

JOHN Y. SEWELL.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 426.]

MARCH 23, 1860.

Mr. ALLEY, from the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, to whom was referred the petition of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Washington, praying for the relief of John Y. Sewell, respectfully submit the following report:

The steamship "Southerner," while employed temporarily in the mail service by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, was wrecked on the coast of Washington Territory in December, 1854, and all the mails, with the exception of three bags, were lost. Mr. John Y. Sewell, a citizen of Washington Territory, at the urgent solicitation of many of the inhabitants, including the postmaster, undertook to rescue them from the Indians, into whose hands they had fallen. After six weeks' effort, subjected to great hazard, peril, and hardship, accompanied by two men whom he had employed for the purpose, he succeeded, at considerable expense to himself personally, in obtaining the mails from the savages, and delivered them to the nearest post office.

Your committee advise to the payment of one thousand dollars to said Sewell in full compensation for services rendered, and therefore commend the passage of the accompanying bill.