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Allotment of Lands in Severalty

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 25, 1884.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. CAMERON, of Wisconsin, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 1564.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1564) providing for the allotment of lands in severalty to certain Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior, residing in the State of Wisconsin, and granting patents therefor, have examined the same, and report as follows:

The bill provides—

That the President of the United States may assign to each head of a family or single person over twenty-one years of age, belonging to that subdivision of the La Pointe band of Chippewa Indians of which Buffalo was chief, eighty acres of land for his or their separate use, out of the lands reserved as additions to the Red Cliff Indian Reservation in the State of Wisconsin: *Provided*, That such person has not heretofore received land under the provisions of any article of said treaty.

The land referred to as additions to the Red Cliff Indian Reservation has been already withdrawn from sale or entry. The bill provides that certain Indians may receive lands in severalty on these tracts.

It appears from the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that some ninety Indians, descendants of the Buffalo and Bad River bands, desire to take allotments. These Indians have not been living upon any reservation for some time, having been mostly employed as laborers. They have, however, always been considered entitled to their share of annuities. The reservation named in the bill is the only one available upon which to settle them. These Indians have made great advances in civilization, and are very desirous to hold land in severalty. The Indian Bureau strongly recommends the proposed measure, and it is sanctioned by the Secretary of the Interior.

The committee report back the bill favorably, and recommend its passage.