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Report : Petition of A. Chapman

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JUNE 5, 1882.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 1437.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1437) granting a pension to Amos Chapman, having had the same under consideration, respectfully report:

That Amos Chapman was employed as scout and guide for the "Indian Territory Expedition," commanded by Colonel and Brevet Major-General N. A. Miles, U. S. A.

On the 12th of September, 1874, while he and five others were conveying official dispatches from a camp of the expedition on McClellan Creek, Texas, to Camp Supply, Indian Territory, they were met, attacked, and surrounded near the Washita River, Texas, by a force of 125 hostile Kiowas and Comanches, whom they fought so stubbornly as to compel them to abandon the attack.

During this fight Amos Chapman received a wound that rendered the amputation of his leg necessary.

The above statement is certified to by the officers of the command in which he served, to wit:

Nelson A. Miles, colonel Fifth Infantry, commanding Indian Territory expedition;

C. C. Compton, major Sixth Cavalry, commanding battalion;

G. W. Baird, first lieutenant and adjutant, Fifth Infantry;

Frank D. Baldwin, first lieutenant, Fifth Infantry, and chief of scouts;

Dr. Cleary, post surgeon, U. S. A., Camp Supply;

who also recommend that a pension be granted him in recognition of his heroic services and valuable assistance to the Army.

In view of the fact that Congress has heretofore in several instances passed special acts granting pensions to scouts suffering disability from wounds received in the discharge of their duty and under orders of Army officers, the committee recommend the passage of the bill.