

PIERRE BOTTINEAU.

JULY 30, 1888.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 2713.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2713) granting a pension to Pierre Bottineau, have considered the same and report it back to the House, recommending its passage.

George W. Sweet, a prominent citizen of Minneapolis, Minn., states:

I have known Mr. Bottineau for a period of forty years, and during that time have often met him upon the frontiers, where he has been acting as guide to both military and civil expeditions, and from what I have seen I believe his faithful services, frequently rendered at great personal risk to himself, deserve recognition at the hands of our Government. Should it be the policy of the country to pension those engaged in putting down the hostile Indians, then he has well earned and deserves a pension.

Hon. W. H. Sibley also states:

I have known him for fifty years past as a reliable, faithful guide and scout, who has rendered much valuable service to the Government, and richly merits to be provided for in his old age.

In addition to the above, your committee invites attention to the report of the Senate committee upon this matter as follows:

[Senate Report No. 1008, Fiftieth Congress, first session.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred a petition of Pierre Bottineau, guide and scout, praying for a pension, have examined the same and report:

The memorial of a large number of the most eminent citizens of Minnesota represents that Pierre Bottineau, who for thirty years has been employed by the civil and military officers of the Government in hazardous enterprises, involving not merely the special knowledge and instinct of scout and guide, but the highest courage and unbending rectitude, is now, in his old age, broken in health and poor.

The committee, appreciating the value of the services rendered, report the bill granting the pension prayed for, and recommend its passage.

The memorial follows, and is made a part of this report:

SAINT PAUL, MINN., March, 1879.

PETITION.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The memorial of the undersigned citizens of the United States resident in the State of Minnesota respectfully represents that they have been for many years personally acquainted with Pierre Bottineau, an old and experienced guide and scout, and known

that he has been long employed in that capacity by civil and military officers of the Government, and has rendered important services, at great risk to his own life from hostile Indians.

Your memorialists further respectfully represent that the said Pierre Bottineau is now advanced in years and physically disabled from supporting himself by manual labor, and is withal reduced to poverty. There is appended hereto a list of some of the duties performed by said Bottineau, connected with the public service during a long series of years, which is made a part of this memorial and will serve to show that much of the prime of his life has been devoted to the Government, and that he has been a faithful, efficient, and intelligent public servant.

In view of which facts your memorialists humbly pray Congress to pass a special act for his benefit, granting him a pension of \$50 a month for and during the time of his natural life.

And your memorialists will ever pray, etc.

Wm. R. Marshall, late colonel Seventh Regiment Minnesota Volunteers, and ex-governor of Minnesota; Henry H. Sibley, late brevet major-general U. S. Volunteers; W. Pfeander, State treasurer, late colonel Second Minnesota Volunteers; N. W. Kittson; James Gilfillan, late colonel Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, now chief justice supreme court of Minnesota; J. S. Pillsbury, governor of Minnesota; David Day, postmaster, Saint Paul; H. P. Van Cleave, adjutant-general of Minnesota; R. N. McLaren, late colonel Second Minnesota Cavalry Volunteers, brevet brigadier-general of volunteers, now United States marshal; Geo. W. Moore, deputy collector customs, Saint Paul; D. A. Robertson; Henry M. Rice, ex-member Congress, Minnesota; C. C. Andrews, late colonel Third Minnesota, and brigadier and brevet major-general U. S. Volunteers; Edmund Rice, Wm. Lockren, R. B. Langdon, F. Beebe, R. P. Russell; Eugene M. Wilson, ex-member Congress Third Congressional district Minnesota; Chas. E. Vaudeburg, judge district court Hennepin County, Minn.; R. M. Babcock, ex-judge of probate, Hennepin County, Minn.; N. R. Thompson, sheriff of Hennepin County, Minn.; Chas. A. Pillsbury, Rev. D. B. Knickerbocker, D. D., rector of Church of Gethsemane, Minneapolis; R. J. Baldwin, S. C. Gale, C. W. Nash, late captain and assistant quartermaster volunteers; L. Fletcher, Geo. K. Shaw, D. Blakely; L. R. Palmer, county commissioner; L. P. Plummer, late Sixth Minnesota Infantry; J. K. Sidle, president First National Bank, Minneapolis, Minn.; J. B. Gilfillan; L. L. Baxter, late colonel First Minnesota Heavy Artillery; Geo. A. Brackett, surveyor-general Second district, Minnesota; F. R. E. Comell, assistant justice supreme court; Henry O. Gorman, judge of probate, Ramsey County, Minn.; Wm. Crooks, late colonel Sixth Minnesota Infantry Volunteers.

LIST OF PRINCIPAL PUBLIC SERVICES PERFORMED BY PIERRE BOTTINEAU.

First. In 1857 he was employed as guide and interpreter to the commissioner to make a treaty with the Chippewa Indians, at Red Lake. Hon. Alex. Ramsey, Government Commissioner.

Second. In 1853 he was employed and acted as guide to Governor Stevens in surveying route to the Pacific.

Third. In 1854 and 1855 he acted as guide and interpreter to the command of Lieutenant Kearny or Carney, ordered to Mille Lac to apprehend the Chippewa murderers of lumbermen.

Fourth. In 1856 he was employed as guide to the command of Colonel Smith, U. S. Army, to Graham's Point, Sheyenne River, Devil's Lake, and Pembina, to select site for a military post at latter point.

Fifth. In 1858, as guide to Colonel White and another army officer, appointed to examine points for military posts in Western Minnesota and Dakota Territory.

Sixth. In 1859 he was appointed by Gov. H. H. Sibley one of the commissioners to select Salt Spring lands.

Seventh. In 1860 he was guide to United States Commissioners Cullen and Bailey to make treaty at Grand Forks with Chippewas.

Eighth. In 1862, guide to Captain Fisk's overland expedition to Montana and Idaho.

Ninth. In 1863 he was chief guide to the important expedition against the hostile Sioux Indians, under the command of General H. H. Sibley.

Tenth. In the fall of the same year guide to United States Commissioner Alex. Ramsey, to make treaty with the Chippewas at Old Crossing.

Eleventh. In 1864 with Major Carlin, U. S. Army, to select site for military post at Fort Wadsworth, Dak.

Twelfth. In 1866 with General Terry, U. S. Army, to locate Fort Ransom; thence with Captain Wainwright's command to Fort Totten, Dak.

Thirteenth. In 1865 with Colonel Camden, Illinois Cavalry, to seat of Indian war on the Missouri.

Fourteenth. In 1867 with Major-General Hancock to inspect military posts in Dakota Territory.

Fifteenth. In 1868 with J. Gregory Smith, of Red River, and with General W. R. Marshall, Phil. Holmes, and Major Bracket, to explore route for Northern Pacific Railroad.

Sixteenth. In 1870 with special agent for the Government, R. T. Crowell, to Pembina and other points.

Seventeenth. With Government Agents R. F. Crowell and H. S. Neal, to White Earth, Minn., and Pembina and Saint Joseph, Dak.

Eighteenth. In 1872 with W. R. Marshall to Pembina, and Manitoba, and many other minor services not above enumerated.

