

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JULY 10, 1888.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 3171.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3171) granting a pension to Andrew Hopper, have examined the same and report :

The cases have been very rare, and have been marked by service entirely exceptional in point of public value or individual merit, in which the committee have felt justified in recommending pensions to claimants not entitled thereto under existing laws.

In the case under consideration, the claimant was a member of a local military organization in the district of country raided by the Sioux in 1862, and in an action was injured by the falling of his horse. The organization was not a part of the military force of the United States, and under the law its members are not pensionable. General laws have been introduced and are now pending before Congress extending pensionary benefits to persons engaged and injured in Indian warfare, and while so pending the committee do not feel authorized to anticipate its judgment upon the point involved.

Without prejudice to the merits of the case, therefore, whenever it can be considered within the limits of the law, the committee are now impelled to report unfavorably, and to recommend the indefinite postponement of the bill.