

JOHN L. SMITH AND JAMES MCGAW.

—
FEBRUARY 9, 1855.—Laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.
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Mr. WALLEY, from the Committee of Claims, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee of Claims, to whom was referred a "joint resolution for the relief of John L. Smith and James McGaw," have considered the same, and report:

That it ought not to pass. Your committee have looked in vain for any precedent which would justify them in making a favorable report, while it is manifest that the passage of the joint resolution referred to them would be claimed as a precedent authorizing any members of territorial legislatures, exposed to attacks from Indians on their way from their homes to their respective seats of government, to employ an armed guard at the public expense, and that Congress should be expected to pay for the same. Your committee are unanimously of opinion that it would be unwise for Congress to provide a guard for members of the legislatures, or to pay the expense of such guard in whole or in part.