UNLAWFUL GRAZING ON INDIAN LANDS.

MARCH 12, 1888.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. ROGERS, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 8393.]

The Committee on the Judiciary, having had under consideration House bill 4922, report the same back and ask that it lie on the table,

and report herewith a substitute therefor.

The bill is an amendment of section 2117 of the Revised Statutes, which imposes a penalty upon any person who drives cattle, horses, or mules on the land of any Indian or Indian tribe to range or feed. Section 2124 of the Revised Statutes provides that such penalty, when so recovered, shall go one-half to the informer and the other be covered into the Treasury of the United States. This the committee deem manifestly unjust, and this amendment requires the penalty, when recovered, less costs and 10 per cent., which is to be retained by the Government to indemnify it against losses in such prosecutions, shall be turned over to the tribe whose lands were trespassed upon, or if the land belonged to an individual Indian, to him or his legal representatives, under orders of the court duly entered of record.