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Peter Sky, an Onondaga Chief

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PETER SKY, AN ONONDAGA CHIEF.

JANUARY 7, 1841.

Read, and laid upon the table.

MR. PALEN, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was submitted the petition of Peter Sky, an Onondaga Indian, report:

That it appears from the testimony of James Stevenson, (an Onondaga chief,) and the certificate of General P. B. Porter, that the petitioner was in the service of the United States as a volunteer, under General Porter, on the Niagara frontier.

Moses Stevenson further testifies, that, during an engagement with the British in Canada, opposite Youngstown, he saw the petitioner chasing some British soldiers; and that soon after he saw the petitioner sitting on the ground, that he was wounded in the left shoulder, and that he asked him "what the matter was;" to which he replied "he had been struck by a British soldier with a gun." He further says he has been acquainted with the petitioner ever since, and "that he always complained that he had lost the use of his arm."

Two physicians and surgeons, who are duly certified to be reputable in their profession, and entitled to full credit, say they have examined the arm of the petitioner, and that in their opinion he "is entirely disabled from obtaining his subsistence by manual labor."

The only testimony in this case, going in any way to show the petitioner was wounded while in the service of the United States, is that of James Stevenson; and even he does not state from his own knowledge that the petitioner was wounded while in the line of his duty, but from what the petitioner told him.

The petitioner has not corroborated the statement of James Stevenson by his own affidavit.

Notwithstanding the disposition the committee feel to relieve the sufferings of the Indian who rendered assistance in the late war, they do not consider the evidence in this case sufficient to warrant them in reporting a bill for his relief; and therefore ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition.