35TH CONGRESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. REPORT 1st Session. No. 196.

JANE SMITH. [To accompany Bill S. 73.]

MARCH 26, 1858.

Mr. COBB, from the Committee on Public Lands, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom Senate Bill No. 73 was referred, authorizing Mrs. Jane Smith to enter certain lands in the State of Alabama, have had the same under consideration and recommend its passage, with the following amendment:

Provided, however, this act shall only operate as a relinquishment of title on the part of the United States to said lands.

And ask the Senate report be adopted expressing the facts in the case.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, January 20, 1858.

Mr. BIGGS made the following report, to accompany bill S. 73.

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the memorial of Mrs. Jane Smith, praying to be allowed a pre-emption right to certain lands, concurring in the report made by the Committee on Public Lands, February 2, 1857, upon this memorial, adopt the same and make it their report:

It appears by the affidavit of Mrs. Smith that she is the owner of the east part of section thirty-three, in township six north, range we east, in the State of Alabama; and that she has enclosed and improved the west half of the southwest fractional quarter, and the west half of the northwest fractional quarter of the same section, which lands were formerly held as an Indian reservation for Peter Bandon, but which were abandoned by him in 1836. In consequence of being held as a reservation said lands are not subject to private intry.

The memorialist, therefore, prays to be allowed to enter the same at the minimum price of government lands.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office corroborates the statements of the memorialist, so far as they relate to the lands referred to having been held as an Indian reservation by Peter Randon, and of his abandonment of the same in 1836. He also states that there is no obstacle in the way of special legislation in favor of Mrs. Smith.

The committee therefore report the accompanying bill for her relief.