

PRIMEAU & CHAPMAN--LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES OF.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 417.]

MAY 4, 1846.

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

REPORT :

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Thomas J. Chapman, surviving partner of the firm of Primeau & Chapman, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully report :

That the said petitioner claims compensation for certain goods and horses stolen from said firm by the Yancton Indians of the Sioux tribe in 1835. The loss of said goods is fully proven, and under circumstances which make it incumbent upon the United States to pay to the legal representatives of said firm, in conformity with the 17th section of the act of June 30, 1834, "to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontier."

Your committee deem it incumbent upon them to allow only the value of the goods at St. Louis, where they were purchased. Three horses are said to have been lost by the petitioner, but your committee find the evidence conclusive as to only two.

The accompanying letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, your committee constitute a part of their report.

Your committee herewith report a bill for the relief of the legal representatives of Joseph E. Primeau and Thomas J. Chapman, formerly known as the firm of Primeau & Chapman.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, April 1, 1846.

SIR : I have had the honor to receive your letter of 30th ultimo, asking, in behalf of the Committee on Indian Affairs, "why the claim of Primeau & Chapman has not been paid, and whether justice requires any action on the part of Congress for his (their) relief?" and enclosing the claim and evidence in its support.

In reply, I beg leave to state, that the fact of the depredations having been committed by the Yancton Sioux, seems, from the papers, to be fully established, and the copy of the invoice certified by the then sub-Indian agent shows the original cost of the goods. These Indians receive no annuity; and, of course, it rests solely with Congress to grant the claimants relief. I beg leave to refer you to the 17th section of the act of 30th

June, 1834, "to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontier."

There is nothing on the files of this office which would throw additional light on the claim; nor does anything, in addition to what the papers contain, seem to be necessary.

The papers are all returned herewith.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Hon. CHS. W. CATHCART,

House of Representatives.

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

REPORT:

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Thomas J. Chapman, surviving partner of the firm of Primes & Chapman, asking that the same be considered, and reported thereon: That the said petitioner claims compensation for goods and services stolen from him by the Yankton Indians of the Sioux tribe in 1832. The loss of said goods is fully proved, and under circumstances which make it incumbent upon the United States to pay to the legal representatives of said firm, in conformity with the 17th section of the act of June 30, 1834, "to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontier." Your committee deem it incumbent upon them to allow only the value of the goods at St. Louis, where they were purchased. These goods are said to have been lost by the petitioner, but your committee feel the evidence conclusive as to only two. The accompanying letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, your committee consider a part of their report. Your committee herewith report a bill for the relief of the legal representatives of Joseph E. Primes and Thomas J. Chapman, formerly known as the firm of Primes & Chapman.

WAR DEPARTMENT
Office Indian Affairs, April 1, 1846.
Sir: I have had the honor to receive your letter of 30th ultimo, asking in behalf of the Committee on Indian Affairs, "why the claim of Primes & Chapman has not been paid, and whether justice requires any action on the part of Congress for his (their) relief," and enclosing the claim and evidence in its support. In reply, I beg leave to state that the fact of the depredations having been committed by the Yankton Sioux, seems from the papers to be fully established, and the copy of the invoice certified by the said Indians agent shows the original cost of the goods. These Indians receive no bounty; and of course, it seems solely with Congress to grant the claim. I beg leave to refer you to the 17th section of the act of 30th June 1834, Primes & Chapman.