

5-14-1894

Report : Petition of Helen L. Dent

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 14, 1894.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany S. 1508.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1508) granting an increase of pension to Helen L. Dent, have considered the same and submit the following report:

Mrs. Helen L. Dent, the beneficiary named in the bill, is the widow of the late Frederick T. Dent, colonel, retired, U. S. Army, who devoted forty-four years of his life to active service in the U. S. Army, having served in numerous Indian wars on the frontier and in the Mexican war, during which time he was severely wounded. He also served in the late war of the rebellion, and was many times brevetted for gallant and meritorious service in the field.

There are numerous precedents for increasing the pension of widows of officers by special act of Congress to a much larger amount than the bill provides for, especially where the officers have rendered such long and faithful service. The claimant is 57 years of age, and from evidence on file in the case it appears that she has no property, and her only income is her pension of \$30 per month.

Your committee regard this as a proper case for special legislation, and the passage of the bill is therefore recommended, with the following amendment:

In line 7 strike out the word "seventy," and in line 8 strike out the word "five," and insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty."