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F. C. Bulkley.

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F. C. BULKLEY.

JULY 18, 1888.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Select Committee on Indian Depredation Claims, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 8596.]

The Select Committee on Indian Depredation Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 8596) for the relief of F. C. Bulkley, submit the following report:

The evidence submitted in the claim of F. C. Bulkley clearly establishes the loss of the cattle and horses therein set forth, but the value of said cattle and horses is not so clearly established as the committee would desire. But upon consideration the committee are satisfied to adopt the report on this claim made by the Committee on Indian Affairs in the Forty-ninth Congress and Report No. 2885 as being a fair statement of the facts of this claim:

Your committee find the following facts in relation to the claim of the said F. C. Bulkley for depredations committed by the Kiowa and Comanche tribes of Indians, amounting to the sum of \$10,075, as stated in the said bill:

In 1870 F. C. Bulkley, the claimant, had a contract to furnish fresh beef for the Indians at Fort Sill, Ind. T. Mr. Bulkley received orders to have his cattle all at Fort Sill on or before June 30, 1870, so that the Subsistence Department of the Army could close the contract and turn the subsistence of the Indians over to the Interior Department July 1, 1870. In pursuance of that order Mr. Bulkley proceeded to Texas, the nearest cattle market, and bought a large number of cattle; among the number, the evidence shows, he bought of C. P. Hamilton 823 head of cattle and 16 horses. He bought of W. R. Baker 400 head of cattle; of S. N. Wood 237 head. These cattle and horses were delivered to Mr. Bulkley on the north side of Red River, in the Indian Territory, the parties agreeing, however, to drive the said stock to Fort Sill at the risk of the said Bulkley. Mr. Baker and Mr. Wood, for protection and convenience in driving, united their herds. The evidence shows that when in camp, about 10 miles from Red River, June 24, 1870, some ten or twelve Kiowa Indians attacked their herd, fired upon their herders, and stole and drove away "205 head of cattle"; of these, 138 head were bought of W. R. Baker and 67 head of S. N. Wood.

The evidence also shows that some thirty Kiowa Indians attacked the herd of C. P. Hamilton June 16, 1870; that one man was killed, the cattle were stampeded, 16 horses were driven off, 139 head of cattle were entirely lost; 5 more were so badly injured that they died. The affidavits show that every effort possible was made to collect the cattle belonging to all of these herds, but the actual loss was as above stated. Among the papers is a letter from Hon. Ed. F. Smith, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in which he states that this claim was presented to the Indians in council; that they admitted the depredations, but refused to make reparation. The Commissioner estimates Mr. Bulkley's actual loss at \$10,075. (See also Report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, p. 58. Cases submitted to Congress under the act of March 3, 1885.)

The committee recommend the passage of the accompanying bill.