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Guy Carpenter

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H.R. Rep. No. 396, 29th Cong., 1st Sess. (1846)

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GUY CARPENTER.

MARCH 5, 1846.

Read, and laid upon the table.

Mr. DANIEL, from the Committee of Claims, made the following

REPORT :

The Committee of Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Guy Carpenter, report :

This claim is unsupported by legal evidence. The sickness of the claimant, and the expenses attendant upon it, remain to be proved. Other important points are equally destitute of support. One objection urged by a former committee has been removed, but the rest remain.

Annexed is a report heretofore made by this committee, which supersedes the necessity of a repetition of the facts involved.

The committee offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

FEBRUARY 22, 1843.

The Committee of Claims, to which was referred the petition of Guy Carpenter, report :

The petitioner sets forth that he is an inhabitant of the town of Blissfield, in the State of Michigan ; that on the 21st day of May, 1832, he was called into the service of the United States, and marched, under the command of General Joseph W. Brown, to the defence of the western frontier, at that time menaced by the Indians under Black Hawk ; and that, while in the service of the United States, he was taken sick and left to his own charge, and that he continued sick for the space of six months, and consequently became liable to the following "charges and losses:—"

For six months' board, 12 shillings per week	-	-	-	\$39 00
For expenses for doctoring and medicine	-	-	-	25 00
For six months' time lost	-	-	-	75 00
Paid damage on gun borrowed	-	-	-	1 50
Paid for provisions and blanket	-	-	-	4 00
Interest 10 years	-	-	-	101 15

245 65

Received from the United States	-	-	-	-	\$4 68
Ten years' interest	-	-	-	-	3 27
					7 95
Balance due	-	-	-	-	237 70

which amount the petitioner asks to have allowed and paid to him.

There is no evidence submitted to the committee in support of this claim, nor has the claimant sworn to the truth of his own statement, as presented in his petition. But, if the facts were all established by the most unquestionable evidence, they would not constitute the basis of a claim on the government. The petitioner entered the service with a knowledge of the amount of pay and rations which, by law, he was entitled to receive; and he does not complain that he has not been paid all he was entitled to receive. If he had kept with the army, he would have been entitled to all the care which the hospital or medical arrangements of the detachment to which he belonged would have enabled them to bestow upon their sick soldiers.

But in no case have the United States held themselves liable for the expenses incurred by sick soldiers, who may choose to withdraw from the service to their own homes or private boarding-houses. The committee therefore recommend to the House, for adoption, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

I, Joseph W. Brown, do hereby certify that Lieut. Sewall A. Goff commanded a company of Michigan militia, and marched with his company under my command to the defence of the western frontier, in the month of May, 1832, at that time menaced by the Indians under Black Hawk. And I do further certify, that there were no tents in the army at all, and no hospital arrangements and no accommodations for the sick whatever; and no money or other means with which necessaries could be procured.

J. W. BROWN,

Brig. Gen'l, command'g Michigan militia.

TECUMSEH, January 25, 1844.

The petitioner asks that he be allowed and paid to him the amount of \$4 68 and 3 27 interest thereon, which amount he claims to be due him for the services rendered by him to the United States during the late war. He claims that he was discharged from the service of the United States on the 15th of May, 1832, and that he has since that time been unable to procure any other means with which necessaries could be procured. He claims that he was discharged from the service of the United States on the 15th of May, 1832, and that he has since that time been unable to procure any other means with which necessaries could be procured. He claims that he was discharged from the service of the United States on the 15th of May, 1832, and that he has since that time been unable to procure any other means with which necessaries could be procured.