

4-27-1880

Report : Memorial of the Minnesota Legislature

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

APRIL 27, 1880.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT :

The Committee on Pensions, to whom were referred the memorial of the legislature of the State of Minnesota and the petition of David W. Seeley, asking for a pension for said David W. Seeley, have carefully examined the same, and report as follows :

They find that David W. Seeley was not in the service of the United States when he was wounded, nor was he before or subsequently in said service. It is shown by his neighbors that he was a member of a squad of Minnesota minute men, organized under a call of the governor of the State to protect the citizens of the frontier against the Sioux Indians (in what was known as the Indian massacre of 1862). He was shot while on his way to the frontier, and his left arm was amputated on account of the injuries received. In the office of the United States Adjutant-General there is no record of the company to which Seeley is said to have belonged, and the adjutant-general of the State of Minnesota affirms that there is no record of the rolls of said company in that office. There is, however, abundant evidence that Seeley was enlisted in said service, although not mustered, and was injured as stated.

In March, 1879, the legislature of Minnesota passed a joint resolution asking the representatives of that State in Congress to obtain, if possible, some suitable relief for said D. W. Seeley. Your committee are of opinion that, under the circumstances, a pension should not be granted, and therefore ask to be discharged from further consideration of the subject. It seems clear that if relief be granted it should be given by the State of Minnesota.