

DEXTER BARNES.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 833 ]

JANUARY 26, 1859.

Mr. FENTON, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the memorial of Dexter Barnes, report:*

That they have had the same under consideration, and find from the evidence that the said Dexter Barnes was a private in the company of Captain John Silsbie and Lieutenant Charles Benner, in the war of 1812 between the United States and Great Britain; that on or about the 15th day of December, 1813, they encamped at Westfield, New York, on the south shore of Lake Erie; that they marched from Westfield to Buffalo; that he was in the battle at Buffalo, December 31, 1813, at the time our forces were attacked by the British and their Indian allies and the city burnt, and did not leave the ground until the American forces had mainly retreated, and thereupon, retiring three miles to Miller's, he, with about one hundred and fifty others, made a stand under the command of an officer, whose name is unknown to said Barnes; that he, with three of his comrades, one of whom was wounded and is now on the invalid list of pensioners, remained there on duty and in defence of the inhabitants of that retreat until disbanded and allowed to return home, with health impaired by fatigue and exposure, and he now asks Congress to pass an act allowing him 160 acres of land, which he is denied at the Pension Department on account of an error in making returns. The committee believe the testimony fully sustains his allegations. They think and feel assured that he gallantly and faithfully performed the service, and was honorably discharged when his services were no longer required. They therefore report a bill allowing him one hundred and sixty acres of land.