

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 20, 1869.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 6294.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6294) granting a pension to Isabella Hensley, have examined the same, and report:

The report of the Committee on Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto attached, is adopted and the passage of the bill recommended.

HOUSE REPORT.

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6294) granting a pension to Isabella Hensley, have considered the same and report:

That in the month of August, 1862, an outbreak of the Sioux Indians occurred by which that part of the State of Minnesota near Mankato, Blue Earth County, was devastated and hundreds of the people massacred; that the citizens of New Ulm, Mankato, St. Peter, and adjoining communities organized themselves into military companies and checked the inroads of the Indians into the more populous settlements. That Clinton B. Hensley, who at that time was the editor and proprietor of the Mankato Independent, the first newspaper published so far west on the frontier, left his business and family, rode many miles along the threatened frontier warning the people of their danger and conducting women and children to places of safety, burying the dead, and caring for the wounded. Hon. James B. Hubbel, now of St. Paul, Minn., swears:

"I was at that time a licensed trader among the Winnebago Indians, and was living there with my family. He came through the "Big Woods," a distance of 13 miles, to warn us of our danger, arriving at my place at 4 o'clock in the morning, bringing the first news I received of the outbreak."

He organized a company to protect the homes of the people, of which company he was made captain. He continued in command of such company until his death. Before he entered upon the performance of these duties he was a man of vigorous health and fine constitution, about thirty-five years of age. As a result of his exposure while engaged in said war he contracted a severe cold; was brought home sick the latter part of November, 1862. He could not then speak above a whisper. His disease developed into pneumonia, of which he died on the 20th of December, 1862. He was buried with military honors amid the profoundest grief of the entire community. He left a wife, the said Isabella Hensley, and two daughters, who have until recently supported their mother with the needle, but now the eldest of said daughters is dying of consumption, and the whole family are now living upon the charity of their neighbors and friends and are in entirely destitute circumstances.

Your committee report that the soldier's death was clearly the result of his service, and therefore report favorably on the accompanying bill and ask that it do pass.