

MICHAEL T. SIMMONS.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 369.]

MARCH 19, 1860.

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

REPORT.

*The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the memorial of the legislature of the Territory of Washington in behalf of Michael T. Simmons, have had the same under consideration, and submit the following report:*

That the governor and superintendent of Indian affairs in and for Washington Territory, on the 9th of March, 1854, appointed said Michael T. Simmons *special* Indian agent; that from that period until the 13th of May, 1856, said Simmons discharged all the duties of a *full* Indian agent for said Territory, after which time he was appointed by the President to the duties of a full Indian agent for said Territory, which appointment was confirmed by the Senate.

The committee further report that from the 9th of March, 1854, until the 13th of May, 1856, but *two* full Indian agents were appointed for said Territory, although *three* were allowed by law.

Your committee further state that from official information furnished them from the office of Indian affairs, it appears that said Simmons faithfully performed the duties assigned him, and that "his appointment as full agent was delayed, although strongly recommended therefor, in consequence of charges made to the Department of the Interior against him," which charges "proved, upon investigation, groundless, and unjustly preferred."

Further: "That Mr. Simmons was immediately appointed to the full agency after the investigation alluded to, which full agency had been kept open and unfilled to that time, the appropriation therefor remaining on hand unapplied." The committee therefore report a bill for the relief of said Simmons, allowing him the difference of pay between a full Indian agent and a special Indian agent, from the 9th of March, 1854, until the 13th of May, 1856.