

WILLIAM W. BENT.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 852.]

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FEBRUARY 1, 1859.
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Mr. LEITER, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of W. W. Bent, for compensation for depredations committed on his property by the Indians, report:

That they have carefully examined the petition and testimony in this case, and find that a large number of oxen and cows, the property of the claimant, were destroyed by the Kioway, Cheyenne, Arapahoe, and Apache Indians, in the winter of 1854-'55, and that the oxen were worth fifty dollars per head and the cows thirty dollars each, according to the testimony. Your committee have no doubt of the destruction of the number of cattle as stated, but they are of opinion that the price is extravagantly high, and therefore report a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to settle this claim upon equitable principles.