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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 26, 1896.—Referred to the Committee on Pensions and ordered to be printed.

The VICE-PRESIDENT presented the following

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR IN RESPONSE TO SENATE RESOLUTION OF FEBRUARY 7, 1896, DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO FURNISH TO THE SENATE CERTAIN STATISTICS AND INFORMATION WHICH THE RECORDS OF THE PENSION OFFICE DISCLOSE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, February 20, 1896.

SIR: I am in receipt of Senate resolution of the 7th instant—

That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby directed to furnish to the Senate, at the earliest possible moment, the statistics and information which the records of the Pension Office disclose, from the first day of July, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, of invalid pensioners pensioned under the general law, showing the total number of names on the roll July first, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, and the number of deaths which have occurred during that period in each classification or grade of such pensions.

Second. The same information relative to pensions granted under the Act of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety.

Third. The same information relative to widow pensioners under each Act, which latter shall include, under a separate classification, all extinctions of title for pensions from death, remarriage, or abandonment.

Fourth. The same information as regards dependent pensioners under each Act, except that of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety.

Fifth. Statistics with regard to each class of pensioners under Acts granting pensions to survivors and their widows under Mexican and Indian wars and the war of eighteen hundred and twelve.

Resolved further, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby directed to furnish to the Senate, at the earliest possible moment, a statistical statement showing the number of pension certificates issued during the six months ending January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, classifying the same as originals of each class and reissues of each class, showing whether increases or reductions, increase pensions or any other classification usually observed, and also statistics showing the suspension and other stopping of pensions from causes other than deaths or extinction of title by remarriage, covering each class of pensions under each class of Acts separately.

In response thereto I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a letter and accompanying inclosures from the Commissioner of Pensions, to whom the matter was referred for report, containing the information desired.

Very respectfully,

HOKE SMITH, *Secretary.*

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
Washington, D. C., February 20, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by departmental reference of the 8th instant, of a resolution passed by the Senate of the United States, February 7, 1896, calling for statistical information from the records of this Bureau, showing:

Number of pensioners on the rolls July 1, 1895, and January 1, 1896, respectively (by classes).

Number of pensioners dropped from the rolls between said dates (by classes and causes).

Number of pension certificates issued between said dates (by classes).

Number of suspensions and stoppings of pension from causes other than death or extinction of title by remarriage (by classes).

In response, I have to invite your attention to the accompanying tables:

Table No. 1 shows the number of pensioners dropped from the rolls between July 1, 1895, and January 1, 1896 (by classes and causes), as well as the number of pensioners on the rolls on each of the respective dates.

Table No. 2 shows the issue of pension certificates between July 1, 1895, and January 1, 1896, and also the character of said issues.

In further response to said resolution, I have to state that of the 4,826 cases dropped during said period "for other causes," the records of this Bureau disclose distinctive causes in 3,417 of said cases; that is to say, in 3,417 cases orders to drop were actually issued by this Bureau, while in the remainder (1,109 cases) the dropping was done by the agents for the payment of pensions—in most cases pursuant to the terms of the certificates issued by this Bureau.

For disability ceased.—There were dropped during said period 18 general law invalid cases and 2,302 invalid cases under act June 27, 1890; a total of 2,320.

On account of desertion and deficient military or naval service.—There were dropped during said period 21 general law invalid cases, 1 general law widow, 133 invalids under act of June 27, 1890, 7 widows under act of June 27, 1890, 5 survivors of Mexican war, 2 widows of the Indian wars; a total of 169.

On account of fraudulent testimony.—There were dropped during said period 45 invalids under the general law, 9 widows under the general law, 4 invalids under act June 27, 1890, 25 widows under act of June 27, 1890; a total of 83.

For vicious habits.—There were dropped during said period, 18 invalids under act of June 27, 1890.

For immorality.—There were dropped during said period 39 widows under the general law, 63 widows under act of June 27, 1890; a total of 102.

On account of disloyalty of soldiers.—There were dropped during said period 521 invalids under act of June 27, 1890, 16 widows under act of June 27, 1890; a total of 537.

For nondependence.—There were dropped during said period 12 mothers and fathers under the general law, 34 widows and others under the act of June 27; a total of 46.

For being pensioned under other laws.—There were dropped during said period 4 invalids under the general law, 4 invalids under act June 27, 1890, 3 widows under act June 27, 1890, 20 survivors of Mexican war, 6 widows of Mexican war, 2 survivors of Indian wars; a total of 39.

For the reason that the disability or death of soldier was not due to the service.—There were dropped during said period 85 invalids under the general law, 8 widows under the general law; a total of 93.

On account of reenlistment.—There were dropped during said period 1 invalid under the general law, 1 invalid under act June 27, 1890; a total of 2.

For the reason that the soldier on whose account the claim was made was found to be still living.—There were dropped during said period 4 widows under the act of June 27, 1890.

On account of their declarations being invalid.—There were dropped during said period 4 widows under the act of June 27, 1890.

Very respectfully,

D. I. MURPHY,
Acting Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

TABLE 1.—Showing by classes the number of pensioners on rolls July 1, 1895, and January 1, 1896, and the number of pensioners dropped from rolls between those dates by classes and causes.

Classes.	Pensioners on roll.		Loss to roll.					Total loss to roll from July 1, 1895, to Jan. 1, 1896.
	July 1, 1895.	Jan. 1, 1896.	By death.	By remarriage.	Minors, by legal limitation.	By failure to claim.	For other causes.	
<i>General law.</i>								
Army and Navy:								
Invalids	357, 223	353, 642	4, 384	.....	.....	139	326	4, 849
Nurses.....	499	520	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Widows, etc.....	102, 663	100, 714	2, 624	234	389	151	121	3, 519
Total	460, 385	454, 876	7, 013	234	389	290	447	8, 373
<i>Classification of widows' roll, general law:</i>								
Widows without children.....	59, 881	59, 512	1, 130	108	.....	83	63	1, 384
Widows with children.....	16, 837	16, 731	128	125	.....	5	24	282
Minor children.....	2, 496	2, 411	2	.....	389	2	21	414
Mothers.....	19, 305	18, 247	1, 022	1	.....	47	12	1, 082
Fathers.....	4, 042	3, 712	341	.....	.....	14	1	356
Brothers, sisters, dependent sons and daughters	102	101	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
<i>Act June 27, 1890.</i>								
Army and Navy:								
Invalids	378 115	378, 409	4, 842	.....	.....	217	4, 078	9, 137
Widows, etc.....	100, 800	102, 822	1, 532	243	346	183	263	2, 567
Total	478, 915	481, 231	6, 374	243	346	400	4, 341	11, 704
<i>Classification of widows' roll, act June 27, 1890:</i>								
Widows without children.....	61, 403	63, 050	829	114	.....	110	181	1, 234
Widows with children.....	25, 466	26, 174	166	128	.....	21	65	380
Minor children.....	3, 899	3, 919	4	.....	346	6	6	362
Mothers.....	0, 577	6, 365	304	1	.....	26	10	341
Fathers.....	3, 266	3, 090	226	.....	.....	20	1	247
Helpless children.....	189	224	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
<i>War of 1812.</i>								
Survivors.....	21	16	4	.....	.....	2	2	8
Widows	3, 826	3, 567	250	.....	.....	11	.....	261
Total	3, 847	3, 583	254	.....	.....	13	2	269
<i>War with Mexico.</i>								
Survivors.....	12, 586	12, 241	325	.....	.....	10	27	362
Widows	7, 868	7, 924	115	7	.....	15	4	141
Total	20, 454	20, 165	440	7	.....	25	31	503
<i>Indian wars, 1832-1848</i>								
Survivors.....	3, 012	2, 867	185	.....	.....	.....	3	188
Widows	3, 911	4, 112	72	1	.....	.....	2	75
Total	6, 923	6, 979	257	1	.....	.....	5	263
Grand total	970, 524	966, 834	14, 338	485	735	723	4, 826	21, 112

TABLE 2.—Report of pension certificates issued in the six months from July 1, 1895, to December 31, 1895.

ORIGINALS.	
Under the general law:	
Army invalids	1,783
Army widows	1,615
Navy invalids	103
Navy widows	49
	3,550
Under the act of June 27, 1890:	
Army invalids	7,844
Army widows	4,561
Navy invalids	645
Navy widows	264
	13,314
Under sundry acts:	
Indian wars, survivors	50
Indian wars, widows	279
Mexican war, survivors	34
Mexican war, widows	224
War of 1812, widows	4
Army nurses	27
	618
Total originals	17,482
REISSUES.	
Increases:	
General laws	5,371
Act of June 27, 1890 (including "Additional")	3,706
Mexican war survivors	232
Restorations:	
General laws	1,343
Act of June 27, 1890	441
Reductions:	
General laws	368
Act of June 27, 1890	8,568
Supplementals:	
General laws	23
Act of June 27, 1890	56
Accrued:	
General laws	2,495
Act of June 27, 1890	2,333
Duplicates:	
General laws	448
Act of June 27, 1890	581
For corrections, without change of value	478
	26,443
Total of all classes	43,925