

Report No. 60.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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SIoux INDIANS, HALF AND QUARTER BREEDS.

FEBRUARY 8, 1849.

Laid upon the table.

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

REPORT:

*The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the memorial of half and quarter breeds of Sioux Indians, having considered the same, respectfully report:*

The claimants allege that, by the second clause of the second article of the treaty, made at the city of Washington on the 29th September, 1837, between Joel R. Poinsett and certain chiefs and braves of the Sioux nation, the United States agreed "to pay to the relatives and friends of the chiefs and braves as aforesaid, having not less than one-quarter of Sioux blood, one hundred and ten thousand dollars, to be distributed upon principles to be determined by the chiefs and braves signing this treaty and the War Department."

The committee have ascertained that the fund was distributed by commissioners appointed by the War Department, who sat at St. Peters in October, 1838, acting in concert with the braves and chiefs of the Sioux tribe. This was in strict conformity with the requirements of the treaty. The memorialists complain that the fund was not distributed in good faith, and that, in some instances, their shares were paid to guardians, who failed in paying over what was due to them. Upon a full examination of the petition, the committee believe there is no just ground to reverse the adjudication made by the commissioners and chiefs, and that there is no good reason why the moneys paid over by them should be directed to be refunded.

The committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the memorial.