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Settlers in the Wind River Valley, Wyoming Territory

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SETTLERS IN THE WIND RIVER VALLEY, WYOMING TERRITORY.

APRIL 22, 1886.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

MR. WILLIAM WARNER, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT :

[To accompany bill H. R. 2920.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 2920) for the relief of certain settlers in the Wind River Valley, Wyoming Territory, having carefully considered the same, submit the following report :

This bill is for the relief of nine settlers who went upon public lands in what is known as the Wind River Valley, Wyoming Territory. It is shown that eight of these settlers went upon these lands when they belonged to the United States, and, in good faith, made their improvements thereon. That subsequently, in 1868, by treaty with the Shoshone and Bannock tribes of Indians (15 Statutes at Large, 673), the Government set aside the land upon which these improvements had been made as a reservation for these tribes of Indians. One of the settlers, William Jones, made improvements valued at \$500 after the making of said treaty in 1868. The justice of the eight claims, amounting to \$9,371.50, has been recognized by the Interior Department in numerous recommendations for the payment thereof. The Committee on Indian Affairs of the Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh, and Forty-eighth Congresses reported in favor of the payment.

The improvements made by said eight settlers was valued at said sum of \$9,371.50 by an agent of the Interior Department.

The committee recommend that in the first and second lines of section 2 the words "eight hundred and seventy-one" be stricken out, and that the words "three hundred and seventy-one" be inserted in lieu thereof, and when amended that the bill do pass.