RISWELL TARBOX.

MARCH 3, 1851.
Laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WALDO, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Roswell Tarbox, respectfully report:

The petitioner represents that he is a brother of one Solomon Tarbox, who was a lieutenant in the Connecticut line of the revolutionary army, in the regiment commanded by Colonel Samuel Wyllis, and who died in service on the 20th day of December, 1777; and he asks Congress, by a special act, to grant him pecuniary aid, on account of the services of his said brother.

The petitioner represents that the said Solomon Tarbox was the oldest of several children belonging to the family of his father, and that no one of his relatives has ever received any gratuity from the United States. He does not claim to be solely entitled to the gratitude of his country for the services of his brother, or assign any reason why his other relatives ought not to participate equally with himself. The principle, therefore, involved in this case is this: will Congress extend the benefits of its pension laws to the collateral relations of the revolutionary soldier? Hitherto the children of such soldiers have not been entitled to a pension, as such, although in some cases they are permitted to receive the amount due their parent at the time of his decease; nor have the applications of children for gratuities on account of the services of their fathers been treated with much favor. Pensions have been regarded as personal benefits, never to be extended beyond the person on account of whose services they are granted, except only in some cases to his widow. If the children of meritorious persons cannot take the benefit of the services of their ancestor, it is not seen upon what principle collateral relations can claim it. The committee therefore, being of opinion that there is no merit in the claim of the petitioner, ask to be discharged from its further consideration, and recommend that the petition be laid upon the table.
REPORT

The Committee on Atmospheric Phenomena, to whom the subject was referred

T. C. L. 25th, 1832.

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