

1-16-1879

On the Case of H. Gates

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Recommended Citation

S. Rep. No. 586, 45th Cong., 3rd Sess. (1879)

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 16, 1879.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. KELLOGG, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT :

[To accompany bill H. R. 4986.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4986) granting an increase of pension to Mrs. H. Louise Gates, widow of the late General William Gates, U. S. A., report :

That the said William Gates entered the United States military service as a cadet at West Point in his thirteenth year. After his graduation he entered the service in the artillery, and during the war of 1812 served upon the staff of General Brown. He also served in the Florida or Seminole war, taking Osceola prisoner, and received special commendation from General Jesup. In the Mexican war he also served with great distinction, raising the blockade of Tampico and serving as military governor of one of the Mexican provinces.

When the rebellion broke out he was unfit for active field duty, and was placed in charge of the recruiting service for the Army of the Potomac. After the war closed he commanded for a time a fort at Portsmouth, N. H. Subsequently he was appointed to serve as a member of the retiring board in New York City, in which service he died, on the 7th October, 1868.

It was not necessary that evidence should be presented to the committee to show the public services of General Gates; the history of the Republic furnishes it. Among all the brave officers of the American Army none have a brighter record, or performed longer or more brilliant service, than General Gates. He left a widow, the claimant, at the time of his death, who needs and richly deserves to be remembered by the government.

The committee therefore recommend the passage of the accompanying bill.