

JOSEPH DUSSEAU.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 348.]

MARCH 27, 1846.

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

REPORT :

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Joseph Dusseau, made the following report :

That the petition states that, on the 22d of January, 1813, after Winchester's defeat on the river Raisin, the petitioner, with other Frenchmen and American citizens, then residents on the river Raisin, retreated to Presque Isle, and met Captain (now General) Gratiot with a detachment of the American army, at Portage, the whole army being under the command of General Harrison. That the petitioner there, with others, his comrades, volunteered their services to the United States, and were accepted by General Harrison and Captain Gratiot. That the petitioner did duty, as a private soldier at the siege of Fort Meigs; and that he being well acquainted with the country, was frequently employed by General Harrison as a ranger or spy upon the enemy in reconnoitring and carrying messages. That while at Fort Meigs, the petitioner, together with his comrades from the river Raisin, thirteen in number, volunteered under one Captain Peters, then of the artillery, on an expedition against the British Indians who were in the vicinity of Fort Meigs, and frequently annoyed the American camp. That the expedition proceeded down the Maumee river in an open barge, and when at a considerable distance from the fort the Americans were attacked by the Indians from their canoes, and from the right bank of the river. That a severe conflict ensued, in which two of the Americans were killed, and four, including the petitioner, wounded. That the petitioner was severely wounded by three rifle balls—one lodged in the right thigh, one in the left breast, and one in the right arm, just above the elbow; that the two first were extracted, but the last still remains in the arm, occasioning at times great pain, affecting his general health, and rendering said arm entirely useless.

The above facts are proven by the affidavits of Medard Labadie, Antoine Sergeant, and Joseph Foucreau, all of whom testify to the fact of the petitioner's joining the army in the manner stated in his petition; and also that they were in the expedition under Captain Peters, and saw him wounded in the manner stated in his petition. The good character of the petitioner and his witness is sufficiently proven, and two surgeons certify, under oath,

