

WESTERN MIAMI INDIANS.

MAY 5, 1890.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 10044.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred House bill 7851, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to submit the following report:

The original bill, of which the accompanying bill is a substitute, seeks to wind up all unsettled matters between the United States and the Western Miami Indians residing in the Indian Territory at the Quapaw Agency, and between themselves as well. The real estate of these Indians was at one time held in common with the United Peorias, who also live in the Indian Territory. The estimated share of the Miamies is 17,083 acres. By act of Congress approved March, 1889, 200 acres of their part was allotted to each member of the tribe; that after such allotment there still remains a small amount, but it is scattered over different parts of the reservation in small tracts, so that it is worthless to the tribe if held in common.

The substitute your committee reports simply allots the remainder equally between members of the tribe, after giving Chief Gebo 80 acres for his services as such. The substitute also reserves 60 feet on all section lines for public highways. The original bill, as well as the substitute, provides for a per capita distribution of all their moneys now held by the United States, amounting in the aggregate to a little less than \$30,000, out of which their old faithful chief, Thomas F. Richardville, is to be paid \$2,000 for his services as such chief, delegate, and agent from March, 1886, to May 31, 1890, and for money lent to and expended in various ways for his people. The substitute also declares them to be citizens of the United States.

These Indians number only about sixty persons. They are as well civilized as any Indians in the United States. Their manners, habits, and customs are all like white people, and are, in the opinion of your committee, perfectly competent to transact their own business affairs, and cease to be longer the wards of the nation.

We recommend that the substitute do pass.

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