

SETTLERS IN DUCK VALLEY INDIAN RESERVATION.

JUNE 20, 1882.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

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

R E P O R T :

[To accompany bill H. R. 6598.]

*The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred Ex. Doc. No. 61, transmitting a communication from the Secretary of the Interior, with draft of a bill for the payment of certain settlers in the State of Nevada for improvements on lands in Duck Valley, Nevada, taken for the use of the Shoshone Indians, having had the same under consideration, respectfully report :*

The Duck Valley reservation was set apart for the use and occupancy of the Shoshone Indians, by executive order of the President, dated April 16, 1877, prior to which date several parties had settled on the lands, then belonging to the public domain, which were afterward embraced within the reservation, and had made valuable improvements thereon. Being compelled to remove from the reservation and abandon their improvements, it is the duty of the government to pay a fair value for the property or improvements so taken.

Under instructions from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the Indian agent at said reservation, aided by an expert, appraised the improvements belonging to said settlers and reported his action to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, who recommended that certain amounts be paid the settlers, which were specified in the draft of a bill submitted with said executive document.

The settlers claim that said appraisalment was unfair, and desire additional allowances; but, in the absence of any evidence of such unfairness, your committee recommend the passage of the bill which accompanies said executive document, and which is herewith submitted with this report.

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