

CAROLINE E. CLARK.

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APRIL 28, 1862.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. GOODWIN, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Caroline E. Clark, submit thereon the following report:*

Said Caroline E. Clark is the only surviving child of Ransom Clark, deceased, who was an invalid pensioner of the United States. The papers in evidence show that said Ransom Clark was a private in the United States army in the Florida war, serving under Major Dade, and was the only survivor of the massacre of Dade's command by the Indians on the 28th day of December, 1835; that he was severely wounded, and escaped death by feigning it; that he died on the 18th of November, 1840; that his widow married again in 1853; that the petitioner was born on the 24th day of August, 1839. The mother of the petitioner did not receive a pension, but transferred all her right to that and to bounty land to the petitioner. The petitioner applied to the Pension bureau for a pension in 1857, and her application was refused by the Commissioner for the reason that she was then too old to receive the pension granted to minor children.

There is hearsay evidence, but no direct testimony that said Clark died of his wound. For this defect in the proof, and the reason assigned by the Commissioner, the committee have decided that the petitioner is not entitled to relief, believing that at this time it would be impolitic and unwise to depart from the rules established by law in such cases.

