

BRIDGE ACROSS THE POTEAU RIVER.

DECEMBER 12, 1888.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CRISP, from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 11735.]

The Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 11735) to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize the Fort Smith and Choctaw Bridge Company to construct a bridge across the Poteau River, in the Choctaw Nation, near Fort Smith, Ark.," have had the same under consideration and report as follows:

At the last session of the present Congress a bill identical in terms with this bill passed both houses of Congress but was not signed by the President for want of time. The report then made on the bill is as follows:

[House Report No. 3266, Fiftieth Congress, first session.]

The bill passed at this session authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Poteau River, in the Choctaw Nation, failed to determine what court should have jurisdiction to hear any controversies that might arise between the bridge company and the Choctaw tribe of Indians, between the bridge company and the inhabitants of the Choctaw Nation, and between the stockholders and the bridge company. This bill vests such jurisdiction in the district court of the United States for the western district of Arkansas, or such other court of the United States as may have jurisdiction over the Indian Territory in which such bridge is located.

Your committee recommend the passage of the bill.

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