

5-15-1884

## Report : Petition of M. Barnes

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 15, 1884.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bills S. 1180 and H. R. 1406.]

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom were referred the bills (S. 1180 and H. R. 1406) granting a pension to Mrs. Mary T. Barnes, having had the same under consideration, report as follows:*

Mrs. Barnes is the widow of the late Brig and Bvt. Maj. Gen. Joseph K. Barnes, Surgeon-General United States Army, who died in Washington, D. C., April 5, 1883. General Barnes was appointed assistant surgeon in the Army in June, 1840, and served continuously for forty-two years until placed upon the retired list by operation of law, having been promoted at intervals until he became Surgeon-General, with the rank of brigadier-general, in August, 1862. His active service in the field and on the frontier was unusually varied. He served in the Seminole war in Florida and throughout the Mexican war. In the late war he was at the head of the Medical Bureau of the Army. His professional aid and counsel were sought at the bedside of two dying Presidents. In the general order announcing the death of General Barnes, Adjutant-General Drum, referring to his attendance upon the late President Garfield, said:

During these long-protracted hours of anxiety and care his own health gave way, and from that moment to the time of his death he was an invalid.

His career was one of honor to himself and of great service to his country.

The committee submit herewith a statement of the military service of General Barnes, by R. C. Drum, Adjutant-General of the Army; also his General Order No. 22, announcing his death.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, January 23, 1884.

*Statement of the military service of Joseph K. Barnes, of the United States Army.*

[Compiled from the records of this office.]

He was appointed assistant surgeon United States Army, June 15, 1840; assistant surgeon (captain) United States Army, February 11, 1847, and surgeon (major) United States Army, August 29, 1856; medical inspector United States Volunteers, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, February 9, 1863; and medical inspector-general United States Volunteers, with the rank of colonel, August 10, 1863. The latter appointment was vacated August 31, 1864, he having been appointed Surgeon-General United States Army, with the rank of brigadier-general, to date from August 22, 1864.

For faithful and meritorious services during the war he received the brevet of major-general United States Army, to date from March 13, 1865.

He served at the United States Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., from July 10, 1840, to November 9, 1840, and in the field (Florida war) to July 15, 1843; on leave to October 15, 1843; on duty at Fort Jesup, La., to April 14, 1846; in the field (war

with Mexico) to February 20, 1848; at Baton Rouge, La., to October 15, 1848; in the field and at Fort Croghan, Tex., to August 23, 1850; at Baltimore City and Fort McHenry, Md., to March 25, 1851; at Fort Scot, Mo., to October 10, 1852; at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., to May 7, 1853; and at Fort Riley, Kans., to October 20, 1853; awaiting orders at Philadelphia, Pa., and before medical examining board to December 20, 1853; on duty at the United States Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., from January 3, 1854, to June 1, 1857; at San Francisco, Cal., to some time in August 1857; and at Fort Vancouver, Wash., to June 24, 1861; awaiting orders to August 2, 1861; on duty as medical director of General Hunter's command, in Missouri, to November 20, 1861; as medical director Department of Kansas, at Fort Leavenworth, to some time in March, 1862; on hospital duty at Saint Louis, Mo., to some time in May 1862; at Washington, D. C., as attending surgeon and medical inspector, to August 10, 1863; as medical inspector-general to September 3, 1863; as acting Surgeon-General to August 22, 1864; and as Surgeon-General United States Army to June 30, 1882; when, by operation of law, being over sixty-four years of age, he was retired from active service, under the provisions of section 1 of the act of Congress approved June 30, 1882. He died at Washington, D. C., April 5, 1883, of cirrhosis of the kidneys.

R. C. DRUM,  
Adjutant-General.

[General Orders No. 22.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, April 5, 1883.

The following order has been received from the War Department, and is published to the Army:

Brevet Major-General Joseph K. Barnes, brigadier-general, United States Army (retired), late Surgeon-General of the Army, died at his residence in this city at 2 o'clock this morning. He entered the service as assistant surgeon June 15, 1840; was promoted surgeon, with the rank of major, August 29, 1856; medical inspector, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, February 9, 1863; medical inspector-general, with the rank of colonel, August 10, 1863; and Surgeon-General, with the rank of brigadier-general, August 22, 1864. He was retired from active service, by operation of law, June 30, 1882.

He served with distinction in the Florida war against the Seminole Indians; in the war with Mexico, and in the war with the States in rebellion. For faithful, meritorious, and distinguished services in this last war the brevets of brigadier-general and major-general, United States Army, were conferred upon him.

He was eminent, skillful, and successful in his profession as surgeon and physician, and distinguished for great administrative ability as the head of the Medical Department. Under the fostering care of Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War, he accomplished the successful establishment of the Medical History of the War, and of the Medical Museum; and he brought the Medical Department to the highest state of efficiency.

During the troublous times of the late war he earned the unbounded confidence of the Secretary of War, Mr. Stanton, and held it unshaken to the last. At the time of the assassination of President Lincoln, and the attempted assassination of Secretary Seward, he attended the death-bed of the one and ministered with untiring energy and skill to the successful restoration of the other. So, during the long illness of President Garfield he was one of the distinguished surgeons who, for days and nights, served with devoted duty in the sick chamber of the dying President. During these long-protracted hours of anxiety and care his own health gave way, and from that moment to the time of his death he was an invalid.

His career was one of honor to himself and of great service to his country.

By command of General Sherman.

R. C. DRUM,  
Adjutant-General.