

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 30, 1876.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BOGŶ submitted the following

R E P O R T :

[To accompany bill S. 294.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 294) for the relief of Chas. E. Hedges, beg leave to report as follows :

The fact that Mr. Hedges furnished the articles to the Indians, as contained in his claim, appears to be satisfactorily proven. These Indians are now receiving, under treaty stipulations, only \$40,000 annually, and they number two thousand. The only question presented is as to the liability of the Government to pay this claim.

Your committee, in view of the fact that these Indians were, during the winter of 1866-7, in a starving condition, because of the entire destruction of their crops the summer before by grasshoppers, and then a severe drought which made it impossible to raise a crop, and that the then agent made this request on Mr. Hedges, and without which the Indians would have actually starved, believe that the same ought, in justice to him, to be paid, and accordingly recommend the passage of said bill No. 294.