

MICHAEL HARGAIN.

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JUNE 23, 1890.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. DE LANO, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 9405.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9405) granting an increase of pension to Michael Hargain, have considered the same and report:

The claimant served in the United States Navy, in the Florida expedition, from September 1, 1840, to June 30, 1841, in the capacity of boat-swain's mate, seaman, and gunner. This service was rendered in the prosecution of the Florida Indian war, and Hargain was honorably discharged. He filed a claim for disability pension in 1886, but his claim was rejected on the ground that the claimant was unable to furnish evidence of officers and comrades to establish origin of the same during his naval service.

The claimant is over seventy years of age and is practically blind in the right eye. He is also severely disabled by disease and is without property of any kind, dependent upon his labor.

He was granted a pension by special act of Congress, at the rate of \$8 per month, at the first session of the Fiftieth Congress. His disabilities and needs have increased so much, however, that his pension is insufficient to supply absolute necessities.

The testimony of Dr. C. E. Wilbeck shows that in addition to his blindness of right eye the claimant is severely disabled by double inguinal hernia, chronic rheumatism, and inflammation of the bladder, causing great physical weakness and nervous prostration.

Congress has repeatedly allowed the amount of pension provided for in the bill to the aged and disabled survivors of the old Indian wars, and your committee, believing the case to be a worthy one, return the bill with a favorable recommendation.