

SALE OF CUT TIMBER ON MEMOMONEE RESERVATION.

JANUARY 19, 1882.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 2736.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, having considered the bill (H. R. 2736) "Authorizing the sale of certain logs cut by the Indians of the Menomonee Reservation in Wisconsin," report the same back without amendment, and recommend that it do pass, and that the letter of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, herewith submitted, be embodied in this report.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 18, 1882.

Hon. T. C. POUND, *House of Representatives* :

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of this date, transmitting H. R. 2736, 47th Congress, 1st session, "A bill authorizing the sale of certain logs cut by the Indians of the Menomonee Reservation, in Wisconsin," and requesting my opinion thereon.

On the 25th April, 1876, an act of Congress (19 Stat., 37) was passed authorizing the sale of certain logs cut by the Indians of the Menomonee Reservation, in Wisconsin, under the direction of this department, in compliance with which such logs were subsequently sold.

It has since transpired that there are from a million to a million and a half feet of pine logs lying skidded in the woods on the Menomonee Reservation, which were cut subsequent to the passage of said act, viz, during the winter of 1876-'77, under the direction of the then United States Indian agent, J. C. Bridgman, contrary to the express orders of this department, issued to him on the 14th of January, 1876.

This timber is depreciating in value every year from being worm-eaten, besides the great danger of forest fires, and unless soon sold will be a total loss.

The bill submitted by you, which is herewith returned, is identical with one forwarded by this office on the 5th instant, to the department, for transmission to Congress, and meets with my entire approval.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.