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P. W. Mitchell and others.

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P. W. MITCHELL AND OTHERS.

JUNE 21, 1894.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. BOWER, of North Carolina, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 6656.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred House bill 6656, report the same with recommendation that the same as amended do pass.

The bill provides for the payment out of funds in U. S. Treasury to the credit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians certain sums to P. W. Mitchell, M. C. Felmet, T. C. Bowen, David Blythe, Jesse Reed, William Locust, and George French, the total of said sums being \$415.

It appears that, by order of the Secretary of the Interior, P. W. Mitchell and M. C. Felmet, timber experts, made an extensive and minute examination and estimate of the kind and quality of timber upon the lands belonging to said Cherokee Indians. This estimate was made for the purpose and with the view of selling said timber under the direction and supervision of the General Government for the benefit of these Indians.

These experts rendered their accounts for their services which were acceptable to the Indians and duly indorsed by them at one of their councils. The sums due to each on this account are designated in bill. The sums allowed to David Blythe, Jesse Reed, William Locust, and George French are for services as axmen in attendance upon and assisting said experts. T. C. Bowen is allowed the sum of \$77 for services as surveyor in locating and defining the lands of these Indians. In Jackson and Swain counties, N. C., survey was deemed necessary in order to ascertain what quantity of land was properly assessable for taxation.

This survey was made in the year 1892 by the sanction of T. J. Morgan, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and Acting Secretary of the Interior, Hon. George Chandler. Estimates of the costs of survey were submitted in due form. The sum admitted to be due the surveyor, T. C. Bowen, is \$77.50.

The committee recommend that bill be amended by inserting after the word "dollars" and before the name "David Blythe," in line 8, the words "and fifty cents," and as thus amended do pass.