3-11-1834

Pamela Adams [to accompany bill H. R. no. 355].

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Mr. R. M. Johnson, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made the following report:

The Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred the petition of Pamela Adams, report:

That it appears that she is the widow of Capt. John G. Adams, who was killed near Rock river, at the head of his company, gallantly fighting for his country against the associates and warriors of Black Hawk, in the spring of 1832. The principle of giving five years' half pay to the widows of the militia who were killed in battle, or who died in the service, was established as to the late war with Great Britain, and the committee approve of the principle thus established, and believe it ought to be extended to the present case. They refer to the petition of the widow, and the other documents, and make them a part of this report. They report a bill.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The petition of Pamela Adams, respectfully showeth:

That she at this time resides with her family in the county of Tazewell, State of Illinois, where she has resided for the last two years. That, in the spring of the year 1832, a call was made upon the militia of said county, by the Governor of the State, for volunteers to resist the invasion of the territories of the State, by the hostile band of Sac Indians under the command of Black Hawk. Among the citizen soldiers who volunteered on that occasion to guard a defenseless frontier, was my late husband, Capt. John G. Adams. He was elected to the command of the company of the county, and with them marched to Rock river. When he arrived at Rock river, the detachment to which he belonged, commanded by Major Stillman, was sent to reconnoitre the country adjacent to said river, and, while absent on said party, fell in with the Indians, fought them, and was defeated. In the battle then fought, my husband, John G. Adams, was killed. He fell in the hottest of the fight, in the front of the battle.

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and while rallying his men. He has left behind him a large family of helpless children, eight in number, and in indigent circumstances. Your petitioner has no means of supporting herself and family, except by her own exertions. Under these circumstances, by the advice of her friends, she has determined to appeal to her country for aid, not so much for herself, as for the orphan children of one who has fallen while fighting his country's battle. That appeal she now makes, and prays that, after due investigation, you will grant her such pension and relief as to your wisdom and clemency may seem wise and just.

PAMELA ADAMS.

November 12, 1832.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, Tazewell County, ss.

I, George W. Miles, administrator of the estate of Capt. John G. Adams, who fell in the battle of Sycamore creek, do depose and say, that the estate of the said Adams, to the best of my present knowledge and belief, will but little more than pay the debts against said estate; that the widow and children will be left almost destitute; and, further, that I have examined the petition of Mrs. Adams, and do believe the facts therein set forth to be true.

Subscribed and sworn to, before me, this 31st day of December, 1832.

ISOM WRIGHT, J. P.

We, the undersigned, neighbors and acquaintances of Pamela Adams, and of her late husband, Capt. John G. Adams, who fell at the battle of Sycamore creek, with the Sac Indians, in the spring of the year 1832, have examined the petition of Mrs. Adams, praying a pension, and believe the facts therein stated to be true. And we respectfully recommend her as one who, from the bravery and gallantry, and unfortunate death of her husband, her large and helpless family, and straitened circumstances, is highly deserving a pension from her country.

November 12, 1832.


