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Report : Mr. Borland

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Recommended Citation

S. Rep. No. 314, 32nd Cong., 1st Sess. (1852)

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JULY 28, 1852.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BORLAND made the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. No. 505.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of the Rev. Richard Fuller, report:

That the petitioner sets forth that Mrs. Claudia Stuart, the mother of the late Brevet Captain James Stuart, of the United States army, who was killed in a battle with the Indians in Oregon, on the 18th of June, 1851, was by the death of her son, upon whom she depended for support, left in extreme poverty, with a large family and a husband rendered entirely helpless by disease; and in her behalf the petitioner asks a pension for the loss of her son killed in the public service, who was unmarried, and applied his pay to the support of his mother and family. Accompanying the petition is the certificate of General Winfield Scott, setting forth the excellent character, capacity and gallantry of the deceased. In view of the circumstances, the committee recommend the passage of a bill giving relief to the mother of the deceased.

Petition of the Rev. Richard Fuller, praying that a pension may be allowed the mother of the late Captain James Stuart, of the United States army.

To the honorable the Senate of the United States.

The memorial of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:

That he is a near relative of James Stuart, late a captain in the mounted rifle regiment of the United States, and he submits to your honorable body the following facts: The said James Stuart was in the late war with Mexico, and greatly distinguished himself in every action, from the landing of the troops to the storming of the city. It is admitted on all hands that his whole conduct was most brilliant, and that he was the first officer who led his company into the city of Mexico. Nor was he distinguished only by transcendent talents or courage, but the highest moral character, in consequence of which he was detailed by the commander-in-chief on most delicate and important services. During the whole of his service, his pay was applied almost entirely to the support and comfort of his mother, who is in

indigent circumstances, the mother of a large family, and whose husband perfectly disabled by disease. On the 18th of June, 1851, the said Captain Stuart was slain in a skirmish with the Indians in Oregon, on the Rogue river.

The object of this memorial is to appeal to the generosity and justice of your honorable body, to grant a pension to the mother of the deceased. Your memorialist is aware that it is not usual to confer such benefit except upon the widows of deceased officers; but as Captain Stuart died unmarried, and as his mother is in circumstances of extreme poverty, and as her pay was applied to her support, your memorialist hopes and prays that a sense of justice to his brilliant services, and a generous sympathy awakened by a case so very peculiar, will move your honorable body to make a noble exception in this instance.

RICHARD FULLER.

Letter from Major General Winfield Scott.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, June 1, 1853.

At the instance of the Rev. Richard Fuller, the memorialist, I cheerfully certify in this place to the truth of the statement he has made of the character and services of the late Brevet Captain James Stuart; or in other words, I can truly say that he was singularly gifted, accomplished, zealous and brave, and although twice breveted for distinguished gallantry and success, ought in justice to have been still further rewarded in the same way. In short, of all the fine young officers who marched with the American army from Vera Cruz to the Mexican capital, there was not one who inspired among all ranks more affectionate admiration.

WINFIELD SCOTT.