

IRA CALL.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 436.]

JUNE 23, 1854.

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

REPORT.

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Ira Call, for an invalid pension, beg leave to report:*

That the said Call states that he enlisted as a soldier in the war of 1812, in March, 1813, in the 5th company, 23d regiment, United States infantry. That he enlisted at Glenn's Falls, New York, and marched to Greenbush, then to Oswego fort, thence to Fort George, where he remained six weeks. That here he was engaged in hauling timber in the fall of 1814, at Fort Erie, Canada; and while in the service aforesaid, in Lieutenant Ingersoll's company, while engaged in piling up the timber, some of the timbers slipped from their places and fell upon his legs, breaking the skin for some inches in length, and clearing it from the bone. He was loosed from the timbers by the aid of his fellow-soldiers. That, notwithstanding the injury, he proceeded to get more timber, and being in the neighborhood of Poison Joy, where he became so seriously poisoned, that he was laid up in the hospital under a surgeon who has since died. While still on the sick list he returned to aid in the erection of the platform or bastion for which the timber was obtained, and was standing near a trail of powder connecting with the main building of the magazine, when the British officer and men came upon the platform, and were then blown up. The said powder struck him in the face from the trail, and made him for the time entirely blind in both eyes, which have been since more or less inflamed, and the left eye remains entirely blind. The said Call remained at the hospital then six weeks, and was under command of General Higgenboom, paymaster general, and was discharged July 1, 1815. That he has been lame in both legs ever since, which are often highly painful and inflamed; and, being also nearly blind, he is unable to provide for himself; he has never had a pension, and now prays for relief.

His character is proved to be good by E. H. Sanford, notary public. Elias Loper swears to all the facts set forth by the said Call in his affidavit as set forth, having been with him in service, and that said Call was honorably discharged.

Loper's character for veracity is certified to by a justice of the peace. Joshua C. Wright, and George W. Stetson, physicians, allege that they have examined said Call's eyes, and believe that they were affected, as

stated, by powder; and also his legs are as set forth, which they verily believe to have been poisoned.

E. H. Sanford testifies that said Wright and Stetson are reputable surgeons.

B. M. Hill and N. G. Burham, physicians, state it as their opinion that said Call's inability proceeds from same causes.

Other affidavits accompany the application of Call, verifying his statements as far as they can be by mere examination.

John P. Ceall was also in the 23d regiment, United States infantry, and asserts that Call's affidavit is true, he being endorsed as a man of veracity.

Finally, the third auditor of the Treasury Department, F. Burt, asserts that Ira Call was a private of Captains Delano and Ingersoll's company, in the 23d regiment, United States infantry, enlisted 12th May, 1813, and was reported on rolls 15th May, 1815, and was noted respectively at Queenstown, and sick at Lewistown.

Your committee, believing said Call as being entitled to relief, do herewith report the accompanying bill.