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General deficiency bill.

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H.R. Rep. No. 2300, 52nd Cong., 2nd Sess. (1893)

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GENERAL DEFICIENCY BILL.

JANUARY 20, 1893.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

MR. SAYERS, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 10258.]

In presenting the bill making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year 1893 and for prior years, the Committee on Appropriations submit the following report in explanation thereof:

The bill is based upon estimates in House Ex. Docs. Nos. 13, 72, 126, 128, 129, 135, 150, 161, 174, 186, and 187.

The whole amount appropriated by the bill is \$20,956,611.32, as follows:

State Department.....	\$150, 225. 90
Treasury Department.....	1, 283, 862. 58
District of Columbia.....	8, 051. 78
War Department.....	391, 358. 93
Navy Department.....	52, 503. 22
Interior Department.....	30, 753. 75
Pensions.....	14, 149, 437. 35
Census.....	1, 020, 000. 00
Post-Office Department.....	1, 033, 683. 81
Department of Agriculture.....	227. 34
Department of Justice.....	2, 341, 214. 68
Public Printing.....	475, 000. 00
House of Representatives.....	20, 291. 98
Total.....	20, 956, 611. 32

With reference to the amount recommended to meet a deficiency in the appropriation for the payment of pensions, the Commissioner of Pensions made the following statement before the committee:

JANUARY 9, 1893.

ARMY AND NAVY PENSIONS.

STATEMENT OF GREEN B. RAUM, COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS.

The CHAIRMAN. You are asking for a deficiency appropriation "for invalids, widows, minor children and dependent relatives, survivors and widows of the war of 1812 and with Mexico," of \$10,508,621, and "for fees and expenses of examining surgeons, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1892," \$305,000. You had an appropriation for this year of \$144,956,000 for army and navy pensions and an appropriation of \$1,500,000 for fees and expenses of examining surgeons. I suppose the appropriation of \$144,956,000 was made in accordance with your estimate?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Please explain to the committee why it is your estimates have fallen short and that you are requiring in addition \$10,508,621. Please explain that as fully as you can.

Commissioner RAUM. The committee will, of course, understand that the estimate for this fiscal year was made many months ago and was based upon what was supposed would probably be the work for the present fiscal year. It is somewhat difficult to foresee the exact course of business in these great bureaus, and the aim was not to estimate beyond what would be the probable expenditure, which was fixed at \$144,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Since your estimate was sent to Congress has anything occurred which would lead you to add to or change that amount?

Commissioner RAUM. You mean of the \$10,000,000 deficiency?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes, sir.

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir; I have figures here now which I propose to lay before you.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you please lay them before us and explain them?

Commissioner RAUM. I might premise by saying that I have been doing all I could to reduce the business operations of the Pension Office to such form that estimates would not be guesswork. In times past there was no special system there upon which estimates were based. For example, in the last year of Gen. Black's administration he expended \$88,000,000, and with that before his eyes he estimated the next year for \$80,000,000. I never understood how he fixed that ratio; and there is no record in the office of anything showing upon what basis that estimate was made. The first thing that was brought to my attention when I took charge of the office was the matter of estimating, and I was surprised to find that there was no systematic basis upon which estimates were made.

I had for a number of years occupied another position where we could estimate the probable receipts of internal revenue within a very few hundred thousand dollars. That was done upon regular principles applied to the experience of the past and the steady growth of receipts from different sources, etc. Now, I have brought this Pension Office business into a shape so that I think anyone from now forward will be able to come within a very reasonable amount of what the current expenditures will be. There are certain fixed data that you start out with, and I have endeavored to establish as many fixed amounts that would be known as possible, and leave just as few to be estimated upon as possible, and I think I can show you now that I have reached a point in the bookkeeping in the Pension Office which was never obtained before. I have before me now, and I will leave it with you, a statement of the operations of the office for six months, commencing July 1 and ending December 31. I secured the returns by telegram so as to have them for the benefit of this committee.

Mr. HENDERSON. Telegrams from the pension agencies?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir. I have the actual amount expended for six months, and the actual number of persons on the roll at the end of December 31. Now, the actual expenditures for six months were \$78,484,649.33.

Mr. DINGLEY. Do you mean by that the actual amount paid out?

Commissioner RAUM. By the agents for six months.

Mr. DINGLEY. Not the amount of allowances?

Commissioner RAUM. This is the amount actually expended by the agents, \$78,000,000.

Mr. HENDERSON. On vouchers of the soldiers?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir. Now, this is a known quantity.

Mr. DINGLEY. Now, it appears by the report of the chief of the warrant division that the expenditures of this six months were about \$80,000,000; explain how that discrepancy exists.

Commissioner RAUM. The warrant division of the Treasury Department simply responds to the requisitions that I make through the Secretary of the Treasury for money to be transmitted to these agents. They do not keep an account of the expenditures of the agents at all; that is, the warrant division does not. They do not pass upon that. The accounts are passed through the Auditor's Office and through the Comptroller's Office and do not go to the warrant division. I make out requisitions and send them to the Secretary of the Interior for a certain amount of money and he makes a requisition upon the Secretary of the Treasury and the warrants are drawn for the payment of this money, thus placing this money to the credit of these different agents. We usually try to have a little money in the hands of those men at the end of the month, not to have their accounts absolutely empty at the end of each month, and there will be probably three or four million dollars in the hands of those agents at the end of the month not expended, but this amount I have given is the actual amount of money expended by those men for half a year.

Mr. HOLMAN. Then there is about two million in their hands at the end of six months.

Commissioner RAUM. I did not ask them to give a statement of their balances, but of course I could get that.

Mr. DINGLEY. It is about two million.

Commissioner RAUM. Now, you will turn to my official report before you and you will find that the annual value of the roll on the 30th day of June, 1892, was \$116,870,867.24. Now, we start out with that item which you have to pay, but that item is subject to a little reduction, and that consists in the number of persons who drop from the roll during the year. Now, you understand, I can not tell you the exact number that will be dropped through the year, but I take the experience of last year, which was 30½ to the thousand, and I say that at least that number will be dropped from the rolls this year; and that gives 26,720 that will drop from the rolls. Now, last year the value of those pensions dropped from the rolls was almost \$160, but it has grown a little, that is, the value of those who drop, because it is the high-priced men who die the quickest, so I take that at \$160 on the average.

The CHAIRMAN. Why do the high-priced men die the quickest?

Commissioner RAUM. Because they are the most disabled. Now, you will understand when these items are estimated, this number drops from the roll, and I estimate that by saying that the same number pro rata will drop; that was 30½, and I say as there is a little growth in the value of these I will fix that instead of \$154.87, as last year, at \$160 this year. Now, the aggregate of that divided by two gives the average of six months, and that would be \$2,137,600. Now, then, it is the first time in the history of the office that that amount has been fixed in that way; it has always been simply an estimate. What I have got is fixed according to legitimate principles, and that item is smaller than the item we were using when we made the general estimate. We said that probably would be two and a half million, but you see it is \$2,137,000. Now, that leaves an item of \$114,742,267.24. Now, you will have to add to that the number of unpaid vouchers which were in the hands of the pension agents when the fiscal year closed. The amount of those was \$2,822,234.76.

The CHAIRMAN. And that amount was paid out of the present year's appropriation?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir. Now, I want to say to you, until I introduced that thing—

The CHAIRMAN. Will you allow me to ask a question right there? The amounts last mentioned by you were paid out of the present year's appropriation?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, in the disbursement of last year's appropriation was there a balance turned back into the Treasury? I want to see if there was anything turned into the Treasury of last year's appropriation and whether it exceeded the amount taken out this year.

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir; it exceeded it.

The CHAIRMAN. Please give us that item.

Commissioner RAUM. You will remember we had a discussion about that before. It was \$2,289,714.25.

The CHAIRMAN. That about balances the amount you used for the present year's appropriation?

Commissioner RAUM. Almost so; say within \$600,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it less or greater?

Commissioner RAUM. It is less.

Mr. HENDERSON. What is it you have just read from?

Commissioner RAUM. This is the unexpended balance; this is from page 10 of my last annual report. This item amounts to \$2,289,714.25.

Now, all these items together make \$117,564,502. That is the amount we start out with; the amount of the roll, the amount to be deducted on account of those who drop off, and the amount of vouchers which were unpaid.

Mr. HENDERSON. Right there, the number of vouchers which are unpaid you get from the records of your own office, not by report from your agents?

Commissioner RAUM. No; I had reports from them as to the number of vouchers they had in their hands. You know they have to cease paying on the last day of June.

Mr. HENDERSON. You would not include vouchers in transit from your office to theirs?

Commissioner RAUM. We close them out. I do not send them the vouchers; I send them the certificates.

Mr. HENDERSON. I mean the certificates; did not mean vouchers.

Commissioner RAUM. It includes all certificates issued to June 30.

Mr. HENDERSON. Your office would show that, would it not?

Commissioner RAUM. The way I do is I inform the agents on the day that the last certificate is sent that those are all the certificates.

Mr. O'NEIL. What day is that?

Commissioner RAUM. June 30.

Mr. O'NEIL. Your men pay those?

Mr. RAUM. No; but they go on the roll. There is only a few of those, you know. You see the number of vouchers that run up that way would not be over 20,000.

Now, I pass from that paper to this six months' statement. If you follow the run of that statement you will find that I give you the number of each class of certificates which are issued, the first payment of each class of certificates, the average first payment, and the old rate for such of those certificates as carried a rate, and then the new rate, and I have given the total rate. Now, those are fixed amounts. Those are calculations made in the office upon the certificates themselves, and they are as careful as any calculation can be made. I have got the very best people to do that work. Now, during the past six months I have issued 110,483 certificates. The first payment on these certificates was \$19,507,930.44. There was a certain class of those certificates that carried monthly rates. The old monthly rate was \$247,344.67. Now, the additional monthly rate of this class of certificates was \$862,133.83, and the aggregate monthly rate is \$1,109,468.50. Now, then, I have taken the amount of those first payments and I have added to this item there \$19,507,930.44. Now, the persons who have been put on the rolls during these six months will draw an aggregate monthly rate of \$862,123.83, so I have just multiplied that item by six, making a balance of \$5,172,742.98. That, however, is subject to a reduction of the value of those we dropped from the rolls.

Mr. O'NEIL. Have not you done that once?

Commissioner RAUM. That is last year's work. There will be a few of those men dropped off. That has been already deducted from that item. I have allowed for the entire year 6,738 pensions—

Mr. HENDERSON. Pro rata?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir. Now, up to that period of time we are figuring upon known factors. Now, from that time forward it is a matter of estimation.

The CHAIRMAN. Based upon reliable data?

Commissioner RAUM. Upon such data as I bring before you.

The CHAIRMAN. But you regard that as reliable?

Commissioner RAUM. What I have given you is entirely reliable, there is no doubt about that. We now come upon the future of six months, what will that produce? We know what the past six months has produced, and it is upon that field that there has been some discussion at the Department between the officers there and myself as to whether in the midst of a change of administration there will be as much work done in the next as there has been in the past six months. I can say very frankly the political agitation has to a certain extent affected the working force of the office, and I find it somewhat more difficult to keep everybody up to what I call the highest and best standard.

The CHAIRMAN. Why so? Please explain.

Commissioner RAUM. Well, they are all human beings. This is a political Government, and almost half of the people in there are Republicans, and the other half are Democrats, and they are somewhat agitated one way and another with regard to the change which is impending.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you mean to say that that affects the administration of your office?

Commissioner RAUM. It affects the work, the quantum.

Mr. HENDERSON. The fellows are figuring on holding their places, instead of figuring on vouchers?

Commissioner RAUM. You understand I am not disparaging the people there; they are good people.

Mr. HENDERSON. And one-half are wondering whether civil service will protect them or not, and they are figuring on that, too?

Commissioner RAUM. I am speaking very frankly now. It has had a certain amount of influence in reducing the quantum of work. Now, if from the 1st day of January to the 1st day of July we are to have as much work done in the office as we had during the past six months why the way is perfectly clear to us, and I have assumed in this estimate that there would be as much work done; therefore I have said that the first payments during the next six months will be \$19,507,930.44, and, following the experience of this table that the three months' pay due these men would be \$2,586,371.49, and that the amount to be deducted from these monthly payments will be \$539,040, gives an amount to be added of \$7,220,074.44. Now, that gives an aggregate for the entire roll of \$163,800,437.35.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not mean for—

Commissioner RAUM. I mean to pay the rolls.

The CHAIRMAN. You mean that is for the last six months and the next six months?

Commissioner RAUM. I mean the annual value of the roll. Now there is only one unknown item.

The CHAIRMAN. What change does that necessitate in this deficiency item?

Commissioner RAUM. I will show you. We have not deducted from that the amount of vouchers which will be carried over. We have added the vouchers brought over and now there will be a certain amount of vouchers to be carried over. Well, now that is an unknown quantity and I fix that at \$5,000,000. There are the actual vouchers that have come over for four years (handing paper) and they have run from five and a half million dollars down to \$2,800,000.

Statement of the amounts remaining unpaid upon vouchers in the hands of pension agents for the fiscal years following.

1889	-----	\$5,565,270.31
1890	-----	4,357,347.30
1891	-----	4,883,242.64
1892	-----	2,822,234.76

Mr. HOLMAN. You mean vouchers outstanding and unpaid?

Commissioner RAUM. At the end of each fiscal year. I want to say to you right there, and I trust it will relieve any doubt which may have been in the minds of the people during the political contest, that I did everything I could to secure the payment of every dollar possible during the last fiscal year. I intended bringing a copy of the letter I addressed to the pension agents urging them to leave nothing undone to secure the payment of every possible dollar, because you had made an appropriation to cover the whole year, and the result has been we paid last year closer than has ever been paid in the history of the Pension Office. I think it is very doubtful unless very extraordinary means are taken that you will ever make as close a payment as that to such a large pension roll as you will have at the close of the fiscal year.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, coming right down, please answer the question, Do you desire this estimate of \$10,508,621 to be increased or diminished; if so, how much?

Commissioner RAUM. If you will deduct from the amount I have given you, \$158,800,437.35, the appropriation of \$144,956,000 you will have a deficiency of \$13,844,437.35.

The CHAIRMAN. And you desire that appropriation instead of an appropriation of \$10,508,621?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir; I should need that amount to be appropriated.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
Washington, D. C., January 9, 1893.

Estimate for deficiency appropriation for payment of pensions for fiscal year 1893:

Annual value of roll June 30, 1892.....	\$116, 879, 867. 24
Estimated number of pensioners on rolls June 30, 1892, who will be dropped during fiscal year 1893 (30½ per M of 876,068) = 26,720, at \$160 each for an average period of six months, 26,720 by ½ of \$160.....	2, 137, 600. 00
	114, 742, 267. 24
Amount unpaid vouchers June 30, 1892	2, 822, 234. 76
	117, 564, 502. 00
Amount of first payments from July 1 to December 31, 1892....	19, 507, 930. 44
Estimated cost of first payments for balance of fiscal year 1893...	19, 507, 930. 44
Add 6 months' pensions, at \$862,133.83 per month. \$5, 172, 742. 98	
Add 3 months' pensions, at \$862,133.83 per month. 2, 586, 371. 49	
	7, 759, 114. 47
Less one-half value, at \$160 of 6,738 pensioners ...	539, 040. 00
	7, 220, 074. 47
	163, 800, 437. 35
Deduct unpaid vouchers at end of fiscal year 1893	5, 000, 000. 00
	158, 800, 437. 35
Amount of appropriation fiscal year 1893	144, 956, 000. 00
	13, 844, 437. 35

The CHAIRMAN. You will please have a formal estimate sent through the Secretary of the Treasury for that amount, as the rules of the House require.

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir.

Mr. HENDERSON. In giving this balance of \$13,844,437.35 as a deficiency which you will need for the coming year, you do not take into account any deficiency for fees and expenses of examining surgeons?

Commissioner RAUM. Not at all.

Mr. HENDERSON. That would have to be added additional?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir.

Mr. HENDERSON. Have you any modification of the \$305,000 asked for that?

Commissioner RAUM. No, sir. I think all the vouchers were in when we made it. I will say this, that there will be a small deficiency, as I suggested in my report, for the special examination division. You will remember that you did not appropriate last year as much as I estimated for on that work. I cut it down from \$400,000 to \$215,000, and we will really need a small sum. I have not fixed the exact amount, but I thought I would speak of it this morning and make the estimate through the Secretary's office for that division. That appropriation of \$200,000 is not enough.

Mr. HENDERSON. If I understand you correctly you will require a deficiency of \$14,149,437.35, and also an amount not stated by you for deficiencies in the special examination division?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir.

Mr. HENDERSON. Have you any idea now what that will be?

Commissioner RAUM. I can telegraph you in the course of half an hour what it will be—probably twenty-five or thirty thousand dollars.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you please have these additional estimates sent to us as quickly as possible?

Commissioner RAUM. I will have them made out as soon as I get to the office.

Mr. HOLMAN. Are the expenses of the examining surgeons a matter within the discretion of the Commissioner?

Commissioner RAUM. The medical examinations are things that are ordered every day right along. For instance, there are claimants who apply for invalid pensions, and there are claimants who apply for an increase of invalid pensions who must be examined under the law by a board of medical examiners. The law requires that. Now, there are a few examinations though that constitute a very small thing in the aggregate that are called "test examinations." A man

comes before a board, and when they come to look it over in the medical division why the medical referee and his assistants come to the conclusion, say it was a disease of the eye or a disease of the ear or some special thing, that they will have that man examined by a specialist and have what is called a "test examination."

Mr. HOLMAN. He has an examination before the board in the first place and a special examination in the second place.

Commissioner RAUM. A test examination. You can appreciate the importance of it.

Mr. HOLMAN. How did this deficiency of \$305,000 of last year occur?

Commissioner RAUM. It occurred simply in endeavoring to bring that work up.

Mr. HOLMAN. You did more work than you anticipated?

Commissioner RAUM. Well, you know, your long experience here leads you to know that estimates are simply scientific guesswork; but a million and a half had been appropriated sometime back, and I said, "Well, I presume that will be sufficient." It turned out, however, not to be enough. Now, I am quite sure a million and a quarter is quite sufficient this year.

Mr. HOLMAN. For last year it was \$1,805,000?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir. There was none of that wasted, I am quite sure.

Mr. HOLMAN. Do these examining surgeons hold their warrants on this fund for this \$305,000?

Commissioner RAUM. No; their accounts are simply sent in and audited in my office.

Mr. HOLMAN. You do not issue any drafts on them until you can get the money?

Commissioner RAUM. No, sir.

Mr. HOLMAN. Then this \$305,000 has been suspended ever since the 1st of last July?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. This item is for work actually done?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It is an actual ascertained deficiency?

Commissioner RAUM. Yes, sir.

Number and value of cases allowed by Bureau of Pensions from July 1, 1892, to December 31, 1892.

Class.	No.	First payment.	Average first payment.	Monthly rate.		
				Old.	Additional.	Total.
<i>General law.</i>						
Army:						
Invalid, original	5,915	\$2,002,991.42	\$338.61		\$36,510.75	\$36,510.75
increase	9,561	455,219.57	47.61	\$103,736.75	46,569.95	150,206.50
reissue, etc.	3,516	1,006,564.78	286.28	21,404.67	14,569.83	35,974.50
restoration, etc.	469	158,435.76	337.82		3,044.25	3,044.25
supplemental	193	80,069.38	414.87			
Widows, etc., original	3,804	2,677,456.43	703.85		40,057.00	40,057.00
increase	4	1,237.07	309.27	6.00	12.00	18.00
reissue	279	200,637.72	719.13	1,291.00	632.00	1,923.00
restoration	38	28,674.33	754.59		322.00	322.00
supplemental	43	17,662.85	410.76		32.00	32.00
Widows in arrears	1	30.80	30.80			
Navy:						
Invalid, original	83	27,173.64	327.39		753.50	753.50
increase	75	3,216.36	42.88	860.50	416.50	1,277.00
reissue, etc.	23	5,030.27	218.71	213.00	119.00	332.00
restoration, etc.	7	2,708.59	386.94		42.00	42.00
supplemental	1	155.73	155.73			
Widows, etc., original	59	58,721.55	995.28		904.00	904.00
reissue	3	1,218.93	406.31	20.00	16.00	36.00
Twenty years' service	1	52.00	52.00		30.00	30.00
Revolutionary war, widows' increase	1	30.00	30.00	12.00	18.00	30.00
Old wars:						
Invalid, original	13	1,686.34	129.72		184.00	184.00
increase	13	244.31	18.79	141.00	97.00	238.00
Widows	9	417.07	46.34		131.00	131.00
War 1812:						
Survivors	1	1,414.67	1,414.67		8.00	8.00
Widows	2	1,006.80	503.40		12.00	12.00

Number and value of cases allowed by Bureau of Pensions, from July 1, 1892, to December 31, 1892—Continued.

Class.	No.	First pay- ment.	Aver- age first pay- ment.	Monthly rate.		
				Old.	Addi- tional.	Total.
<i>General law—Continued.</i>						
Mexican war:						
Survivors.....	85	\$24,188.97	\$284.58		\$663.00	\$663.00
Increase.....	5	686.70	133.34	\$104.00	40.00	144.00
Invalid, reissue.....	6	59.20	9.87	54.00	48.00	102.00
restoration, etc.....	1	513.33	513.33		8.00	8.00
Widows.....	207	32,258.83	155.84		1,656.00	1,656.00
<i>Act July 27, 1892.</i>						
Indian wars, survivors.....	16	539.92	33.75		128.00	128.00
<i>Act August 5, 1892.</i>						
Army nurses.....	23	706.80	30.73		276.00	276.00
<i>Act June 27, 1890.</i>						
Army:						
Invalid, original.....	42,497	6,665,961.82	156.86		399,984.00	399,984.00
increase.....	8	137.79	17.22	60.00	22.00	82.00
additional.....	21,053	2,245,681.61	103.71	117,324.75	112,539.25	229,864.00
reissue, etc.....	733	14,403.85	19.65	1,098.00	641.00	1,739.00
supplemental.....	88	4,469.30	50.79			
Widows, etc., original.....	18,479	3,407,107.04	184.38		179,605.00	179,605.00
reissue.....	91	2,832.73	31.13	98.00	42.00	140.00
supplemental.....	40	1,764.92	44.12		94.00	94.00
Navy:						
Invalid, original.....	1,821	299,491.86	164.47		16,986.00	16,986.00
additional.....	181	14,364.71	79.36	1,011.00	927.00	1,938.00
reissue, etc.....	12	30.53	2.54			
supplemental.....	1	100.53	100.53			
Widows, etc., original.....	418	60,589.56	144.95		3,980.00	3,980.00
reissue.....	3	45.93	15.31	10.00	2.00	12.00
supplemental.....	1	48.13	48.13		2.00	2.00
Total.....	110,483	19,507,930.44		247,844.67	862,123.83	1,109,468.50
Average.....			176.57			

	No. of cases.
General law.....	24,418
Act July 27, 1892.....	16
Act August 5, 1892.....	23
Act June 27, 1890.....	86,026
Total number of pensioners on rolls June 30, 1888.....	452,557
Total number of pensioners on rolls February 28, 1889.....	472,920
Total number of pensioners on rolls June 30, 1889.....	489,726
Annual value of pensions June 30, 1889.....	\$64,246,552.86
Average annual value of each pension June 30, 1889.....	\$131.18
Total number of pensioners on rolls June 30, 1890.....	537,944
Annual value of pensions June 30, 1890.....	\$72,052,143.49
Average annual value of each pension June 30, 1890.....	\$133.94
Total number of pensioners on rolls June 30, 1891.....	676,160
Annual value of pensions June 30, 1891.....	\$89,247,200.20
Average annual value of each pension June 30, 1891.....	\$131.99
Total number of pensioners on rolls June 30, 1892.....	876,098
Annual value of pensions June 30, 1892.....	\$116,879,867.24
Average annual value of each pension June 30, 1892.....	\$133.41
Total number of pensioners on rolls December 31, 1892.....	931,569
Total number of original cases allowed during six months of fiscal year 1893.....	73,123
Total number of increase, etc., cases allowed during six months of fiscal year 1893.....	36,840
Total number of restoration cases allowed during six months of fiscal year 1893.....	515
Total amount paid for pensions from July 1 to December 31, 1892, inclusive.....	\$78,484,649.03

Attention is invited to the fact that there is no accumulation of adjudicated claims upon which certificates have not been issued. Certificates are issued upon claims immediately upon their allowance, and are forwarded to the proper pension agent for payment as soon as issued.

Statement of claims pending December 31, 1892.

Old wars:		
Original invalid.....	1,958	
Original widow.....	2,300	
Total.....		4,258
Indian wars:		
Original invalid.....	3,911	
Original widow.....	3,090	
Total.....		7,001
Act of August 5, 1892:		
Army nurses.....		688
Service since March 4, 1861:		
Original invalid.....	108,648	
Original widow.....	88,114	
Total.....		196,762
Act of June 27, 1890:		
Original invalid.....	121,805	
Original widow.....	62,086	
Total.....		183,891
Additional to prior applications on file under former acts:		
Pending original invalid.....	35,570	
Rejected original invalid.....	11,128	
Certificate invalid pending.....	20,760	
Certificate invalid not pending.....	48,646	
Pending widow.....	18,234	
Rejected widow.....	3,828	
Certificate widow not pending.....	806	
Total.....		138,972
Increase.....	234,124	
Increase and accrued widow.....	4,729	
Total.....		238,853
Grand total.....		770,425

Statement of the completed files for the week ending December 31, 1892, in the several adjudicating divisions.

	Old war.	Middle.	Eastern.	Southern.	Western.	Total.
Original invalid.....	9,985	11,902	18,574	3,056	22,190	65,707
Original widow and dependent..	2,384	6,676	4,437	1,542	1,351	16,390
Increase, etc.....	4,202	15,898	30,205	935	29,201	80,441
Total.....	16,571	34,476	53,216	5,533	52,742	162,538

Cases drawn for adjudication December 31, 1892, were completed of the dates as follows:

Division.	Invalid.	Widow, etc.	Increase, etc.
Eastern.....	July 11, 1892.....	Aug. 1, 1892.....	June 15, 1892.
Southern.....	Oct., 1892.....	Dec., 1892.....	Dec., 1892.
Western.....	June 9, 1892.....	Dec. 31, 1892.....	Jan., 1892.
Middle.....	June 15, 1892.....	July 27, 1892.....	July, 1891, and Jan., May, and Oct., 1892.
Old War and Navy*.....	Mar., May, and July, 1892.	July and Aug., 1892..	May, July, Nov., and Dec., 1892.

* All other claims are of current date.

Original invalid claims filed under the general law and original invalid claims filed under the act of June 27, 1890, are numbered in the same consecutive series; are kept in the order of their numbers in the same file cases; are drawn in the order of their numbers for making calls upon the War Department, for making calls upon the claimant for evidence, and for ordering medical examinations. They are handled by the same examiners, and when completed their completed file cards are kept in the same boxes, and the cases are drawn for ad-

judication in the order of their completion. More cases are allowed under the act of June 27, 1890, because more of them are completed.

Completed cases are divided into three general classes : First, original invalid ; second, widows' claims ; third, increase and new disability claims under the general laws, and additional claims under act of June 27, 1890. Cards representing completed cases in each class are kept separate. No cases are taken up for final action except those drawn from the completed files, and these are drawn in the order of the date of their completion. A larger number of examiners are kept upon the first and second classes of claims ; consequently more original claims are allowed than increase and other claims of the third class.

