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Report : Mr. Jones, of Iowa

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 13, 1854.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. JONES, of Iowa, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Isaac Bowman, son and executor of Isaac Bowman, deceased, beg leave to report:

That the petitioner, as legal representative of his deceased father, claims the half-pay due his said father as lieutenant in the Illinois regiment, in the war of the revolution. It appears, from the evidence before the committee, that the said Isaac Bowman, deceased, in May, 1779, was appointed a horsemaster (equal to quartermaster) in the Illinois regiment, which position he could not have held unless he had been a subaltern of the line; that whilst in service, and on duty, he was, with a detachment of said regiment, attacked by the Chickasaw Indians, then at war with the United States, as the allies of Great Britain; that he was defeated and all of his men killed, "except one Riddle" and the said Bowman, who was shot down in the fight with four musket balls in his body and limbs. In this condition Bowman was made prisoner by the Indians, and detained as such from November, 1779, to April, 1780, when he was sold by his captors to a British trader among the Indians, named Turnbull, and by him taken to New Orleans, then belonging to Spain; from thence to Cuba; and from Cuba he made his way to Philadelphia, and thence to his home in Virginia: that, in consequence of the wounds he had received, he became a cripple for life, after enduring the greatest suffering from them for a year or more after his return home. The Illinois regiment was reduced from 350 men in May, 1779, to 130 in August, 1780, without any evidence that any part of said regiment was disbanded or discharged from service. Bowman did not resign his commission, either as a lieutenant in said regiment, (which, under the regulations, he must have held to be appointed horsemaster) or in the staff; nor does it appear that after his disability he was ever recalled to service.

After a careful consideration of the case, your committee are of opinion that the claim presented by Isaac Bowman, as legal representative of Lieutenant Isaac Bowman, deceased, is fully provided for by the 3d section of the act of July 5, 1832; and that he is entitled to the half-pay of his father, as promised by the act of assembly of the State of Virginia, of May, 1779, according to his said father's rank as lieutenant in the Illinois regiment. It would be difficult to provide more clearly for the satisfaction of said claim, by any further legislation, than

is already done by existing laws. Your committee therefore beg leave to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the claim of Isaac Bowman, legal representative of Isaac Bowman, deceased, for half-pay due his father, under the act of the general assembly of Virginia, of May, 1779, be referred to the Secretary of the Interior for liquidation, under the act of Congress of July 5, 1832; and that the Committee on Pensions be discharged from the further consideration of the case.