

PENSIONS AND INCREASE OF PENSIONS FOR CERTAIN SOLDIERS AND
—SAILORS OF REGULAR ARMY AND NAVY, ETC.

APRIL 20, 1908.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to
be printed.

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

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 21406.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom were referred sundry bills
granting pensions and increase of pensions for certain soldiers and
sailors of Regular Army and Navy, etc., submit the following report:

This bill is a substitute for the following House bills referred to
said committee:

H. R. 1230. Elmira H. Ludlam.
4760. Wilhelmina G. Hebb.
7735. Ida E. Vaughn.
10405. Lovisa Rhoades.
11540. Granville Davis.
12710. Frank E. Pierce.
13043. Quince Record.
17283. Dennis O'Shey.

H. R. 18528. Robert L. McCullough.
18765. Joseph Lewis.
20944. Mary I. Reese.
21165. Emily Lee.
21184. Andrew J. Duncan, for-
merly known as Andrew
J. Revels.

The following are the facts ascertained by the committee concerning
the case of each beneficiary in said bill, and the conclusion of the com-
mittee as to the proper action which should be taken:

H. R. 1230. Elmira H. Ludlam, of Cape May, Cape May County,
N. J., is the mother of William P. Ludlam, late sergeant Company
K, Twenty-eighth U. S. Volunteer Infantry, who served during the
war with Spain from August 28, 1899, to February 8, 1901, when
honorably discharged at the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., his
services being no longer required.

The records of the Treasury Department show also that he was
shipped as a seaman on light-vessel No. 44, August 9, 1898, and dis-
charged August 23, 1899.

The soldier applied for a pension December 16, 1901, based upon
tuberculosis of the lungs, due to exposure in the military service in
the Philippine Islands. He died July 4, 1902, from disease of lungs
without having completed his claim. His mother, this claimant, who
is aged about 63 years, made application under the general law as



dependent mother July 24, 1902, and her claim was rejected March 25, 1905, on the ground that the soldier's death from phthisis pulmonalis was not shown to have been due to his military service, there being no record of said fatal disease and no medical evidence of same in service or at time of discharge.

The husband of this claimant and the father of the soldier died September 12, 1900. The soldier left no widow or minor child, and therefore no person has title to pension based upon the stated service other than this claimant.

The medical records of the War Department show treatment during the service in the months of September, 1899, and March, 1900, for diarrhea; in December, 1899, and January, 1900, left varicocele; February and March, 1900, sprain of right ankle; March and April, 1900, intermittent malarial fever quotidian; October and November, 1900, laceration of muscles right inguinal region; November and December, 1900, traumatic adenitis from strain while lifting; all the foregoing in the line of duty.

The soldier's age at enlistment was 24 years, and the report of his physical examination at that time showed only small varicocele, scarlet fever, and measles previous illness.

Dr. A. G. Stevens, of Cape May, testified, under date of December 6, 1901, that he was the attending physician of the soldier, who was then confined with phthisis pulmonalis, unable to do any manual labor, on account of which he was called to see the soldier at least every two days, and that the disease undoubtedly was contracted while in the army of the United States in the Philippines.

Two of the soldier's comrades, in replies to inquiries addressed them by the Bureau, stated that the soldier was very ill in service in the fall of 1900 and was invalidated home.

The records show him convalescent at discharge.

The claimant certifies that she has no property, real or personal or mixed, or bonds, stocks, or investments of any kind; that no person is bound for her support. The evidence shows that the soldier contributed in gifts of cash to the maintenance of his mother during the last two years of his life. She states that she is unable to secure further evidence of the origin in the military service of the cause of the death of her son by reason of the widely scattered, and in many cases unknown, addresses of persons having knowledge bearing upon the subject.

It is conceded that the evidence does not conclusively show that the cause of the death of the soldier was directly due to the military service, though it is believed, after full consideration of the facts and circumstances, that the doubt on that point is not too great to be equitably resolved in favor of the claimant, and a pension of \$12 per month is recommended.

H. R. 4760. Wilhelmina G. Hebb, 1216 K street NW., Washington, D. C., is the widow of Col. Clement D. Hebb, late U. S. Marine Corps.

She is pensioned under the general law at the rate of \$30 per month as the widow of a lieutenant-colonel, the cause of her husband's death having been traced to the period of his occupancy of that rank.

Colonel Hebb entered the naval service by commission as second lieutenant March 14, 1856. He thereafter served continuously, being promoted through the successive grades to that of colonel, in which he was commissioned August 18, 1889. He was placed on the retired list July 10, 1892, and died June 23, 1897, at Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Hebb was married to the officer December 17, 1867, and hence was his wife during the major portion of his long and faithful service. She is now aged about 71 years, and states in an affidavit accompanying the bill that her entire income, outside of her pension, is about \$19.50 per month, derived from a mortgage held by her. This statement is corroborated in the affidavits of two acquaintances of long standing, while the affidavit of her physician shows that by reason of physical infirmities she is unable to earn her own livelihood.

There are many precedents for increasing the pensions of widows of officers under the conditions herein described, and in view of same an allowance of \$40 per month is recommended.

H. R. 7735. Ida E. Vaughn, of Greenwood, Greenwood County, S. C., is the widow of James T. Vaughn, late a private of Company A, First South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, who served during the war with Spain, and was a pensioner at the rate of \$8 per month, commencing March 4, 1903, on account of chronic diarrhea and resulting disease of rectum, and disease of heart. His widow applied for a pension July 15, 1904, and her claim was admitted by the legal and medical reviewers of the Pension Bureau, though later the action of the latter was canceled and the claim rejected on the ground that the death of the soldier was not due to the causes for which he was pensioned, nor otherwise the result of his military service.

The evidence shows that after his discharge the soldier was unable to perform other than light labor, such as sweeping, by reason of his army disabilities. He died June 16, 1904, and his attending physician, Dr. John B. Owens, of Greenwood, S. C., testified that he began treating the soldier in June, 1901, and that his treatment continued down to the time of his death; that he saw him every day during the last week of his life, and within 12 hours of his demise; that he had been confined to his bed a week or more; also that he at times drank to excess. The doctor stated that at his last visit he found the soldier vomiting and purging; that his bowels were tympanitic and swollen; temperature high; that he became delirious and developed a cough; that his feet and legs were swollen and had been in that condition at times during the previous two years; that his liver was enlarged and that there was albumen in the urine, indicating affection of the kidneys. The doctor gave it as his opinion that the immediate cause of death was acute alcoholism and the remote cause chronic diarrhea. It is also shown by the testimony of his physician and by that of the wife of soldier that no alcohol had been administered during his last illness and that the diarrhea was excessively severe, recurring eight or ten times each day.

The claimant married the soldier May 16, 1878, and hence was his wife during the period of his military service. She is now aged about 50 years, and is the mother of three of his children, two of whom are under the age of 16 years.

Your committee have fully considered the evidence and facts in this case, believe that same warrant the extension of the benefits of the general law to the claimant, and therefore recommend a pension of \$12 per month, with the usual provision for the minor children of the soldier.

H. R. 10405. Lovisa Rhoades, of 94 Alexandrine avenue west, Detroit, Mich., is the daughter of Orin Rhoades, who was a private soldier of Capt. Richard Smyth's company of cavalry, Major Witherell's detachment of Michigan Volunteers and Militia, from April 29, 1812, to Sep-

tember 30, 1812. He also rendered service in Lieut. Isaac Lee's detachment of Michigan Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Ball's squadron of Light Dragoons, U. S. Volunteers, from the latter date to May 5, 1813.

The claimant applied for a pension as a helpless child on February 20, 1907. Her application was rejected by reason of there being no law which afforded her relief. The soldier died February 22, 1833, and his widow, the mother of the claimant, who married the soldier August 15, 1815, died March 19, 1856. No pension has ever been allowed based upon the stated service.

The evidence accompanying the bill, including the sworn testimony of the claimant and E. H. Reynolds, states that from about her twelfth year she has suffered a severe affliction by inflammatory rheumatism of the lower limbs, which has rendered her unable to move about except by means of crutches or a wheel chair, making it impossible for her to maintain herself by her own labor, and that she has no property or income of any kind and no means of livelihood, but is dependent for support upon the charity of her friends, and that she is now aged 75 years.

Two letters filed with the bill, of which copies are as follows, are of interest in the case:

CHelsea, MICH., April 13, 1908.

DEAR SIR: I have this day received a letter from Miss Louisa Rhoades inclosing one from you to her, asking for information regarding her health in her early life. I distinctly remember that while I was pastor of the Methodist Church in Ypsilanti, in 1852-53, Miss Rhoades, then a young lady, spent several weeks, perhaps months, in our family. She was then almost helpless from rheumatism, not able to walk nor to help herself but little. She was a very estimable young lady. I sincerely hope a pension may be secured for her.

Yours, truly,

SETH REED.

HON. CHARLES E. TOWNSEND,
Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 24, 1908.

MY DEAR MR. LOUDENSLAGER: Agreeable to your suggestions this morning I have looked over the papers filed with your committee in the claim of Louisa Rhoades, being H. R. 10405, and notice the filed report of the committee to the effect that claimant is the dependent daughter of the Revolutionary soldier Orrin Rhoades, that she has never been married, that she has no relatives or friends upon whom she can rely for support, and that her parents are dead.

Her affidavit on file states a case for relief. She is corroborated by the statement of Seth Reed, a Methodist minister, who says that claimant more than fifty years ago was well known to him and that she "was unable to walk nor to help herself but little." If she was unable to help herself but little, how could she have helped another? She is further corroborated by the affidavit of E. H. Reynolds, who has known claimant all her life, especially since she was twelve or thirteen years of age, when the affliction which totally disabled her came upon her, and he says she is and has been since her thirteenth year "completely helpless."

I desire to state myself that this woman is a hopeless and totally helpless cripple, and I believe she has been such for more than sixty years. Furthermore, I desire to state that I have known E. H. Reynolds personally and well for upward of five years, and I know him to be a man of high character and of unquestioned truth and veracity. This woman has been an inmate of E. H. Reynolds's home for many years, and the character of her infirmities have been such that but few people have known her. I believe she comes clearly within rule 5 of your regulations, and I know of no more dependent case. I sincerely hope you will look this matter up and see if my position is not correct. The bill should be favorably reported.

I am obliged to you for giving me an opportunity to testify to my knowledge of the case and to certify to the truthfulness and reliability of Mr. E. H. Reynolds.

Respectfully, yours,

CHAS. E. TOWNSEND.

Hon. H. C. LOUDENSLAGER,
Chairman, Washington, D. C.

In view of the foregoing facts a pension of \$12 per month is recommended.

H. R. 11540. Granville Davis, of National Military Home, Montgomery County, Ohio, was enlisted November 5, 1898, and served as private and corporal of Companies K and F, Eighth Regiment U. S. Infantry, during the war with Spain, until honorably discharged by expiration of service, November 4, 1901, at Santa Cruz, Laguna, P. I.

He applied for a pension June 23, 1905, and alleged that he contracted typhoid fever, dysentery, and malarial poisoning in the military service, and that as result of the former he became paralyzed in the right side and that the paralysis first appeared about June 16, 1904.

The claim as to malarial poisoning and dysentery was rejected May 2, 1906, on the ground of the inability of the soldier to furnish medical or other testimony showing existence of same at date of discharge, and continuance thereafter. That part based upon paralysis of the right side was at the same time rejected because of the statement of the soldier that it appeared subsequent to his discharge.

The records of the War Department show that at date of enlistment the soldier was 23 years of age, and that during the months of October and November, 1899, he received medical treatment for fever and constipation; also from November 13, 1899, to April 4, 1900, for typhoid fever; and upon several later dates for minor ailments.

Also, that upon physical examination at enlistment no defects were found except amputation of the end of second finger of the right hand.

He was examined by the board of surgeons at the National Military Home of Ohio, December 16, 1905, who recommended a rate of \$8 per month on account of dysentery and results of typhoid fever, and \$30 per month because of right hemiplegia, though the board did not state that they considered same due to malarial infection, though the soldier was totally disqualified for all manual labor; that no signs of the effects of venereal disease, for which the soldier received treatment during service, then appeared.

Upon appeal to the Secretary of the Interior the rejection by the Pension Bureau was sustained and evidence since filed has been held insufficient to warrant reopening of the claim.

Dr. Charles M. Burk, of Philadelphia, Pa., testified under date of February 27, 1906, that he had been the physician of the soldier for about one year and the physician of the family of the soldier's father during ten years; that he was never called to treat the soldier at any time prior to his enlistment, but that from December, 1904, the soldier was physically unable to perform any manual labor because of malarial poisoning and paralysis.

It is admitted that the evidence does not conclusively connect the present deplorable condition of the soldier with incidents of the military service, but in view of the fact that he is shown by the record to have suffered during a long period from a wasting disease while on

duty in the Tropics, it is believed that he should be given the benefit of the doubt and a small measure of relief extended him to aid in his support. An allowance of \$8 per month is therefore recommended.

H. R. 12710. Frank E. Pierce, 720 Seventh avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., served as a private during the war with Spain in Company C, Fourteenth Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, from May 2, 1898, to August 15, 1898, when discharged for disability.

He applied for a pension April 29, 1902, and alleged that at Chickamauga, Ga., in August, 1898, he was taken ill and sent to hospital with rheumatism, where he remained until discharged.

His claim was rejected March 7, 1903, on the ground that a ratable degree of disability from rheumatism had not been shown. It was reopened and sent to the field for special examination to determine the question as to prior soundness—that is, freedom from rheumatism prior to enlistment—and finally rejected December 13, 1905, on the ground that rheumatism was not due to military service, but first became manifest subsequent to discharge, as shown by the claimant's statement and other testimony.

The War Department records show that the soldier was aged 22 years at date of enlistment, and the report of physical examination at that time bears evidence that he had been subject to occasional attacks of sore feet. The medical records show him treated July 1, 1898, acute podalgia right foot, in line of duty, also shown as rheumatism, acute, articular, general; July 7, 1898, traumatic neuritis.

When a boy at school he stubbed his great toe on a curbstone and since then has had severe pain in foot and extending up as high as lower fourth of right leg. Injury affected the musculo-cutaneous nerve. The function of extensor muscles impaired. Motion was painful and there was slight twitching and contractions, tactile sensations somewhat deadened. The nerve cords of the musculo-cutaneous on the lower fourth of the leg could be plainly felt, firm and swollen.

The certificate of disability for discharge contains the statement by his captain that the soldier was recommended for discharge on account of old injury to foot; became unfit for duty from that cause July 2, 1898; that the disability arose while doing duty with the company, and that the cause of same was injury before enlistment. The surgeon certified that the soldier was incapable of performing military duty because of traumatic neuritis, due to injury of great toe when a boy, affecting the musculo-cutaneous nerve. Motion of extensor muscles impaired. At times the nerve cords become tense and give great pain, which incapacitate him for all duty. Also that the injury did not occur in line of duty, but was received when a small boy; that the case had been under observation in First Division Hospital, Third Army Corps, from July 1 to July 15, 1898. This diagnosis was confirmed and discharge from service recommended by the major and acting chief surgeon of First Division, Third Army Corps.

The soldier was examined under his claim for pension by a board of surgeons at Brooklyn, N. Y., July 25, 1902, who recommended a rating of \$4 per month for rheumatism, evidenced by enlarged distal joint of the third finger of the right hand from arthritic deposits and ankylosis; also several other finger joints enlarged and stiffened.

Dr. J. F. Lankford, San Antonio, Tex., testified, under date of November 12, 1904, that about two months previously he found the soldier suffering with chronic rheumatism, rendering him nearly helpless, producing many swellings and enlargements, some of which con-

tained chalky matter occasionally breaking and discharging; the enlargements principally affecting the joints of the hands, knees, elbows, and feet.

Dr. S. Burg, of San Antonio, Tex., testified that the soldier applied to him September 28, 1903, for admission to the San Antonio City Hospital, and was admitted suffering from articular rheumatism; that he grew better but not entirely well, and left the hospital October 12, 1903; that the doctor again examined him November 13, 1904, and found his condition worse, the left knee, left elbow joint, and joints of fingers of both hands being swollen, thickened with deposits, evidently from uric acid, forming knots; that the condition was evidently one of chronic rheumatism, producing total disability for the performance of manual labor.

Testimony taken on special examination includes that of several of the soldier's comrades in the National Guard, who state that he was of unusual activity, robust, and well developed, and seldom if ever missed a drill. Members of his family and other associates testify that he was apparently free from any physical ailment before his enlistment. The soldier admitted to the special examiner that he had as a boy several times stubbed his great toe, producing pain but no lasting trouble, so far as he knew.

Several comrades swore that the soldier became crippled up, evidently suffering from rheumatism while in camp at Chickamauga, so that he went about on a pair of improvised crutches; that the condition seemed to affect both legs and to be general. It is also very well shown in evidence that the soldier had a serious attack of rheumatism about October, 1898, which recurred at intervals thereafter; that these attacks were quite severe and rendered him helpless at such times.

Dr. John C. E. Nielsen testified before the special examiner that in May, 1902, he diagnosed Bright's disease of kidneys, and that at that time the soldier stated to him that he had rheumatism, for which he was using patent medicines.

There is medical and other evidence filed in support of the bill showing the soldier now affected by chronic rheumatoid arthritis in an aggravated form, affecting practically all of the larger joints, but more particularly those of the knee, elbow, hands, and feet, and in many instances chalky deposits having caused ulceration to such a degree as to produce running sores; that the condition is chronic and progressive and will probably result in total disability; that he can not make a living at his usual occupation, and is partially dependent upon his family for support.

In view of the fact that the soldier was examined and accepted to service, performed such duty as he was able, and received treatment for rheumatism during his service, which is still shown to exist, it is believed that he is fairly entitled to some measure of relief, and a pension of \$12 per month is therefore recommended.

H. R. 13043. Quince Record, 245 South Bogan avenue, Denver, Colo., was a musician of the band, Fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during the war with Spain, from April 25, 1898, to November 5, 1898, and has an honorable record.

He is pensioned at \$10 per month under the general law, from July 30, 1902, on account of malarial poisoning incurred in the military service. His latest application for increase was filed February 6, 1907, and rejected March 30, 1907, on the ground that the pensioned rate

was commensurate with the degree of disability shown. The application was accompanied by the affidavits of two physicians, showing the soldier under treatment for gastro-intestinal indigestion, cirrhotic liver, believed to be due to malarial poisoning; also circulatory disturbance due to irregular heart action, the troubles being such as to practically incapacitate him for any ordinary active pursuit.

He was examined by the board of surgeons at Denver, Colo., February 20, 1907, who reported very irregular rhythm in heart action, with increased force and regurgitant murmur and hypertrophy, on account of which a rate of \$10 per month was recommended. Stomach was found diseased, rendering necessary a very careful diet. Stomach and bowels very tender on pressure; rectum inflamed; and nutrition poor. On this account the board recommended \$6 per month, and stated that claimant's general condition was very much below par, under weight, muscles and hands soft.

Dr. W. C. Bowers of Decatur, Ill., states in an affidavit accompanying the bill that the soldier suffers from naso-pharyngeal catarrh, irregular heart action, tenderness over stomach, moderate emaciation, and is apparently a man who is not able to do more than the very lightest forms of manual labor.

Dr. Charles B. Smith, of Decatur, Ill., testifies to similar conditions, and that, in his opinion, soldier is incapacitated for doing any manual labor.

In view of the greatly disabled condition of the claimant, which it is believed is fairly attributable to causes which originated in the military service, a pension of \$16 per month is recommended, in harmony with the finding of the examining surgeons.

H. R. 17283. Dennis O'Shey, of Fairfax, Minn., was a private of Battery L, Second Regiment U. S. Artillery, from December 14, 1854, to December 14, 1859, in the Florida Seminole Indian war, and he is now receiving the pension of \$8 per month allowed by law to the survivors of said war.

The evidence accompanying the bill shows that the claimant is now 77 years of age, the owner of real and personal property of the value of about \$200, and that he is unable to perform any manual labor.

There are many precedents of the proposed legislation, and a rating of \$16 per month is recommended.

H. R. 18528. Robert L. McCullough, of Defiance, Ohio, was a private of Company M, Sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during the war with Spain, from May 26, 1898, until April 6, 1899, when discharged for disability.

He applied for a pension June 5, 1899, and alleged that at Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, Ga., about August 27, 1898, his left eye was poisoned while on drill. The claim was rejected after special examination, on the ground that the disability antedated enlistment.

The War Department report shows that no record of physical defect at enlistment appears, and that the soldier received treatment during the months of September and December, 1898, for conjunctivitis, and in March, 1899, for intermittent malaria, both in line of duty; also that the soldier was on sick furlough September 13 to November 2, 1898, during which time the affidavit of his physician, Dr. W. S. Powell, of Defiance, Ohio, shows him under treatment for ophthalmia.

In his declaration preliminary to discharge the soldier stated that he had almost lost sight of left eye under the following circumstances: His company was on skirmish drill and ordered to lie down. In doing so he was struck in the eye by a weed or stubble. His captain corroborated the statement and expressed the opinion that the trouble was incident to duty. The surgeon who then examined him certified that he found a cicatrix over cornea of left eye, the result of acute conjunctivitis; the cicatrix situated immediately over the pupil, almost precluding passage of light and rendering nearly total blindness of left eye; also that in his opinion the disability originated in the line of duty and was permanent.

The certificate of disability under which the soldier was discharged recites substantially the same facts.

Examination by an expert oculist, under the claim for pension, at Fort Wayne, Ind., August 7, 1900, showed opacity of cornea of left eye, the description of the condition found being expressed in technical terms.

In his testimony before the special examiner the soldier admitted that several years before his enlistment some foreign body got into his eye; that it caused some temporary soreness, but was removed by a physician, leaving no bad effect, and at the date of his enlistment his vision was normal.

One of his employers, members of his family, and several of his most intimate associates testified that he was physically sound and of good health, having no apparent defect of vision when he entered the military service.

One of his comrades who was beside him during the drill mentioned testified that the soldier then and there complained of having hurt his eye and that it had a watery appearance.

There can be no question, in view of the testimony of officers and other comrades, that a serious affection of the eye existed from that time, and it is manifest, in view of the peculiar circumstances of the alleged incurrence of the trouble, that no person other than the claimant could give positive testimony on the point.

The evidence accompanying the bill, medical and other, shows that the soldier is now totally blind of the left eye, and that he was sound and free from disease or any impairment of vision up to the time he enlisted; that he is dependent upon his earnings for support, having no real or personal property. He is now aged 32 years.

A careful consideration of all the evidence appears to warrant the conclusion that the disability was incurred in the military service, as claimed, and a pension of \$12 per month is therefore recommended, the rate to which the soldier would be entitled under the general law.

H. R. 18765. Joseph Lewis, 50 East Ninety-eighth street, Borough of Manhattan, New York, N. Y., was a private of Company F, Eighth Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, from May 9 to November 3, 1898, during the war with Spain, and has an honorable record.

He is pensioned under the general law at \$12 per month on account of disease of bowels and resulting disease of rectum incurred in the military service. He applied for increase June 30, 1905, but his application was rejected. The same was accompanied by medical testimony stating that he was under continuous treatment for colopro-

titis of a chronic nature, showing no permanent improvement under treatment, which if discontinued even for a week permits a return of profuse discharge of mucus accompanied by great straining and pain both in abdomen and rectum, and that under treatment the symptoms lessened only to a slight extent and but temporarily.

He was last examined by the board of surgeons at New York September 6, 1905, who reported the presence of two external piles, inflamed; anus excoriated; rectum inflamed and ulcerated; hemorrhoidal vessels engorged; claimant's general condition flabby, anæmic, and debilitated; the condition being described as chronic diarrhea.

The soldier is now aged about 34 years.

Several affidavits, including medical testimony filed with the bill, show that he has been ailing seriously since his discharge from the Army and compelled to lose much time from his usual occupation, upon which he is dependent for the support of himself, wife, and children; also that he has been under treatment during the past five years for chronic catarrhal inflammation of the large intestine, which condition will continue chronic.

The claimant states that since the year 1900, because of his army disabilities, it has been utterly impossible for him to hold a position for any length of time; that what little work he has been able to perform has necessarily been at about one-half the pay he received before his enlistment and invalidism.

A full consideration of the evidence in this case leads to the belief that the soldier is not adequately pensioned on account of his army troubles, and an allowance of \$20 per month is therefore recommended.

H. R. 20944. Mary I. Reese, of 561 Grove street, Elmira, N. Y., is the widow of Maj. Chauncey B. Reese, late Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army.

She is pensioned under the general law at the rate of \$25 per month allowed widows of officers of the stated rank.

The official records show that the officer was a cadet at the Military Academy from July 1, 1854, to July 1, 1859, when he was graduated and appointed brevet second lieutenant of engineers. He was promoted to be second lieutenant February 20, 1861; first lieutenant August 6, 1861; captain March 3, 1863, and major of engineers March 7, 1867. He served as lieutenant-colonel and assistant inspector-general from June 3 to August 1, 1865. He was brevetted major, lieutenant-colonel, and colonel, U. S. Army, December 21, 1864, for gallant and distinguished services during the campaign through Georgia, and ending with the capture of Savannah, Ga., and was brevetted brigadier-general, U. S. Army, March 13, 1865, for faithful and meritorious services during the campaign in Georgia and the Carolinas. He died September 20, 1870.

Mrs. Reese was married to the officer April 15, 1868.

The evidence accompanying the bill, including her own sworn statement, shows that claimant is dependent for support upon her pension, and that by reason of her advanced age and bodily infirmities it is impossible for her to augment that income through her own effort.

There are many precedents for increasing the pensions of widows under similar conditions, in view of which an allowance of \$35 per month is recommended.

H. R. 21165. Emily Lee, of Galesburg, Ill., is the widow of Arza Lee, who was a private of Captain Wright's company, Thirtieth Regiment U. S. Infantry, from April 24 to December 13, 1813, in the war of 1812.

The soldier died August 4, 1876, and his widow, this claimant, who married him March 20, 1835, is now receiving the pension of \$12 per month allowed by law to the widows of soldiers of said war.

The claimant is now 97 years of age, and from an affidavit filed with the bill it appears that she is physically helpless and has no property or income aside from her pension.

There are many precedents for increasing pensions in similar instances, and a rating of \$24 per month is respectfully recommended.

H. R. 21184. Andrew J. Duncan, formerly known as Andrew J. Revels, of Hebron, Licking County, Ohio, was a private of Captain Willard's company, First Regiment Florida Mounted Volunteers, during the Seminole Indian war, from July 20, 1856, until honorably discharged, January 19, 1858. He is pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month allowed by law to the survivors of said war. He is now aged about 70 years, and sets forth in a sworn petition accompanying the bill that he is wholly incapacitated for earning his support by manual labor by reason of disease of heart in addition to the infirmities incident to his advanced age; also that his estate is limited to real property of the value of \$2,500, with an indebtedness of \$800 upon same, and that his annual income, including his pension, is \$300.

There are many precedents for increasing the pensions of soldiers under stated conditions, in view of which an allowance of \$16 per month is recommended.

The passage of the bill is recommended.



