

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JUNE 19, 1888.—Ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 3060.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred a bill (S. 3060) providing a pension for Matilda C. King, have examined the same and report:

Accompanying the petition in support of the bill is a mass of testimony illustrating the long and honorable military career of the late Colonel and Brevet Major-General John H. King, husband of the petitioner; but the whole is so clearly summarized in the eloquent tribute to his services and memory by General W. T. Sherman that the committee adopt his letter as their report, and in its spirit recommend the passage of the bill.

[Endorsement on the "état de service" of the late General John H. King, U. S. Army.]

NEW YORK, June 5, 1888.

I was well acquainted with General John H. King, whose death was reported at Washington, D. C., April 7, 1888, and I have just read the above "état de service," prepared officially by General Drum, the Adjutant-General of the Army. The period of his service was his whole manhood, from 1837 to 1888, fifty-one years, covering the most important epoch of American history, and very few men of to-day realize what they owe of the growth in power, physical resources, cultivation, and refinement to the little regular Army commanded by such men as John H. King.

His career, full of dates, resolves itself into three periods—before the civil war, during it, and after. In the first and last of these he was on the frontier pushing back the Indians to make room for the enterprising emigrant, establishing military posts whence radiated the influence of order, system, and good government. When in 1861 this whole country became convulsed by civil war, and when so many of his comrades abandoned their colors he stood fast, firm in the faith, and did a man's whole share, as above shown, at Shiloh, Stone River, Chickamauga, Resaca, New Hope, Kennesaw, and Neal Dow Station.

It would take a volume to do justice to the subject, and as much of his service was directly under my command, I do a simple but grateful duty in adding this small tribute to his memory.

I bespeak for his widow and children the watchful care of a Government made rich and powerful by the manly conduct of such faithful servants as was John H. King.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.