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Kansas City, Fort Scott and Gulf Railroad Company.

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KANSAS CITY, FORT SCOTT AND GULF RAILROAD COMPANY.

MARCH 2, 1886.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

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

R E P O R T :

[To accompany bill H. R. 6390.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 102) to grant right of way to the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Gulf Railroad Company through the Indian Territory and for other purposes, having had the same under consideration, respectfully report :

The Kansas City, Fort Scott and Gulf Railroad Company was organized and incorporated under the laws of the State of Kansas, as recited in the bill. They have their line from Kansas City, Mo., to Memphis, Tenn., now completed and in full operation, and also from Kansas City, Mo., to Baxter Springs, Kans., and now ask Congress to grant them the right of way through Cherokee Indian territory to the northwest corner of the State of Arkansas, a distance of some 35 or 40 miles, and again from the town of Evansville, in Washington County, Arkansas, to the city of Fort Smith, Ark., a distance of 30 or 40 miles, which will enable them to extend their lines from Baxter Springs, in the State of Kansas, to Fort Smith, in the State of Arkansas, a distance of some 140 miles, passing through a fine agricultural section in Benton and Washington Counties, thickly settled with industrious and enterprising people, and dotted with flourishing country villages, and only pass through the northeast and southeast corners of the Cherokee Indian territory.

Inasmuch as there is no question as to the ability of said company to construct and complete said road, and the reasons for it being apparent, and inasmuch as it only passes across the northeast and southeast corners of said Indian territory, passing through the counties of Benton and Washington, affording outlet to commerce and travel to a large section of fine agricultural country, your committee respectfully report the accompanying bill back to the House as a substitute for said House bill 102, and recommend that the substitute do pass and the original lie on the table.

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