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"Itewayaka," or "One-Armed Jim."

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“ITEWAYAKA,” OR “ONE-ARMED JIM.”

FEBRUARY 1, 1898.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 1541.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1541) granting a pension to “Itewayaka,” or “One-Armed Jim,” have examined the same and recommend the passage of the bill with an amendment: Amend by striking out all after the word “rate” and insert in lieu thereof the words “of twelve dollars per month.”

UNITED STATES SENATE,
Washington, D. C., May 21, 1896.

This man, “Itewayaka,” or “One-armed Jim,” was one of the number of scouts in the Government employ in Minnesota from 1862 to the close of the war, during and about the time of the New Ulm massacre, at Mankato. The petition and the evidence which I left with the bill indicated that this man lost his arm while in the service of the Government and acting under military instructions. I do not know what the pension law is relative to such matters, that is, the pensioning of men who were not actually enlisted or mustered into service. There were a number of these scouts who did as good service for the Government as any of the regularly enlisted soldiers, and it seems to me they should be entitled to recognition under our pension laws.

Two gentlemen from Sisseton Reservation, in South Dakota, are now in Washington, attending to some matters before the Interior Department, and as they were present and in the employ of the Government as scouts at the time of the New Ulm massacre, and were acquainted with the circumstances under which “Itewayaka,” or “One-armed Jim,” lost his arm, I have asked them to come before the committee and make a statement. These two men are Samuel J. Brown, who during the war acted as chief of scouts and acting military agent, and Chief Solomon Two Stars, a full-blooded Indian, who acted as chief of scouts, in New Ulm, Minn., to the close of the war.

JAMES H. KYLE.

I know “Itewayaka,” or “One-armed Jim,” well, and know that he was in the Government service, and that he, on or about the middle of May, 1865, was brought to fort for the purpose of having his hand amputated; that I was present when the

surgeon, a Dr. Farley, amputated it. I remember well the incidents; one was the remark he made just before the arm was cut, and while he was being put under the influence of anesthetics, that he wanted the surgeon to be sure and see that he save one finger and thumb, but when the surgeon examined the hand he found that mortification set in to nearly one-half way to the elbow, and he had to cut it off between the wrist and elbow. When "One-armed Jim" came to, he was very much disappointed, and said we had lied to him. In the spring of 1865 a scouting expedition was made. The organization was perfected about the middle of May, 1865. These scouts were sent out to occupy stations 12 or 15 miles apart; each squad was commanded by a chief, 12 or 15 scouts.

About March of that same year a large party from the Northwest, under the leadership of one Jack Campbell, visited the region of Mankato and committed those atrocious murders that were known as the Jewett. They nearly created a stampede from the State. This man Campbell had murdered a wealthy farmer about three miles from Mankato and put on the dead man's clothes and went into town; it was supposed for the purpose to find out what the intention of the whites would be toward the Indians, and that he was recognized and was at once arrested by a mob, thrown into a wagon and taken to the court-house square at Mankato, and hung to a tree. The remaining fifteen fled from him with horses, guns, silk dresses, and silverware, and they managed to pass the soldiers and managed to get outside of the State of Minnesota, and were taking the things homeward when our scouts intercepted them all but one man. These fifteen were called during the month of May, 1865, at different times. There was one of the party of five to which the lame Jim belonged who was under Two Stars as chief. We were in the third subdistrict in the military district of Minnesota, of the Department of Northwest, commanded by General Sibley and under the immediate orders of Maj. R. H. Rose, commandant of those subdistricts. Major Rose was of the Second Regiment of Minnesota Cavalry. We were paid \$1, \$1.50, and \$2 a day, according to the service furnished, and the Indians who served with a horse were paid more than those who served without a horse. We drew our pay from the recorder master at Fort Wadsworth, D. T., by A. H. Mills, I think, but am not positive. I belonged to the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands.

SAMUEL J. BROWN.

STATEMENT.

- Q. Did you know "Itewayaka," or "One-armed Jim?"—A. Yes.
 Q. Did you know him from 1862 to 1865?—A. Yes.
 Q. What troop of Indians did you belong to?—A. To the Sisseton Indians.
 Q. Are you a full-blooded Indian?—A. Yes.
 Q. Is "Itewayaka" a full-blooded Indian?—A. Yes.
 Q. Were you employed by the Government from 1862 to 1865?—A. Yes.
 Q. Part of the time you were chief of scouts?—A. Yes.
 Q. Did "Itewayaka" serve as a scout under you?—A. Yes.
 Q. Were you employed by the Government at that time?—A. Yes.
 Q. Did you receive your pay from the Government?—A. Yes.
 Q. Did you fight under military orders?—A. Yes.
 Q. Do you remember the time when you were ordered on this expedition, during which time "Itewayaka" lost his arm?—A. Yes.
 Q. How did he happen to lose his arm?—A. He had received instructions from the commanding officer at Blue Earth County, Minn., to keep a lookout for some Indians that had committed the Jewett murder. Those Indians, as he stated, were the ones that committed those horrible murders at Mankato.
 Q. Under whose orders were you acting then?—A. Under the instructions of Maj. R. H. Rose, of the Second Regiment Minnesota Cavalry.
 Q. How did he come to be hurt?—A. That while chasing the Indians he and Two Stars reached the Indians first, and "One-armed Jim" was behind us, and that they had better dispose of those two in case the one got away. Then this lame Jim loaded his gun and fired at the Indians and the gun burst and tore off his hand.
 Q. Do you remember of him having his arm amputated?—A. Yes. He notified the commanding officer, who sent down a team and had him brought to the hospital.
 Q. This is the same man who now lives in the Sisseton Agency?—A. Yes.

TWO STARS, Chief.

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 1, 1892.

SIR: In the case of the Indian, "Itewayaka," for pension, you are informed that the records of the War Department do not show that the organization known as Major

Rose's Indian Scouts, in which claimant alleges service, was ever mustered into the service of the United States. If this claimant received a discharge from his service he should forward it to me, and if he served in any other organization he should give the name of that organization, with a full statement as to time of enlistment and discharge and service performed.

Very respectfully,

C. D. PENNEBAKER.

Mr. JOHN A. MUNRO, *Wilmot, S. Dak.*

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, *County of Roberts, ss:*

“ITEWAYAKA,” OR “ONE-ARMED JIM,” being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That he is a Sioux Indian of the Sisseton band, and that he entered the military service of the United States as a scout, in the military district of Minnesota, on or about the 11th day of April, A. D. 1863, and continued to serve in said district in said military service until discharged therefrom, on or about the 1st day of October, A. D. 1864. That while he was in such service and engaged in action with a party of hostile Indians who had been on a raid and had killed the Jewett family in Blue Earth County, Minn., the barrel of his gun bursted and tore off his left hand and a portion of his left arm, so that his hand had to be amputated, and was amputated, by Dr. Farley. That he has always been friendly to the whites, and observed every obligation imposed upon him by treaty and by natural or municipal law. That he is now 63 years of age and unable to support himself with but one single hand and arm; and that he makes this affidavit for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United States at the rate allowed for the loss of a hand and arm to enlisted men in the service. And further deponent saith not.

ITEWAYAKA.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this — day of —, A. D. 1891.

United States Indian Agent, Sisseton Agency.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, *County of —, ss:*

TWO STARS, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is a Sioux Indian of the Sisseton band; that he was in the military service of the United States as a scout in the district of Minnesota from about the 10th day of February, A. D. 1863, to the 15th day of October, A. D. 1866; that while he was so in the military service of the United States he was often sent by General Sibly, commanding the districts, and by Gabriel Renville, commanding the Indian scouts, on scouts and reconnoissance for hostile Indians; that while engaged in one of said scouts with a party of Indians numbering about five, of whom Itewayaka or “One-Armed Jim” was one, and about the — day of —, A. D. 186—, he came upon a party of hostile Indians numbering five, who had been on a raid to Blue Earth County, Minn., and had murdered the Jewett family; that he immediately ordered his party to attack the hostile raiders, which they did, and killed all of the same save one; that during the engagement the gun of “Itewayaka,” or “One-Armed Jim,” bursted near the breech and tore off his left hand and a portion of his left arm, and that the same had to be amputated, and was amputated by an assistant surgeon of the United States Army, Dr. Farley, and that the said “Itewayaka,” or “One-Armed Jim,” is now a resident of the Sisseton Reservation, in South Dakota, where this deponent also resides; and further this deponent saith not, except that he makes this affidavit to enable the said “One-Armed Jim” to go upon the pension roll of the United States at the same rate as an enlisted man in the United States Army for a similar wound.

TWO STARS.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this — day of —, A. D. 1891.

United States Indian Agent, Sisseton Agency.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, *County of —, ss:*

ECETUKIYE, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he has read the foregoing affidavits of Itewayaka and Two Stars, and that the facts therein narrated were reported to him on the same day of the occurrence by Two Stars, who was in charge of said band of Indian scouts; and that the arm of Itewayaka was off at the time, and all the Indians in the scouting party concurred in the statement that it had been

torn off by the bursting of his gun while engaged in battle with the raiding party of hostile Indians that had murdered the Jewett family; that he was chief of Indian scouts at the time, and has no doubt whatever of the correctness of the statement made in the affidavits aforesaid; that soon after the occurrence his inspector of scouts, Samuel J. Brown, gave a certificate to Itewayaka in the words and figures following, which he saw at the time, and has repeatedly seen since, viz:

SPECIAL MILITARY AGENCY,
Fort Wadsworth, Dak., April 2, 1866.

This is to certify that the bearer, Itewayaka, is a Sisseton Sioux Indian, and a true and tried friend of the whites; and that while on duty as a Government scout, and during a fight with hostile Indians in May last, his gun bursted and he suffered the loss of a hand; and that I was present and witnessed the amputation of his hand above the wrist, which operation was performed by Dr. Farley, of this post.

I trust that this faithful friend of the whites may always receive the kind treatment which he merits.

SAM. J. BROWN,
Inspector of Scouts, Acting Military Agent.

And deponent says that the foregoing statement is true, and that said wounded scout has always been a good and faithful Indian, observing all treaties and laws of both the Indians and whites, and that he earnestly requests that his name may be placed upon the pension roll of the United States at the same rate of pension per month as is allowed an enlisted man for a like disability or wound.

GABRIELL BENVILLE.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me on this — day of —, A. D. 1891.

United States Indian Agent, Sisseton Agency.

