

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 3, 1845.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. FOSTER made the following

REPORT :

[To accompany bill S. 79.]

The Committee on Pensions, to which the bill for the relief of John Woolley was referred, report :

John Woolley was a soldier of the United States in the last war with Great Britain. His disability, as set forth in his petition, is a chronic rheumatism, resulting from his exposure and hardship in the public service. The Commissioner of Pensions declining, the Secretary of War, upon an appeal to him, ordered his name to be placed upon the pension roll at the rate of three-fourths disability. The completion of his evidence was on the 27th of March, 1844, from which time his pension commenced. The bill grants him a pension from the date of his discharge, in 1815.

It is a rule of the committee, not to enlarge the scope of the pension laws, but to give full effect to them as they exist. The act of the 4th of February, 1822, provides, "that the right any person now has, or hereafter may acquire, to receive a pension in virtue of any law of the United States, shall be construed to commence at the time of completing his testimony." This act applies as well to *invalid* as other pensions : Wherefore,

Resolved, That "the bill for the relief of John Woolley" be indefinitely postponed.

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

February 3, 1843
Submitted, and ordered to be printed

Mr. Forster made the following

REPORT

[To accompany bill S. 10.]

The Committee on Pensions, to which the bill for the relief of John Woolley was referred, report:

John Woolley was a soldier of the United States in the last war with Great Britain. His disability, as set forth in his petition, is a chronic rheumatism, resulting from his exposure and hardship in the public service. The Commissioner of Pensions declining, the Secretary of War, upon an appeal to him, ordered his name to be placed upon the pension roll at the rate of three-fourths disability. The completion of his evidence was on the 25th of March, 1841, from which time his pension commenced. The bill grants him a pension from the date of his discharge, in 1815. It is a rule of the committee, not to enlarge the scope of the pension laws, but to give full effect to them as they exist. The act of the 4th of February, 1832, provides, "that the right any person now has, or hereafter may acquire to receive a pension in virtue of any law of the United States, shall be construed to commence at the time of completing his testimony." This act applies as well to Woolley as other pensioners: *Whitstone*. We would, therefore, recommend that the bill for the relief of John Woolley, be substantially postponed.