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Francis Shetais, alias Frank Stay.

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FRANCIS SHETAIS, ALIAS FRANK STAY.

APRIL 21, 1898.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 863.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 863) granting a pension to Francis Shetais, alias Frank Stay, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted, and the passage of the bill is recommended.

HOUSE REPORT.

The claimant filed an application for pension May 20, 1889, alleging that while serving as a scout with Minnesota Mounted Rangers, Indian war, in the spring of 1865, he received a gunshot wound of right shoulder.

This claim was rejected December 17, 1892, on the ground that claimant's name is not found on the rolls.

Correspondence with the War Department by your committee elicits the information that one Francis Shetais was employed as a scout by Lieut. Andrew J. Whitney, acting assistant quartermaster, Fort Ridgely, Minn., from May 22 to August 13, 1865, and by Capt. George P. Doan, assistant quartermaster, same place, from August 14 to October 15, 1865, when discharged.

The testimony accompanying the bill shows conclusively that Francis Shetais, who rendered the above service, and Frank Stay are one and the same person; and it is further shown that while so serving Shetais received a gunshot wound in the right shoulder in an engagement with the Sioux Indians near Lake Benton, Minnesota, about June 15, 1865, and that in consequence of the wound the arm has become partially paralyzed and withered.

The claimant's identity and the fact that he was wounded as alleged are sworn to by Joseph Laframboise, of Sisseton Indian Reservation, S. Dak., and Joseph Fortier, of Yellow Medicine County, Minn., who served in the Sioux Indian war with him.

Claimant was examined March 5, 1890, by the Montevideo, Minn., board of examining surgeons, who report finding "a scar showing entrance of bullet on posterior and external part of shoulder, passing through back and upper portion of deltoid muscle and just under external end of acromion process of scapula, lodging just forward of coracoid process of scapula, and can be distinctly felt by finger. Movement of shoulder much interfered with—think one half; loss of sensation. * * * Scar of entrance depressed and dragging."

The conclusion of the board was that the claimant was entitled to a fifteen-eightieths rating for the wound.

The testimony shows that the claimant is in very needy circumstances, such property as he has being heavily mortgaged. He is about sixty years old.

The passage of the bill is recommended.