36TH CONGRESS, 1st Session. } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { REPORT No. 317.

MRS. AGATHA O'BRIEN, WIDOW OF BREVET MAJOR J. P. J. O'BRIEN.

[To accompany Bill S. No. 260.]

MARCH 30, 1860.

Mr. BUFFINTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Military Affairs and the Militia, to whom was referred the memorial of Mrs. Agatha O'Brien, widow of Brevet Major J. P. J. O'Brien, having had the same under consideration, report:

The memorialist states "that her late husband was assistant quartermaster in the United States army from 1847 to the time of his death, and as such disbursed large sums of public money at various places, particularly at Camargo, Mexico, and at Indianola, Texas; that while actually in the performance of his duties, * * * he was seized with cholera, and died after a few hours illness, at Indianola, on March 31, 1850, necessarily leaving his accounts in an unsettled condition, and upon an examination of them at the treasury, a balance of about seven hundred dollars is found charged against him, while his pay and emoluments for the quarter ending on the day he died are to his credit, $335·50."

The memorialist prays for the passage of an act for her relief, directing that the balance to the debit of her late husband be cancelled, and that the quarter's pay due him on the 31st March, 1850, be paid to her.

The committee find the facts to be substantially as stated above, except that Major O'Brien, not having returned the credits to which he was entitled, stands charged with a larger sum as due to the United States since 1847, on property account. But in view of the circumstances of his sudden death; that he was ever zealous and scrupulous in the discharge of his duty; that he was a faithful and gallant officer; that he leaves a widow and children in a destitute condition, the committee report a bill to pay her the amount due her late husband as pay and emoluments, from the day he was last paid until the day of his death, to wit: from the 31st December, 1849, to the 31st March, 1850, and that the balance thereafter standing against him on the books of the treasury be cancelled.

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