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Jerusha Sturgis.

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JERUSHA STURGIS.

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JUNE 29, 1897.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 904.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 904) granting an increase of pension to Jerusha Sturgis, have examined the same, and report:

A similar bill was introduced in the Senate during the first session of the Fifty-fourth Congress, passed the Senate, and was reported favorably by the House.

The Senate report was as follows, which we adopt, and recommend the passage of the bill.

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 do pass.