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Report : Memorial of J. Smith

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Recommended Citation

S. Rep. No. 346, 34th Cong., 3rd Sess. (1857)

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 2, 1857.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. STUART made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany bill S. 546.]

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of Mrs. Jane Smith, praying to be allowed a pre-emption right to certain lands, report:

It appears by the affidavit of Mrs. Smith that she is the owner of the east part of section thirty-three, in township six north, range five east, in the State of Alabama; and that she has enclosed and improved the west half of the southwest fractional quarter, and the west half of the northwest fractional quarter of the same section, which lands were formerly held as an Indian reservation for Peter Randon, but which were abandoned by him in 1836. In consequence of being held as a reservation, said lands are not subject to private entry.

The memorialist, therefore, prays to be allowed to enter the same at the minimum price of government lands.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office corroborates the statements of the memorialist, so far as they relate to the lands referred to having been held as an Indian reservation by Peter Randon, and of his abandonment of the same in 1836. He also states that there is no obstacle in the way of special legislation in favor of Mrs. Smith.

The committee therefore report the accompanying bill for her relief.