

4-5-1892

Report : Petition of J. Offley

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

APRIL 5, 1892.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany S. 1691.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1691) granting a pension to Josephine Q. Offley, submit the following report:

The claimant is the widow of Robert H. Offley, late colonel of the Tenth Infantry, U. S. Army, who was continuously in the service of the United States from May 14, 1857, to October 14, 1891, the date of his death, covering a period of nearly thirty-four years. His service, as shown by the annexed statement of the Adjutant-General of the Army, was of great value to the Government, and much of it might be considered hard service. Statement of military service herewith attached.

From information brought before the committee it is believed that his death was hastened by the unfortunate sanitary conditions existing at Fort Stanton, N. Mex., at the time he assumed command at the post. Very soon afterward Col. Offley, with others, sickened and died, traceable it is believed directly to the defective sewerage system which then existed.

His widow, the claimant, has for a number of years been a great invalid. She has no means, nor has she friends with the financial ability to give her the care which her physical condition requires.

In view of the long and meritorious service of the claimant's husband and his untimely death, and the helplessness of his widow, your committee recommend the passage of the bill with the following amendments: Amend line 6 by striking out the letter "Q" and insert in lieu thereof the letter "I." Amend the title to conform to amendment in line 6. Amend by striking out "one hundred" in lines 7 and 8 and insert "forty."

Statement of the military service of Robert H. Offley, late of the United States Army, compiled from the records of this office.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 5, 1892.

He was appointed second lieutenant, First U. S. Infantry, May 14, 1857; first lieutenant, May 14, 1861; captain, November 23, 1861; major, Nineteenth Infantry, May 6, 1879; lieutenant-colonel, Seventeenth Infantry, September 15, 1884; colonel, Tenth Infantry, March 9, 1891; died, October 14, 1891. He was brevetted major July 4, 1863, "For gallant and meritorious services during the siege of Vicksburg, Miss."

SERVICE.

He was on duty at Fort Columbus, N. Y., from June 15, 1857, to December, 1857; conducting recruits to and with regiment in Texas and Indian Territory to May, 1861, and in Kansas to August 23, 1861; on mustering duty in Kansas to September, 1861; with regiment in Missouri to December 19, 1861; on mustering and other duties in Missouri to March, 1862; with regiment in Tennessee to May, 1862; in Kansas to April, 1863, and in Tennessee and Mississippi to June 29, 1863, when wounded in action before Vicksburg, Miss.; absent on account of wounds to December 2, 1863; on mustering and disbursing duty, and commissary of musters, etc., at Baltimore, Md., to July, 1865; on recruiting service to July, 1867; en route to, and with regiment in Louisiana to March 1869; at Forts Gratiot and Brady, Mich., to May 28, 1871; at Fort Wayne, Mich., to June 19, 1874; at Fort Sully, Dak., to April 26, 1876; at Fort Randall, Dak., to December, 1878; at Red Cloud Agency, Dak., to May, 1879; at Fort Randall, Dak., to July 3, 1879; at Fort Lyon, Colo., to November, 1879; at Fort Dodge, Kans., to May 15, 1880; in the field in Colorado to November, 1880; at Fort Gibson, Ind. T., to November 1, 1881; at Fort Brown, Tex., to April 6, 1882; at Fort Ringgold, Tex., to September 15, 1884; en route to, and commanding depot Columbus Barracks, Ohio, to October 5, 1886; commanding regiment and post of Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., to February 10, 1888, and on duty at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., to December 17, 1890; commanding battalion of regiment in the field in South Dakota to January 26, 1891; with regiment at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., to April 10, 1891; commanding regiment and post of Fort Stanton, N. Mex. (being sick October 1 to 14, 1891,), to October 14, 1891, the date of his death.

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.