

A. L. DICKERMAN AND OTHERS.

MARCH 3, 1885.—Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 3945.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred House bill 3945, find that the legislature of the State of Kansas, on the 28th day of February, A. D. 1872, passed an act entitled an "Act to provide for the settlement of the losses sustained between the years 1860 and 1871 by the settlers on the frontier from Indian depredations," and under the provisions of this act the commissioners thereby appointed proceeded to consider and allow claims (amounting in the aggregate to about \$33,000) filed with them by citizens of, or residents in, the State of Kansas for losses of or damages to property resulting from thefts or depredations alleged to have been committed by members of various tribes of Indians.

The claims are for horses, cattle, mules, hogs, and merchandise said to have been stolen, houses and cabins burned, growing crops destroyed by fire, and in some instances for damages resulting from being deprived of the use of their lands.

Some claim to have lost their "outfits" when on hunting trips. The act referred to provided that the claims allowed should be submitted to Congress with request that a law be passed providing for their payment, and the amount thereof deducted from the annuities due, or to become due, the Indian tribes whose members "committed the depredations, the raids, and violence which was the cause of the losses allowed in said report."

Your committee do not find that these claims were ever submitted to the United States agents of any of said tribes, or were ever investigated by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs or approved by him or the Secretary of the Interior, though they were filed with the Commissioner in the year —.

The committee therefore recommend that the bill do not pass.

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