

JAMES O. ROBERTSON.

JANUARY 31, 1879.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. BOONE, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 957.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 957) for the relief of James O. Robertson, of North Carolina, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following report:

On the 22d day of April, 1871, John Sowens and Will Sawyer, two Indians belonging to the eastern band of Cherokees, in Jackson County, North Carolina, executed their promissory note to James O. Robertson and Garland S. Furgeson for the sum of \$80, for services as attorneys, rendered said Sowens and Sawyer, who were charged with crimes, viz: arson and larceny. It appears from an order accompanying said note or bond that said Indians requested the chief of said band of Indians to pay the same out of the annuities due them. It also is shown by a certificate of Loyd R. Welch, principal chief of said band, that by an act of the grand council of said band, they had, in 1875, authorized the payment out of their funds of any just and reasonable claim against them. And said chief, Welch, on the 15th day of April, 1876, requested the Hon. Z. Chandler, the then Secretary of the Interior, to pay to said Robertson and Furgeson the amount of their claim, as will be seen by a written request of said Welch, filed with the papers in the case. Said request further shows that said Sowens and Sawyer were acquitted of the charges against them.

It seems from these facts that this is a just claim and ought to be paid. Your committee, therefore, report said bill back to the House with a favorable recommendation, and that it do pass, with the following amendments:

Amend in line 7, after the name of "James O. Robertson," by inserting "Garland S. Furgeson"; and in line 8 by striking out the word "esquire." Also, amend the title of the bill by inserting the name of "Garland S. Furgeson" after the name of "James O. Robertson," and by striking out the word "esquire."