* dollars per month, for *rheumatism*, that being the only disease reported at that time by the examining surgeon.

The testimony (by affidavit) of the applicant, and that of a fellow-soldier, is, that he has now lost the sight of his left eye by a cataract occasioned by the old wound received in the battle of Chepultepec. And the ophthalmic surgeon's certificate of the Howard hospital, Philadelphia, dated March 6, 1866, shows that such cataract exists.

The applicant's character for good conduct, sobriety, and worthiness is vouched for, and he is now in the Soldiers' Home, in Washington, incapable of supporting himself.

Although there is no *medical* evidence that the present disease of the eye is the consequence of the wound received in service, the committee are of opinion that under all the circumstances the case of the applicant is meritorious, and they therefore recommend the passage of the accompanying "bill for the relief of Cornelius Crowley."