

JAMES Q. SHIRLEY AND FRANCIS DE LONG.

APRIL 24, 1884.—Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 5716.]

*The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5716) for the relief of Shirley and De Long, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to make the following report:*

It appears from the evidence that James Q. Shirley, on the 25th of October, 1865, purchased of Ben. Holladay all his right, title, and interest to a piece of land called Fort Hall Station, Idaho, with the property and improvements thereon, for \$5,000. Full possession of land was held by Shirley and others up to the 2d day of April, 1869, and was occupied by them as a cattle ranch. About January 1st Shirley received notice from Governor Ballard and C. T. Powell that, in pursuance of an order from the Government at Washington an Indian reservation embraced and took in this section of country. He was compelled to move his stock April 1, 1869; by so doing he lost on a large quantity of hay left and injury to stock. Having 1,300 head of cattle and 600 or 700 head of horses, he claims loss in value by being compelled to move stock to another ranch, about 300 miles distant. Pasture being very scarce at that time of year, he suffered a loss of 60 head of cattle, that died from exposure. Both horses and cattle became very much reduced in value, to wit, on an average of \$20 per head, and the loss of his hay at \$20 per ton, claiming, by reduction in value, he was compelled to keep the said stock until fall, when he sold them.

ITEMIZED STATEMENT OF CLAIM.

Improvement on the land .....	\$12, 000
Hay abandoned.....	4, 400
Removing stock and cattle .....	5, 000
Loss on stock and damages.....	25, 000
Total .....	46, 400

Claimant states that Governor Ballard gave him papers to show the order for removal, but he lost them.

There is no evidence to show the amount or loss of stock or that they had any claim to the premises from the Government. It appears that the parties were squatters on the public lands and removed their stock to other public lands; that the Government had no use for the hay if left. It also appears that the Government did occupy the buildings in the year 1865, and paid a rent of \$100 per month for the use of them. It is the opinion of your committee that there is no just claim against the Government.