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Mary E. Harney.

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MARY E. HARNEY.

APRIL 24, 1890.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MORRILL, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany S. 916.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 916) granting a pension to Mary E. Harney, submit the following report:

That the facts in this case are clearly set forth by the Senate report, which is hereby adopted.

[Senate Report No. 295, Fifty-first Congress, first session.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 916) granting a pension to Mary E. Harney, widow of William S. Harney, late brigadier-general and brevet major-general, United States Army, have examined the same and report:

That the claimant is the widow of the late Maj. Gen. William S. Harney, of the United States regular Army, who died on the 9th day of May, 1889. She was married to him on the 12th day of November, 1884, at St. Louis, Mo., and she is residing for the present at Washington City, her former residence having been at St. Louis. She is sixty-four years of age. There were no children by the marriage. Her husband, William S. Harney, was appointed second lieutenant of the First regular Infantry February 13, 1818, and after passing through all the intermediate grades was retired from active service August 1, 1863, and on the 13th of March, 1865, was appointed major-general for "long and faithful services."

It appears that the general was in active service for forty-five years. He served in the Black Hawk and other Indian wars of the Northwest; also in the war with the Seminole Indians in Florida. He was in the field in Texas at the time of the commencement of the Mexican war, and served through the whole war. He commanded the expedition operating against the hostile Sioux Indians in Nebraska. He commanded the United States forces ordered on the Utah expedition in 1858. In 1860 and in 1861 he was in command of the Department of Oregon and of the Department of the West. After his retirement from active service he was engaged in 1868 as commissioner to make treaties with Indians in the West.

In 1869 he served by appointment of the President as a member of the Board of Commissioners for Indian Affairs and as a member of the Board of Indian Peace Commissioners in the Northwest. He was brevetted colonel December 7, 1840, for gallant and meritorious conduct in several successive battles with hostile Indians in Florida. He was appointed brigadier-general April 18, 1847, for gallant and meritorious conduct on the field in the battle of Cerro Gordo. His character as a brave and skillful officer in the many expeditions against the Indians in which he served and in the war with Mexico is thoroughly established. His long acquaintance with the Indians and with their chiefs gave him quite an influence with the tribes, and enabled him to render valuable services to the Government as a commissioner and maker of treaties after the termination of his active military career.

His widow, the claimant, is a lady of advanced years. Although General Harney during his life-time had quite a large property, yet it seems that the property and the income so enjoyed by him came mostly from the estate of his former wife and

since his death it has descended to her heirs. The widow is left with only a life estate in the property held by the general in his own right. This property consists of landed property exclusively. A house and lot in St. Louis, a small farm in St. Louis County, a large body of rough land in Franklin County, Mo., a house and lot in Pass Christian, Miss., and a few small pieces of wild land in Florida. Her whole property is valued at \$30,000. The valuable real estate in this is mortgaged for \$16,500.

The rents and income since the general's death from all sources is about \$2,000 per year, but the interest on the mortgages, taxes, insurance, repairs, and other necessary expenses to save the property exceed this income, so that the widow has been obliged to borrow money to meet her living expenses and to pay taxes on the unimproved property.

Under these circumstances we think the claimant, upon account of the very long, valuable, and honorable services of her husband, is entitled to some measure of relief.

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