

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1853.

Augusta:
WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1853.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

BY THE

COMMITTEE ON CLAIMS,

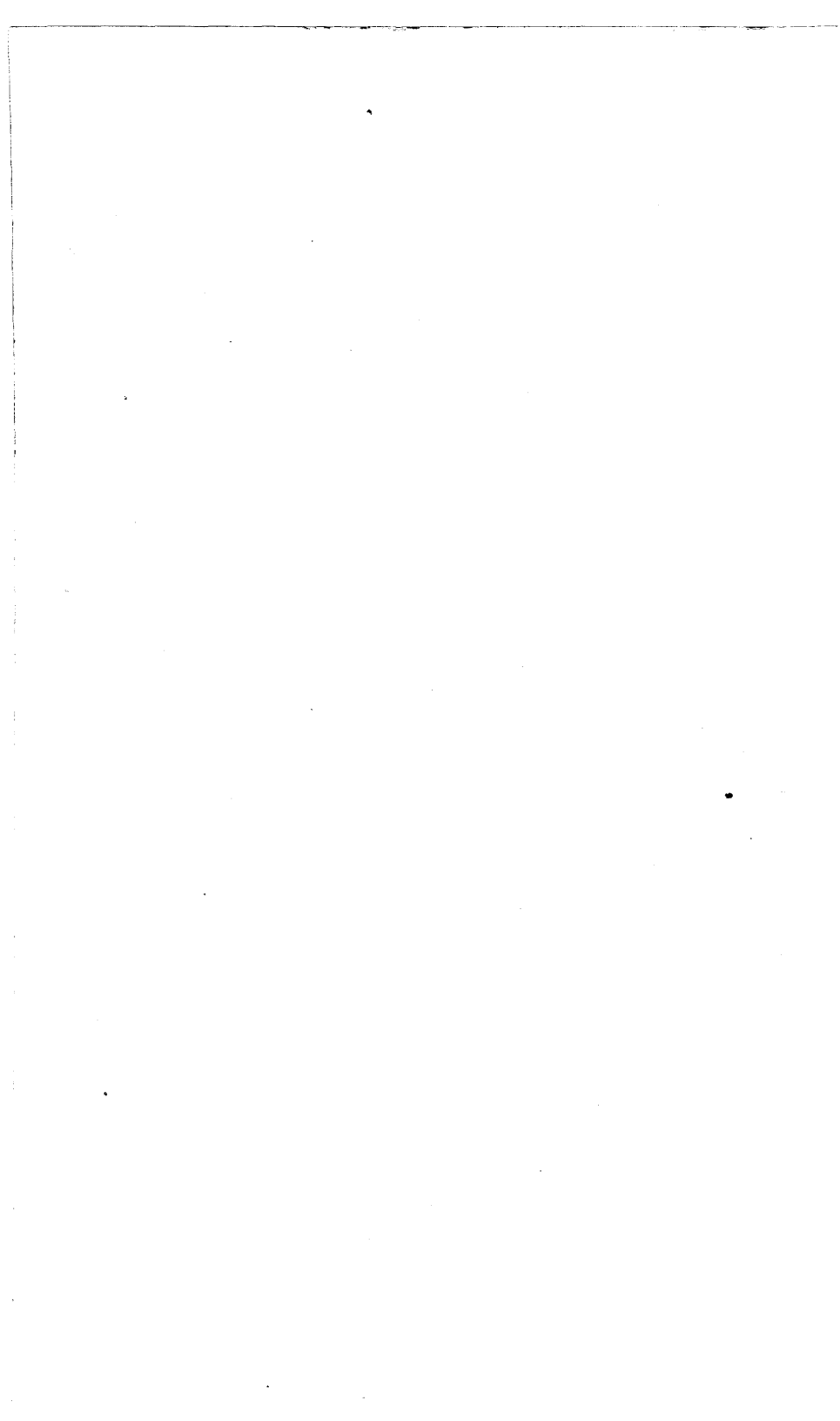
TO WHOM WAS REFERRED

PETITION OF A. B. THOMPSON,

LATE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

AUGUSTA:
WHEELER AND SIMPSON, PRINTERS.

1853.



STATEMENT.

The Committee on Claims to whom was referred the petition of A. B. Thompson, late Adjutant General, for balance of pay as Quartermaster General, report the following statement, viz. :

That said Thompson performed the duties of Quartermaster General, in the years 1839 and 1840, "consequent upon the call of the Militia into actual service, for the protection of the North Eastern Frontier," for the period of fourteen months and eight days, according to the official certificate of Governor Fairfield. That he claims pay therefor under the Resolve of the State, passed March 21, 1839, providing that "the Militia of this State when in actual service, shall receive the same pay and allowances, as are paid and allowed to the army of the United States." The original charge against the State by Gen. Thompson, for this service, was \$2,955 93; and this amount was retained by him in rendering his account to the Governor and Council for settlement, in 1840. This service has been assumed by the general government as having been rendered for the United States, and the State has been paid therefor.

The State not having allowed Gen. Thompson, at the time the accounts were closed between him and the State, in 1841, the full amount charged by him for this service,

there appeared on the books of the Treasury, the sum of \$2,955 93, due from him to the State, until June 1842, when the Council ordered the full amount to be passed to his credit, and the books of the Treasury balanced; said Thompson, on the same day, giving his bond to the State, conditional to refund to the State any portion of said sum which should not be allowed the State by the general government, in the settlement of the claim of the State for expenditures in the protection of her territory.

By the resolve of the Legislature above referred to, the Militia of this State were to receive the same pay and compensation as are allowed to the army of the United States.

By the Act of Congress entitled an Act to provide for the settlement of the claim of the State of Maine for services of her Militia, approved June 13, 1842," the compensation allowed was that paid by the United States for similar services."

By a Report of a select committee of the Legislature of 1841, the claim of Mr. Thompson for compensation appears to have been examined, and a final settlement of his claim was postponed "to await the result of the claim now pending before Congress."

Mr. Thompson was employed by the Governor in 1842 to go to Washington, and give his personal attention to the claims then pending before a committee of congress, as appears by a letter from Gov. Fairfield, in which letter is the following: "As you probably have an interest in the allowance by the general government, *of that portion of our military* accounts which was for your services, and as I am confident that your personal attention to the matter at Washington would facilitate the settlement of the

whole claim, it has occurred to me whether an arrangement might not be made at the joint expense of yourself and the State, for an agency which would prove to be mutually advantageous."

Upon this suggestion of the governor, Mr. Thompson repaired to Washington, the State paying his expenses, and he making no charge for thirty days of his services, and there remained until the bill for settlement of the claims, which passed, was agreed upon by the committee.

By a letter from Hon. James B. Cahoun, of Portland, who kept the books and accounts of the department, it appears that Gen. Thompson was, in his opinion, to receive pay for services as Quartermaster General, "whatever sum was allowed by the general government for that service."

There was no evidence before the committee that the State had received from the general government a larger sum for the services of Gen. Thompson than he had received from the State, except the settlement made by Gen. Thompson himself.

STATE OF MAINE.

In SENATE, March 21, 1853.

ORDERED, That 300 copies of the foregoing statement of facts be printed for the use of the Legislature.

WM. G. CLARK,

Secretary pro. tem.