

MARY CROOK.

AUGUST 5, 1890.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. LANE, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:
[To accompany S. 3257.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3257) granting a pension to Mary Crook, have considered the case, and adopt the Senate report herein as their own. Your committee recommend that the bill do pass.

[Senate Report No. 1422, Fifty-first Congress, first session.]

General Crook was, perhaps, unique among the surviving generals of the civil war. His first honors were won as the protector of the lives and homes of western frontiersmen against the merciless savages. His last guerdons were gained as the friend of the Indians whom he had conquered, and as the advocate of honesty and justice towards the nation's wards. From his graduation at the military academy until his death his life was filled with action. His military duty led him into every section of the country, and never without signal distinction to himself. On the Pacific coast, the plains of the middle west, in the arid regions of Arizona and New Mexico, and the rocky cañons of the Sierra Madre, no less than on the battle-fields of the south, he served his country with unsurpassed gallantry and matchless devotion to duty. His bravery and soldierly abilities were honored by five brevets during the civil war for gallantry and meritorious service. His wisdom, daring, and supreme capacity in command of troops for the subjugation of hostile Indians made him the recipient of repeated resolutions of thanks from legislatures of states and territories to which he brought peace.

From the close of the war until his death he made his name and the record of his deeds a part of the imperishable history of American valor, a lasting tradition among every tribe of Indians of the West, and a never-to-be-forgotten recollection among the pioneers and frontiersmen. His services rendered possible the rapid settlement of vast areas of Territory, and the development of mine and valley, inaccessible before opened by his victorious campaigns.

Great as were his services in preserving the Union, they were matched by his successful efforts as subjugator and pacificator in the West. For nearly a quarter of a century he was by common consent the ablest of those called to deal with the Indian problem, in ambuscade and council, in battle and treaty. His last distinguished service rendered possible the opening of the great Sioux reservation through the personal influence which he exercised in council over those whom he had defeated in war.

Gallant as he was in battle, General Crook's magnanimity and tenderness toward his foes will never be forgotten in those parts of the South where he served. Long years after the struggle ended large portions of his pay went towards alleviating poverty and distress among enemies whom he had overcome in battle. They, of all others, will

bear most cheerful witness to the chivalrous nature and warm heart of General Crook, while hundreds of his sick and suffering comrades, their widows and orphans will join in the testimony.

General Crook has left his widow in indigent circumstances and through no fault of his own. Arduous and continuously changing service, with the expense attendant upon change of station, and a steady drain upon his pecuniary resources through generosity to comrades and friends is responsible for the condition of his estate. Your committee is confident that a country which owes so much to his memory will not permit his widow to want. The sentiment which made exceptional instances in the cases of the widows of Admiral Farragut and of generals Thomas, Hancock, and Logan will find equally meritorious application in the case of the widow of the gallant Union general, the distinguished Indian fighter and the pacificator of the great West.

Supplementary to this report are official statements of General Crook's services to his country and evidences of their recognition by various legislative bodies and communities, together with a touching letter, from a private source, which indicate more fully than volumes of eulogy, the esteem in which he was held.

Your committee believe that the present is one of the few exceptional cases in which a departure from ordinary precedent and policy becomes a duty, and they accordingly recommend the passage of the bill, with an amendment. In line 7 strike out the words "two thousand" and insert the words "twelve hundred."

(A)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 28, 1890.

STATEMENT OF THE MILITARY SERVICE OF GENERAL GEORGE CROOK, LATE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, COMPILED FROM THE RECORDS OF THIS OFFICE:

He was a cadet at the U. S. Military Academy from July 1, 1848 to July 1, 1852, when graduated and appointed brevet second lieutenant, Fourth Infantry, July 1, 1852; second lieutenant, July 7, 1853; first lieutenant, March 11, 1856; captain, May 14, 1861; major, Third Infantry, July 18, 1866; lieutenant-colonel, Twenty-third Infantry, July 28, 1866; brigadier-general, U. S. Army, October 29, 1873; major-general, U. S. Army, April 24, 1888.

Brevetted major May 23, 1862, "for gallant and meritorious services in the battle of Lewisburg, Va.;" lieutenant-colonel, September 17, 1862, "for gallant and meritorious services in the battle of Antietam, Md.;" colonel, October 7, 1863, "for gallant and meritorious services at the battle of Farmington, Tenn.;" brigadier-general, March 13, 1865, "for gallant and meritorious services in the campaign of 1864 in West Virginia;" and major-general, March 13, 1865, "for gallant and meritorious services in the battle of Fisher's Hill, Va."

Volunteer Record.

Colonel Thirty-sixth Ohio Infantry, September 13, 1861; brigadier-general, September 7, 1862; major-general, October 21, 1864. Brevetted major-general, July 18, 1864, "for gallant and distinguished services in West Virginia."

Honorably mustered out of the volunteer service January 15, 1866.

Service.

He joined his regiment December 5, 1852, and served with it in California (participating in the Rogue River expedition in 1856, and in command of the Pitt River expedition in 1857, being engaged in a skirmish June 10, 1857, when he was wounded with an arrow, and in actions on July 2 and 26, 1857) to June, 1858; in Washington Territory (participating in the Yakima expedition in 1858) to October, 1858, and in California to August, 1861.

Colonel Thirty-sixth Ohio Infantry, and with his regiment in West Virginia from September, 1861 to May 1, 1862; in command of a brigade, participating in the action at Lewisburg, May 23, 1862, where he was wounded; in the Northern Virginia campaign, August and September, 1862; in the Maryland campaign (Army of the Potomac) September and October, 1862, being engaged in the battle of South Mountain September 14, 1862, and the battle of Antietam September 17, 1862; in the operations in West Virginia October, 1862, to February, 1863; in command of an independent division, in the Army of the Cumberland, being engaged in the advance on Tullahoma, Tenn., June 24 to July 4, 1863; in command of the Second Cavalry Division, Army of the Cumberland, July 1, 1863, to January, 1864, being engaged in the action at Hoover's Gap June 26, 1863; the battle of Chickamauga September 19 to 20, 1863, and the pursuit of General Wheeler October 1 to 10, 1863, during which time he was engaged in almost daily actions and skirmishes; operating against guerillas from Shelbyville, Tenn., to Rome, Ga., October and November, 1863; in command of the Kanawha district, West Virginia, from February to June, 1864, being engaged in a raid on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad in May, 1864 (participating in the action of Cloyd's Mountain May 9 and New River Bridge May 10, 1864; also in several skirmishes), and in the Lynchburgh raid in June, 1864, with continuous skirmishing, including the combat at Lynchburgh, Va., June 17 to 18, 1864; in command of troops in the field in the Department of West Virginia, in July and August, 1864, being engaged in the action of Snicker's Ferry July 19, and of Kernstown July 24, 1864, and in several skirmishes at Hall Town in August, 1864; in command of the Department of West Virginia, from August 31, 1864, to February 21, 1865, when he was captured at Cumberland, Md.; participated in General Sheridan's Shenandoah campaign, August to December, 1864, and was engaged in the action at Berryville September 3, 1864, battle of Opequon September 19, 1864, battle of Fisher's Hill September 22, 1864, action near Strasburgh October 14, 1864, and the battle of Cedar Creek October 19, 1864; commanding the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac from March 26 to April 9, 1865, being engaged in the battle of Dinwiddie Court-House March 31, 1865, pursuit of the rebel army April 3-9, 1865, action of Jetersville April 5, 1865, battle of Sailor's Creek April 6, 1865, combat at Farmville April 7, 1865, and capitulation of Appomattox Court-House April 9, 1865; in command of the District of Wilmington, N. C., September 1, 1865, to January 15, 1866; member of a board to examine rifle tactics March and April, 1866; in command of the District of Boise, Idaho, November 26, 1866, to January 29, 1867, being on an expedition against Snake Indians and engaged in skirmishes December 26, 1866, and January 28, 1867; in command of the District of Owyhee, Idaho, from January 27 to August 16, 1867, of the District of the Lakes to April, 1868, and of the Department of the Columbia May 23, 1868, to August 8, 1870; member of a retiring board at San Francisco, Cal., to June 1, 1871; in command of the Department of Arizona from June 4, 1871, to March 22, 1875, being in the field October, 1872, to April, 1873, and highly commended for his campaign in general orders from headquarters division of the Pacific; in command of the Department of the Platte April 27, 1875, to August 30, 1882, being in the field in command of the Big Horn expedition February 17 to April 2, 1876, and May 9, 1876, to June 13, 1877, resulting in several actions with and capturing of many hostile Indians; in command of the Department of Arizona from September 4, 1882, to April 11, 1886, being in the field from April 2 to June 23, 1883, April to August, 1884, and May, 1885, to March, 1886, engaged in operations against hostile Apaches; in command of the Department of the Platte from April 28, 1886, to May 5, 1888, and in command of the Division of the Missouri from May 6, 1888, until the date of his death, March 21, 1890.

C. McKEEVER,
Acting Adjutant-General.

(B)

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 33. }

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, March 22, 1890.

The following order has been received from the War Department:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, March 21, 1890.

It is with great sorrow the Secretary of War announces to the Army the death of Maj. Gen. George Crook, U. S. Army, which occurred this morning at Chicago, Ill.

He was born near Dayton, Ohio, September 23, 1829, and entered the Military Academy July 1, 1848, from which he was graduated and appointed brevet second lieutenant, Fourth Infantry, in 1852. He served with his regiment in California and Washington Territory from 1852 to 1861, and participated in the Indian wars of that part of the country, in which he was wounded by an arrow.

Upon the breaking out of the war of the rebellion he was appointed colonel of the Thirty-sixth Ohio Infantry, and served in the campaigns in West Virginia, command-

ing a brigade in the action of Lewisburg, where he was wounded. In command of the Second Cavalry Division, Army of the Cumberland, he won distinction, and in command of the Department of West Virginia from August, 1864, to February, 1865, he bore a very conspicuous part in General Sheridan's Shenandoah campaign. He commanded the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac from March 26 to April 9, 1865. During his constant service in the war he distinguished himself in all of the many engagements in which he bore a part, evidenced by his promotion to brigadier-general and major-general of volunteers, and by the five brevets, from major to major-general, conferred upon him.

After the close of the war he was successively in command of districts and departments in the West, and while commanding the Departments of Arizona and the Platte conquered the hostile Indians in campaigns without a parallel in Indian warfare. In May, 1888, having been appointed a major-general, he was placed in command of the Division of the Missouri. Here his long and successful service ended March 21, 1890.

His remains will be interred at Oakland, Md., at 10 a. m., Monday, March 24, 1890.

General Crook was as truthful and sincere as he was fearless and brave—combined qualities admirably fitting him for the exacting duties in which he was so long engaged upon the frontier. He could treat with the Indians successfully, for their faith in his honesty in the council was as strong as their fear of his courage and sagacity in the field. A true soldier, a good citizen, faithful to duty, upright of purpose, considerate to his inferiors, simple and modest in his demeanor toward all, his life and example may well be commended to all young men, and especially those of the Army in which he so honorably served.

The flag will be placed at half-staff at all military posts and stations, and thirteen minute-guns will be fired on the day after the receipt of this order, and the usual badge of mourning will be worn for thirty days.

REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War.

By command of Major-General Schofield :

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

(C)

STATE OF OREGON—SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6.

Whereas by the energetic, gallant, and soldierly conduct of Bvt. Maj. Gen. George Crook and troops under his command, eastern Oregon, Idaho, and Nevada have been relieved from the depredations of the hostile Snake Indians, and the large extent of country which they formerly occupied (comprising more than 90,000 square miles) has been opened to peaceful settlement: Therefore be it

Resolved by the legislative assembly of the State of Oregon, That the thanks of this State be, and hereby are, tendered to Bvt. Maj. Gen. George Crook and officers and soldiers under his command, for the skill, energy, and bravery they have exhibited in prosecuting to final success the Indian war.

Resolved, That we have full measure of sympathy for the hardships, the toils, and the sufferings which General Crook and men under his command have endured, and we recommend our constituents in every part of the State to extend liberal hospitality to them wherever they be found.

Resolved, That General Crook is hereby respectfully invited to visit Salem during the present session of the legislature, to be while here the guest of the State.

Resolved, That the secretary of state be directed to send a certified copy of these resolutions to General Crook at his headquarters.

Adopted by house, September 22, 1868.

JOHN WHITEAKER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Adopted by the senate September 21, 1868.

B. F. BURCH,
President of the Senate.

(D)

JOINT RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO GENERAL GEORGE CROOK.

Be it resolved by the legislative assembly of the Territory of Arizona, That the thanks of the people of Arizona Territory are due, and, through their representatives in the eighth legislative assembly, are hereby tendered to that gallant soldier, Brig. Gen. George Crook, and the officers and men under his command, for the noble services they have rendered the country in subduing the hordes of hostile Indians that had, until the advent of General Crook in our Territory, held the country under a reign of terror and civilization in check.

That we recognize the fact that the policy that General Crook has pursued has been the means, and the only means, that could have effected the final grand achievement of peace within our Territory and immunity from depredations from the savages; making war, as he has, with vigor when war had to be waged, and being merciful and just at all times to those in his power, he has not only commanded the respect, but won the esteem of the savages themselves.

That the secretary of the Territory be instructed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to General Crook and to the Secretary of War, and to all the papers printed in this Territory.

Approved February 12, 1875.

JOHN T. ALSAP,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
KING S. WOOLSEY,
President of the Council.
A. P. K. SAFFORD,
Governor.

TERRITORY OF ARIZONA, Office of the Secretary:

I, Coles Bashford, secretary of the Territory of Arizona, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed by the eighth legislative assembly of said Territory of Arizona, according to the enrolled resolution on file in my office.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name and affixed my official seal this 17th day of March, in the year 1875.

[SEAL.]

COLES BASHFORD,
Secretary of the Territory.

(E)

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas it is generally understood that in the course of the retirement and other changes now contemplated in the Regular Army of the United States, a vacancy will be occasioned in the list of major-generals; and whereas the people of Nebraska, in common with those of other border States and Territories who have suffered from and are still exposed to Indian hostilities, believe that the subjection, pacification, and management of the aboriginal tribes is the most important duty to be performed by the military establishment in time of peace, and the one most conducive to the settlement and development of the vast region between the Missouri River and the Pacific Ocean; and

Whereas Brig. Gen. George Crook, the present commander of the military department of the Platte, has shown, during an experience of more than thirty years with the wild Indians ranging from British Columbia to Mexico and from Nebraska to Arizona, courage, a remarkable skill, sound judgment, and exact sense of justice to white men and red men alike: Therefore be it

Resolved by the senate of the State of Nebraska, That it is the sense of this body and of the people of this State, that in the selection of an officer to fill any vacancy that may arise in the list of major-generals in the Regular Army, the claims of Brig. Gen. George Crook, based as they are upon a physical and mental capacity to render still more important services in the future, should not be disregarded; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senators and Representatives of the State in Congress be requested to urge upon the President of the United States such selection and appointment of Brig. Gen. George Crook; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the President of the United States and to Brig. Gen. George Crook for their information.

E. C. CARNS,
President of the Senate.

Attest:

SHERWOOD BURR,
Secretary of the Senate.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Lincoln, Nebr., May 17, 1882.

I hereby certify the foregoing preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted by the house of representatives of the seventeenth session of the legislature of the State of Nebraska.

H. H. SHEDD,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Attest:

BRAD D. SLAUGHTER,
Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.

(F)

MEMORIAL MEETING OF THE CITIZENS OF OMAHA, NEBR.

The citizens of Omaha, assembled together to signify their estimation of the character of Maj. Gen. George Crook, and their sincere grief at his sudden and untimely death, do adopt the following resolutions:

They deplore, in common with the entire Republic, the loss of a soldier whose conspicuous courage was repeatedly tested as well at South Mountain, Antietam, Chickamauga, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Appomattox, as on the Rosebud, the Powder and the Tongue Rivers, and the defiles of the Sierre Madre. With the people at large, too, they recognize in his career the persistent purpose, the shrewd foresight, the untiring energy, the wise humanity, the truthfulness, the patient firmness and determination which especially fitted him to cope with the savage tribes of the mountain and desert, and largely contributed to their present complete pacification.

To his brilliant renown as a warrior he added the no less imperishable fame of the philanthropist. His victorious sword was never stained with unnecessary blood. His knightly word once given was never recalled. His sympathy with the vanquished, the ignorant, and oppressed was ardent and outspoken. With his bravery in martial conflict was combined the loftier courage of the moral hero, who maintains his own conviction of justice and right in the face of detraction, ridicule, and acrimonious criticism.

But the people of this city have learned in years of intimacy to cherish the memory of General Crook, not only for characteristics patent to all his countrymen, but for the daily beauties of his life. Though gentle, retiring, and unobtrusive, he was always hospitable and generous. Those who enjoyed his society never heard from his lips an unkind word of foe. His manners were winning, his habits unostentatious. Every acquaintance became his friend, every friend his lover.

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(G)

BELLEVUE, BEDFORD CITY, VA.

SIR: The morning papers have just informed me of your capture.

During General Hunter's advance on Lynchburgh last summer, the column of the army under your command encamped within sight of my residence. Your headquarters were with Mr. Wilks, my near neighbor. On my return from the British provinces in October, this gentleman stated to me that in conversation with him you mentioned incidentally that my house was on a list of those ordered to be burned. Mr. Wilks stated in reply that I had been absent many months from the country, and that my wife, daughter, and a few young ladies were the only white persons on the place. The result was (in entire accordance with the reputation you have acquired amongst our people during the war) that although my premises were visited by a detail of men who took the corn and meat of which your troops were in need, my family were treated with perfect respect and no other property in any degree molested.

The incident has probably passed from your recollection; your own sense of duty and propriety alone controlled your conduct; it always will be gratefully remembered by me and every member of my household.

I presume that under arrangements for exchange your confinement will be a brief one. If during its existence there is any mode in which I can possibly contribute to your comfort, I trust you will not deny me the gratification. I have directed my son, Lieutenant Holcombe, who is about returning to his command, to call and see you. If you have the slightest occasion for anything so cheap as our Confederate currency, he carries a blank check, which I beg you will fill to any amount, and he will furnish the money. His mother also asks your acceptance of a small basket of provisions; which may be an improvement on your ordinary fare.

If my son informs me that your exchange will not promptly take place, I will go to Richmond to pay my respects to you in person, and to ascertain whether I can in any way help to expedite it.

With the highest respect,

JAMES P. HOLCOMBE.

MAJOR-GENERAL CROOK,
U. S. Army.