

RAFAEL ROMERO.

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JULY 14, 1888.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. WHITTHORNE, from the Select Committee on Indian Depredation Claims, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 8161.]

*The Select Committee on Indian Depredation Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 8161) for the relief of Rafael Romero, a citizen of New Mexico, beg leave to report:*

The depredation in this case was committed May 13, 1870, and consisted of the driving off of one hundred and five American mules and two bell mares by a band of Cheyenne and Sioux Indians near a place called Lake Station, on the Kansas and Pacific Railroad, in the Territory of Colorado. Chase was made after this band, and twenty-five of the mules were recovered. One mule afterward returned to their owners, thus making the loss seventy-nine mules and the two mares. The claimant was a citizen of the Territory, engaged in the lawful business of furnishing and hauling ties for said railroad company as a contractor. None of the seventy-nine mules and two mares have been recovered from the Indians, nor has compensation been made to claimant for his loss. The pursuing party lost one man killed, and came near being captured or killed themselves. These Indians afterward, in a council, through an interpreter, acknowledged the commission of this depredation.

On the 23d day of November, 1886, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs reported to the Interior Department, recommending that the sum of \$10,025 be allowed in full satisfaction of the claim, which finding was concurred in by the Secretary of the Interior November 24, 1886, as will be seen by his letter of that date, hereto appended.

This committee are of the opinion, upon examination of the record and the testimony, that this finding is fully sustained, and therefore recommend the passage of the bill. The bill should, however, first be amended as follows: (1) Strike out, in the sixth line, the words "eleven thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars," and insert the words "ten thousand and twenty-five dollars." (2) Strike out the eleventh line, and insert the words "eighty-seven." (See Ex. Doc. No. 77, Forty-ninth Congress, second session.)

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APPENDIX (1).

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, November 24, 1886.

SIR: Your report of the 23d instant, submitting the claim of Rafael Romero, of Mora County, New Mexico, amounting to \$22,000, for compensation for depredations

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alleged to have been committed in 1870 by Cheyenne and Sioux Indians, has been considered; and your finding, that claimant lost property as alleged to the value of \$10,025, with your recommendation that that sum be allowed in full satisfaction of the claim, is concurred in.

This letter is substituted for one of June 12, 1886, on this case.

This claim is hereby returned to be included by you in the list of depredation claims to be submitted to Congress, as required by law.

Very respectfully,

D. L. HAWKINS,  
*Acting Secretary.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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