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Mary Doubleday

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 14, 1896.—Ordered to be printed.

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

R E P O R T:

[To accompany S. 1203.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1203) granting a pension to Mary Doubleday, have examined the same, and report:

The applicant is the widow of the late Bvt. Maj. Gen. Abner Doubleday of the United States Army. He graduated from West Point in 1842 and was commissioned brevet second lieutenant. He served in the Mexican war, during which he was promoted to be first lieutenant. He was engaged in the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista. He was engaged in hostilities with the Apache Indians in 1854 and 1855 and with the Florida Indians from 1856 to 1858. He was second in command in Fort Sumter at the time of its first bombardment, on which occasion he aimed the first gun of the war on the side of the Union. In 1862 he was appointed brigadier-general of volunteers and assigned to the command of the defenses of Washington.

He was actively engaged in the following battles:

Battle of Groveton, August 28, 1862, where Doubleday's and Gibbon's brigades, after heavy losses on both sides, checked the advance of Stonewall Jackson's main army.

Second battle of Bull Run, August 29 and 30, 1862. On the second day, General Hatch being wounded, General Doubleday succeeded to the command of the division. He was directed by General Hooker to hold the turnpike far in advance of the stone bridge, and did so until night-fall against the concentrated fire of the enemy's batteries.

Battle of South Mountain, September 10, 1862, in command of brigade.

Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862. General Doubleday, being again in command of a division, opened the battle. He lost heavily, but captured six battleflags. For his services in this action he was brevetted lieutenant-colonel in the Regular Army.

Battle of Fredericksburg, December 12 and 13, 1862. In this battle General Doubleday, having been appointed major-general of volunteers, commanded a division of the First Corps, and successfully resisted the efforts of Jackson's cavalry and the concentrated fire of several batteries to turn the left flank of the Union Army.

His division was engaged in the second attack on Fredericksburg and in the battle of Chancellorsville. He commanded the First Corps of the Army and was prominently and actively engaged during each of

the three days' fight at Gettysburg. For his brilliant and gallant services here he was brevetted colonel in the Regular Army.

At the close of the war he was mustered out of the volunteer service and assumed his position as lieutenant-colonel in the Regular Army, which dated from September 20, 1863.

In 1872, while on duty in Texas defending the frontier against Indian incursions, he was stung by a poisonous reptile. His health was seriously impaired, and as he had been more than thirty years in service he applied to be retired. He was offered an indefinite sick leave, but as he could not reconcile himself to receive full pay without rendering an equivalent he preferred to retire. He did so December 11, 1873, on the lineal rank of colonel.

Besides the brevets mentioned above, he was brevetted both a brigadier-general and a major-general in the Regular Army, to date from March 13, 1865, his rank in the volunteer service having been that of a full major-general.

During the war for the Union, and for many years afterward, General Doubleday carried a life-insurance policy, paying heavy extra premiums for the war risks. But the company became bankrupt. Mrs. Doubleday's resources are a pension of \$50 a month and a small house partly paid for.

In consideration of her late husband's high character and very distinguished services the committee recommend the passage of the bill.