

4-2-1878

Report on the Brothertown Indians

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

APRIL 2, 1878.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. OGLESBY, from the Committee on Public Lands, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 1135.]

It appears to the satisfaction of the committee that in the year A. D. 1832 the Brothertown Indians purchased from the United States a township of land, containing 23,040 acres, lying on the east side of Lake Winnebago, in the Territory of Wisconsin, and that, by a subsequent treaty made October 27, 1832, and ratified March 13, 1833, the right was secured to said tribe to partition and divide said township of land among the different individuals comprising said tribe of Brothertown Indians, and to be held by them in fee-simple and in severalty; and that on the 9th day of June, A. D. 1842, the said land was divided and partitioned and patented accordingly, the said Brothertown Indians having been declared citizens of the United States by an act of Congress of date March 3, A. D. 1839 (Stat. at Large, vol. 5, p. 349); but that inadvertently and by mistake a portion of said township remained undivided, and was not included in the partition, as of right and by provision of law it should have been. The bill under consideration is intended only to authorize the issuance of patents for such portions of the township as were not divided among the individuals of the tribe as contemplated in the act, and hence were not covered by patent; and as the parties in interest are citizens and competent to decide for themselves as to the best disposition to be made of the lands, and as the bill is in accordance with the wishes of the Brothertowns, your committee see no objection to the same becoming a law, and therefore report back the bill with recommendation that it pass.

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