SUSAN COOK.

MARCH 3, 1851.
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 Susan Cook, respectfully report:

The petitioner represents that she is the daughter of Christopher Lambert, who was a soldier in the war of the Revolution in the Maryland line, and was severely wounded in the battle of Frenchtown, from the effect of which he was confined in a hospital for twelve months, during which time the regiment to which he belonged was mustered out of service and he did not receive the necessary papers to entitle him to bounty land; that the said Lambert was placed upon the list of invalid pensioners, and received an invalid pension until the act of March 18, 1818, when he relinquished his invalid pension, and was placed upon the roll of revolutionary pensioners, under the last mentioned act, and received a pension at the rate of eight dollars per month until his decease, on the 24th day of April, 1846; that the said Lambert was very infirm and helpless, and the petitioner took care of him and expended her own time and money in administering to his necessities during the latter part of his life, for which she has received no adequate pecuniary compensation; that the said Lambert has never received any bounty land, nor any part of his invalid pension after the 18th of March, 1818, and she asks Congress to grant her the bounty land to which her father was equitably entitled, and also such a sum as his invalid pension would have amounted to from the 18th day of March, 1818, to the 24th day of April, 1846.

The petitioner does not verify the allegations in her petition, except by her own affidavit, nor does she state facts that necessarily show that she is entitled to the relief sought. She says her father, the said Christopher Lambert, has never received any bounty land, but does not say that he either enlisted to serve during the war, or that he continued therein to its close; nor does she name the officers under whom he served, or the campaigns in which the service was performed. In the absence of this information the committee cannot say that said Lambert was ever equitably entitled to any bounty land; and if he was not entitled, the petitioner has no claim on this branch of her case.

But she asks such an amount in money as the invalid pension of her father would have amounted to from March 18, 1818, to April 24, 1846. The said Lambert was an invalid pensioner before the act of March 18,
1818, but at what rate does not appear. Under this act he was entitled to receive eight dollars per month during life, provided he would relinquish his claim to every pension heretofore allowed him by the laws of the United States. He did relinquish his pension as an invalid and became a beneficiary under this act. It cannot be claimed that Congress ever intended to give the eight dollars a month and an invalid pension besides, for the act providing this gratuity prohibits its enjoyment by those who receive a pension under any other law of Congress. If the soldier who rendered the service could not enjoy the benefits of both pensions, it is difficult to see upon what principle his child can hope to obtain what was expressly prohibited to him. In every view of this case, therefore, the committee are of opinion that the prayer thereof must be denied, and recommend that it be laid on the table.