

ROBBERY IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

FEBRUARY 4, 1886.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. ROGERS, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 4849.]

The Committee on the Judiciary, having had under consideration bill H. R. 4849, respectfully submit the following report:

There are statutes of the United States punishing the robbing of the mails and the robbing of persons of property belonging to the United States, and also in a few other instances robbery is punishable under existing law. It is not intended by this bill to interfere in any way with any existing statutes relating to the crime of robbery.

There is no statute punishing robbery in the Indian country, except as stated. This crime is not unfrequently committed in that country. Sometimes the railroad trains are stopped, and the railroad companies and express companies and passengers robbed, and the perpetrators can only be punished under the general statute for larceny, the maximum punishment of which is \$1,000 fine and one year's imprisonment. This punishment the committee think incommensurate with the character of offenses stated. The surrounding States have found it necessary to punish this offense much more severely, and the committee think a severer punishment should be inflicted for this class of crimes when committed in the Indian Territory, where lawless and bad men have congregated in great numbers.

Your committee therefore urge the passage of this bill.

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