

MARY SUPPES.

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JANUARY 9, 1905.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 15791.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 15791) granting a pension to Mary Suppes, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted and the passage of the bill is recommended.

The House report is as follows:

The beneficiary named in the bill, now 47 years of age, is the widow of George Suppes, who served as a private in Company D, Second District of Columbia Infantry, from March 12, 1864, to September 12, 1865, when honorably discharged, and who was a pensioner under the act of June 27, 1890, for inability to earn a support by manual labor, the result of disease of heart and eyes.

The beneficiary has no title to pension under the provisions of the act of June 27, 1890, for the reason that she married the soldier subsequent to June 27, 1890, namely, on March 4, 1895, and is also unable to prove, by testimony sufficient to convince the Pension Bureau, that her husband's death, from apoplexy, as a result of rheumatism and disease of heart, was due to his military service, for the reason that she is unable to furnish medical testimony as to the treatment of her husband while in the service or at the time of his discharge.

The soldier died June 1, 1904, of apoplexy, and the beneficiary has been recognized by the Pension Bureau as the legal widow of the soldier in the claim for the accrued invalid pension.

Proof filed with your committee shows that ever since a few years after his discharge the soldier has been a sufferer from rheumatism, and medical testimony filed with your committee shows that he had been under treatment for nine years prior to his death for rheumatism and heart disease, and that he finally died June 1, 1904, death being due to apoplexy, the result of heart trouble.

The beneficiary is shown to be without any means of support, relying entirely upon her daily labor, and to have no property except a small house which is occupied by her as a home and is heavily encumbered.

The soldier was previously married and his first wife died December 7, 1894.

The probabilities in the case are that the soldier's death was a result of his service of one and one-half years, and in the opinion of your committee whatever doubts there may be in the case should be resolved in favor of the beneficiary.

The passage of the bill is therefore recommended.

