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Annie Gibson Yates.

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ANNIE GIBSON YATES.

APRIL 13, 1888.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 7708.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7708) to increase the pension of Annie Gibson Yates, having considered the same, report as follows:

Capt. George W. Yates came from a family distinguished both in army and state. His great-grandfather, Colonel Barber, of the Revolutionary Army, was killed in action, while at the head of his regiment. Captain Gates was a distinguished soldier and served during the rebellion first as a lieutenant in Fourth Michigan Volunteers, then successfully as aid-de-camp on the staff of Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, with whom he served for about four years, participating with him in all the great cavalry fights of the Potomac. He accompanied that officer to the West and served with him in the campaign against General Price, who invaded Missouri in 1864. He was appointed captain in the Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, but remained on the staff of General Pleasonton till the close of the war, when he was appointed by the President captain in the Seventh United States Cavalry. He received the appointment of major for gallant and "meritorious service" during the war, and was appointed lieutenant-colonel for "conspicuous gallantry at Gettysburgh."

At Fredericksburgh Captain Yates was dangerously wounded by a shell which exploded in the stomach of the horse he was riding.

Captain Yates was mustered out of service January 11, 1866, and accepted commission as second lieutenant Second Cavalry May 5, 1866, and served as such until August 19, 1867, when he accepted appointment as captain Seventh Cavalry.

He was killed June 25, 1876, in action with Sioux Indians, on Little Big Horn River, Montana, the same battle in which General Custer fell.

The extraordinary sad details of this unfortunate battle are too fresh in the minds of the American people to require repetition here.

Mrs. Yates is the only widow of a captain in the Custer disaster. She is greatly dependent on her own exertions for a living, having for ten years labored untiringly for the support of her three children.

Although her children are at present receiving \$2 per month, yet even the youngest will shortly arrive at the age at which her pension will cease, and in consideration of this fact, and also that she is in delicate health, unable to work, and having no relatives able to give her

pecuniary assistance, Mrs. Yates asks for a special act of Congress granting her \$50 per month.

Your committee are of the opinion that the widow of this valiant officer ought to be granted an increase of pension, and they therefore recommend the passage of the bill, with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the word "to" in line 4, and insert in lieu thereof the words "increase the pension of \$20 now received by Mrs. Annie Gibson Yates, widow of Capt. George W. Yates, to \$30 per month, to take effect from and after the passage of this act."

