

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 8, 1877.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. INGALLS submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 1521.]

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 1521) granting a pension to Louis A. McLaughlin, report:*

McLaughlin served through the war of the rebellion as a private in the One hundred and second Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, received several wounds in battle, and was honorably discharged in 1865. The injury for which he claims a pension was received at the battle of the Rickaree Fork, between the forces under Col. George A. Forsyth and the Cheyenne Indians, in September, 1868. He was employed as a scout, and has numerous testimonials from General Custer, Colonel Forsyth, and other officers of the command, showing his bravery and fidelity. His claim was rejected by the Pension Bureau because, being a non-enlisted man disabled by wounds received in temporary service, it was not prosecuted to a successful issue before the 4th day of July, 1874, the rejection being based upon the fact that his declaration was made before a justice of the peace instead of a court of record having a seal.

The committee believe that this technical defect presents no equitable bar to the soldier's claim, and they therefore recommend the passage of the bill.