

WILLIAM BARNHARD.

APRIL 24, 1880.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 2247.]

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 2247) granting a pension to William Barnhard, have considered the same, and report:*

The said Barnhard was a private in Company A, Tenth Regiment Minnesota Volunteers, from the 11th day of August, 1862, until the 19th of August, 1865.

He alleges that while in said service, and in the line of his duty, in a campaign against the Indians in Dakota Territory, in July, 1863, he was compelled to use water from Apple Creek, which was strongly impregnated with alkali, and that the use of said water made him sick, and produced an affection of the kidneys, from which he still suffers, and is incapacitated from obtaining his subsistence by manual labor.

Dr. M. E. Morehouse, James P. Atwater, Charles Strong, Abraham Barnhard, John Lowe, and Sylvester McNitt all state that they were well acquainted with claimant prior to his enlistment, and that he was at that time a sound, healthy man, and free from kidney disease.

M. L. Strong testifies that he was first lieutenant of claimant's company; that he had known claimant for twenty years; that he was sound when enlisted, and that he believed claimant contracted kidney disease from drinking alkali water while in said Territory; that claimant was obliged to use said water while in line of duty as a soldier in Dakota; that claimant was obliged to use said water while in said Territory, and that it made him sick, and resulted in disease of the kidney, from which he has never recovered.

S. H. Stowers, second lieutenant of said company, testifies that claimant was obliged to use alkali water in the service; that it made him sick, and resulted in kidney disease.

S. B. Sheardon, M. D., surgeon of said regiment, testifies that he treated complainant for kidney disease, brought on by drinking alkali water—first in July, 1863, and afterward in February, 1864.

Dr. E. M. Morehouse, James P. Atwater, Charles Strong, Abraham Barnhard, John Lane, Sylvester McNitt, Lieutenants Strong and Stowers, of claimant's company; W. H. Mann, Harrison Waite, and John N. Bingham testify that since claimant's discharge from said regiment he has been sorely afflicted with kidney disease, and that his health is much broken.

Examining Surgeon H. S. Hill certifies that he examined claimant May 26, 1877, and found him partially disabled by reason of kidney disease, and continues: "There is pain on pressure over the region of the right kidney, and tenderness over quite a portion of lumbar region. The urine is at times largely mixed with mucus; there is also at times a brick-dust sediment. The prostate is somewhat enlarged."

The claim was rejected because of absence of record evidence of the disability in the War Department.

The committee think that the claimant has shown equitable right to pension, and therefore recommend that the bill do pass.

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