

TENDOY, CHIEF OF THE BANNOCK, SHOSHONE, AND  
SHEEPEATER TRIBE OF INDIANS.

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JULY 9, 1892.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. WILSON, of Missouri, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany S. 2612.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2612) granting a pension to Tendoy, chief of the Bannock, Shoshone, and Sheepeater tribe of Indians, have considered the same and report as follows:

The bill is accompanied by Senate Report No. 537, this session, and the same fully setting forth the facts is adopted by your committee as their report, and the bill is returned to the House with the recommendation that it be amended so as to fix the rate of pension to be allowed at \$15 per month, and that as so amended the bill do pass.

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[Senate Report No. 537, Fifty-second Congress, first session.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2612) granting a pension to Tendoy, chief of the Bannock, Shoshone, and Sheepeater tribe of Indians, have had the same under consideration and submit the following report and recommend the passage of the bill:

The reasons for granting a pension to the Indian chief named are:

(1) That he has been a faithful and valued friend of the white settlers, not only preventing the Indians of his tribe from going to war against the whites on several occasions when they had grievances, but also joined the white people with his Indians in opposing the invasions of the Nez Percés in 1877, when this tribe, under Chief Joseph, invaded Idaho and Montana and murdered the white people without regard to age or sex. Again in 1878, when the Fort Hall Indians were on the war-path, Tendoy with a number of his tribe joined the whites in protecting the lives and property of the settlers. He has not only kept his Indians from going to war with the whites, but has prevented them from pillaging and trespassing on their property.

(2) Tendoy has surrendered large areas of the land which the tribe occupied and claimed, for which the tribe has received nothing, and now get only a small annuity for clothing and supplies.

In view of the great service rendered to the white people in protecting their lives and property, not only from the Indians of his own tribe but from other Indian tribes, he certainly should receive some recognition from the Government for his friendship and devotion which has been so valuable to the settlers.

Hon. George L. Shoup, who has lived for many years near the tribe of Indians ruled over by Tendoy, and who is familiar with the facts in the case, presents a state-

ment to the committee relating to the claim of this Indian for a small pension, which is submitted as part of the report.

UNITED STATES SENATE,  
Washington, D. C., April 4, 1892.

SIR: Relating to Senate bill 2612, "Granting a pension to Tendoy, chief of the Bannocks, Shoshones, and Sheepaters tribe of Indians," located at the Lemhi Indian Agency, State of Idaho, I have to say that the former chief of this tribe, an uncle of Tendoy, the beneficiary named in the bill, was assassinated near the present site of Bannock City, in the State of Montana, in 1862. The Indians had committed no offense against the whites, but there were a few white desperadoes in the mining camp whose ambition it was to add one more to the number they had killed. On the day following the assassination of the chief, Tendoy was elected chief. He had acquired distinction in battle with the Flathead, Crow, and Sioux Indians, and was endowed with an intellect far superior to that of any other member of the tribe.

On the day following his election as chief he visited the miners and called their attention to the ruthless manner in which they had killed his uncle, and of the sorrow of the tribe on what he regarded as a calamity. He called their attention to the fact that, holding the position of war chief under his uncle, he had protected them and all white people within his reach from assault from hostile Indian tribes. He told them he had come to inquire of them now why they had killed his uncle; did it mean that they had declared war against his Indians who had been their friends? If so, he accepted the challenge with deep regret, as he much preferred to be friendly with the white people. He was assured by the better class of the miners that his past services and friendship were appreciated, and that the killing of their chief was the act of a few desperadoes and gamblers, who, unfortunately, had found their way to the camp, and that they deplored the act. The interview was protracted for some time, when Tendoy withdrew to the camp of the Indians, who were determined to avenge the death of their chief. Tendoy addressed his followers in an able speech, after condoning with them in the loss they had sustained, he called their attention to what war with the whites meant, and what the result would inevitably be. His argument prevailed, and he at once left for the eastern plains on a prolonged buffalo hunt, not returning until time to go into winter quarters.

My personal acquaintance with this chief commenced four years later, or in 1866, and I have met him every year since that time.

In 1877, when the Nez Percés Indians, under Chief Joseph, were on the warpath, murdering our people—men, women, and children, indiscriminately—and applying the torch to their homes, Tendoy placed some of his Indians at my disposal as scouts, and when the Nez Percés entered Lemhi Valley he, with 40 or 50 of his Indians, joined my company of volunteers to give battle; in fact, he rendered the whites incalculable service. Again, in the following year, when Buffalo Horn's band of the Fort Hall Indians went on the warpath, he furnished us men who saved the lives of many of our citizens. During this campaign several of the hostile Indians were captured by Tendoy's men and a subchief was killed. The Indians have received no compensation or reward for their gallant services, except a small amount paid by me personally.

Tendoy has on each and every occasion, when any member of his tribe procured a horse or other property dishonestly, compelled its return to the owner. He is now over 60 years old, and has surrendered all of the country formerly occupied and claimed by his tribe, comprising a large area, excepting a small reservation in the Lemhi Valley. He with his tribe of about 600 receive a small annuity for clothing, supplies, and school purposes, but do not receive a dollar of cash annuity. Other Indian tribes who have surrendered less territory receive large money installments.

In view of all these facts, and the further fact that he is infirm and unable to perform manual labor, I earnestly recommend that Chief Tendoy be given a pension of \$30 per month. This amount would be but a small recognition of the service he has rendered to the Government and the white people.

Very respectfully,

GEO. L. SHOUP,  
*United States Senator.*

The CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS,  
*United States Senate.*

In view of the fact that this Indian has received no compensation for his valuable service and that this recognition would strengthen the friendship of the tribe toward the white people, and in view of the further fact that the claimant is now old and too infirm to perform manual labor, and that it is the practice of the Government to grant annuities to Indian chiefs for their friendliness to the whites and for services to the Government, your committee believe that the bill should pass and that Tendoy be granted the relief prayed for.