

ALBERT FREITAG.

JUNE 4, 1880.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. BARBER, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 1151.]

*The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 1151) for the relief of Albert Freitag, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully report:*

That the claimant, Albert Freitag, is a resident of Nicollet, Nicollet County, State of Minnesota, and resided there during the year 1862.

The testimony of Mr. Freitag shows that on the 25th day of August, 1862, he was on his way to Saint Peter, in said Nicollet County; that at the time he owned and was driving a span of gray horses, three years old; that said span of horses were in good condition; that while so driving he was met by Capt. E. St. Julien Cox, who had command of a company, marching to the relief of New Ulm, which was at that time besieged by hostile Indians of the Sioux Nation or tribe. Captain Cox, as an officer in command of the State forces, took from claimant his team, and pressed the same into the service of the volunteers he was then leading against the Indians; that Cox gave claimant a voucher or certificate, setting forth that his team had been taken for the use of the volunteers in the defense of New Ulm. In two weeks from the time said team was taken, claimant found them at Saint Peter, reduced in flesh, saddle-galled, and so poor that they could not be used until some time in the winter; that in consequence thereof he was compelled to hire a team to do his fall plowing. The claimant testifies that the voucher given him by Captain Cox was burned up with his father's house, and for a long time he thought he could not collect any compensation because he had lost the voucher. He has, however, furnished a certificate from Captain Cox, who is now judge of the ninth judicial district of Minnesota, certifying that he took the horses belonging to Mr. Freitag for the use of the volunteers he was in command of. The claimant has also produced a certificate from ten of his neighbors who were well acquainted with him at the time the horses were taken, and who state they believe the facts to be true as stated, and the use of the property with the amount claimed.

Your committee are of the opinion that the facts as stated by the claimant are true, and that he is entitled to relief in the sum of \$65. They therefore recommend that the bill be amended by inserting said amount and put upon its passage.