

LEWIS LAING.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 300.]

MARCH 14, 1846.

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

REPORT :

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom were referred the petition and accompanying papers of Lewis Laing, having had the same under consideration, report :*

That from the affidavits of two of the fellow-soldiers of the said Laing, it appears that he was engaged in the service of the United States as a private soldier, in the Indian war of 1791, and served in the army under General St. Clair; that he was present at the battle with the Indians in which General St. Clair was defeated, and in the engagement sustained a wound in the foot. Being by trade a saddler, the petitioner, notwithstanding his wound, was for many years enabled to support himself; but in the decline of life the effect of his wound has been such as, in the estimation of his attending physicians, (two of whom unite in a certificate,) to disable him. The fact of the petitioner's having incurred a wound in the service of the United States is not established by the formal and technical proof required by existing laws, and, consequently, his claim cannot be admitted by the Commissioner of Pensions. Your committee, however, in consideration of the length of time since the wound was received, and the extreme difficulty if not impossibility of now adducing such formal proof, have thought it should be dispensed with, and the petitioner's claim allowed. They therefore report a bill allowing a pension of eight dollars per month, from the 1st of January, 1846.

Ritchie & Heiss, print.