

LOUIS A. McLAUGHLIN.

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MARCH 24, 1876.—Committed to a Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT :

[To accompany bill H. R. 1521.]

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 1521) granting a pension to Louis A. McLaughlin, some time a scout in the Military Division of the Missouri, in the employment of Col. George A. Forsyth, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to submit the following report :*

It appears from the evidence on file, and by the certificates of Generals P. H. Sheridan and George A. Custer, Colonel Forsyth, and Lieutenant-Colonel Inman, and the Surgeon-General's reports, that the applicant was employed in Colonel Forsyth's company of Independent Scouts, and on September 17, 1868, was wounded in battle with the Indians on that day in the left breast, at the battle on the Dry Forks of the Republican River, Kansas; that the ball penetrated the left lung and lodged there; and that the wound has disabled him from earning his living by manual labor, and that he has never recovered from the effects of the wound. The evidence is conclusive that the applicant was acting under the orders of Colonel Forsyth, as a member of an independent company of scouts, and in conducting military operations against the Indians was dangerously wounded, as above stated, while so employed and in the line of duty, and is clearly entitled to be placed on the pension-rolls, under section 4693 of the Revised Statutes, although the right is now technically barred by the terms of said section. The committee, believing that the statute of limitations is unjust, especially in cases like this, report back said bill (H. R. 1521) and recommend its passage.

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