

2-27-1885

Report : Claim of B. Reinhart and Co.

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Recommended Citation

S. Rep. No. 1517, 48th Cong., 2nd Sess. (1885)

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 27, 1885.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. FAIR, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 1452.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1452) for the relief of B. Reinhart & Co., having considered the same, submit the following report:

The claim amounts to \$834.89, and is for cash paid by B. Reinhart & Co. on three several drafts, drawn by United States Indian Agent John How, of the Western Shoshone Agency, at Elko, Nev., on the 15th day of December, 1881, and January 3, 1882, on the assistant treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, Cal.

Under date of April 28, 1882, in a communication to Hon. George W. Cassidy, member of the House of Representatives from Nevada, the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in reference to the above claim, said:

There is no reason to doubt but that in the case of the checks in question they were cashed by your constituents in perfect good faith and in the regular transaction of business, but they cannot be considered at this time with view to payment.

The Commissioner, as a reason why this claim is not settled and cannot be considered with view to payment, in the same communication says:

This office would be pleased to afford them immediate relief were it not the rule and practice on its part and the accounting officers of the Treasury in the case of outgoing agents to withhold payment of amount due them until final settlement of their accounts.

A new agent was appointed in 1882 in the place of said How.

On inquiry at the Office of Indian Affairs, we are informed that the accounts of said How, as Indian agent aforesaid, are still unsettled, and your committee at the present time are of the opinion that the bill should not pass.