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Relief of citizens of Arkansas who lost their improvements by Indian treaties (To accompany Senate bill no. 70.)

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RELIEF OF CITIZENS OF ARKANSAS WHO LOST THEIR
IMPROVEMENTS BY INDIAN TREATIES.

[To accompany Senate bill No. 70.]

APRIL 12, 1842.

Mr. J. THOMPSON, from the Committee on the Public Lands, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom were referred Senate bills Nos. 70, 34, and 54, have had the same under consideration, and have instructed me to report:

That, inasmuch as these several bill pertained to kindred subjects, it is deemed expedient and proper to incorporate the provisions of the same into one bill, and recommend its passage by the House.

The claims provided for in this bill are of long standing, have been several times favorably considered by the committees to whom they have been referred, and have as often passed through the one or the other branch of Congress. A detailed report, therefore, is not now deemed necessary. For information as to those claims embraced in the first section, refer to House report No. 99, 25th Congress, 2d session. As to those claims embraced in sections two, three, and four, refer to House document, No. 294, 25th Congress, 2d session. For information as to those claims provided for in the fifth section, see House report No. 606, 1st session 24th Congress.

With regard to those claims referred to in the fifth section, it is proper further to remark, that they originated in the location of the claims secured to the chiefs and orphans of the Creek tribe of Indians in their treaty with the United States. The petitioners in this case made their settlements and improvements on the public land in the State of Alabama, after the location of the claims of the chiefs and orphans had been first made; but, after such settlement and improvement, the agent of the United States removed the Indian claims, and placed the same upon the land of the petitioners, by which act, they were deprived of the proceeds of their labor, and greatly discommoded. These claims are represented not to exceed seventy-five, and the committee recommend that limit to be fixed to the number of claimants to be provided for.