

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 31, 1892.—Ordered to be printed.

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

**REPORT:**

[To accompany S. 2657.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2657) granting right of way to the Watertown, Sioux City and Duluth Railway Company through the lands formerly known as the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indian Reservation, have had the same under consideration and report the same with amendments, and as amended recommend that the bill do pass.

Amend by inserting the word "heretofore" after the word "lands," in line 8, page 1.

In line 11, page 2, strike out the words "President of the United States" and insert "Secretary of the Interior."

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, GENERAL LAND OFFICE,  
*Washington, D. C., May 28, 1892.*

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter, dated May 25, 1892, inclosing copy of Senate bill No. 2657, granting right of way to the Watertown, Sioux City and Duluth Railway Company through the lands formerly known as the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indian Reservation, amended as recommended by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and requesting an examination of the same by this office in order that the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate may be advised whether further amendments are necessary to protect the interests of the Government, or settlers who may have located on any lands restored to the public domain, after allotments made under the severalty law, within the confines of said former reservation.

The articles of incorporation and due proofs of organization of said company were approved by the honorable First Assistant Secretary of the Interior, April 29, 1891, under the provisions of the general right of way act of March 3, 1875 (18 Stat., 482). By the provisions of said act, said company is entitled to right of way over the public lands of the United States to the extent of 100 feet on each side of its central line of track, making a total of 200 feet in width, and the grounds for station purposes not exceeding 20 acres for each 10 miles of road.

Two maps, showing the definite location of said company's line of road in the Sisseton and Wahpeton Reservation for distances of 16 and 15 miles, respectively, were approved by the honorable Acting Secretary of the Interior, May 12, 1892, but duplicate copies of the same have not, as yet, been transmitted to the proper local land office.

The proposed bill, with the amendments suggested, appears to protect the interests of all parties concerned, and, in my opinion, no further amendments are required.

The bill under consideration is herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

THOS. H. CARTER,  
*Commissioner.*

Hon. H. L. DAWES,  
*United States Senate.*