

4-27-1886

## Report : Petition of A. French

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

APRIL 27, 1886.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 1582.]

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1582) granting a pension to Alpheus R. French, have examined the same, and report:*

That the records in this case show that claimant joined the First United States Infantry on May 1, 1830, and served an enlistment of five years in Company E, under Captain Gales and Col. Zachary Taylor, and was in the battle of Bad Axe, 1832.

That he re-enlisted May 2, 1835, for three years in the same company and regiment, and was transferred to Capt. Thomas Barker's company (D), and was ordered to Florida during the Seminole war. He was with Col. Zachary Taylor at the battle of Okeechobee.

That he re-enlisted on August 15, 1842, in Lieut. R. Granger's company (H), same regiment, for a period of five years, and during this service arrived at Vera Cruz, Mexico, before the siege or landing of the troops.

That he assisted in organizing the First Minnesota Volunteers in the spring of 1861, and that he also assisted materially in organizing and recruiting the Fourth Minnesota Volunteers the same year, and in December, 1861, was appointed first lieutenant and adjutant of the Fifth Minnesota.

In May, 1862, the brigade to which he was attached was at Pittsburg Landing, also at the siege of Corinth, and in September and October, 1862, was under General Rosecrans at the battles of Iuka and Corinth, Mississippi, October 3 and 4, 1862.

Becoming disabled for service he tendered his resignation, to date March 29, 1863, and upon his health becoming partially restored again accepted a lieutenantancy in Company F, of the United States Veteran Reserve Corps, on October 24, 1864, in which he served until mustered out, June 29, 1866.

The affidavits in this case show that the disabilities have continued to increase from time to time until the present, and that now, at the age of seventy-eight years, claimant is confined to his room and bed, requiring the care and attention of another person a large share of the time.

The board of examining surgeons of the Pension Office, in a certificate dated January 10, 1885, describe his disabilities as chronic rheumatism, with enlarged joints and disease of the heart, and rate his disability total.

In view of the facts set forth in this case, the committee believe it to be their duty to report favorably a bill for the relief of this man, who has

given the best years of his life to the continued service of his country, and who ought to be taken care of, as he is now no longer able to care for himself.

Taking into consideration all the evidence on file in this case, your committee report in favor of this bill as amended, to wit, by striking out the words "one hundred," in line 7, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "fifty," and as amended they recommend the passage of the bill.

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