

L. T. PEASE AND J. M. SMITH.

JANUARY 15, 1846.

Read, and laid upon the table.

Mr. BARRINGER, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, made the following

REPORT :

The Committee on Indian Affairs, having had under consideration the petition of L. T. Pease and James M. Smith, report :

That the petitioners were appointed in pursuance of an act of Congress of 3d March, 1837, commissioners to inquire into the nature and extent of depredations committed by the Seminole Indians on the property of citizens of Florida, Georgia, and Alabama. They accepted their appointments, and were allowed compensation at the rate of eight dollars per day during their service, commencing from the time they left their respective homes for their destination ; and they also received an allowance for travelling expenses while in Georgia and Alabama. They claim an additional allowance for mileage, at the rate of eight dollars for every twenty miles travel, upon the ground that they expected such pay when they accepted their appointments, supposing it to be the usage in such cases ; and also that they were so informed by a source on which they imagined they could rely.

The committee think they are not entitled to such additional compensation. The instructions under which they acted expressly stated the compensation they were to receive. The committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.