

SETTLERS IN WIND RIVER VALLEY, WYOMING TERRITORY.

APRIL 20, 1882.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. HOOKER, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 3511.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs have had under consideration the bill (H. R. 3511) for the relief of certain settlers in the Wind River Valley, Wyoming Territory, and given careful consideration to all the papers filed, the report of the Indian agent, as to the value and time of the improvements made by settlers, the letters of the Secretary of the Interior, &c.

It is shown that these settlers went upon these lands at a time when they belonged to the United States, and in good faith made their improvements, and that subsequently, in 1868, by a treaty made with the Shoshone and Bannock tribes of Indians, the government set aside the land on which these improvements has been made as a reservation for these tribes of Indians. It would appear to be but a simple act of justice to compensate these settlers for the improvements which they have made in good faith on the lands which the government has taken away from them.

BRUCE WA

Your committee therefore recommend the passage of the bill, allowing all these claims, except the claim of William Jones for \$500, which appears to have been made after the treaty of 1868.