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Henry J. Bethards

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HENRY J. BETHARDS.

APRIL 4, 1892.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILSON, of Missouri, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 6547.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6547) granting a pension to Henry S. Bethards, have considered the same and report:

The War Department records show that Henry S. Bethards, Battery M, Fourth United States Artillery, enlisted April 7, 1856, at Newport, Ky., and was discharged April 7, 1861, at Fort Randall, Dak., by expiration of service. The records further show that the battery was in Florida from December, 1856, to September 18, 1857, and while there participated in a campaign against the Indians.

In a sworn statement the claimant sets forth that while in Florida, from exposure in the swamps, he contracted malaria, which has resulted in a disease of the nervous system, rendering him incapable of performing manual labor. His trade is that of a shoemaker, but he can no longer work at it, and is entirely dependent upon his sisters (who are themselves poor) for support. He states further that he has no property of any kind or any income, and that he is 61 years old.

Dr. D. D. Eads, of Paris, Ky., testifies in full corroboration of the claimant's statements as to his physical condition and dependence. The facts are also fully shown by the testimony of Daniel Smith, a citizen of Millersburg, Ky.

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