

12-17-1890

Report : Petition of J. West

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

DECEMBER 17, 1890.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany S. 4487.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 4487) granting a pension to John W. West, have examined the same and report:

This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to place the name of John W. West, late a soldier in Captain James's Company of Illinois Volunteers in the Black Hawk Indian War, on the pension rolls, and pay him a pension of \$12 per month.

Accompanying this bill are the petition of the applicant, duly verified by his affidavit August 5, 1890, and affidavits from John W. Harrison, Daniel Reavis, John Winfrey, Mrs. Susannah Howard, and Mrs. Lucinda Myers, and also a letter from the War Department giving the military record of said West in said service. The War Department record shows that said soldier was duly enrolled April 17, 1832, in Bond County, Ill., for sixty days' service, and was duly mustered out at the mouth of Fox River on May 28, 1832, and was again duly enrolled in same company—Captain James's Company of Illinois Volunteers, Black Hawk War—on May 27, 1832, as a sergeant, for twenty days, and on muster-out roll of his company on June 15, 1832, is noted "absent with leave."

The evidence clearly establishes his identity, and that he was born June 6, 1812, and is now in his seventy-ninth year, and was married to his present wife on August 4, 1846, and that she is now sixty-five years of age; is in delicate health and unable to perform manual labor; and that Mr. West is now very feeble, unable to perform manual labor, and is without the means of living or financial support; is an honest, sober, upright citizen, and that his only property is a lot and small house in Dresden, Pettis County, Mo., wherein he and his aged wife reside, and upon which there is a mortgage indebtedness of about \$550.

While he can not trace his existing feebleness and general debility to incidents in the service in the line of duty so as to secure a pension under the general laws, yet his case comes clearly within numerous precedents in Congress, under which he is clearly entitled to the relief provided in this bill.

Your committee report the bill back to the Senate favorably and recommend its passage.