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Jose Maria Gonzales.

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JOSÉ MARIA GONZALES.

JUNE 9, 1876.—Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

For the reasons given by Hon. J. Q. Smith, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in the inclosed letter to the honorable Secretary of the Interior, your Committee on Indian Affairs report this claim back to the House with the recommendation that it be laid on the table.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, D. C., March 2, 1876.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a claim of José Maria Gonzales for \$108, on account of a depredation alleged to have been committed by Apache Indians, who deny all knowledge of the matter.

This claim is for the value of a horse, saddle, and bridle, which claimant avers were taken from him by the Indians on the 10th of December, 1849, and that this occurred in the county of Locino, N. M., his place of residence at that time. The objections to favorable action upon this case are: First, the evidence of only one witness is presented to sustain the charge made; second, the papers were not made out and filed until about five years from date of depredation; and, third, the intercourse laws were not extended over New Mexico until February 27, 1851. I therefore respectfully recommend that the claim be disallowed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. Q. SMITH,  
Commissioner.

The Hon. the SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.