

FLORA SKINNER.

JUNE 22, 1886.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 580.]

*The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 580) for the relief of Flora Skinner, having considered the same, report as follows:*

Dr. Gilbert A. Skinner was physician at the Fort Peck Indian Agency in the year 1879, and from official documents appended to this report, it appears that Dr. Skinner having received a severe injury resigned his office, but was requested to remain at his post until the reopening of navigation. This claim is for amount of salary for said time, and as the facts conclusively show that the claimant received the injury while in the service of the Government and remained at his post at the request of the Government officials, your committee report the bill back with a recommendation that it do pass.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, March 5, 1879.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR:

SIR: I have the honor to call your attention to the inclosed letter of the Hon. James Harlan, in reference to the continuance of Dr. Gilbert A. Skinner at the Fort Peck Agency, as physician in charge, until his successor reports for duty, and recommend that his name be replaced on the pay-rolls of said agency, for reasons given in the accompanying letter.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,  
Commissioner.

Official copy.

E. GOODWIN,  
Acting Chief of Finance Division.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, March 6, 1879.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS:

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 5th instant recommending that the name of Gilbert A. Skinner, lately physician in the Indian service at Fort Peck Agency, who was accidentally shot through the head by an Indian who was slaughtering cattle, and whose name had been dropped from the rolls of said agency, be restored to pay until his successor reports for duty.

This case was the subject of a letter from the Hon. James Harlan, dated 10th ultimo, which letter was referred to your office for action.

Your recommendation in the premises is approved, and you will please take the necessary action in accordance therewith.

Very respectfully,

A. BELL,  
Acting Secretary.

Official copy.

E. GOODWIN,  
Acting Chief of Finance Division.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, March 10, 1879.

WELLINGTON BIRD,  
*United States Indian Agent, Fort Peck Agency, Montana :*

SIR: By order of the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, you are directed to replace and carry on your roll of agency employes the name of Dr. Gilbert A. Skinner as agency physician, from January 1, 1879, to the date of his resignation, until such time as the reopening of navigation will enable him to leave for his home, or until his successor shall have reported for duty. You are also directed to place upon your roll and make due report thereof the name of Dr. H. A. Woodbridge as agency physician, at such time as Dr. Skinner shall have been dropped from the same in accordance with the tenor of this letter.

E. A. HAYT,  
*Commissioner.*

Official copy.

E. GOODWIN,  
*Acting Chief of Finance Division.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, D. C., June 5, 1886.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR:

SIR: Acknowledging the receipt of your reference of May 29, 1886, for report, of a letter from Hon. J. H. Gallinger, member of Committee on Claims in the House of Representatives, dated May 29, 1886, inclosing H. R. bill No. 580, for the relief of Flora Skinner, widow of Gilbert A. Skinner, deceased, for the sum of \$400, I herewith return the letter and bill which accompanied your reference, together with copies of letters from E. A. Hayt, Commissioner, to the honorable Secretary of the Interior, dated March 5, 1879, recommending that the name of Dr. Gilbert A. Skinner, physician at the Fort Peck Agency, be kept on the pay-rolls of said agency until his successor reports for duty; from the Acting Secretary of the Interior approving the recommendation, and from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Wellington Bird, United States Indian agent, Fort Peck Agency, dated March 10, 1879, informing him of the directions of the Acting Secretary of the Interior.

Very respectfully,

A. B. UPSHAW,  
*Acting Commissioner.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, June 7, 1886.

Hon. J. H. GALLINGER,  
*Committee on Claims, House of Representatives :*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 29th ultimo, inclosing with request for information thereon, H. R. No. 580, of the current session, entitled "A bill for the relief of Flora Skinner," widow of Gilbert A. Skinner, deceased, for the amount of his salary (\$400) as Government physician at Fort Peck Indian agency, &c.

The matter having been referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, I transmit herewith in reply copy of his letter of 5th instant, with accompanying papers in relation to said claim.

A copy of the report of May 6, from the Commissioner to this Department, referred to in his letter of 5th instant, together with its inclosures, which embraced, it was stated, all the information in the possession of the Indian Office upon the subject, was transmitted to the chairman of the Committee on Claims of the House of Representatives, with letter from this Department of May 7, 1886. H. R. 580 is herewith respectfully returned.

Very respectfully,

H. S. MULDROW,  
*Acting Secretary.*