

**RELIEF OF CERTAIN ENLISTED MEN OF THE TWENTIETH  
REGIMENT OF NEW YORK VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.**

FEBRUARY 18, 1905.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. ALGER, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

**REPORT.**

[To accompany H. R. 1860.]

It is recommended that this measure "For the relief of certain enlisted men of the Twentieth Regiment of New York Volunteer Infantry" be favorably considered.

This is a bill enacting, in substance, that an order of the President, made in 1866, that these 198 men shall be taken to have been honorably discharged in June, 1863, shall be held good.

These men, mostly Germans, enlisted in the Twentieth New York Volunteers. They were enlisted first as New York troops for two years. They were enlisted and mustered on April 29. They were transferred to United States service May 6, partly for three months and the balance for two years. Changes were afterwards made on the muster rolls of the three months' men so as to make all for two years. Their service was good till April 29, 1863, when the two years had expired, and these 198 men stacked their arms and handed in petitions stating that their terms of enlistment had gone by. They were tried by court-martial for mutiny in the face of the enemy, an engagement being expected, though they had not been informed of that fact. They were convicted and sentenced to be dishonorably discharged, and to be held as convicts during the remainder of the war.

Their behavior was so good that they were almost immediately put upon parole and worked as pioneers in the field until the summer of that year, when the President in consideration of favorable reports from the commanding general and from the provost-marshal ordered

them to be sent home with transportation, their regiment having been discharged in June. Accordingly they were sent home on August 31, 1863. In 1866, on recommendation of General Grant, an order was made setting aside their dishonorable discharge and granting them an honorable discharge in lieu thereof. This order has been held invalid because the dishonorable discharge had already taken effect, and this bill will validate this order. All of them served the full term of their enlistment. They took their punishment like men, and were punished enough.

The bill was drawn by the Chief of the Record and Pension Office of the War Department.

It has seemed to the War Department that in justice to these men the relief that the Executive undertook to give them in 1866, for reasons that were considered satisfactory at that time, ought to be given to them now by legislation, and with that end in view, at the request of the chairman of the Military Committee of the Senate, this bill was introduced in the Senate several years ago, but has thus far failed of enactment. The same bill is now pending in both the Senate and House of Representatives.

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#### APPENDIX A.

##### *Relief of enlisted men of the Twentieth New York Infantry Volunteers.*

It appears from the records of this office that the Twentieth New York Infantry was mustered into the service of the United States from May 6 to 9, 1861, at New York City, the field and staff and Companies A to E to serve for the term of three months, and Companies F to K to serve for the term of two years. The field and staff and Companies A to E, however, appear to have been turned over to the United States on August 22, 1861, to serve for the period of two years.

The names of the members of this regiment for whose relief the pending bill has been introduced are as follows:

*Company A.*—First Sergt. Gustav Seiffart; Sergts. August Tolke, Julius Frick, John Wagner, and Emil Toppel; Corpis. William Wolf, Charles Kraemer, Bernhardt Kellner, Friedrich Merk, August Braun, and Melchoir Bader; privates Christian Betterhauser, Joseph Bos, Carl Richter, Adolph Ruedel, Leonard Schmidt, Georg Schulein, Julius Rast, Friedrich Buob, Martin Bang, Joseph Fessler, Philipp Freinsehner, Georg Gassert, Joseph Kayser, Charles Knecht, Charles Kramer, August Lagler, Hugo Liebe, Friedrich Martin, Martin Muller, Charles Munster, Carl Scheidemanter, Christian Schulz, Hugo Trabold, Otto Troetschler, Joseph Wankmuller, and August Herrmann.

*Company C.*—Sergt. Gerhardt Hansotter; Corpis. Joseph Bachmann and Louis Hof; Privates Friederich Lebeis and Adam Werner.

*Company D.*—Private Louis Kreicker.

*Company E.*—Sergt. George Baehr; Corpl. Albert Bries; Privates Henry Heisig, George Hofer, Jacob Hartenbach, Albert Hillebrandt, Rudolph Krauss, Michael Klingenschmidt, Johann Kuns, Philipp Kappesser, Carl Kruger, William Lambert, Frederih List, Henry Mitteladorf, David Muller, John Nahn, Friedrich Pfeiffer, Friedr. Wilhelm Rabe, and John Schaaß.

*Company F.*—First Sergt. Charles Steeger; Sergts. John Kloss, William Kuhne, William Yaumann, Frederick Closs, and Andrew Platz; Corpis. Otto Lienhard, Edward Maurer, Theodor Wagner, Friedrich Oxenius, and Christoph Niederer; Privates Philip Aschenbach, George Bachmann, Andrew Baus, Edward Carl, Jacob Christ, Robert Ermich, August Ganselen, John Genter, Arnold Grefner, Ernst Greiner, Arthur Hanbold, Ernst Hanbold, William Haug, August Hildebrandt, Louis Heine-mann, Ludwig Husschmidt, Adam Jacobi, John Kaus, Ehrhart Keller, August Kirchoff, August Korn, George Lantz, Philipp Lendel, Gustav Lichtenberg, August Lubbers, Joseph Maisch, Jacob Meindel, Emil Ney, Martin Niepoth, John Rauch, Michael Schneider, William Schneider, Charles Seger, Julius Sucker, Joseph Unger, Hermann Volderaner, Conrad Wagner, Philip Weber, John Werner, and William Zimmermann.

