3-21-1836

Lot Leonard

24th Congress, 1st Session. [Rep. No. 439.] Ho. of Reps.

LOT LEONARD.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 452.]

March 21, 1836.

Mr. Fry, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to which was referred the petition and documents of Lot Leonard, of Greene county, Pennsylvania, report:

That upon an examination of the papers presented to the committee in behalf of the petitioner's claim for services rendered during the revolutionary war, it appears upon his own declaration, made in due form of law, that he served as a "*volunteer militia man*" under Captain Condict, to guard the coast and watch the movements of the enemy, between Elizabethtown and Amboy, in New Jersey, for a period of four months; that he afterwards moved to Greene county, Pennsylvania; and in July, 1777, under Captain Hurd, against the Indians, he volunteered and served in scouting parties, as Indian spies, for four months; and was then elected a captain of the company, and marched to Janet's ford, where they quartered, and commanded the company there from June, 1 to October 1, 1780, when the enemy retreated; that about the middle of May, 1779, he marched his company to Ross's fort, and continued to guard the settlements there to the middle of October, making five months; that about the middle of May, 1780, he marched his company, pursuing the Indians, who were murdering the settlers along Fish creek, to Wheeling, in Virginia, and continued in this service four and a half months; that during the summer of 1781, he was unable to perform duty, on account of having "*broke the cap of his knee*" the previous summer, while pursuing Indians over rocks and ledges of stone; that in June, 1782, he resumed the command of his company, and was stationed during the summer at Bell's, Jackson's, and Klein's forts, to the middle of November, four months; that in 1783 he commanded his company in service at Seal's fort, to the middle of October, being five months, protecting the settlers from Indian murder and depredation, making a service of twenty-two and a half months, which, he thinks, is considerably less than he really did serve, if he could recollect so as to recount the whole; that his discharge and commission were destroyed shortly after the war.

Thomas Hodge testifies, that he was present when the petitioner was elected captain of Indian spies in 1777; knew that he was in the service

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from that time to the end of the war, except one summer, when he was lame. Deponent was petitioner's neighbor all the time, and often forted with him in Bell's, Ross's and Seal's forts.

Silas Crayn testifies, that he concurs generally with the statement of Hodge; that he distinctly recollects the petitioner was elected a captain of Indian spies in 1777, and that he forted with him at different times in Bell's, Ross's and Seal's forts; thinks petitioner must have served two years.

Barnet Whitlock, jr. and Thomas Hodge certify that petitioner is considered in his neighborhood to have been a revolutionary soldier. The credibility of all the witnesses is properly certified by the court, as also by the certificate of the Hon. Andrew Stewart and the Hon. Andrew Buchanan, members of Congress from that district.

The committee believe the evidence of service to be clear, though there is not evidence sufficient of the captaincy to entitle the petitioner to be put on the pension roll as a captain. Taking into consideration that the testimony commences in 1777, and that the nature of the service was not continual, the committee are of opinion, that to do justice to the Government and the petitioner both, would be to allow him a pension for twelve months' service as a private; and they report a bill accordingly.