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Palmer Branch.

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Report No. 85.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 784.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

PALMER BRANCH.

FEBRUARY 13, 1849.

Mr. WILEY, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition and papers of Palmer Branch, of the county of Kennebec, in the State of Maine, submit the following report:

It appears that the petitioner entered the service of the United States in the late war with Great Britain, in April, 1813, under Captain Crossman, with whom he marched to Cumberland Head, New York, where he was transferred to Captain Bailey's company of the light corps, and marched into Canada, in which campaign he acted as a sergeant and clerk; was with his corps in the battle of Chateaugay creek, and was then exposed to much hardship and fatigue, being obliged to lie upon the cold wet ground, to ford streams, &c., in the discharge of his duty, especially on the night when the army retreated to Shataque Four Corners, (so called,) the army being attacked by the British and Indians in the rear, where the said petitioner was stationed. The lieutenant was killed by the Indians, and the captain fled, whereby the command of the company devolved upon him, the petitioner. Soon after the army arrived at the Four Corners, the petitioner was taken violently sick with a bowel complaint. At this place he was left by the army, which went into winter quarters at Plattsburg. Some time afterwards he joined the army, but was unable to perform duty, and did no more duty till his discharge, in April, 1814, (the discharge is on file with the other papers,) since which time he has been afflicted with the said disorder, which has become quite troublesome, having produced the piles in an aggravated form, so much so, that a surgical operation has since been performed, but without effect, except for a short time. He is troubled with the disease

to so great an extent as greatly to disable him from the performance of manual labor. He is proved to be three-fourths disabled.

The facts of the case are proved by the affidavits of several privates who served in the same company, one of whom attended him while sick, by two lieutenants who served in the same regiment, and who knew him well, and by several neighbors of petitioner who knew him before, and have known him ever since he left the service; was robust and strong before entering the service.

Two physicians make affidavit that they have examined the petitioner, that his disease is such as would naturally arise from the circumstances proved, and there is no probability that he will ever recover, and that the degree of disability is three-fourths.

The committee being satisfied that the disease was contracted by the petitioner while in the line of his duty in the service of the United States, report a bill for his relief.

Mr. Wiley, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition and report of Palmer Hinchey, of the county of Kentucky, in the State of Maine, submit the following report:

It appears that the petitioner entered the service of the United States in the late war with Great Britain, in April, 1813, under Captain Grossman, with whom he marched to Cumberland Head, New York, where he was transferred to Captain Baker's company of the light corps, and marched into Canada, in which campaign he acted as a surgeon and clerk; was with the corps in the battle of Chateaugay, where he was also exposed to much hardship and fatigue, being obliged to lie upon the cold wet ground, in the rain, &c., in the discharge of his duty, especially on the night when the army retreated to Skutumpah from Corcoran's camp, where they being attacked by the British and Indians in the rear, were the said petitioner was stationed. The lieutenant was killed by the Indians, and the captain had whereby the command of the company devolved upon him, the petitioner. Soon after the army arrived at the Fort Ontario, the petitioner was taken violently sick with a bowel complaint. At this place he was left by the army, which went into winter quarters at Plattsburgh. Some time afterwards he joined the army, but was ordered to perform duty and did no more duty till his discharge, in April, 1814, (the discharge is on file with the other papers), since which time he has been afflicted with the said disorder, which has become quite troublesome, having produced the palsy in an aggravated form, so much so, that a surgical operation has since been performed, but without effect, except for a short time. He is troubled with the disease