

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

APRIL 24, 1878.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. CAMERON, of Wisconsin, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

R E P O R T :

[To accompany bill H. R. 888.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 888) for the relief of James McGregor, has considered the same, and make the following report :

The bill directs the Secretary of the Treasury to pay James McGregor, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$603.11, in full for services rendered by him at the Malheur Indian agency, in the State of Oregon, during the fiscal year 1874.

Your committee addressed a letter to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, inclosing a copy of the bill, with the request that he furnish for the use of the committee copies of all papers, vouchers, and proceedings on file in his office touching said claim.

In reply, the Commissioner furnished the papers asked for, and he states that the records in his office show that the claimant, James McGregor, was an employé at the Malheur agency in Oregon, during the year 1874, at a compensation of \$1,200 per annum and 75 cents per day for subsistence.

The Commissioner transmits to the committee a copy of the account of McGregor, showing that the sum of \$603.11, without interest, is due him.

The agent had no funds in his hands to pay McGregor, and he therefore gave him three certificates or vouchers, one for \$44.92, one for \$105, and one for \$456.67.

The law regulating the drawing of these certificates or vouchers requires that they be drawn in triplicate. They were not so drawn, and, consequently, when they were presented to the Commissioner for payment, payment was refused, and the vouchers, after some delay, were returned to the agent in order that they might be properly drawn.

The original vouchers were destroyed by the agent, and they were properly drawn in triplicate, and forwarded to the Commissioner by McGregor, from San Francisco, July 31, 1875. They were allowed by the Commissioner at \$603.11; but in the mean time, the appropriation out of which the vouchers were payable had been exhausted, and they could not be paid. The amount now due McGregor is \$603.11, the same being the amount appropriated by this bill. We recommend that the passage of the bill be concurred in by the Senate.