1-9-1833

Alexander J. Robison (to accompany bill H. R. no. 676).

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Mr. Lewis, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was submitted the petition of Alexander J. Robison, asking compensation for medical services rendered to the emigrating Creek Indians west of the Mississippi river, respectfully submit the following report:

That the evidence shows, that, after the removal of that portion of the Creek Indians west of the Mississippi river, who had voluntarily emigrated under the assurance of the Government, by treaty stipulations, that their expenses should be paid, and that they should be supported for one year at the charge of the United States, such was the prevalence of disease among them, that Thomas Anthony, then the acting agent, wrote to the petitioner, and employed his services as a physician to attend to those who had previously emigrated under Col. David Brearley; that another parcel of Indians afterwards came out under Luther Blake, amounting to about thirteen hundred; that their situation under the privations of their journey, and the exposure incident to a new settlement, were such as to require Mr. Blake, the successor of Mr. Anthony, to continue the services of the petitioner; that, at a later period, the present agent, John Campbell, when he took charge of the western agency, believed that the situation of the Indians required medical assistance, and he therefore continued the services of Dr. Robison until the twentieth day of December, 1830. The whole time that the petitioner was so employed, amounted to sixteen months and twenty days; and it is satisfactorily proven that his attention was unremitted, and his whole time employed, to the exclusion of other professional business. The committee being of the opinion, from the testimony of the then agents, that the situation of the Indians required the medical relief afforded them, and that both justice and humanity to the Indians authorized the agents in the employment of a physician, they therefore, in pursuance of the practice of the Government in similar cases, believe that the petition ought to be granted, and respectfully submit to the House a bill.