

PRESLEY THORNTON—HEIRS OF.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 537.]

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AUGUST 3, 1854.

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Mr. J. C. ALLEN, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims, made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to whom was referred the petition of the heirs of Presley Thornton, report :*

That they have carefully examined the papers and evidence on file in said case ; and concurring in the opinion of the several reports heretofore made in this case, on the 29th January, 1836, and also June 14, 1848, adopt the same as part of their report, and herewith report a bill for the relief of said petitioners.

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JUNE 14, 1848.

*The Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to whom the petition of the heirs of Presley Thornton was referred, report :*

That they have carefully examined the papers and evidence on file in this case ; and concurring in opinion of several reports of this committee on the claim, and adopting that report made on the 29th of January, 1836, and made part of this report, herewith report a bill for the relief of the petitioners.

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JANUARY 29, 1836.

*The Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Francis A. Thornton and Elizabeth P. Gwin, report :*

That the petitioners are the children and legal representatives of Captain Presley Thornton, and, as such, claim the five years' full pay, in commutation of the half-pay for life, promised by the resolves of Congress to such officers of the continental army as should serve to the close of the war, which they assert he had never received before his death, which occurred in the year 1811.

They prove that their father, Captain Thornton, served in Colonel George Baylor's regiment of light dragoons until the close of the war, by the testimony of General James Wood, of the American revolutionary army, who expressly states that "Captain Presley Thornton, late of Baylor's regiment of cavalry, entered the service of the United States prior to the 10th of November, 1776, and continued in service until the conclusion of the war in November, 1783; upon which testimony Captain Thornton received bounty land from the State of Virginia for his seventh year's service." As a further proof, they give the testimony of Benjamin Temple, late lieutenant colonel commanding second regiment light dragoons, who certifies that, to his personal knowledge, Captain Presley Thornton, late of Colonel George Baylor's regiment of light dragoons in the United States army, was in actual service at the conclusion of the war in 1783. The Third Auditor of the Treasury certifies that there is nothing upon record in that office to show that the commutation now claimed has been heretofore paid.

The committee, believing the claim well founded and unpaid, report a bill for the relief of the petitioners.