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Col. W. H. Emory.

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COL. W. H. EMORY.

APRIL 7, 1876.—Committed to a Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. GLOVER, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 1846.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 1846) authorizing the retirement of Col. W. H. Emory, with rank and pay of a brigadier-general, have had the same under consideration, and make the following report :

Was cadet July 1, 1826; brevet second lieutenant Fourth Artillery, July, 1831; served in garrison Fort McHenry, Md., Fort Severn, Md., Charleston Harbor, S. C., 1832-'33, during South Carolina's threatened nullification; from 1833 to 1835, at Fort Hamilton and Fort Lafayette; 1835-'36, operations in the Creek Nation; 1836-'38, civil engineer in service of the United States; 1838, appointed first lieutenant Topographical Engineers, served on boundary survey between United States and British provinces; 1846-'48, in war with Mexico as chief Topographical Engineers, and acting assistant adjutant-general of Brigadier-General Kearney, being engaged in combat of San Pasquale December 6, 1846, for which he was brevetted captain for gallant conduct; in the skirmish at San Bernardino, the passage of the San Gabriel, on the plains of the Mesa, and the battle of San Gabriel, for which he was brevetted major for gallant and meritorious conduct; attached as lieutenant-colonel of Maryland and District of Columbia Volunteers, and commanded the regiment at Jalapa, Mexico; 1848, appointed astronomer for demarkation of boundary-line between California and Mexico, and commander of the United States troops detailed to escort commissioner; promoted captain Topographical Engineers in 1851; appointed commissioner and astronomer for running boundary-line between United States and Mexico, under Gadsden treaty, 1854-'57, and brevetted lieutenant-colonel for faithful services as such; 1857-'58, border disturbances, Utah expedition, in command of Sixth Column; 1858-'59, in command of Fort Arbuckle, and scouting against Indians, establishing and commanding Fort Cobb; 1859-'60, member of the board to revise programme of instructions at the Military Academy; 1860 to 1861, acting inspector-general of the Army on tour through the Department of the Pacific, inspecting in Oregon and California; 1861, in command of troops, Forts Cobb, Smith, Washita, and Arbuckle, which he concentrated at latter post, and with them captured advanced guard of the rebel Texas forces, and then safely retreated to Fort Leavenworth, Kans., which he

reached May 31, 1861; May 14, 1861, appointed lieutenant-colonel Sixth United States Cavalry, served in recruiting and organizing that regiment, and in defenses of Washington; March 17, 1862, appointed brigadier-general United States Volunteers; in the Virginia Peninsular campaign, (Army of the Potomac,) being engaged in the siege of Yorktown, April 5, May 4, 1862; battle of Williamsburgh, May 5, battle of Hanover Court-House, May 27, 1862, for which battle he was made brevet colonel in the Regular Army, in command of defenses of Yorktown; October, 1862, engaged in organizing a division at Baltimore, Md.; November, sailed for Department of the Gulf; 1863, engaged in attack on Port Hudson; March 13, 1863, commanded division at combat Camp Bisland, command of the defenses of New Orleans; 1863, repulse of the enemy at La Fourche Crossing; repulse of same at Donaldsonville; in Red River campaign, (appointed colonel of Fifth Cavalry, October 27, 1863,) from 1863 to 1864; 1864, April 8, battle of Sabine Cross-Roads; April 9, battle of Pleasant Hill; April 23, battle of Cane River, (where he commanded;) May 4, placed in command of Nineteenth Army Corps; May 16, battle of Marksville; in June, placed in command of the Army assembled at Morganza; from Morganza transferred with Nineteenth Army Corps to the defenses of Washington, D. C.; in July, in pursuit of the enemy from Washington to the Shenandoah River; battle of Opequan or Winchester, September 19, 1864; September 22, battle of Fisher's Hill, (for these battles brevetted brigadier-general;) October 19, 1864, battle of Cedar Creek, for which he was brevetted major-general in the Army, and assigned by President Lincoln as the permanent commander of the Nineteenth Army Corps; September 15, placed in command of the Department of West Virginia; 1866, in command of Department of Washington.

There ends General Emory's military history, as published in the register above quoted. In 1866 he was placed in command of the Department of Washington, and in 1867 relieved and sent to command his regiment on the plains, and was there assigned to the command of the District of the Republican, much infested by Indians at that time. In November, 1870, was without solicitation taken from that command and transferred to the command of the Department of the Gulf, from which he was relieved on the 27th March, 1875, since which time he has been in this city on duty as president of the retiring-board.

SUMMARY.

This record shows that General Emory has been forty-five years in the service of the United States, and if his time at West Point is counted he has been fifty years in the service, and of that time forty-three years and three months in the Army of the United States; that he has received five brevets for gallant service in face of the enemy, and one for distinguished service in running the boundary between the United States and Mexico; that he has been, for the last twelve years, almost continuously in the command of a general on his brevet rank, without receiving any pay or allowance beyond that of his lineal rank as colonel in the Army. No such case of continued high command, without promotion, has ever occurred in the Army, and is not likely to occur again.

The committee recommend the passage of the accompanying bill.