

Report No. 619.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 498.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JESSE SUTTON.

MAY 17, 1848.

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

REPORT:

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Jesse Sutton, make the following report:

The committee are satisfied that the facts set forth in the accompanying memorial are true, and although the commissioners, Messrs. Butler and Lewis, who advised and authorized his employment as public blacksmith, had no express authority for that purpose, yet, at their request, the services were rendered and materials furnished; and the committee believe they were expedient and proper, and enured to the benefit of the United States, upon whom, after the admission of Texas into the Union, devolved the care and supervision of the Indian tribes within the borders of Texas.

The committee recommend the passage of the accompanying bill, and ask that the papers, marked A, B, and C, be taken as part of this report.

A.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The petition of the undersigned,

RESPECTFULLY REPRESENTS:

That, in pursuance of authority from Messrs. P. M. Butler and M. G. Lewis, Indian commissioners, dated 20th May, 1846, at Tor-

rey's trading house, Texas, he was employed, or rather continued in service, pending the confirmation of the treaty, to mend the tools and repair the guns of certain Indian tribes, who were employed in raising corn, and in that service was located a few miles above said Torrey's trading house, under the direction of Colonel L. H. Williams, acting Indian agent; that he faithfully performed said services, and rendered his account for same for one year, commencing 20th May, 1846, together with the cost of iron, steel, and coal furnished, amounting in all to \$1,000, certified by said Col. L. H. Williams and Robert S. Neighbors, Indian agent for the State of Texas, as will appear from the documents accompanying this petition; that, when your petitioner presented his claim to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, at Washington, he was informed that there was no appropriation applicable to the payment of it, and, moreover, that the Indian commissioners, Messrs. Butler and Lewis, had no authority for incurring this expense. Your petitioner, having, in good faith, performed the services and furnished the materials, acting under the authority of said commissioners, and being advised that relief in the premises can be granted by Congress only, respectfully solicits of your honorable body an appropriation to cover his claim. And, as in duty bound, he will ever pray.

JESSE SUTTON, by his attorney,
JNO. UNDERWOOD.

WASHINGTON CITY, April 1, 1848.

B.

United States Indian Bureau, in account with Jesse Sutton, Dr.

For services as public blacksmith for the Indians of Texas, as per instructions from Messrs. Butler and Lewis, United States Indian commissioners, for one year, from 20th May, 1846, to 20th May, 1847, one year.....	\$850
For iron, steel, and coal furnished.....	150
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	1,000
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I certify on honor that the above work was done by me, as stated.

JESSE SUTTON.

We, the undersigned, hereby certify that the above work was performed by Mr. Jesse Sutton, as stated.

L. H. WILLIAMS,
Acting Indian Agent, 1846.
ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
Indian Agent for State of Texas.

C.

TORREY'S TRADING HOUSE,
Texas, May 20, 1846.

The commissioners, in leaving the Indian country, recommend that, pending the confirmation of the treaty, that certain Indian tribes, that are understood to be making corn, should be encouraged by blacksmith, or rather continued, those heretofore employed in service, to mend their tools and repair their guns. They advise, accordingly, that Mr. Cogswell be continued here, and that Mr. Sutton be located a few miles above here, for the same purpose, and who should be under the directions of Colonel L. H. Williams. The commissioners in their report will advise the Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs, whose decision will govern the subject.

P. M. BUTLER,
M. G. LEWIS,
Indian Commissioners.