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Henry H. Tucker.

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HENRY H. TUCKER.

JUNE 5, 1896.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. BAKER, of Kansas, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 9285.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9285) granting a pension to Henry H. Tucker, having examined the papers in the same, respectfully report as follows:

Henry H. Tucker was a member of the first three-months' men of Ohio, serving as a private in Company G, Twentieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry; he was then a sergeant in the three-years' regiment which was organized immediately at the discharge of the others, Company E, Thirty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry; he was wounded and discharged for disability October 20, 1862; afterwards he served as first lieutenant in Company B, One hundred and forty-third Illinois Volunteers, and was mustered out of the service September 26, 1864.

After the war he went to Kansas. In the fall of 1868, at the time of the great Indian raid, he was one of the 50 frontiersmen employed by General Forsyth under orders from General Sheridan. They went out in pursuit of the Indians and were surrounded by them at a place on the Arickaree River. It was a great battle. Tucker was wounded by an arrow and shot through the arm the first day. They were on a low island in the river, and when they dug intrenchments, each man for himself (the surface of the island was only about 2 feet above the surface of the river), the bottoms of the trenches were wet sand. It was in September, and while the sun was blistering hot, the nights were cold enough to form a little ice. After he was wounded he lay nine days in the trench before they were rescued, and then he was taken to Fort Wallace before he received any treatment. It was very heroic fighting, they were without provisions, and had to live on the meat of the mules and horses that were killed in the battle.

General Forsyth in his report recommended that some of the men who were wounded in this fight, including H. H. Tucker, should be pensioned. Early the next spring, before his arm had healed and while he was still in Fort Harker under treatment for his arm, notice of the approach of the Indians was received. He went from Fort Harker down to Salina and got a horse and rode up to the Saline River warning the settlers. When he arrived at the place where the Indians were, his arm was still in a sling, he alone charged on seven Indians and saved one family. He organized the men for the defense, got a fresh horse, rode all night, brought the men to the front, while the women and children were taken down the river to the city. He then was

given a fresh horse and rode to Fort Harker for the troops. This made forty-eight hours for him in the saddle. During this encounter he received a wound in the hand which renders it useless. He saved the settlement, but has been a wreck himself ever since.

He receives a pension under the law of 1862 of \$14 per month for the injuries received in the regular service, but is unable to get an increase for the injuries received in this latter service. General Forsyth writes a letter recommending his pension. There is abundant testimony to show that the man is totally disabled for any kind of manual labor, and often requires the assistance of another person.

There is no doubt that this soldier's disabilities are directly due to service, and that he requires the attendance of another person.

Your committee therefore recommend that the bill do pass with the following amendments:

Amend by striking out the word "grant," in line 9, and insert the word "pay" in place thereof; also strike out the word "seventy-two," in line 9, and insert the word "fifty" in place thereof; also amend the title so as to read: "A bill granting a pension to Henry H. Tucker."

