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Benjamin F. Stickney

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H.R. Rep. No. 18, 24th Cong., 1st Sess. (1835)

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BENJAMIN F. STICKNEY.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 18.]

DECEMBER 21, 1835.

Mr. E. WHITTLESEY, from the Committee of Claims, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee of Claims, to which was referred the petition of Benjamin F. Stickney, report:

That this case was examined, and a bill reported, on the 27th of May, 1834, for the relief of the petitioner. This Committee concur with the former Committee, and herewith report a bill.

MAY 27, 1834.

The Committee of Claims, to which was referred the petition of Benjamin Franklin Stickney, report:

That, from the evidence submitted to the committee, it appears that on the 7th day of March, 1812, the petitioner was regularly appointed agent of Indian affairs at Fort Wayne, at that time one of the forts on the western frontier. On the 9th of the same month he received an order from the Secretary of War, to repair as soon as practicable to Fort Wayne, and was informed that his compensation would be \$600 per annum. The petitioner did immediately thereafter proceed to his agency, and entered upon the duties of his office. This was a short time only before war was declared against Great Britain, and that frontier was then in a very disturbed state. It also appears by the orders contained in several letters written at different times during the war, by Generals Harrison and McArthur to the petitioner, that he was, upon various occasions, required to assemble the Indian warriors within the bounds of his agency, and use means to induce them to join the northwestern army, and it seems that he did collect several hundred Indian warriors, and joined the army with them, and it is proved by letters of recent dates from Gov. Cass, Generals Jesup and Larned, and Col. Croghan, that while with the army he had those Indians under his care, and performed various and important services, of a military character, which were entirely distinct from the ordinary duties of an agent of Indian affairs, and could not have been required of him had he been considered as acting solely in that capacity. The salary of the petitioner was small, and for these valuable extra services, the committee are of opinion that he is entitled to compensation; but as they have not before them all the evidence that would enable them accurately to fix the amount of compensation to which he may be justly entitled, they report a bill authorizing the Secretary of War to settle his accounts for those services, and to allow him such compensation as has heretofore been allowed other agents for Indian affairs for similar services performed by them.