1-25-1838

George Fisher.
Mr. Campbell, of South Carolina, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, made the following REPORT:

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to which was referred the petition of George Fisher, report:

The petitioner states that, in 1812, he removed a part of his family to the country at that time known as the Mississippi Territory, and occupied public land in the neighborhood of an Indian tribe, where he established a plantation, and made every necessary arrangement for the removal of the rest of his family; that in 1813, being absent for that purpose, an invasion of hostile Indians compelled his overseer, his negroes, and all who were in his employ, to provide for their safety by flight; that his property, thus left unprotected, was destroyed by the Indians, and the troops of the United States employed in the suppression of Indian hostilities.

The above statement is corroborated by the written testimony of several witnesses; two of whom estimate the petitioner's loss at $12,173, but without discriminating the value of property destroyed by the Indians and the troops of the United States, respectively.

The committee, being unwilling to establish the principle that the Government should remunerate individuals for losses sustained by hostile Indians, and unable to ascertain from the papers submitted to its consideration the value of property destroyed by the Indians and the troops of the United States, respectively, recommend that the claims of the petitioner be referred for examination and adjustment to the proper accounting officer of the Department of War; and for this purpose report a bill.

Thomas Allen, printer.