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Anthony W. Bayard. (To accompany bill H.R. no. 315.)

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ANTHONY W. BAYARD.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 315.]

MARCH 9, 1860.

Mr. F. W. KELLOGG, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom were referred the memorial and accompanying papers in the case of Anthony Walton Bayard, asking for arrears of pension, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report:

That at the second session of the thirty-third Congress, and also at the first session of the thirty-fifth Congress, a report and bill for the benefit of the memorialist were introduced, which report, with some modification, your committee will now adopt; and also report a bill (the same which passed the Senate at the last session) and recommend its passage.

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Anthony Walton Bayard, have had the same under consideration and report: That the petitioner was a private soldier in the war of 1812, and served during the war in the northwestern army; that he was severely wounded on three occasions, by which he is wholly disabled, and for which he was placed on the pension roll in 1844 at the rate of eight dollars per month. He was, in the estimation of your committee, fairly entitled to have been placed on the pension roll under the act of 24th April, 1816, granting to disabled soldiers of the war of 1812 a pension of eight dollars per month. He is now quite old, very poor, helpless, and infirm. He was a very daring and valuable soldier. At the siege of Fort Harrison the Indians and British, 700 in number, succeeded in setting fire to one of the block-houses, which communicated to the roof of the soldiers' barracks. The commanding officer, Captain Z. Taylor, (afterwards General Taylor,) called for volunteers to go upon the roof in point blank shot of the enemy's rifles and extinguish the flames. The petitioner and one other soldier volunteered and mounted the burning roof. His companion was instantly shot dead. The petitioner was badly wounded, but succeeded in extinguishing the fire; thus saving the fort from falling into the hands of

the enemy, with a large amount of government stores, and the force of Captain Taylor, of some fifty men and several females, from being taken prisoners by a band of infuriated savages. This service was regarded by Captain Taylor as of the most gallant and hazardous kind, and of great value to the American forces, and deserving of substantial reward. The proof shows that Captain Taylor visited Bayard afterwards at the hospital in St. Louis, hearing that he had been badly wounded in a subsequent action. And after he became President he retained a vivid recollection of Bayard's services at Fort Harrison as eminently deserving of reward."

The petitioner claims that his disability is total, rendering him entirely dependent; that it results from wounds received while performing most hazardous and valuable services to the country, and that in such case the pension allowed him was entirely inadequate for his support. Your committee concur in this view, and believe that it should have been twenty dollars per month instead of eight. Congress afterwards (January 1, 1852) increased his pension to that sum, and the bill your committee now report makes that increase commence from the date of his original pension.

A BILL for the relief of Anthony W. Bayard.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be paid, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to Anthony W. Bayard the sum of eleven hundred and thirty-six dollars, being in lieu of arrears of pension, at the rate now allowed him by law, from the time of his being originally placed on the pension roll to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, when the present rate was allowed.