

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 9, 1892.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany S. 2106.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Thomas M. Chill for an increase of pension, have examined the same and report:

The said claimant is now a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$4 per month, for services as a private in the Black Hawk war of 1832, where he served in the company commanded by Capt. James P. Drake of Volunteer Mounted Riflemen in the service of the United States.

It appears from the testimony of physicians and other witnesses that he is 80 years old; that he is poor and has not the means of support; that his wife and himself are both old and feeble and not able to earn a living; that he is totally blind in the left eye; that the right eye is much affected; that he can see barely enough with it to get around, but not enough to transact any business if he were able otherwise.

It appears from the testimony of a comrade, Ward, on file, that the soldier was struck in the left eye while on duty in the night by a twig or stick driven from some unknown cause; that the next morning the eye appeared bruised, sore, inflamed, and continued worse until there was a total loss of sight in it, which so remains. The impaired condition of the right eye is continuous, and it is feared will result in total loss of vision.

Your committee are of opinion, under these circumstances, that there ought to be an increase of pension in this case, and therefore report the accompanying bill for a pension of \$20 per month, to be in lieu of the pension the petitioner is now receiving, and do recommend its passage.