

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1888.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. STEWART, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 3439.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3439) authorizing the Secretary of War to ascertain the amount of money which has been expended and the obligations assumed by the State of California, growing out of Indian hostilities therein and upon the borders thereof, not heretofore re-imbursed by the United States, having considered the same, report as follows:

This bill authorizes the Secretary of War to ascertain and report to Congress what money has been paid and what obligations have been assumed by California for the common defense, in liquidation of expenses by her incurred in suppressing Indian hostilities and growing out of Indian disturbances which arose in said State and upon its borders prior to the war of the rebellion and not paid by the United States, and not provided for under any existing act of Congress, and not included or provided for in any other bill reported to the Senate at this session. Before any action is taken on these claims a full statement thereof should be officially submitted to Congress so as to enable it to act intelligently thereon.

No law now exists for an official ascertainment of the facts necessary to an intelligent determination by Congress of the allowances which may be equitably due in these cases, and Congress should be officially informed in the manner provided for in this bill of all the circumstances and exigencies under, the authority by, the manner in which all said claims arose, said expenses were incurred, said obligations were assumed by California, and the specific amounts of each thereof for the common defense, and what payments the United States have made on account, and what sums of money still remain unpaid, and obligations unredeemed and now equitably due by the United States in full liquidation of said claims, liabilities, and obligations.

An ascertainment of all the facts pertaining to these claims, the preparation of correct abstracts of accounts, and of statements showing the purposes for which moneys were paid, and liabilities assumed, with amounts of each, the authority under which volunteers were called upon, or served in suppressing said Indian hostilities and disturbances, involve great detail, and consume too much of the time of a committee in Congress.

An elaborate statement of said claims has been prepared by the writer of this report, and printed by order of the Senate for the use of your committee, and should the bill become a law said statement will aid the Secretary of War and his assistants in collecting the laws, orders, reports, and history of the circumstances under which California incurred the expenses, paid the money, and assumed the obligations recited in this bill. Wherefore your committee report the bill back and recommend that it do pass.

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