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Joseph S. Martin

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H.R. Rep. No. 144, 27th Cong., 2nd Sess. (1842)

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JOSEPH S. MARTIN.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 191.]

FEBRUARY 9, 1842.

Mr. DOAN, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT :

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to which had been referred the petition of Joseph J. Martin, of the State of Tennessee, report :

That the petitioner, Joseph J. Martin, of the State of Tennessee, says that he volunteered in the service of the United States, to serve in the Creek country, in 1836, in pursuance of a requisition of the President of the United States upon the Governor of Tennessee for two thousand five hundred volunteers, dated May 25, 1836 ; that he attached himself to a company of infantry commanded by Captain John Ellis ; that he was mustered into the service of the United States, as a private, in the above-named company, on the 25th day of June, 1837, and served one year ; that a short time before the expiration of his term of service, while stationed at Fort Butler, in the State of North Carolina, he was ordered by the captain to drive one of the baggage wagons ; and that, whilst engaged in that service, the horses became frightened, and ran off with the wagon, and wounded the petitioner in one of his legs—the flesh and tendons of his leg being torn loose from the bone, from the knee to the ankle joint, or heel ; that he was confined, under the care of Doctor J. E. Isaacs, the army surgeon, from that time till the 13th of September following, when he was taken home in a wagon, and was there confined many months before he could walk, and that it is now with great difficulty and pain that he can walk, his leg having never healed, and has no reason to expect that it ever will ; that he is poor, and has a wife and eight children depending on him for support ; all of which is corroborated by the testimony of Captain Ellis and Joseph T. Moody, who served in the same company, and saw him when he received the wound, which they say was the worst they had ever seen. The statement of petitioner is also supported by the deposition of J. L. Humming, who was also a private in the same company. J. H. Hill, a surgeon and physician, says he has examined petitioner, and considers his disability as total ; all of which is certified to have been sworn to in open court by the clerk, Hill.

The committee are of the opinion that the petitioner is entitled to a pension, and therefore report a bill for his relief.