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Jerusha Sturgis.

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JERUSHA STURGIS.

MAY 27, 1896.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany S. 122.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 122) granting an increase of pension to Jerusha Sturgis, widow of Brig. Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis, having carefully examined and considered the facts presented, respectfully report:

From the evidence submitted in this case, it appears to be one of very great and exceptional merit. Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis had a brilliant record as an officer in the Army, extending over a period of more than forty years. His record discloses service in two wars, that with Mexico and the late war of the rebellion. He was four times brevetted during the late war for gallant and meritorious services in battle.

His widow, the claimant under the present bill, is now advanced in years and in feeble health, and has a daughter dependent upon her. The case presents one feature of peculiar sadness in that a son, upon whom she might have depended for support in her declining years, lost his life in the battle of the Little Big Horn, known in history as the "Custer massacre," he being at that time an officer in the United States Army and serving with his regiment in that unfortunate battle.

The committee recommend that the bill be amended by striking out the word "seventy-five" and substituting the word "fifty" therefor in line 7, and as amended that the bill do pass.