

PATRICK LAYHEE.

JANUARY 30, 1900.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. GALLINGER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 241.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 241) granting a pension to Patrick Lahee, have examined the same, and report:

This bill proposes to grant a pension of \$30 per month to Patrick Layhee, of Marblehead, Mass., son of William Layhee, late of Company G, First Massachusetts Volunteer Heavy Artillery, who served from July 5, 1861, to July 31, 1865.

William Layhee, the soldier and father of this claimant, was pensioned in his lifetime for a gunshot wound of the abdomen received in action at Spottsylvania, Va., May 19, 1864. He died April 25, 1884, and at date of his death was in receipt of a pension of \$2 per month.

His widow, Ellen Layhee, was pensioned in March, 1892, under the act of June 27, 1890, at the rate of \$8 per month, with increase of \$2 per month for each of two minor children then under the age of 16 years. The youngest of these children became 16 years of age October 29, 1894. The widow died in February, 1899.

It is shown that the parents of this claimant were married February 9, 1864, and that he was born March 17, 1868.

Prominent citizens of Marblehead, Mass., including town clerk, selectmen, postmaster, bank cashier, State senator, and representative, and ex-State senators certify that claimant has been a paralytic from infancy, and in consequence of his infirmities is unable to earn a livelihood, being dependent on charity for his support.

Dr. Philemon Eveleth testifies that he has known claimant since infancy; he was born in March, 1868, and was paralyzed incurably in his lower extremities when 2 years old. His mental powers are very limited, and he has never been able to learn to read; he has never been able to do anything for his own support, but is dependent on charity. His legs are entirely useless, and have been since 2 years of age; his arms are strong and help to pull him around; his health is good.

At a meeting of John Goodwin Post, G. A. R., Marblehead, Mass., the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

Whereas knowing the condition in which Patrick Layhee has been for the past twenty-nine years, his helpless condition since infancy, his father (a soldier in the war of the rebellion) having died some fifteen years since, leaving him a great care to his mother, who died in February last,

*Be it resolved*, That it is the duty of the Government, which his father helped to save, to care and protect the said Patrick Layhee.

This claimant has made no claim for pension at the Pension Bureau, as under existing laws he has no title to pension, he being over 16 years of age at date of his father's death.

Filed with the bill is a photograph of the claimant.

Your committee are of the opinion that this is a proper case for Congressional action, and the passage of the bill is recommended, with the following amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and substitute therefor the following:

That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to place on the pension roll, subject to the provisions and limitations of the pension laws, the name of Patrick Layhee, invalid and dependent son of William Layhee, late of Company G, First Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Heavy Artillery, and pay him a pension at the rate of twelve dollars per month.

Amend the title of the bill so as to read: "A bill granting a pension to Patrick Layhee."

O